

[Report 1908] / Medical Officer of Health, Bacup Borough.

Contributors

Bacup (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1908

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/vu3ahdta>

License and attribution

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

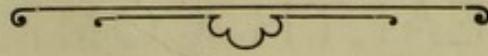
This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

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



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

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

Urban Sanitary District of the Borough of Bacup,
during 1908,

BY

JOHN BROWN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., VICT.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PRESENTED JANUARY, 1909.

BACUP:
ALBERT BOOTH, PRINTER, KING STREET AND ST. JAMES' STREET.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Consists of the following Members:

Chairman—THE MAYOR (MR. ALDERMAN MADEN, J.P.),

Vice-Chairman—MR. COUNCILLOR GREENHALGH, J.P.,

„ ALDERMAN CRABTREE,

„ ALDERMAN HEYS,

„ COUNCILLOR BARCROFT,

„ COUNCILLOR BRIERLEY,

„ COUNCILLOR CROPPER,

„ COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD,

„ COUNCILLOR LORD,

„ COUNCILLOR OGDEN,

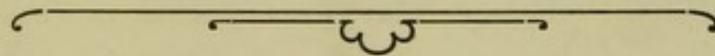
„ COUNCILLOR RAWSON,

„ COUNCILLOR J. SMITH,

„ COUNCILLOR TAYLOR,

„ COUNCILLOR WORSWICK.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 1908



*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Bacup.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting you with my thirty-first Annual Report on the sanitary condition and vital statistics of the Borough of Bacup for the year 1908.

The area of the Borough is 6,120 acres. The area covered by water (if we exclude the course of the river Irwell) is so small that it may be ignored. The area of the two reservoirs is 9 acres.

POPULATION.

At the last census in 1901, the population was 22,505; the inhabited houses, 5,284; the average number of persons per house was 4·2. In 1891 the average per house was 4·4 persons.

The population to the middle of 1908, is estimated at 24,600.

BIRTHS.

During 1908 there were 537 births—Males 252, females 285, which is at the rate of 21·83 per 1000. There were 15 illegitimate births—males 5, females 10. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1908, was 26·5 per 1000. The natural increase in the Borough by excess of births over deaths for the year was 161. In 1878 there were 990 births registered in Bacup. In 1908 there were only 537 births, a decrease of 453. Every year during that period there has been a constant decrease in the number of births up to 1898. In 1901 there were only 485 births registered. The constantly decreasing birth rate is general throughout the country. Many are the reasons given, the chief are probably the expedients which are generally known by the upper classes, to prevent conception, due to the inordinate love of pleasure and distaste of the duties and responsibilities of motherhood. In regard to the working classes these expedients are more generally known among them than they were a few years ago. One of the chief reasons against having a large family is the severe competition and difficulty of finding occupation and work.

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered in the Borough was 360, males 155, females 205, of these three were non-residents, the death rate is 14·63 per 1000. The corrected death rate is 15·27 per 1000. The corrected deaths were 376—males 167, females 209. Three non-residents died in the Borough, and 19 residents died outside. The death rate for England and Wales for 1908 was 14·7 per 1000.

The death rate is satisfactory for a manufacturing town. The deaths last year when compared with the number registered in 1878 is very striking, in that year there were 645 deaths in the Borough, excluding non-residents, against 360, which makes 285 fewer deaths.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths for the past 10 years:—

Year.	Population estimated to the middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS.			
		Number.	Rate per 1000	UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE		AT ALL AGES.	
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births R'gist'r'd	Number	Rate per 1000
1898	24,400	589	24.13	72	121	422	17.36
1899	24,400	543	22.08	89	163	398	16.62
1900	24,400	589	24.13	100	169	472	19.34
1901	22,500	485	24.11	69	142	364	16.18
1902	22,500	560	24.88	76	135	469	16.40
1903	22,500	552	24.52	77	139	439	19.05
1904	22,500	509	22.19	74	145	381	16.81
1905	22,500	503	22.35	56	111	330	14.66
1906	24,400	524	21.49	63	120	371	15.20
1907	24,500	541	22.08	69	127	385	15.71
Average for 10 Years 1898 to 1907.	23,460	539	23.19	74	133	393	16.77
1908	24,600	537	21.83	56	104	360	14.63

The following table gives the nett mortality from all causes at the subjoined ages:—

Deaths under 1 year	56	} 86
„ above 1 year and under 5 years...	...	...	...	29
„ „ 5 „ „ 15 „	15	} 290
„ „ 15 „ „ 25 „ ...	...	...	...	19
„ „ 25 „ „ 65 „ ...	...	...	...	161
„ „ 65 years and upwards	...	...	...	95
Total	376	

CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES.

Measles 4, Scarlet Fever 4, Whooping Cough 1, Diphtheria 1, Croup 2, Epidemic Influenza 10, Diarrhœa **3**, Enteritis **4** Puerperal Fever 1, Phthisis 23, other Tubercular Diseases 9, Cancer 16, Bronchitis 47, Pneumonia 16, other Respiratory Diseases 4, Premature Births 9, Diseases and Accidents of Parturition 3, Heart Disease 31, Accidents 9, Suicide 1, all other causes 178, total 376 Deaths.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The seven principal Zymotic Diseases caused **13** deaths, viz:—Measles 4, Scarlet Fever 4, Whooping Cough 1, Diphtheria 1, Diarrhœa **3**. The Zymotic death-rate equals ~~0.60~~ ⁵ per 1000. The Zymotic death-rate for England and Wales for 1908 was 1.29 per 1000. The Zymotic death-rate for the County for 1907 was 1.43 per 1000. The average for the previous 10 years for the County was 1.89. The Epidemic death-rate is very satisfactory.

The following table gives the Zymotic deaths and death-rates per 1000 for the past 10 years:—

Year.	Zymotic Deaths.	Zymotic Death-rate.
1899	42	1.72 per 1000
1900	55	2.25 „
1901	24	1.06 „
1902	17	0.75 „
1903	53	2.35 „
1904	40	1.74 „
1905	10	0.44 „
1906	38	1.55 „
1907	26	1.06 „
1908	13	0.60 „ 0.52

The following table gives the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the past 9 years under the Notification Act :

Year	Smallpox.	Diphtheria and Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Chickenpox.	Total.
1900	0	9	23	395	14	3	0	444
1901	0	6	14	82	9	0	0	111
1902	0	3	15	87	5	5	0	115
1903	43	7	5	115	16	1	0	187
1904	4	3	6	38	6	6	103	166
1905	0	2	25	38	4	6	65	140
1906	0	18	22	42	15	3	34	134
1907	0	3	15	19	3	1	61	102
1908	0	22	19	82	4	3	44	174

The following table gives the Monthly Returns of Infectious Diseases notified for the year 1908:—

Month.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria and Membranous Group	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever	Chickenpox.	Total.
January ...	0	0	5	6	0	0	10	21
February ...	0	2	1	11	1	1	4	20
March ...	0	2	5	22	0	1	10	40
April ...	0	0	0	17	1	0	5	23
May ...	0	4	0	8	1	1	4	18
June ...	0	2	1	4	0	0	4	11
July ...	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
August ...	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
September ...	0	3	0	3	0	0	3	9
October ..	0	2	1	4	0	0	2	9
November .	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	8
December ...	0	2	2	3	0	0	2	9
Total ...	0	22	19	82	4	3	44	174

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the incidence of the Infectious Diseases for the first six months were very heavy, namely 96 excluding Chickenpox, in the last six months only 34. First quarter 57 cases, second quarter 39 cases, third quarter 12 cases, fourth quarter 22 cases, total 130

Since the Notification Act came into force in 1900 there have been 1310 cases of Infectious Diseases notified, which gives the average as 140 per year. Last year we had 174 cases notified, this includes 44 cases of Chickenpox, of these 11 were unvaccinated.

SMALLPOX.

The Borough has been free from Smallpox. The Joint Hospital at Sourhall has been enlarged and now contains 32 beds. It is well equipped in every way and always ready for reception of patients if required. Vaccination is rapidly decreasing, last year there was a great decrease in the number of successful vaccinations, there were only 189 successful vaccinations, in 1903 there were 494. Exemption certificates granted last year were 220, the highest number recorded. In 1903 there were only 59. To secure an exemption is a very easy and simple matter. In the event of an outbreak of Smallpox there will be a large number of unvaccinated children liable to contract the disease. Smallpox is so highly infectious that a great many would be attacked. The type of the disease in recent epidemics has been mild. This also applies to some of the other Infectious Diseases, due in some degree to better sanitary conditions.

VACCINATIONS.

Through the kindness of Mr. A. A. Whitehead, B.A., Vaccination Officer, I am able to give the following

interesting statistics in regard to Vaccination for the past 11 years:—

Year.	Successful Vaccinations.	Exemption Certificates.	Births.	Deaths Under 1 Year.
1898	335	195	589	72
1899	364	114	543	89
1900	314	96	589	100
1901	364	89	485	69
1902	452	51	560	76
1903	494	59	548	77
1904	383	68	509	74
1905	372	81	503	56
1906	336	122	524	63
1907	242	147	541	69
1908	189	220	537	57

CHICKENPOX.

This disease has been a notifiable disease in our Borough since July, 1903. In our experience we have known mild and modified forms of Smallpox to be diagnosed, especially in adults as Chickenpox. In cases of Chickenpox, if unvaccinated, careful enquiries are made. If cases occur in adults special precautions are taken. Last year there were 44 cases notified, 11 were unvaccinated. Only one adult was notified, he had been vaccinated and revaccinated. Nearly all the cases occurred during the first six months of the year:—viz. 37 out of 44.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 82 cases were notified. There were five deaths, giving a case mortality of 6 per cent. The death-rate was 0.20 per 1000. During the first five months of the year we had 64 cases. In January 6, February 11, March 22,

April 17, and May 8, after this only 18 more cases occurred. In July month there was no case notified, a very exceptional event. It is a disease which is rarely absent for many weeks in large towns. Many of the sporadic cases are very difficult to trace, in fact in some, the source cannot be traced. In recent years the type has been mild, and death-rate low. Having no Isolation Hospital all the cases were treated at home. Where the conditions in the house are fairly good and good nursing can be secured, the results compare very favourably with Hospital treatment. The infectivity seems slight. Where carbolised oil is freely used for rubbing over the body, very often no other case occurs in the house. Having used this treatment for about 30 years I can speak very favourably of it. The usual precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years —

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1000.
1899	...	9	...	0·40
1900	...	22	...	0·90
1901	..	3	...	0·13
1902	...	3	...	0·13
1903	...	7	...	3·34
1904	...	1	...	0·04
1905	...	2	...	0·08
1906	...	0	...	0·00
1907	...	0	...	0·00
1908	...	5	...	0·20

DIPHThERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

During the year there were 22 cases notified. The disease was of a sporadic character and of a very mild type. Only one case proved fatal, which gives case mortality as 4·54 per cent. In the previous year there were only three

cases notified, and one died, giving case mortality of 33 per cent. The only months in which cases of Diphtheria were not notified were January, April and August. Anti-toxin Serum is supplied free to all medical men practising in the Borough, eleven cases were treated with Anti-toxin Serum, of these one died. Four children attending the same class in one of the Day Schools were attacked with Diphtheria, they came from three different houses. It seems probable that the disease was contracted by personal contact and the use of the same pencils. The class-room, desks, pencils &c. were disinfected, no other case followed. In another instance, the patient visited a person who had just recovered from an attack of Diphtheria, owing to an accident she was obliged to wear some garments belonging to this person, in this way she may have contracted the disease. The Borough was free from Diphtheria from July 14th, 1907, until February 28th, 1908, an interval of nearly eight months. There were more cases notified for 1908 than for any previous year of which we have any record, also the case mortality is the lowest, shewing that the type was very mild; there were 22 cases and only one death. In 1906 there were 18 notified and eight deaths.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1000.
1899	...	2	...	0 08
1900	...	3	...	0 12
1901	...	1	...	0 04
1902	...	1	...	0 04
1903	...	6	...	0 26
1904	...	1	...	0 04
1905	...	2	...	0 08
1906	...	8	...	0 32
1907	...	1	...	0 04
1908	...	1	...	0 04

MEASLES.

There were four deaths from Measles registered, all under five years. The death-rate for this cause was 0·16 per 1000. The disease was very prevalent during the last three months of the year. It seriously diminished the attendance in the Infant Schools. The following Schools were closed: on October 13th, St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, Infant Department, until November 2nd, 42 per cent of scholars were attacked; on October 16th, Wesley Place Infant School until November 9th, 42 per cent of scholars were attacked; on December 16th the Western Council Infant School, until January 11th, 1909, 48 per cent of the scholars were absent. The disease at the end of the year was still prevalent in the centre of the town. Notification of this disease not being compulsory, we are unable to give exact figures as to the number of cases. There were 97 cases ascertained, but there was probably a much larger number which did not come to our knowledge. Disinfectants were supplied to houses where the disease was known to have occurred.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years:—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.
1899	10	0·40
1900	9	0·36
1901	5	0·22
1902	5	0·22
1903	30	1·38
1904	6	0·26
1905	0	0·00
1906	20	0·82
1907	14	0·57
1908	4	0·16

WHOOPING COUGH.

There was only one death registered during the year. The death-rate equals 0·04 per 1000. We have had no serious epidemic of this disease since 1904.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.
1899	1	0·04
1900	12	0·49
1901	3	0·13
1902	4	0·17
1903	2	0·08
1904	24	1·04
1905	3	0·13
1906	0	0·00
1907	8	0·32
1908	1	0·04

TYPHOID FEVER.

There were only four cases notified. None fatal. During the past four years there has been only one death registered. There was one case notified for each of the following months, February, April, May and July, the Borough being free from Typhoid Fever for the remainder of the year. Four fatal cases occurred in different parts of the Borough, though no definite source could be traced, they were supplied with private water supplies, all of which were liable to surface pollutions. The usual precautions were taken. Special pails were provided.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1000.
1899	...	4	...	0·16
1900	...	2	...	0·08
1901	...	3	...	0·13
1902	...	1	...	0·04
1903	...	5	...	0·22
1904	...	3	...	0·13
1905	...	0	...	0·00
1906	...	1	...	0·04
1907	...	0	...	0·00
1908	...	0	...	0·00

DIARRHOEAL DISEASES.

There were ~~54~~¹⁶ deaths registered. Death-rate equals 0·24 per 1000. Under Diarrhœa are included Epidemic Enteritis, Zymotic Enteritis or Epidemic Diarrhœa, Choleraic Diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric Diarrhœa. Our Diarrhœal death-rate is low, it is only about one third of that for the County. It is very rarely that Diarrhœa ever occurs in an epidemic form of a serious type. The heaviest death-rate for many years was in 1899, when there were 15 deaths, death-rate 0·61 per 1000. We enjoy comparative immunity from Epidemic Infantile Diarrhœa, due to the heavy rainfall, good drainage, and the low ground temperature, and high elevation.

When we compare the conditions with another Lancashire town, namely Bootle, the figures are striking. Bootle is on the Mersey and subject to higher temperature, and conditions favourable for high ground temperature. Below I give the Infantile death-rate per 1000 for nine years in Bootle, 1899

to 1907. The average infantile death-rate per 1000 of the population of Bacup for the ten years from 1890 to 1907 was 0·24, whilst that for Bootle was 1·58, that is to say, that Diarrhœa is six times more fatal in Bootle than in our Borough.

THE HOUSE FLY AS A CAUSE OF DIARRHŒA.

The house-fly has been condemned as a cause of Diarrhœa, the fly and Diarrhœa stand in close relationship as to their curve, both at their maximum at the same period of the year, but not necessarily that Diarrhœa is due to the prevalence of flies, both probably due to the same factors. Direct proof is not strong as carriers of Diarrhœa and Typhoid Fever in our country. That flies can convey Typhoid Fever has been proved in South Africa. We have some "fly ridden" localities, and they have caused much annoyance by their irritation, contamination of food, with blemish of walls and furniture. Every effort should be made to destroy them, all organic matters in or near houses should be removed, horse manure should be removed every week, where this cannot be done fowls should be kept, as they eat the flies and the larvæ (or maggots) before they develop into flies, where there are plenty of fowls kept no nuisance will arise in regard to flies.

The following table gives the deaths and death-rate for the past 10 years :

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.	Rate per 1000 at Bootle.
1899	15	0·61	2·6
1900	7	0·28	2·4
1901	9	0·39	1·9
1902	2	0·08	0·8
1903	3	0·13	1·4

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.	Rate per 1000 at Bootle.
1904	4	0.17	1.7
1905	3	0.13	1.3
1906	9	0.36	1.2
1907	3	0.12	0.5
1908	5	0.26	...

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were three cases notified, one proved fatal. Each case was investigated to ascertain any sanitary defects. In cases where midwives' were in attendance, the clothing &c. were disinfected, and midwife instructed what to do. In each case the County Medical Officer sent a lady inspector, in no case could the midwife be blamed. We have eight midwives certified under the Midwives' Act, 1902.

REMARKS ON OTHER DISEASES.

PHTHISIS.—There were 22 deaths registered, all over five years of age. The death-rate equals 0.87 per 1000. The County death-rate for 1907 was 0.94 per 1000. The public for many years have been informed that the disease is due to a microbe, and that it is largely disseminated by the expectoration from Phthisical patients not being destroyed. It is very general now for consumptives to burn and disinfect sputum. The microbe of Phthisis is probably nearly everywhere. The microbe has been found in milk, probably there is not a large town where all the milk supplies are free from Tubercle Bacilli. In London 92 samples of milk were tested and 22 contained the microbe=23.9 per cent. In 1897 in Manchester 17.2 per cent of the milk supply tested was Tuberculous, but Manchester has been actively engaged in trying to secure a non-tuberculised milk. In 1907, only 6.6 per cent was tuberculised. The predisposing causes are occupations where the air contains solid matter, such as

fine particles of stone, cotton &c., also low state of vitality. The disease is especially one which attacks those of the lower classes, who are near the poverty line. It is exceptional for any person in good social position and easy circumstances to die of Phthisis. Of the 22 who died last year, at least 19 lived in houses rated at £10 per year or less. As the people rise in the social and financial scale, and have healthy surroundings, so this disease will decrease. Persons who have robust and healthy constitutions do not easily fall a prey to the Tubercule Bacilli.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years:—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.
1899	14	0.57
1900	25	0.90
1901	19	0.84
1902	27	1.20
1903	26	1.15
1904	16	0.69
1905	23	1.02
1906	16	0.65
1907	22	0.87
1908	22	0.87

OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES.—There were nine deaths, of these two were under five years of age.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

These include Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy. There were only 61 deaths, 18 under five years, and 43 over five years of age. The death-rate equals 2.4 per 1000. It is the lowest ever recorded. Diseases of the respiratory

organs always make a very heavy toll on our total mortality. We are generally 1 per 1000 above the average for the county. In 1907 the county death-rate was 2.90 per 1000. One very remarkable fact is, that the deaths under five years is one half less than those in 1907. In 1908 there were only 18 deaths, against 36 in 1907. Short time in the cotton trade, in my opinion, has not been altogether a bad thing. Mothers have been obliged to spend more of their time in the house and have been able to prevent the contracting of diseases and also to attend to their children in sickness. We know the custom of taking infants from a warm bed to a neighbour's to be nursed during the day is fraught with danger. The deaths over five years were only 43 in 1908, against 59 in 1907. Many of the cotton operatives have been able, owing to short time, to take more care of themselves, some of the mills only working during daylight. The average number of deaths per year for the past ten years was 84, so that our respiratory death-rate is 25 per cent. less than the average.

BLACK FOGS AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

Probably no county in England suffers so much from the effects of Black Fogs as Lancashire. These fogs are costly in every way, especially as one of the chief causes of Respiratory Diseases. In the South-East and North-East portions of the County, the land is densely covered with houses, mills, factories and workshops, &c. The density increases every year. During the winter months owing to the immense quantities of unconsumed smoke poured forth from all these places. There is a pall of smoke hanging like a dark curtain over our towns, shutting out the sunshine and only allowing partial daylight. The comparative

“sunlessness” of our towns during the winter due to this is “unburnt carbon.” At an elevation of 300 feet, one can often enjoy brilliant sunshine, whilst below, the town is eclipsed with a mantle of black soot. The chief sources of the smoke and dirt are not the factories, mills, &c., (though they are bad enough), but the smoke from our domestic dwellings. In the winter the days are short and coal is often consumed wastefully. We advocate the “open window for our bedrooms.” It is necessary in the winter to keep out the soot and dirt that muslin curtains be used to filter the air. It is astonishing to see the large amount of dirt collected in this way. In our County the death-rate from Respiratory Diseases in the Rural districts is always less than that in the Urban districts. In the Rural districts for the four years from 1904 to 1907 was 2·08 per 1000, in ten Urban districts in the County, with a population of 311,000, the average death-rate for the ten years 1896 to 1905 was 3·67 per 1000. The deaths from Respiratory diseases were 1141. If the death-rate had been that of the Rural districts, the deaths would only have been 646, that is 495 less. There are other factors than filth-laden air to account for this heavy mortality. If our Sanitary authorities would unite, practical measures could be adopted to abate, if not abolish the evil of “Black Fogs.” Gas should be sold at “prime cost” for heating, cooking and power purposes, mills, factories &c., should use Gas Engines and Electricity. For domestic fires &c, Coalite or partially carbonised coal should be used. To burn coal should be considered extravagant waste. If universally adopted there would be a great improvement in the purity of the air, the sun would not be such a stranger to us in the winter.

The following table gives the deaths for the past ten years :—

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1000.
1899	...	93	...	3·81
1900	...	115	...	4·61
1901	...	76	...	3·37
1902	...	86	...	3·82
1903	...	92	...	4·08
1904	...	76	...	3·22
1905	...	66	...	2·93
1906	...	83	...	3·40
1907	...	95	...	3·87
1908	...	61	...	2·4

INFLUENZA.

There were 10 deaths registered, all over five years of age. The death-rate equals 0·40 per 1000. This is the heaviest death-rate from influenza since 1900, when it was 0·49 per 1000. During January, February, and March there were a good many cases of influenza whose chief complications were of the respiratory organs. By the middle of April the disease had nearly died out. The mortality would probably have been greater had it not been that many persons took the wise precaution of going to bed for a few days until the influenza fever was over.

The following table gives the deaths for the past ten years:—

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1000.
1899	...	17	...	0·69
1900	...	12	...	0·49
1901	...	2	...	0·08
1902	...	2	...	0·08
1903	...	2	...	0·08
1904	...	6	...	0·26
1905	...	1	...	0·04
1906	...	2	...	0·08
1907	...	1	...	0·04
1908	...	10	...	0·40

CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

There were 14 deaths registered. The death-rate equals 0·56 per 1000. The deaths from cancer do not vary much. In the previous year there were 11 deaths. In 1906 there were 15 deaths. The death-rate in 1907 for the county was 0·70 per 1000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were ~~54~~⁵⁶ deaths under one year, which gives a death-rate of ~~104~~¹¹² per 1000 births. In England and Wales for 1908 it was 121 per 1000 births. Of the ~~56~~⁵³ deaths, ~~53~~⁵³ were legitimate and 3 illegitimate. The infantile death-rate for legitimate births was 98 per 1000 births, whilst that for illegitimate equals 200 per 1000 births. The chances for illegitimate to live is reduced 50 per cent. Our infantile mortality is the lowest on record. Dr. Sergeant, the County Medical Officer of Health, says "that infantile death-rate exceeding 100 per 1000 births should be looked upon as a calamity." This year we are very near that point. For 1908 Huddersfield's infantile death-rate is 112 per 1000 births. Our low infantile death-rate may be largely accounted for by the bad state of the cotton trade. The mills have run very badly. Mothers have been able to devote more time to domestic and maternal duties. For many years we have sought to discourage as far as possible artificial feeding of infants and encourage breast feeding. In our manufacturing towns where women are employed in mills, &c., we may not get an infantile mortality much below 100 per 1000, especially if the custom of artificial feeding continues. The want of breast feeding is the chief factor in causing a heavy death-rate. Well equipped day-nurseries serve a very useful purpose and no doubt many lives are saved by them. Under ordinary conditions of the cotton trade they would be a boon to the Borough. In times

like we have had for nearly two years they would not be greatly needed. No doubt the absence of any serious epidemic of Whooping Cough and Measles have conduced to our lowered infantile mortality. We have no lady visitors. There are however, two Queen's Nurses, supported by public subscriptions, who do most valuable work in nursing the sick, their work is highly appreciated and has an educative value from a hygienic and sanitary standpoint. Last year over 5,000 visits were made.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Borough of Bacup is a very hilly district. It is situated on the western spurs of the Pennine hills. The River Irwell takes its rise at Cliviger, just outside the northern boundary of the Borough, and flows for about five miles through its entire length. The elevation varies from 800 to 1500 feet above sea level. The average number of persons per acre is 38. In the central part of Bacup and Stacksteads the population is fairly dense. In the moorlands and uplands the population is very sparse. The Geological formation is the millstone grit, above which are beds of clay. The soil is cold and damp.

The chief occupations are various branches of the cotton industry; stone quarries; colleries; slipper trade.

In connection with the stone quarries, the men are liable to accidents, during the year three proved fatal. Men who work underground for stone are liable to bronchial affections and fibroid phthisis.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.—The house accomodation now fairly meets the demand, before the bad state of the cotton trade there was a scarcity. The houses are nearly all built of stone, and in fair sanitary condition. Some are built back

to back, but are substantially built, roomy and well lighted good wide street, nearly all of which are well paved, flagged, sewered and channelled. All new houses are built according to Bye-Laws, and strict supervision is exercised in their erection, especially in regard to width of streets.

No action has been taken under Parts I. II and III. respectively of the "Housing Clauses Act." At present none is needed.

The Esther Estate has been taken, on which it is proposed to build over 200 houses, suitable for an artizan population, in which each house will have three bedrooms &c., bathroom, hot and cold water, front garden, back yard, and W.C. This class of property will supply a much felt want, and there is every prospect that the houses will be let or bought as soon as they are ready for occupation.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Corporation supply about 2,700 houses, which is about one half of the Borough. There are a large number of private water supplies, some of which are suspicious. Many are known to be polluted by surface washings after the fields have been manured. It is very remarkable that so little sickness can be traced to these water supplies. The people who use this water know the risk and guard against it by filtering and boiling the water. As usual some of these private sources failed during the dry weather and caused much inconvenience to the people. Particularly was this the case at Higher Change where considerable distance has to be travelled to get water. The New Reservoir at Cowpe is nearly completed, and preparations are being made to supply those districts where water is needed. The Corporation's supply to the consumers was abundant and good quality. The water is collected from the moors and uplands, and is well known to have plumbo-

solvent action. This however, has been neutralised in the following way:—The water passes over lime stone, then treated with alumino ferric, then passing into service reservoirs and through sand filter beds to the storage reservoirs. The hardness is increased by about 30 degrees. Lead poisoning from our water supply is practically unknown. Some years ago the Borough was never free from severe forms of this disease.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—During the year the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops regulations have come into force. Since last May these have been placed under the supervision of the Health Committee. Since that date 74 inspections have been made. Very few comply with the regulations. Some are in a fair condition in regard to light, ventilation, water supply and drainage. Many are dark, badly ventilated, paved and channelled. These are being improved and will possess a higher standard of sanitation. The dairy farms are generally small, many having less than ten milk^{ch} cows. To bring all these small farms up to modern requirements would be too costly to be remunerative. Several of the cowsheds have been improved and the matter will be pushed forward. What we are aiming at and ought to realize, is a high standard of personal cleanliness, grooming of the cows, clean udders, all cans to be washed with boiling water. In regard to the character and wholesomeness of the milk, no complaints have been made. Judging from the condition of some of the cows, the milk is liable to pollution. It is a remarkable fact that milk borne disease is very rare in our Borough. The dairies are all at a high elevation; the milk is delivered by some, twice a day; the milk is delivered within a few hours after it is drawn, so that the milk is not liable to pollution by travel and exposure. In regard to Tuberculois milk, none have been tested. We strongly advise that special care be taken not to draw milk

from cows with diseased udders, also from any cow that is thin and feverish, cows with coughs and symptoms of Tuberculosis should be isolated from the others.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are 17 on the register. They have been regularly visited. They have been kept in a satisfactory condition. Some are in congested areas, and not structurally adapted for the purpose. Meat and other foods have been inspected. Three seizures were made of Cockles and Liver, no Tuberculosed carcasses were detected.

SEWERS.—The Borough is well drained and sewered. Recently where improvements are needed further powers have been granted for sewer extensions. The method of disposal and treatment is by chemical precipitation, land filtration and coke breeze filters at the Joint Outfall Works at Ewood-Bridge.

The question of the Pollution of rivers and streams is under the Mersey and Irwell Rivers Board.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are only three, namely, Tripe Boilers. These have been in a satisfactory condition.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.—The Water-carriage and Pail systems are in vogue. With the early completion of the new reservoir, it is intended to push forward the conversion of the pails to the water closet system. To encourage their conversion, the Health Committee pay part of the cost. Also have recommended that water to one closet to each house be free of charge. The fact that pail closets converted to water closets have been charged for water, has deterred persons from the conversions. We earnestly hope that property owners will not be slow to avail themselves of the offer. It will improve the healthiness of the homes and lessen cost of

scavenging, and help to meet our difficulty of disposing of the contents of the pails without causing a nuisance.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.—This work is done almost entirely by our own scavengers, and on the whole it is well done. It is removed weekly. The refuse is deposited on tips. A Refuse Destructor is one of the needs of the Borough. Some of our tips have been plagued with rats, to destroy them we got the Liverpool Rat Virus, which proved very successful. The Incorporated Society for the Destruction of Vermin, which aims especially at that of rats is worthy of support. The Society seeks the co-operation of all Sanitary Authorities. Rats are not only very destructive to property, but their presence in a house is a possible source of danger to health.

NUISANCES.—From the Sanitary Inspector's report which is annexed, it will be seen a great deal of work has been done and that several are still in hand.

SCHOOLS.—All the Elementary Day Schools have been inspected. Their sanitary condition is on the whole good. There are 11 schools with 17 departments. The water supply is satisfactory. There are six schools where the pail system exists, these we recommend to be converted to the water closet system. We believe this will be done when the new supply is ready. We have disinfected five of the schools by spray, also supplied sanitary sawdust and liquid disinfectants to all the schools. One school at Weir is being superseded by a new school, now being erected.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND DISINFECTOR.—Nothing has been done. The question of providing a general Infectious Diseases Hospital for the three Rossendale Boroughs has been under consideration of these authorities, Rawtenstall and Bacup have been and still are engaged in large and

costly works in regard to Electric Tramways and Waterworks &c. Having no Isolation Hospital, except for Smallpox, we do what we can to isolate the patient in the house, and take precautions to prevent spread of the disease. Houses are disinfected with Formaline and Sulphur Dioxide. Printed and verbal instructions are given to inform them what to do.

In regard to Tuberculosis we have no notification. We have offered to disinfect any house where a death has occurred from Phthisis, but none have applied.

THE COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—These are dealt with by the Chief Constable. His report is annexed.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—This question has been considered by the Health Committee, but the Act has not been adopted. The medical men in the Borough appealed to the Council not to adopt the Act, as there were one or two clauses of which they strongly disapproved. The duty placed on a medical man to notify a birth at which he attended in his professional capacity and for its non-fulfilment was unjust. It is clearly the duty of the parents to do this. At the annual meeting of the British Medical Association held at Sheffield, which represents over 20,000 medical men, a resolution was passed for the repeal of these clauses.

SMOKE NUISANCES.—There have been four observations made, in one instance there was a nuisance, notice was served and the nuisance abated.

INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.—We have inspected the Borough and have taken action to remove nuisances and insanitary conditions. From the Sanitary Inspector's Report it will be seen that much valuable work has been done.

THE MADEN PUBLIC BATHS.—I would strongly urge the Burgesses to make greater use of these most excellent and well-equipped baths. There are Turkish and Vapour Baths. The Turkish Baths are more patronised than they were. The Swimming Baths are popular. The Slipper Baths are not used to the extent that they should be. Very few houses have Slipper Baths. The cost of a hot Slipper Bath is only 2d. with soap and towel. The artizans and mill operatives for the sake of health ought to avail themselves of these baths, at least once a week. The Bath Manager's Report is annexed.

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

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	4	...	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	157	10	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Table 3).	6	...	...
Total... ..	167	10	...

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of Cleanliness... ..	2	2	...	..
Want of Ventilation... ..	...	...	...	..
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	..
Want of Drainage of Floors ... ..	...	...	...	..
Other Nuisances	4	4	...	..
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient ... ..	...	...	..
	Unsuitable or defective	14	14	...
	Not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse ... ..	...	...	...	..
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses ... ..	...	...	...	..
Other Offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Table 3). ... ..	...	...	...	..
Total	20	20	...	..

Nature of Work.	Outlookers' Lists.				Number of Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils.
	Lists Received from Employers.				
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.		
	Lists.	Out-workers	Lists.	Out-workers.	
Wearing Apparel—					
(1) Making &c.	2	...	...	...	1
(2) Cleaning and Washing
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets
Artificial Flowers
Nets, other than Wire Nets
Tents
Sacks
Furniture and Upholstery
Fur Pulling
Feather Sorting
Umbrellas, &c.
Carding, &c., of Buttons, &c.
Paper Bags and Boxes
Basket Making...
Brush Making
Racquet and Tennis Balls
Stuffed Toys
File Making
Electro-Plate
Cables and Chains
Anchors and Grapnels
Cart Gear
Locks, Latches and Keys
Pea Picking
Total... ..	2	...	...	...	1

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	136

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act ... ..	...
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act.	Notified by H.M. Inspector .. I Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector I
Other	
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	...
In use at the end of the year ... ..	...

I am, Gentlemen,

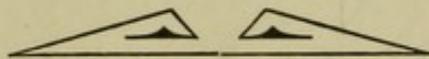
Yours obediently,

JOHN BROWN, M.O.H.,

M.D., D.P.H., Vict. Univ.

Burwood House, Bacup,

January 20th, 1909.



Vital Statistics

OF THE DISTRICT.

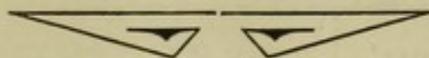


TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

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 Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
	Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age.		Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	At all Ages					Number	Rate
			Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered			Number	Rate					
1898	24100	24'13	72	121	422	17'36	422	17'36	..	..	422	17'36
1899	24400	22'08	89	163	398	16'62	398	16'62	..	..	398	16'62
1900	24400	24'13	100	169	472	19'34	472	19'34	..	..	472	19'34
1901	22500	24'11	69	142	364	16'18	364	16'18	..	..	364	16'18
1902	22500	24'88	76	135	369	16'40	369	16'40	..	..	369	16'40
1903	22500	24'52	77	139	339	19'50	339	19'50	..	..	339	19'50
1904	22500	22'19	74	145	381	16'81	381	16'81	..	..	381	16'81
1905	22500	22'35	56	111	330	14'66	330	14'66	..	..	330	14'66
1906	24400	21'49	63	120	371	15'20	371	15'20	..	..	371	15'20
1907	24500	22'08	69	127	385	15'71	385	15'71	..	..	407	16'61
Averages for years 1898-1907.	23460	23'19	74	133	393	16'77	393	16'77	..	..	395	16'86
1908	24600	21'83	56	106	360	14'63	360	14'63	..	19	376	15'27	

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS URBAN DISTRICT
OF BACUP IN 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Death at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
1898	24400	589	422	72
1899	24400	543	398	89
1900	24400	589	472	100
1901	22500	485	364	69
1902	22500	560	3 69	76
1903	22500	552	4 39	77
1904	22500	509	381	74
1905	22500	503	330	56
1906	24400	524	371	63
1907	24500	541	385	69
Averages of Years 1898 to 1907.	23460	539	393	74
1908	24600	537	376	5 6

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox
Cholera
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	22	1	9	7	3	2	...	
Erysipelas	19	...	...	3	4	11	1
Scarlet Fever	82	...	27	45	5	5	...	
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	4	...	...	1	1	2	...
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	..	...	3	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Varicella	44	3	21	19	1	..	...
Totals	174	4	57	75	17	20	1	

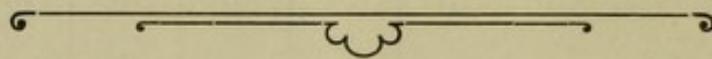
TABLE IV.—
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at Subjoined Ages.						
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	4	1	3	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	4	...	4	..	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Croup	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Fever } Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
} Enteric ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
} Other continued ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	10	...	...	...	1	9	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	3	1	1	..	...	1	...
Enteritis	4	2	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)... ..	23	...	...	3	6	14	...
Other tubercular diseases	9	1	1	3	2	2	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	16	...	...	...	...	11	5
Bronchitis	47	12	1	1	2	17	14
Pneumonia	16	2	3	1	...	7	3
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs... ..	4	1	3	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism } ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver } ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	9	9	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition... ..	3	...	...	...	...	3	...
Heart Diseases	31	...	...	1	3	22	5
Accidents	9	...	...	1	1	6	1
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other Causes	178	27	10	5	3	67	66
All causes	376	56	30	15	19	161	95

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY
DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS

CAUSE OF DEATH.						Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month
All Causes	{	Certified ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Uncertified ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Inquest ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Common Infectious Diseases	{	Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diphtheria: Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoeal Diseases	{	Diarrhoea, all forms ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
		Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Gastritis, Gasto-intestinal Catarrh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wasting Diseases	{	Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	7
		Congenital Defects ... ..	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	4
		Injury at Birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Want of Breast-milk ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... ..	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3
Tuberculous Diseases	{	Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	{	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Convulsions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
		Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
		Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Suffocation, overlaying ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Other Causes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inquest ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
						9	3	4	2	18

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1908



*To His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. H. Maden, Chairman)
and Members of the Health Committee of the Corporation of
the Borough of Bacup.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my seventh Annual Report, giving details of the work done by the sanitary department during the year 1908.

INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH AND REMOVAL OF NUISANCES.

As in previous years, regular inspections of the courts, yards, and passages within the Borough have been made, and the nuisances discovered during such inspections have been dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the various Health Acts.

The nuisances discovered were of a varied nature many being of such a character as to require no structural alteration to property to procure their abatement; therefore in many instances, verbal intimation to the persons responsible was sufficient to bring about the desired result. In cases, however, where the nuisances arose from structural defects, or from the absence of sanitary appliances, the usual statutory notices were served upon the owners.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

Visit and Re-visits to Houses	1504
Notices and Letters served	552
Workshop Inspections	167
Slaughter-houses Inspections	195
Offensive Trades	33
Cowsheds Inspections	74
Rooms Disinfected, including 5 Schools	185
Drains Tested (by smoke)	26
Complaints Received	86
Visits to Fried Fish Shops	21
Visits Paid to Infected Houses... ..	445

NUISANCES ABATED.

Foul Drains Cleansed	29
Cesspools Abolished (Water Closets provided) ...	4
Cesspools Abolished (Pail Closets provided)... ..	9
Pail Closets Abolished (Water Closets provided) ...	16
Privy Middens Abolished (Water Closets provided)...	15
Privy Middens Abolished (Pail Closets provided) ...	2
Disused Cellar Dwellings Cleansed	2
Defective Drains to Repair	21
Gable Ends Damp (to Cement) . ..	4
Gable Ends Damp (to Provide Open Areas)	3
Drainage from Highway Polluting Water-course ...	1
Drainage from Manure Tanks flowing over Highway	2
Lavatory Waste Pipe Stopped up	2
Defective soilpipes to Repair	2
Offensive Cellar areas to Clean and Cover over ...	6
Dilapidated Privy Doors and Frames (New ones Fixed	9
Dilapidated Slaughter-house Floor (Floors repaired)	2
Dilapidated Closet Seats (New Ones Fixed)	17
Bath Waste Pipe Disconnected from Drain	1

NUISANCES ABATED—continued.

Lavatory Waste Pipe Disconnected from Drain	...	...	...	...	1
New Pedestal Water Closets Fixed	...	...	...	...	6
Offensive Urinals to Abolish and provide New Ones...					2
Ventilating Pipes to Drain to Repair	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Closet Cisterns to Repair	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive Tank used for Storing Water in, New Tank provided	...	...	...	...	1
Dilapidated House Floors (Relaid)	...	...	...	...	3
Dilapidated Sinkstones (New Ones fixed)	...	...	...	...	11
Dilapidated Surface of Yards Relaid with Flags	...				7
Dilapidated Privy Roofs and Walls to Repair	...				17
Dilapidated Ashpit Walls to Repair	...	...	...	...	3
Closet Doors Broken Off (New Doors Fixed)...	...	...	...	...	19
Dirty Closets to Cleanse	...	...	...	...	25
Offensive Rubbish in Cellars to Remove	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive Rubbish in Empty House to Remove	...				1
Dirty Dwellings to Cleanse	...	...	...	...	11
Offensive Fumes from Chimney, Chimney Raised	...				1
Dirty Bedrooms to Cleanse	...	...	...	...	14
Slaughter-houses to Cleanse	...	...	...	...	5
Offensive Trades Premises (to Whitewash)	...	...	...	...	1
Offensive Trades Premises (Roofs to Repair)...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke Nuisances...	...	...	...	...	1
Fall Pipes Stopped up (Cleansed)	...	...	...	...	5
Premises Used for Preparing Fish for Frying, to Cleanse and Whitewash	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive Deposits to Remove	...	...	...	...	7
Insufficient Ashpits (Ash-bins provided)	...	...	...	...	177
Dilapidated Manure Pits to Repair	...	...	...	...	3
New Manure Pits to Build	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Drains under Buildings (Drains Removed)					8
Dilapidated House Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Dilapidated Spouting and Fall Pipes (New Ones fixed)	...	...	...	...	15

NUISANCES ABATED—continued.

Gullies and Dish-stones Fixed to Drains	...	...	5
Premises used for Making Food-stuffs in, to Cleanse and Whitewash	...	...	1
Offensive Drain Inside to Remove and Fix in Area Outside	...	...	1
Cellar Dwelling Closed	...	...	1
Cellar Floor to Level and Repair	...	...	1
Disused Closets to Abolish	...	...	2
Risers to Closet Seats required...	...	...	19
Cellar Drains Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	7
Rubble Drains Abolished, and Sanitary Drains Substituted	...	...	4
Offensive Well in Cellar to Abolish	...	...	1
Defective Drains, to Provide Manhole and Interceptor Trap	...	...	1
Drain Passing under Building to Disconnect from Sewer by Interceptor Trap	...	...	1
Defective Closet Basins New Ones Fixed	...	...	2
Dilapidated Closet to Re-build...	...	...	1
Dilapidated Closet Boxes (Sanitary Pails Provided)...			21
Additional Pail Closets Provided	...	...	8
Privy Doors to Refix	...	...	11
Dilapidated Ashpits Abolished (Sanitary Ash-bins Provided)	...	...	4
Sinkwaste Pipe Disconnected from Drains (Gullies and 18in. Channels Fixed)	...	...	42
Sinkwaste Pipes Stopped up (Cleansed)	...	...	7
Foul Water Closet Drains (Cleansed)...	...	...	17
Fall Pipes Disconnected from Drains	...	...	9
Premises Overcrowded	...	...	12
Defective Sinkwaste Pipes (Lead Traps Fixed)	..		2
Defective Sinkwaste Pipes (New Ones Fixed)	...		10
Drains Re-laid	...	...	4
Offensive Yards to Cleanse and Hens to Remove	...		3

NUISANCES ABATED—continued.

The following work was in hand at the close of the year :—

Cesspool Closet to Abolish and Provide Water Closet	1
Privy Midden to Abolish and Provide Water Closet...	1
Pail Closet to Abolish and Provide Water Closet ...	1
Pail Closet under House to Abolish and Provide Water Closet	1
Drain to Repair	1
Ashpit to Abolish and Provide Ash-bin	1
Yard to Level and Repair	1
Dilapidated Ashboxes to Abolish and Provide Ash-bins	7

DRAINS TESTED (by Smoke)

<u>No. of Premises, 26</u>	<u>No. of Defects Found</u>	<u>Work carried out</u>
<u>Nature of Defects</u>		
Drains Untrapped	3	Gully traps fixed
Defective Drain in Cellar	2	Drains taken out
Defective Drain	1	Broken Pipes, New one fixed
Defected Soilpipe	1	New length fixed
Sinkwaste Pipes connected direct to Drains	2	Sinkwaste pipes disconnected, gullies and channels fixed
Rubble Drains passing under dwelling	1	Drain taken out
Fall Pipes connected direct into drains	3	Fall Pipes disconnected gully traps fixed

During the year I have submitted the following Reports to the Health Committee, viz:—

Report *re* Marine Store Dealer, Forest Street.

Report *re* Premises proposed to be used for an Offensive Trade, Banks Lane.

Report *re* Tip, Change.

DISEASED AND UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year three seizures of food were made:

<u>No. of Seizures.</u>	<u>Article.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
2 ...	Cockles ...	148 lbs.
1 ...	Livers ...	87 lbs.

With a view to the encouragement of the sale of wholesome food, a practice has for some time past been adopted that when retail vendors become aware that articles of food purchased of wholesale dealers are unsound and unfit for human consumption, they attend with the same at the Sanitary Inspector's Office, and if satisfied that no attempt has been made to sell the articles, I receive instructions from the owners to have the same destroyed, and a certificate is given in support of any claim upon the wholesale firm who originally sold the same. This no doubt prevents a large amount of unsound food being offered for sale. Three certificates have been granted during the year under these circumstances. Your Inspector finds that in our Borough there are a number of people who are in the habit of getting salt from street hawkers in

exchange for rags. On several occasions I have found the salt wrapped in dirty filthy cloths. I have drawn hawkers' attention to this and advised a clean box in which to store the salt. Boxes are now being generally used.

During the year special attention was given to foodstuffs preserved in tins. Several shops were visited and tins taken from stock were inspected. In every case I found a willingness on the part of each tradesman to assist in this inspection. A few "Blown" tins were observed. These were disposed of so as not to be used for human food.

The whole of the butchers, fishmongers, fruiterers, and other tradesmen's premises have been kept under close and frequent supervision; also, the Market has been visited twice weekly.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Number on Register, 17.

The Slaughter-houses in the Borough have been periodically inspected. Some of the Slaughter-houses are in congested areas, and structurally not suited for the purpose, otherwise the premises are kept clean, and at the time of my inspections the slaughtering was done so as to prevent as far as the nature of the trade would allow, any effluvium nuisances. Several improvements have been effected at the slaughter-houses during the year.

The difficulties in the way of food inspection are great as regards meat. The Slaughter-houses in the

Borough are scattered, slaughtering being done at irregular times and hours.

I find a common practice amongst the butchers is to have their meat taken from their slaughter-houses on carts, etc., without any covering, thus allowing the dust and rain to fall upon it. It would be more satisfactory if coverings in all cases of removal were provided. An improvement has been effected in this matter during the year.

Fifty-one permits have been granted during the year, allowing persons to slaughter the following animals on premises not licensed as slaughter-houses, viz:— Pigs 69, Cows 2. I am strongly of opinion that this privilege is liable to be abused, also your Inspector cannot supervise these premises as satisfactorily as the Slaughter-houses, still, we have some knowledge when and where slaughtering takes place.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number on Register—Tripe Boilers ... 3

The premises in occupation have been regularly inspected, and, as far as the nature of the trade would allow, kept in a clean condition, the Bye-laws being strictly enforced.

One application was received for proposed new premises, in which to carry on an offensive trade. A report on the premises proposed to be used was submitted. A license was granted on condition that certain work was carried out to make the premises sanitary and satisfactory, the necessary requirements were so great that the proposed occupier decided not to proceed with the business.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Twenty-one visits were made to these premises. The premises were clean and well fitted up. Your Inspector occasionally receives complaints from people living near these premises regarding the smells, but when sound fish and good materials are used and cleanliness observed, considering the advantages they offer of a cheap, wholesome, nutritious food, little exception can be taken to the manner in which they are conducted. Inspection of the fish was made at intervals, and in each case it was found satisfactory.

POTTED MEAT AND SAUSAGE MAKERS.

During the year the premises in which sausages, potted meats, and foodstuffs were made were visited. In three cases the premises and utensils were found to be scrupulously clean; one may be described as fairly clean; one in a dirty condition, which has been cleansed and whitewashed. Various improvements were effected at the places during the year as follows:--

Floor repaired	...	...	...	...	..	1
Drain inside removed and fixed in area outside					...	1
Premises Cleansed	...	...	...	..	...	2
Offensive Rubbish removed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drain outside repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Four observations, of an hour's duration, were made. In one instance a nuisance was observed. Notice was served and an improvement effected. A still greater improvement would be effected if firemen would exercise greater care during the progress of firing. The attention

of the firemen and owners in several instances has been called to this matter.

VANS USED AS DWELLINGS.

The dwelling-vans of showmen who visited the town for the purpose of attending the fair, were all inspected in order to ascertain their sanitary condition, and also for the purpose of observing any infectious disease which might exist among the inmates. The condition of the vans was satisfactory, and no infectious disease was found to exist among the occupiers.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACT, 1901.

We have on our Register the following Workshops, 136. During the year five have been closed, and two have been registered. These were previously on the Register, new occupiers having taken them. Three work-rooms have been measured *re* cubic capacity. One occupier having changed her address has been re-registered.

One hundred and sixty-seven visits have been paid under the above act, and several defects noted and improvements effected. Ten notices were served. In other cases the owners' or occupiers' attention was directed to the defects observed, which received attention.

I.—INSPECTION.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories (including Laundry)	4
Workshops	157
Workplaces	6

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>No. of Defects Found</u>
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—</i>	
Want of Cleanliness	2
Offensive Rubbish to remove... ..	2
Defective Soil Pipe to repair... ..	1
Foul Closet Basin	1
<i>Sanitary Accommodation—</i>	
Cesspool removed from inside Factory and W.C provided	1
Offensive Urinals to cleanse and repair ...	1
Dirty Closets cleansed and whitewashed ...	7
Dilapidated Closets to repair	2
Closet cistern to repair	1
To provide Sanitary Pails	1
New Sinkstone fixed	1
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act—</i>	
Additional Ventilation provided	1
Bakehouse to Whitewash	1
Bakehouse Roof to repair	1
Closets to screen	1
Urinal to screen	1
Workshop to Whitewash	2
Bakehouse Floor to level and repair	1

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

	<u>Number</u>
<i>Factories—</i>	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public	

Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act.

Notified by H.M. Inspector 1

Homework—

We have on our Register the names and addresses of 18 outworkers. This is less than last year, caused by the work in the slipper trade not being as good as usual. These are persons who take in slippers to make at home. This work is chiefly carried on in the kitchen or living-room. At the time of my inspection these premises were found in a clean condition.

We have on our Register Six Workplaces, viz :

Kitchens of Restaurants	...	...	...	4
Livery Stable Yards	...	...	...	2

In all cases I found a willingness on the part of the owners and occupiers to carry out any suggestion made respecting the sanitary improvement of their premises, all the defects complained of being attended to.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885,

AND REGULATIONS, 1907.

We have on our Register 130 Cowkeepers and Milksellers.

During the year seventy-four inspections were made. At the premises inspected were kept 320 Cows, supplying milk. One farmer supplies milk in another Borough. Four applications for Registration as Cowkeepers, and one application as Milkseller have been made during the year, all being Registered.

The following work has been carried out during the year:—

	<u>Number</u>
Additional Lights to Dairies provided	5
Dairies ventilated	4
Cowsheds ventilated	2
Additional Light to Cowsheds provided	6
Cowshed Floors relaid	1
Cowshed Floors repaired	2
Cesspools inside Cowsheds removed, Drains fixed outside... ..	4
Drains inside Cowsheds removed, Drains fixed outside	2
Drains inside Dairies removed, Drains fixed in open areas outside	3
Cowshed Walls to repair	2
Cowsheds to Cleanse and Limewash	3
Dairies to Whitewash	4
Surface of yards to level and repair	3
Dirty Utensils to clean	1
Unregistered	4
New Drains to Cowsheds provided	2
One Cowshed closed new one built	1
New Spouting and fallpipes fixed	3
Fallpipe disconnected from Drains, Gullies, and Dishstones fixed	4
New water supply provided	1
Surface water from Highway polluting water ...	1
New Manure Pits provided	3
Stable Drains removed from inside and fixed outside	1
Cesspool Closet to abolish and provide Pail Closet	1
Privy Midden Closet abolished, Pail provided ...	1
Piggeries redrained	2
Liquid from Manure flowing over Highway ...	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following number of Infectious Diseases were reported during the year :

	1907	1908
Chickenpox	61	44
Scarlet Fever	19	82
Puerperal Fever	1	3
Typhoid Fever	3	4
Diphtheria (Mem. Croup)	3	22
Erysipelas	15	19
Measles	110	97
	212	271

Four hundred and forty-five visits were made to infected houses, enquiries made as to the cause or origin of the disease, instructions given with regard to the isolation of the infected persons, and disinfection of the infected articles, &c., connected with the disease. Sanitary Pails, Disinfectants, and Carbolised Oil are supplied free, and the bedding, clothes, &c., disinfected in the room with Formic Aldehyde or Sulphur Dioxide Gas on recovery of the patient.

In case the infected person was a child attending school, the school authorities were informed, and instructions given to keep all children from school until the Medical Attendant certified the children to be free from infection. Some parents believe that children have to graduate through the various infantile diseases, and with this belief expose them to infection so as to have it all over together. One hundred and eighty-five rooms, including five schools, have been disinfected, also the clothing of three midwives who have been in attendance on cases of Puerperal Fever. Eighteen books have

been fumigated and returned to their owners. Several parcels of clothing from infected houses on the application of the owners have been destroyed.

The free supply of disinfectants in the Borough has been duly appreciated. In some instances I find that disinfectants have taken the place of cleanliness. When the occupiers' attention was called to this matter, disinfectants were not so freely used, but search was made for any offensive smell and the cause of same was removed, instead of being covered up.

From my inspections during the year I find that the people are taking a greater interest in matters relating to sanitation in and around their dwellings, and from this increased interest, improvement in the health of the parents and children must be effected.

CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

During the year I have visited each part of the Borough, and am well acquainted with the sanitary condition of the differently constructed Privies and Ashpits. These are being reduced, and the water carriage system adopted. The weekly and bi-weekly collection of shop refuse in the central portion of the town has been well sustained, and I think has given very general satisfaction. One hundred and six loads of vegetable refuse, and one hundred and eighty-nine loads of abattoir garbage have been collected, no complaints having been made. Several Municipal Authorities convert this refuse, along with fish offal, into a dry and concentrated manure. The present system of depositing ashes in small boxes, bags, tubs, &c. (which by courtesy are called ash-bins) on the foot-paths until emptied by our men, does not assist in making our

town sanitary, and I believe the time is not far distant when these receptacles will be abolished. Ash tubs and boxes are far too frequently dangerous for the workmen to handle, owing to the rusty nails and broken hoops (two slight accidents occurred during the year), and also they are very insanitary. During the year I have observed that wooden boxes and tubs soon become saturated with moisture and get in a very offensive condition. Portable circular galvanised-iron Ash-bins, with covers, are better in every way. The Committee having adopted a circular galvanised-iron "Regulation" Dust-bin with cover, I am convinced from a large experience, that when these are generally used for houses, etc., a great sanitary improvement in our Borough will be effected. During the year 181 "Regulation" Dust-bins have been provided, an increase of 30 upon last year. Some of the objections which are urged against the bin adopted by the Committee are as follows:—The bin is too small or too large; it will not stand in the wet; water will corrode them; they will not last many months; workmen will use them improperly; tenants will take them when removing, etc. As will be seen by the increased number provided, the dust-bin which the Committee adopted is proving satisfactory, and gaining favour, there being less difficulty in having them provided than formerly, and I find that those who have the greatest objection against them, have had the least experience of them. When the bins are generally adopted in the Borough I think greater efficiency in the removal of house refuse will be observed. No great improvement can be seen yet as the bins are distributed in different parts of the Borough. Every application received for the emptying of Ashpits, Cesspools, or Pails is duly recorded in a book. During the year 61 such applications were made, which were attended to. The efforts of the Health Committee in making an earnest attempt to dispose of

the nightsoil in a more sanitary manner in preference to "Dumping" it on the tips, has so far been satisfactory, more nightsoil having been put down the shutes than in any previous year. Several complaints were received during the year *re* smells from sewers and tips, these will decrease as the water carriage system becomes more generally adopted, and the only practical way to abate the nuisance arising from the disposal of pail contents on tips or shutes is by adopting the W.C. system. Some of the outlying districts are scavenged by contract. As opportunities occur we undertake this work by our own staff without any increased cost. During the year the increased amount of trade refuse has been sustained. This is probably due to the fact that a charge is being made to those who previously had it removed free. Several complaints have been received respecting charges for trade refuse, but when it is considered that a charge must be made, and this refuse is being removed at low cost, I do not see how these complaints will be avoided.

The task of removing and dealing with domestic refuse has specially received the attention of your Inspector during the year, and though the number of houses and population has increased, the work has on the whole been satisfactorily carried out. If a weighing machine could be provided on the tip at Change, and all refuse weighed it would soon pay for itself, as well as effect a saving in cleansing. From my experience I find that more efficient and better work is done when each load is weighed.

The abolition of the conservancy system, and the adoption of water carriage system for refuse removal is rapidly becoming general throughout the country, and wherever the sewers are satisfactory your Inspector

would advise that the abolition of all Closets so constructed as to retain excrementitious matter around houses be rigidly enforced, and clean Water Closets substituted, as it is becoming more apparent that the water carriage system proper is the only alternative. As the Health Committee makes a grant of part costs for conversion of Pail Closets in suitable places, one would have expected that this privilege would have been better appreciated. Now that our Waterworks are completed I think all responsible persons should avail themselves of the Committee's offer and provide Water Closets, in place of Pails, which are very insanitary, when it is considered that not only has the excrement to remain about the houses polluting the air, then collected and carted through the town, and has to be disposed of by depositing on tips, or putting down the sewers, which is simply removing the "source" of nuisance from one place to another. Clean Water Closets are being adopted in *lieu* of Waste Water Closets, as Waste Water Closets are not as sanitary. It was claimed for these Closets when they were introduced that a great saving of fresh water would be effected through being flushed with slop water. But practical experience has shown that this is not the case.

The condition of the cesspools, privies, etc., abolished during the year were extremely unsatisfactory, and dangerous to health. The change in the districts where Water Closets have been provided is giving much satisfaction to the inhabitants. The abolition of all Pail Closets in the Borough, and a free supply of water to Water Closets, is a question which has been favourably considered by the Health Committee, and if the Council can see their way no doubt this will be done.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF PAILS EMPTIED AND
LOADS OF RUBBISH REMOVED EACH MONTH.

Month.	Pails.	Loads Slaughter- house Refuse.	Loads Vegetable Refuse	Total Loads Refuse Removed.
January	8217	17·5	10	652
February	8217	17·5	10	660
March	6564	14·0	8	539
April	8657	17·5	10	708
May	6463	14·0	8	545
June	6834	14·0	8	580
July	6783	14·0	8	508
August	9322	17·5	10	583
September	8257	17·5	10	647
October	6541	14·0	8	560
November	6070	14·0	8	555
December	8134	17·5	8	691
Total 1908	90059	189	106	7228

As will be seen from the particulars *re* No. of Pails emptied, a larger number has been emptied this year than last. People will not have the Pail contents about their houses as formerly, but require them emptying oftener.

During my inspections I have found Closets and sanitary fittings in a very unsatisfactory condition, caused by the

indifference of the occupiers. It is to their own advantage to see that Closets and all Sanitary fittings are cleansed and kept in good order. Some persons have an idea that Closets and Sanitary fittings never requires cleansing with the result that they soon become a nuisance and annoyance to health. People do not seem to be aware that it is their duty to see that Closet seats and floors must be regularly washed and cleansed, and all Yards, Passages and approaches thereto must always be kept clean and free from all ashes and dirt whatever, to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector, in order to prevent a nuisance.

If any Sanitary convenience or the approaches thereto, or the walls, floors, seats, or fittings thereof is or are in such a state or condition as to be a Nuisance or annoyance (for want of proper cleansing), each of the persons having the use thereof is liable to a fine of 10/-, and a daily penalty of 5/-.

Your Sanitary Inspector gratefully recognises the valuable assistance he has received from His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. H. Maden, Chairman), and Members of the Health Committee, in his endeavours to improve the Sanitary condition of the Borough.

I remain, Gentlemen,

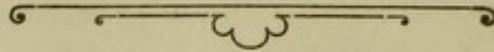
Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR E. BARNES,

A.M.R.S. Inst., (by exam.); Member of Incorp. Assoc. San. Inspectors ;
Hons. Cert. Plumbing, Hygiene, etc.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

MADEN PUBLIC BATHS REPORT.



To His Worship the Mayor (Chairman) and Members of the Health and Baths Committee of the Borough of Bacup.

During the year extensive alterations have been carried out in the Public Baths.

A new heater for the Turkish, as well as calorifier for hot water purposes having been erected, both of which have come up to expectations.

The Turkish Bathers have increased in attendance considerably, as well as the various departments set apart for ladies.

Taking into consideration the poor state of trade during the 12 months, the numbers who have visited and paid for admission have been extremely good.

Whilst the alterations were in progress the large plunge bath was closed down for one month, and the Turkish for three weeks.

The School Children and Swimming Club, through this cause, also commenced a month later than usual, which meant a difference, taking everything into consideration, of at least 2,000 bathers.

In November (during the slack period) I gave my services every Tuesday night from 7-30 until 9, to a Physical Culture Class, which I formed at the Baths, and which bears the title of "Bacup Citizens' Physical Culture Society." Any respectable young man (over 16) living in the Borough can

join it. The average attendance has been 20. Up to the present the work has been done without the aid of appliances, the chief exercises being breathing ones. To further encourage it I brought two well-known professors from Manchester, whose lectures were listened to with careful attention.

The wash baths are not taken advantage of as in other towns, and amongst the residents those in the employ of the Health and General Works Committee are the greatest abstainers. From a careful but small census taken during six months, not one classed as a labourer from either of these two quoted departments paid a visit.

A circular posted in the mills and workshops in and around the district, with an introductory note written by the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. J. Brown) on the advantages of cleanliness of the body, ought to be the means of securing more frequenters. Lessons also should be given by headmasters in the various Municipal Schools on the same subject.

It may be of interest for the members of the Council and Ratepayers to know that a deputation from the Bath Club, London, the chief bath in the kingdom, paid a visit to inspect the Turkish Heater, which my committee installed, and after examination have decided to follow Bacup's lead.

The North-Western Centre of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association also were received at the Baths by the Chairman and various members of the Baths Committee, and compliments paid to the efficiency and cleanliness.

Yours obediently,

FRANK TILTON,

Baths Superintendent.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BATHERS

Class of Bath.	Price	Jan.	Feb	Mar.	Apr.	May
Special Turkish	1/6	1	1	2	2	...
2nd Turkish	1/-	84	80	69	65	1000
3rd Turkish	9d.	13	20	15	3	...
Vapour Baths	6d. fo'merly 9d.	4	1	1	4	...
Men's Slipper, 1st Class ...	4d.	76	49	118	133	2100
Men's Slipper, 2nd Class ...	2d.	145	109	203	210	3200
Ladies' Slipper, 1st Class ...	4d.	13	22	21	21	3000
Ladies' Slipper, 2nd Class ...	2d.	88	48	133	174	2600
Men's Swimming, 1st Class ...	4d.	...	...	...	61	800
Men's Swimming, 2nd Class..	2d.	153	192	466	535	6900
Ladies' Swimming, 1st Class..	4d.	...	...	...	...	...
Ladies' Swimming, 2nd Class	2d.	6	22	41	118	1800
Youths' Swimming 1st Class..	2d.	...	...	...	117	1400
Youths' Swimming, 2nd Class	1d.	123	165	439	684	7800
Girls' Swimming, 2nd Class ...	1d.	50	83	175	166	2700
School Children	½d.	...	...	...	...	2600
Contracts (Season)	7/6	...	...	...	...	...
Special Club Contracts ...	2d.	...	...	9	215	3200
Drawers'	1d.	32	30	71	93	900
Gala	5/-	...	...	Gala	...	...
Polo Match	6/-	...	...	...	...	1 (L'nee)
Club Contracts (Boys) ...	1d.	...	...	...	31	300
Yearly Contracts	10/-	...	...	...	2 (£1)	...
Boys Contracts... ..	5/-	...	...	...	2	...
Total Number of Bathers per Month... ..		746	792	1692	2439	3611
Amount of Monthly Receipts.		£ s. d. 10 10 4	10 5 11	16 12 0	24 4 3	...

IN EACH CLASS WITH THE FEES RECEIVED.

June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total of each Class	Fees for each Class			
								£	s.	d.	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	12	0
82	73	64	57	40	45	20	779	38	19	0	
12	6	53	5	8	16	1	161	6	0	9	
...	...	...	...	7	9	4	30	0	17	6
				Price of Vapour reduced to 6d.							
279	395	156	152	73	49	47	1737	28	19	0	
383	530	274	250	130	143	84	2786	23	4	4	
42	65	22	46	15	8	8	319	5	6	4	
351	379	194	171	70	84	28	1987	16	7	2	
75	273	163	111	9	2	...	783	13	1	0	
354	1326	846	590	254	222	153	6288	52	8	0	
...	...	2	...	...	...	...	5	0	1	8
81	174	179	108	62	32	10	1213	10	2	2	
43	330	129	43	10	...	...	686	5	14	4
310	1574	914	596	173	177	60	6502	27	1	10	
73	492	408	283	161	109	25	2501	10	8	5	
000	351	1364	617	...	...	...	3500	7	2	2
...	
47	307	399	61	...	...	...	1662	13	17	0
53	319	112	108	26	17	14	1074	4	9	6	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	0
Burnley and S'uthp't		Bl'kb'rn									
11	221	9	23	89	...	...	415	1	14	7
(10/-)	...	...	1 (10/-)	...	...	1 (10/-)	5	2	10	0
...	...	...	...	1 (5/-)	...	...	5	1	5	0
43	6496	5176	3213	1071	896	440	31354	271	10	9	
34 16 10	52 18 8	34 7 2	*School Childr'n for Season *7 2 2 23 1 9 33 3 11			10 11 11	9 6 7	5 14 2	Total ... £271 10 9		

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT FOR 1908.

The Common Lodging-houses are visited daily, and each proprietor fills up a form stating the name of each lodger, whence they came, and their destination, which he hands to the visiting officer each morning; these are kept at the Police Station for reference.

There has been an additional Lodging-house registered, to accommodate 24 lodgers.

J. HARLAND,

Chief Constable.