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Bedford Borough Education Committee.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOLARS.

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,

10th March, 1910.



To the Bedford Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on School Inspection for the year 1909.

In Circular 596 issued by the Board of Education it is stated that "It will be understood that Reports which are for the information of the Board of Education may well include statements of local circumstance, and conditions which would be superfluous if they were intended only for the information of the Local Authority."

I have therefore incorporated in this Report a short account of the various Schools administered by your Committee, together with some remarks on certain matters as to which the Board of Education particularly desire information.

The Schools are distributed in six groups as follows:—

The Harpur Schools, in Harpur Street and Horne Lane, consisting of a Boys' School, a Girls' School and an Infant School.

The Goldington Road Schools, comprising a Mixed School and an Infants' School.

The Clapham Road Schools, similarly comprising a Mixed School and an Infant School.

The Priory Street School for Infants only.

The Queen's Park Schools, consisting of a Mixed School and an Infants' School.

The Amphill Road Schools, which comprise a Boys' School, a Girls' School, and an Infants' School.

The Harpur Schools for Boys and Girls are old, and in many respects ill suited for their purpose.

The Goldington Road Schools are the finest in the town and are built on the Central Hall system. As the length of the Hall in each block (Boys' and Girls') runs North and South, the class rooms on each side of the Hall receive a fair share of sunlight.

The Clapham Road Schools are also of comparatively recent construction, and are well lighted.

The Queen's Park Schools are built on the Central Hall plan, but the length of the Hall runs East and West, so that the class rooms on the South side get all the sunlight and those on the North none.

The Priory Street School is a good modern building.

The Amphill Road Schools were built a good many years ago and subsequently enlarged. Many of the rooms are cheerless, and in winter very cold.

There is a considerable space of ground attached to each of the schools, which serves for the purposes of play and drilling, and provides a good air space for all the buildings. The ventilation is on the natural system, supplemented in many of the class rooms by Tobin's Tubes, and outlets in the roof.

WARMING.

The chief means of warming the class rooms is by Manchester grates. Clapham Road Infants' School has lately been supplied with a Radiator in the Hall.

On the whole the Schools are well equipped. The seating accommodation in all the Schools built or enlarged since the establishment of the School Board in 1897 is on the dual system, varying in size according to the age of the scholars.

The Harpur Street Infants' School has modern desks supplied in the last year or two; in the Girls' School the desks are of mixed type—continuous, dual and single; the Boys' School has only the antiquated continuous desks.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

All the Schools are provided with trough closets. This is an objectionable system from almost every point of view, and should be replaced by pedestal closets. The dimensions of the sanitary annexes are too cramped, the passages being narrow; further, the closets are not sufficiently lighted; this defect might be easily remedied by the insertion of glass tiles into the roof at intervals. The boys' departments are provided with urinals. The various caretakers keep the closets in good order.

In all the schools wash basins are provided; in some schools basins are placed in the cloak rooms, in others in the passages; the latter arrangement is a bad one; each School is provided with a stand pipe and drinking cup in the playground.

All the cloak rooms are too small; in some of the Schools pegs have to be provided in the passages as well. The pegs on the stands are placed too close together, with the result that the children's clothes overlap each other. In two of the departments wood is used for the panelling of the cloak rooms; tiles would form a much more suitable material. There are no special arrangements for drying the clothes and boots of the children. The class rooms and cloak rooms are kept clean, but the ventilation of the cloak rooms is imperfect owing to their inadequate size. Though these points offer themselves for criticism and there is room for improvement, still there is nothing that seriously affects the health of the children.

SCHOOL INSPECTION.

The method of inspection in its main features has followed that of the first year, but the experience then gained has led to certain modifications of detail. As before, all infants admitted to the Schools were examined. This is the first essential condition laid down by the Board of Education in their Memorandum which says "The first inspection should take place at the time of or as soon as possible after admission to School; the second at or about the third year (say the seventh year of age); and the third at or about the sixth year of school life (say the tenth year of age). A fourth inspection would be desirable when practicable." The second

examination was not insisted upon for the past year by the Board of Education. It will be seen however that all the children of the age of 8 years were inspected. At the beginning of the year an attempt was made for a short time to examine "leavers," i.e., the children of whose impending removal from school proper notice had been received from the parents. It was soon obvious that such a scheme could not be worked. It was found that it would involve repeated examinations of small numbers at irregular times, and that in all probability a large proportion of the "leavers" would escape examination. Repeated visits to the schools would involve great waste of time on the part of the School Medical Officer; on the other hand if such children were to be examined at a Central Office this would involve the presence of a teacher with waste of time on his or her part and on the part of the children. The objects to be aimed at were that every child should be examined at some period not too long before his leaving school; that the ages of the children so examined should be comparable, and that no child should escape examination. It appeared that these aims would all be secured by examining all the children attending school "of the age of 12." For the purposes of examination every child was defined to be "of the age of 12" who was born in the year 1897. Of course it might and did happen that under such a plan a child might not have attained 12 years of age, that is to say, have completed 12 years of life, at the time of examination; but at any rate he would fall within the limits of a narrow age group. The advantages of the plan are that the children are thereby classified on a simple system; that the children due for examination are easily picked out from the registers; that the selection of the children for examination is not dependent on the time in the year when the examination is made, as would be the case for instance, if a child is not to be examined unless he has actually attained 12 years of age. The children will come up automatically in batches year by year. The same plan was adopted for the second or intermediate examination; all the children "of the age of 8," i.e., who were born in the year 1901 having been examined. These children will come up for their next examination in the year 1913. The index cards will therefore be put aside and will be ready for use in the year 1913.

In order to secure that all the children shortly leaving school should be examined and registered before doing so, it was necessary last year to examine all the children born in years prior to 1897. These were classified on the same plan, as will be seen by referring to the appended Tables. The extra labour thus involved will not be required this year. There will be at most but a few children, born before 1898, requiring examination; these will consist of immigrants from other places and can easily be dealt with specially.

There will thus be three classes for examination in the year 1910, viz.: (i.) Infants; (ii.) Children born in 1902 "of the age of 8"; (iii.) Children born in 1898 "of the age of 12."

The reasons for selecting the age of 8 rather than 7 were, that some children remain in the Infant classes till 7, but all are transferred by the age of 8; that 8 is half-way between 4 and 12, and above all that by that age the second dentition is becoming established. The four permanent "first molars" are by then all erupted, and on this point I have laid especial stress; having in this class specially noted and tabulated the condition of these teeth.

When these are decayed at that age the child is on the path of dental ruin. The age of 12 was chosen in preference to 10 as being nearer to the time when many of the children leave school. If it were possible to hold four examinations instead of three in the course of a child's school life the age of 10 might serve, as another would follow ; but at present this seems merely a counsel of perfection. As other reasons for preferring 12 to 10 as the age of the last examination, it may be pointed out that the intervals between the three examinations are equalized, and also that the first dentition has by that time mainly disappeared. The children are older also, and a better idea can be formed of their probable development.

The visits of inspection began in March and ended in December. 31 visits were paid to the Boys and Girls Schools and 37 to the Infants Schools, making a total of 112 visits. The visits to the Upper Schools occupied 135 hours ; those to the Infants 42 hours. The times stated include only that actually devoted to the inspection itself. The average time per head occupied by inspection was 4 minutes. As little time as possible was given to obviously healthy children in order to have plenty of time for the inspection of doubtful or obviously unhealthy ones. Much time can be saved by working on a systematic plan. Taking them all round the children in Bedford are very healthy and this fact materially lessens the time requisite for examination. The clerical work involved in writing up the index cards, and in analyzing the registers for the purpose of this report has been very heavy, and has been done without assistance.

I have again gratefully to record the kind and willing aid received from the Heads of the various Schools and the members of their staffs. The work has been accomplished without any serious dislocation of the School routine, but in every School it has involved the dispossession of a class, except in one instance, where for lack of room the examination had to be held in a cloak room. If Medical Inspection is to become, as doubtless it will, an important feature of School routine, these makeshift arrangements cannot continue indefinitely. Your Committee will be compelled to face this fact sooner or later in common with every other Educational Authority in the country. No facilities at present exist for Medical Inspection in the various Schools, but a proper room will be a *sine qua non* in any new Schools that may be built.

In every case notice was sent to the parents informing them of the proposed inspection and of their right to be present. In 646 cases, a parent (almost always the mother) was present. As might be expected the attendance was greatest at the inspection of the younger children. The particulars are given in the following table :—

INSPECTION OF—		
Boys, 12 years and upwards.		Girls, 12 years and upwards.
No. of Parents ... 13	.....	38
Boys, 8 years.		Girls, 8 years.
No. of Parents ... 161	.....	158
Infants.		Infants.
No. of Parents ... 127	.....	149
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	301	345
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total, 646.

However desirable it may be to secure the attendance of the parents from some points of view, there is at present no accommodation for them in some of the Schools, and they have in common with all concerned to submit to inconvenience. Without exception they have, however, displayed a friendly interest in the proceedings, and expressed their appreciation of the object of the inspection. In only two instances was inspection declined, and even in these the forms as to previous illnesses were filled up. Very few formal notices as to defects discovered were sent out during the year, as at present no system of providing for the "treatment" of defects exists. The fact that the County Hospital and a large Provident Dispensary exist in Bedford, should render possible the development of a scheme whereby all cases requiring special treatment could be provided for. The former Institution should not be expected to treat any case except on the direct certificate of a Medical practitioner. There are two classes of defects for which, above all, systematic provision should be made, those of the eyes and of the teeth. Both require special treatment. Any scheme should provide for a substantial portion of the cost being contributed by the parents, according to their means. The whole subject is one which may well engage the attention of your Committee.

Full particulars as to the various details noted are given in the appended Tables.

Cases of Anæmia have not been specially distinguished, but are included under the general heading of Nutrition, generally under the term "fair." In the same category are included cases which may possibly have a tuberculous taint. No case was discovered of tuberculosis clearly recognizable as such. The diagnosis of the early stages of Phthisis in young children is admittedly difficult and subject to many fallacies, and could certainly not be made at a single sitting. Any suspicious cases were specially marked for subsequent watching.

No attempt was made to diagnose Adenoids with certainty, obvious cases were noted, but a satisfactory diagnosis in many cases requires a digital examination of the throat and cannot be recommended as a routine measure, as it would cause alarm among the children and most probably resentment in their parents. In a few cases such examinations were made at the request of the parent; as a rule the parent was advised to consult a private practitioner.

The number of abnormally enlarged glands was small.

In the case of the Eyes the older children were examined by Snellen's Test Types. The conditions as to light were, in many of the Schools, very indifferent, and the enquiry was therefore limited to the acuity of vision when both eyes were used simultaneously. In the case of Infants it is impossible to do more than note obvious defects such as squint. The results as to squint and defective vision, i.e., such defects as short sight, &c., are classified as positive and suspected; closer examination would no doubt transfer many of the latter to the former heading.

The proportion of children having defective teeth would no doubt be higher, had the examination been made in a special light and with the aid of the dental mirror and probe. Cases in which no

teeth were visibly decayed are classed as very good ; those in which one or two only were decayed, as good ; those in which not more than 5 or 6 were decayed, as fair ; those children having more decayed or other serious defect (malposition, &c.) were classified under the heading "bad."

One condition that requires attention is the condition of the children's hair ; on this point the tables speak for themselves. It is here that the services of a Borough Nurse, whose appointment I recommended last year, would be of immediate and most striking value. During the year special instructions were issued for the guidance of parents in this matter ; but in the case of the small minority of careless and dirty mothers the periodical visits of a nurse, would be the most effectual means of stamping out the nuisance.

Speaking generally, the condition of the children as regards clothing, foot-gear and general health, must be considered good, and probably above the average of many towns ; but this should only serve as an incentive to further efforts. It is between the ages of 12 and 18, during the critical period of adolescence, that efforts for the improvement of the physique of the working class must be made. The need for some form of Continuation School has deeply impressed all who have considered the matter from a national point of view. Too many of the boys in the Elementary Schools, of the age of 12 and upwards, are employed out of School, especially on Saturdays, in occupations which, with their School work, overtax their strength. It is, I believe, the case that many of them do not get a proper share of sleep. It is no wonder that many a boy, who at 12 was bright, and for his years, strong and well grown, has developed by the age of 20 into an undersized, weedy, narrow-chested youth, lacking alike in "morale" and physique.

CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

An extensive epidemic of Measles broke out in the Schools after the Summer Holidays. Arrangements were made whereby daily notices were forwarded by the Heads of the various departments, through the Central Office, for my information. In two instances the percentages of absentees was so high that it was deemed advisable to take special measures. One Infant department was closed entirely for one week, and in another School a babies' class was closed for two weeks. The class rooms were, at the same time, specially disinfected.

In conclusion, I wish to record my thanks for the great assistance I have during the year received in many ways from your Secretary, Mr. S. C. George.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. B. W. PHILLIPS, M.D.

March 10th, 1910.

INFANTS-BOYS.

Year of Birth	No Ex'd	Clothes			Foot-gear			Height ft. in.	Weight lbs.	Nutrition			Chest in.	Head				Body			Teeth			Throat, & Ton. Adn. Gls.		Eyes				Ears		Speech	Mental	Heart	Lungs	N. Sys.	Tuber.	Rickets	Defer.	Inf. or C. Dis.	Other Defects	Parents Present
		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.			G.	F.	R.		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.	V.G.	G.	F.	R.	Ex. Def.	Def. Def.	Def. Vis.	Def. Vis.	Strab.	Strab.	Dis.	Def. Hear.											
1901	88	81..	3..	1	80..	5..	3	285..	54	3129	82..	5..	1	85..	3..	1	84..	4..	3	60..	26..	12..	10	7..	3..	..	1..	15..	10..	7	2..	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	24	
1904	113	104..	0..	3	107..	3..	3	378..	54	4314	102..	10..	1	105..	4..	6	103..	7..	4	43..	34..	18..	19	16..	8..	4	3..	1..	21..	10..	10	1..	2	1	4	1	2	5	58			
1903	34	49..	4..	1	51..	3..	3	191..	04	2316	43..	11..	1	53..	..	1	49..	5..	4	13..	19..	13..	6	6..	3..	5	..	1..	10..	5..	7	1..	2	2	2	1	3	2	27			
1902	20	18..	..	2	19..	..	1	73..	0	865	16..	4..	1	20..	..	1	19..	1..	1	5..	9..	3..	3	2..	..	1	..	..	2..	2..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	6				
1901	5	4..	..	1	5..	..	1	17..	104	224	4..	..	1	4..	..	1	4..	..	1	..	4..	..	1	1..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2				
280	259..	13..	8	262..	8..	10	247..	30..	1	267..	7..	6..	8	261..	17..	2	112	100..	92..	46..	42	32..	16..	10	3	3..	48..	27..	25	4..	7	3	8	—	1	2	—	2	6	8	10	127

INFANTS-GIRLS.

Year of Birth	No Ex'd	Clothes			Foot-gear			Height ft. in.	Weight lbs.	Nutrition			Chest in.	Head				Body			Teeth			Throat, & Ton. Adn. Gls.		Eyes				Ears		Speech	Mental	Heart	Lungs	N. Sys.	Tuber.	Rickets	Defer.	Inf. or C. Dis.	Other Defects	Parents Present
		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.			G.	F.	R.		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.	V.G.	G.	F.	R.	Ex. Def.	Def. Def.	Def. Vis.	Def. Vis.	Strab.	Strab.	Dis.	Def. Hear.											
1905	91	81..	5..	3	84..	6..	1	291..	84	3144	74..	14..	3	74..	10..	7	72..	11..	7	44..	38..	9..	5	5..	4..	2..	..	20..	19..	6	1..	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	47		
1904	130	120..	10..	1	121..	8..	1	432..	11	4517	110..	20..	1	109..	13..	11	113..	14..	11	59..	39..	23..	18	19..	7..	6	2..	14..	25..	16..	10	2..	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	66	
1903	73	65..	2..	3	70..	1..	2	251..	62	2857	64..	5..	4	57..	8..	10	67..	5..	11	10..	27..	21..	15	9..	2..	2	4..	11..	8..	4	1..	4	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	2	47	
1902	20	18..	2..	3	19..	1..	1	73..	8	842	16..	4..	1	15..	1..	4	18..	2..	..	2..	4..	11..	3	2..	1..	4	..	..	3..	1..	1	..	1	1	1	2	1	2	27			
1901	5	4..	..	1	5..	..	1	18..	11	227	4..	..	1	3..	2..	..	5..	..	..	..	1..	1..	3	1..	1..	..	1..	1..	1..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2			
319	293..	20..	6	300..	16..	1	268..	43..	8	455..	24..	30..	62	285..	30..	4..	16	106..	104..	65..	44	36..	15..	13	8..	3..	66..	38..	22	4..	10	4	9	2	3	6	—	2	6	2	4	149

"8 YEARS OF AGE"—BOYS.

1901	200	172..	15..	13	175..	12..	11	797..	4	9861	160..	34..	6	4670	181..	5..	14	179..	9..	15..	3	13..	74..	90..	23	37..	8..	5	..	20..	11..	10..	21	1..	2	—	10	1	2	1	—	1	—	1	4	30
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"8 YEARS OF AGE"—GIRLS.

1901	201	189..	9..	3	188..	8..	3	787..	41	10072	163..	36..	2	—	120..	39..	36..	75	195..	5..	1..	3	13..	78..	77..	33	38..	6..	5	4..	22..	8..	7..	17	..	4	5	—	2	5	—	1	1	2	3	42
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"12 YEARS OF AGE" AND UPWARDS—BOYS.

Year of Birth	No Ex'd	Clothes			Foot-gear			Height ft. in.	Weight lbs.	Nutrition			Chest in.	Head				Body			Teeth			Throat, & Ton. Adn. Gls.		Eyes				Ears		Speech	Mental	Heart	Lungs	N. Sys.	Tuber.	Rickets	Defer.	Inf. or C. Dis.	Other Defects	Parents Present		
		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.			G.	F.	R.		G.	F.	R.	G.	F.	R.	V.G.	G.	F.	R.	Ex. Def.	Def. Def.	Def. Vis.	Def. Vis.	Strab.	Strab.	Dis.	Def. Hear.													
1897	213	203..	6..	4	195..	11..	4	937..	31	14578	185..	28..	1	3191	204..	6..	3	208..	4..	1..	2	38..	95..	59..	21	40..	4..	3	..	21..	9..	10..	7	2..	3	2	4	2	2	1	1	8		
1896	214	208..	4..	2	204..	9..	1	1000..	0	15954	193..	21..	1	3564	205..	7..	2	207..	5..	2..	4	45..	99..	54..	16	25..	..	2	..	35..	10..	13..	9	..	3	2	3	1	1	4	1	5		
1895	99	91..	..	1	91..	1..	1	441..	118	7493	86..	5..	1	2497	91..	1..	..	91..	1..	14..	45..	27..	7	8..	2..	..	12..	3..	2..	2	..	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	7		
1894	17	17..	..	1	17..	..	1	83..	12	1448	15..	2..	1	460	17..	17..	3..	5..	7..	2	2..	1..	..	11..	2..	1..	2
1893	4	4..	..	1	4..	..	1	20..	34	349	4..	..	1	101	4..	4..	3..	1..	..	1..		
549	540..	10..	6	544..	21..	5	483..	56..	1	521..	14..	5..	13	527..	10..	3..	6	101..	216..	147..	46	76..	7..	5	1..	70..	30..	26..	20	3..	9	7	10	4	2	1	—	2	4	6	3	13		

"12 YEARS OF AGE" AND UPWARDS—GIRLS.

1897	241	232..	7..	2	228..	9..	4	1031..	31	16572	241..	17..	1	139..	73..	39..	101	239..	2..	53..	104..	70..	14	54..	2..	5	1..	53..	14..	12..	13	..	3	1	1	1	2	1	3	21		
1896	199	192..	5..	1	193..	3..	2	922..	81	15904	185..	12..	1	111..	57..	30..	83	193..	3..	2..	1	51..	63..	69..	15	42..	2..	1	7..	40..	8..	4..	5	..	7
1895	68	63..	2..	3	65..	..	3	330..	14	5803	60..	8..	..	49..	12..	7..	18	67..	1..	15..	33..	19..	4	44..	2..	..	11..	22..	1..	8..	..	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	4			
1894	10	10..	..	1	10..	..	1	50..	81	956	10..	..	1	8..	..	2..	2	10..	3..	4..	3..	1	2..	1..	2..	1..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
1893	1	1..	..	1	1..	..	1	5..	21	100	1..	..	1	..	1..	..	1	1..	1	1..		
1892	1	1..	..	1	1..	..	1	5..	07	111	1..	..	1	..	1..	..	1	1..	1	1..		
519	499..	14..	6	498..	12..	9	481..	37..	1	598..	143..	68..	20	511..	6..	2..	1	122..	205..	158..	34	113..	6..	6	10..	137..	24..	24..	18	1..	13	1	3	2	—	3	—	2	2	3	7	38		

ABBREVIATIONS.

V.G.—Very Good. G.—Good. F.—Fair. B.—Bad.
 (In the columns headed Throat, Eyes, &c. the numbers denote the number of cases in which defects were noted.)
 Ton.—Tonsils. Adn.—Adenoids. Gls.—Cervical and Submaxillary Glands.
 Ext. Def.—External Defects. Def. Vis.—Defective Vision. Dis.—Disease. N. Sys.—Nervous System. Tub.—Tuberculosis. Defer.—Difformity. Inf. or C. Dis.—Infectious or Contagious Disease.

NOTE.—In the above Table the figures under the headings of Height, Weight and Chest, give the actual totals from which the averages have been calculated.

1870

Year	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880
Population	1,000,000	1,050,000	1,100,000	1,150,000	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000	1,350,000	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,500,000
Area (sq. miles)	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Density (per sq. mile)	27.8	29.2	30.6	31.9	33.3	34.7	36.1	37.5	38.9	40.3	41.7

1880

Year	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890
Population	1,500,000	1,550,000	1,600,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	1,750,000	1,800,000	1,850,000	1,900,000	1,950,000	2,000,000
Area (sq. miles)	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Density (per sq. mile)	41.7	43.1	44.4	45.8	47.2	48.6	50.0	51.4	52.8	54.2	55.6

1890

Year	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Population	2,000,000	2,050,000	2,100,000	2,150,000	2,200,000	2,250,000	2,300,000	2,350,000	2,400,000	2,450,000	2,500,000
Area (sq. miles)	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Density (per sq. mile)	55.6	56.9	58.3	59.7	61.1	62.5	63.9	65.3	66.7	68.1	69.4

1900

Year	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910
Population	2,500,000	2,550,000	2,600,000	2,650,000	2,700,000	2,750,000	2,800,000	2,850,000	2,900,000	2,950,000	3,000,000
Area (sq. miles)	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Density (per sq. mile)	69.4	70.8	72.2	73.6	75.0	76.4	77.8	79.2	80.6	82.0	83.3

1910

Year	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Population	3,000,000	3,050,000	3,100,000	3,150,000	3,200,000	3,250,000	3,300,000	3,350,000	3,400,000	3,450,000	3,500,000
Area (sq. miles)	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Density (per sq. mile)	83.3	84.7	86.1	87.5	88.9	90.3	91.7	93.1	94.4	95.8	97.2

Table of Averages of Height and Weight.

		Height.		Weight.		Chest.		
		ft.	in.	Centi- metres.	lbs.	Kilo- grammes.	Inches.	Centi- metres.
Boys.	1897	4	5.9	136.9	68.4	31.02	25.3	64.3
	1896	4	8	141.2	74.5	33.79	26.0	66.0
	1895	4	9.6	146.3	80.5	36.46	26.8	68.0
	1894	4	10.7	149.1	84.7	38.36	27.1	68.8
	1893	5	0.9	154.7	87.3	39.54	27.9	70.9
GIRLS.	1897	4	6.3	137.9	68.8	31.20		
	1896	4	7.9	142.0	76.1	34.52		
	1895	4	10.3	148.1	85.3	38.63		
	1894	5	1	154.9	95.6	43.36		
Boys. "8 yrs."	1901	3	11.4	120.4	49.6	22.50	23.35	59.2
GIRLS. "8 yrs."	1901	3	11.1	119.6	50.1	22.73		

INFANTS.

Boys.	1905	3	2.9	98.8	35.5	16.10		
	1904	3	4.2	102.1	38.4	17.41		
	1903	3	6.5	107.9	41.0	18.60		
	1902	3	8.1	111.0	43.0	19.51		
GIRLS.	1905	3	2.5	97.8	34.5	15.65		
	1904	3	2.9	98.8	35.7	16.19		
	1903	3	5.4	105.2	39.1	17.74		
	1902	3	7	109.2	42.1	19.10		

Percentage of Children affected to a greater or less extent
with " Nits " in the Head.

	Infants.	Children born in 1901.	Children born in 1897 or previously.
Boys ...	2.9 per cent.	7 per cent.	2.4 per cent.
GIRLS ...	19.4 per cent.	37.3 per cent.	39.5 per cent.

Percentage of Children with 2 or more decayed teeth.

	Infants.	Children born in 1901.	Children born in 1897 or previously.
Boys ...	31.4 per cent.	56.5 per cent.	35.7 per cent.
GIRLS ...	34.1 per cent.	54.7 per cent.	37.0 per cent.

Condition of Permanent First Molar Teeth of Children
of " the age of 8."

Number of Children examined.....	Boys 200.....	Girls 201
Number of Children having 4 sound permanent first Molars	„ 161.....	„ 158

APPENDIX.

Notice to Parents.—Date of Medical Inspection.

BEDFORD BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

School.
Date, 19

Dear Sir (or Madam),

I beg to inform you that the School Medical Officer will attend at this School in accordance with the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, on _____ at _____ o'clock, for the purpose of Medically Inspecting the Children.

As your child is on the list for Inspection you have the right to attend if you wish to do so.

Yours faithfully,

S. C. GEORGE,
Education Secretary.

BEDFORD BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

School.
Date, 19

Dear Sir,

I have examined your _____ who is attending at the above-named School, and find he (she) has

I suggest you should consult your Medical Attendant in the matter.

Please hand the enclosed letter to him.

Yours faithfully,

F. B. W. PHILLIPS,
School Medical Officer.

BEDFORD BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

School.
Date, 19

Dear Sir,

I have examined _____ who is attending at the above-named School, and find he (she) has _____ and have suggested to the parents to consult you in the matter as their Medical Attendant.

Yours faithfully,

F. B. W. PHILLIPS,
School Medical Officer.

Private and Confidential.

BEDFORD BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

School.

Department.

Name of Scholar

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Dear Sir or Madam,

The School Medical Officer will be greatly obliged if the Parent will kindly put crosses in the List below against such of the Complaints as the above-named Scholar may have had.

	Measles.
	Scarlet Fever.
	Whooping Cough.
	Chicken Pox.
	Diphtheria.

Note—The crosses are to be inserted in the small squares.
If any other illness, please state here below : —

Signature of Parent

This Form when completed to be returned to the School.

BEDFORD BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Public Elementary Schools.

Instructions for getting rid of " Nits " in the Hair.

Soak the hair thoroughly with Paraffin Oil, and keep it wet for 2 hours. Then wash the head well with warm water and soap.

Do this the next day and the day after (for 3 days in all).

After the last washing, comb the hair very carefully with a fine tooth-comb wetted with vinegar.

Repeat the combing for several days till no more nits can be found.

In the case of little children, the fashion of wearing the hair cut short greatly lessens the risk of contracting the complaint.

Brushes and combs should be cleansed by putting them in boiling water for 5 minutes.

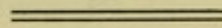
CAUTION.

As Paraffin is very inflammable, the child's head must never be treated in a room in which a fire or a lamp or candle is burning.

Always see to the head by daylight.



BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.



REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

BOROUGH OF BEDFORD

REPORT

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1899

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

January, 1910.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—

As Sanitary Inspector to your Authority, I have the honour to submit to you my Eleventh Annual Report, showing the work done in this Department during the year ending December 31st, 1909.

SUMMARY.

No. of drains tested on payment of fee	169
No. where defects were found	74
No. of School and Boarding House drains tested	26
No. where defects were found	5
No. of Notifications of Infectious Diseases	137
No. of cases removed to Isolation Hospitals	85
No. of deaths in Hospital (Diphtheria 1)	1
No. of house drains tested after notification of infectious disease..	87
No. where defects were found	20
No. of rooms disinfected	171
No. of articles put through the Steam Disinfector	767
House to house inspection and drain tests	700
No. of defects found in drains and sanitary fittings	331
No. requiring internal cleansing	148
No. found overcrowded	6
No. found unfit for human habitation	23
No. of other nuisances discovered or reported at office	86
No. of retests, after drain repairs	258
No. visits of inspection, <i>re</i> abatement of nuisances, drain repairs	799
No. of house yards requiring paving, under Bye-Laws	25
No. of visits to Factories, Workshops, and Outworkers' Houses...	482
No. of notices served <i>re</i> same	102
No. of visits to Common Lodging Houses	60
No. of visits to Slaughter Houses	2043
No. of visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	109
No. of samples taken under Food and Drugs' Act	121
No. found adulterated	14
No. of samples of Town Water sent for analysis	15
No. of preliminary notices to abate, served	585
No. of verbal notices to abate	39
No. of statutory notices to abate, served	3
No. of legal proceedings taken for abatement of nuisances.....	0
No. of legal proceedings under the Statute	2
No. of legal proceedings for breach of Bye-Laws.....	1

SANITARY INSPECTION.

As shown by the Summary, a considerable amount of work has been accomplished, including systematic house-to-house inspection; and I am pleased to say that very little difficulty has been experienced in getting owners of property to carry out any work required, even, though in many instances considerable expense had to be incurred in remedying the insanitary conditions, or in improving the surroundings.

The following tables show the number of notices served for the abatement of nuisances, etc., under the Public Health Acts and Bye-Laws, and it is gratifying to record, that in only three instances was it necessary to serve the Statutory Notices to procure compliance with the orders.

PRELIMINARY NOTICES.

Various Nuisances.	Internal Cleansing.	Overcrowding.	Houses Unfit for Habitation.	Paving Bye-Laws.
343	148	6	23	25

STATUTORY NOTICES.

Various Nuisances.	Internal Cleansing.	Overcrowding.	Houses Unfit for Habitation.	Paving Bye-Laws.
1	2	0	10	0

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875, AND AMENDMENT ACT, 1890.

Nos.	Offence.	Fine.			Cost.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	Depositing unsound meat, intended for the food of man.	10	0	0	14	13	6
2	Ditto ditto ditto	Dismissed.					
4	Selling milk without being registered	5	0		8	0	

NUISANCES.

The nuisances discovered or reported at the office (including those found during house-to-house inspection) were of a varied nature, and detailed particulars are given further on. 39 were of such a character as to require no structural alterations to property to require abatement, and a verbal intimation to the persons responsible was sufficient to procure the abatement of the nuisances.

Seven complaints were received at the office in respect to smells in the streets, emanating from the gullies and manholes connected with the sewers. Additional ventilating shafts to the sewers are still being fixed when, and where, necessary, and the comparatively few complaints received, evidently show that this is having the desired effect.

In 18 instances notices were received from householders, calling attention to the non-removal of house refuse. These were handed to the Borough Surveyor. Apropos of the removal of house refuse, the Medical Officer of Health, in his latest Annual Report, called attention to the filthy and insanitary state of the old boxes, baths, coal scuttles, etc., used for the purpose of holding the house refuse, while awaiting removal. There can be no doubt that these boxes, saturated with filth, standing just outside the back door, or under the pantry windows of the house, constitute a danger to the health of the inmates, and to remedy this, only galvanised iron dust bins with covers, ought to be used, and I suggest to the Committee the advisability of the Sanitary Authority publicly announcing that they require all owners of houses to provide suitable iron receptacles where such are not already in use, and if this is not done proceedings will be taken under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and Sect. 11, Public Health Act, 1890, to compel the same.

I may say that some Authorities who have enforced this regulation, have, as an inducement for owners to promptly comply, supplied them with the article at practically cost price, and the same plan might be adopted here.

DRAIN TESTING.

169 drains were tested on payment of the fees, and £84 10s. od. received, was paid into the District Fund.

At 71 defects of a more or less serious nature were found. These consisted of defective clay joints in the older drains, and cracked or broken pipes in the newer, arising in all probability from settlement of the ground.

All defects were remedied, and in 28 instances the whole drain was relaid under modern conditions.

CAST IRON DRAINAGE.

At two houses I advised 4" Cast Iron Drain Pipes being laid in place of stoneware pipes, and this was done. In my opinion this kind of drain pipes ought to be more in favour than it is, as generally the defects found in stoneware pipes on their being exposed, prove to be cracked pipes or flanges, especially where the pipes are laid on clay soil, and I doubt whether this would have been the case if they had been iron pipes.

At the request of the Governors of the Harpur Schools I have again reported to them upon the sanitary conditions of the Girls' High School, Girls' Modern School, the Grammar and Modern Schools, and upon each of the Boarding Houses in connection with the Schools.

No defects were discovered at any of the boarding houses, but were at the drains of each school.

I have also inspected and reported upon the sanitary conditions of Mrs. Carroll's and the Kindergarten Schools at end of each term, and any recommendations that I have made have at once been carried out.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.

790 houses were inspected, and the smoke test applied to the drains of most of the houses.

At 331 defects were found in the drains or sanitary fittings, details are included in the summary later on.

It is my opinion that if tenants exercised more care, a larger number of minor nuisances could be prevented, and it is also a matter of note that where the owner of the property is in the habit of visiting his property weekly, nuisances arising from blocked drains, filthy w.c. pans, and cisterns out of repair, are at a minimum compared with property that is looked after by an agent.

Still, many tenants are wantonly destructive, as in several houses I found that all the interior doors and some of the floor boards had been removed and burnt by them. There ought to be some power to summarily deal with them, and also to compel people to keep themselves and their houses clean.

OVERCROWDING.

I may again state that it is a matter of extreme difficulty to detect overcrowding. As in the first place, it is in the interest of all parties concerned, to maintain the greatest secrecy as to the existence of the evil, and information obtained from the chief occupier of the house, is, where it does exist, a long way from the truth, and this, coupled with the fact that the nuisance does not necessarily exist at the time the inspection is made, renders it very difficult of detection, and where it is suspected to exist, it is quite another matter to establish the fact.

A quarrel among neighbours and subsequent anonymous information sent to the office, is chiefly the cause of bringing the facts home to the occupier.

Six cases were discovered during the year, and on serving the usual notices on the occupiers, the nuisances were abated.

INTERNAL CLEANSING.

I have called the attention of the Medical Officer of Health to 148 houses which required more or less internal cleansing, and he has certified under Section 46 of Public Health Act, 1875, to that effect. The usual notice was served and complied with.

Many houses occupied by the poorer class, which are otherwise clean and habitable, have vermin in them. This to some people seems to be a necessary evil, but in my opinion such houses should be structurally vermin proof. This could be easily accomplished if we had the power to compel the removal of wooden skirtings, mouldings, and architraves, the reduction of the walls to flat surfaces, and the prohibition of the use of wall paper unless it is sized and varnished. This being done, bugs could be easily exterminated, and a plumber's blow lamp will quickly free bedsteads and wire mattresses of bugs and other insects, while the hollow floors being plugged, the cracks in the floor boards raked, and dry powdered lime brushed over the floor, will soon settle the fleas.

In clean as well as dirty houses it is no uncommon thing to find verminous bedding, and again bedding so foul from continuous use during many years, that the tick is decayed, and the loose flock dropping onto the floor through the bedsteads.

Sleeping on such foul material must cause sickness, or at any rate a very low standard of health, but these poor people cannot afford to have these things cleaned, or buy new. I have no doubt that great good would accrue to these people if their beds, etc., could be disinfected free of cost. It would mean more work for the Department, and some additional expenses, but there can be no doubt the people would then be at any rate sleeping in healthier surroundings.

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

The Medical Officer of Health has certified that 23 houses at the time of his inspection were unfit for human habitation.

Notices were served upon the owners, and in one case seven houses in Ram Yard were put into a thorough state of repair at considerable expense. The owner of ten houses in Christie's Court has given an undertaking that in March the houses will be closed, and not used again for human habitation.

The remaining 6 houses in Graham's Yard will also be closed in March, and will then only be used for store rooms.

PAVING OF YARDS AND OPEN SPACES.

The Bye-Laws made under Sect. 23 of The Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890, have been put into force with respect to 23 houses, the yards being wholly paved, while at 98 houses the paving has been repaired, and right of ways properly gravelled.

SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT.

The following summary gives details of the nuisances found and abated during the year, viz. :--

Obstructed drains opened and cleansed	111
Defective drainage repaired	75
Defective kitchen sink gullies	19
New drains relaid in lieu of defective ones	52
Drains removed from inside houses	3
Sewer interceptors fixed	5

Inspection chambers constructed	22
Ventilating shafts fixed or repaired	8
Delapidated w.c.'s repaired or rebuilt	12
New w.c. pans fixed	37
Filthy w.c. pans and seats repaired	35
Roofs of w.c.'s repaired, and light provided to same	35
Soil pipes removed from inside of houses	3
Water supply to w.c.'s	23
Defective flushing apparatus repaired or provided	78
Filthy water closets and barns limewashed	129
Urinals constructed	3
Rooms cleansed, whitewashed, limewashed, papered or distempered	431
Houses unfit for human habitation	23
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	171
House roofs repaired	11
Floors relaid or repaired	18
Dangerous stairs and defective window frames repaired	19
Cases of overcrowding abated	6
Yards paved	27
Yards and passages and rights of ways, paving repaired, and gravelled	93
Waste pipes provided to sinks	7
Sink waste pipes disconnected from drains	1
Rain water pipes disconnected from drains	12
Spouting of houses repaired	35
Stables paved and drained	4
Accumulation of manure and refuse removed	33
Manure pits repaired	3
Dairy and cowsheds limewashed	1
Bakehouses limewashed, etc.	17
Slaughter houses limewashed	3
Workshops cleansed and limewashed	80

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, 137 notifications of infectious diseases were received by the Medical Officer of Health, viz. :—

	1909.		1908.	
	No. of Cases.	No. of Houses Infected.	No. of Cases.	No. of Houses Infected.
Scarlet Fever.....	75	64	6	51
Diphtheria.....	40	37	65	50
Membranous Croup.....	1	1	—	—
Enteric Fever.....	2	2	2	1
Erysipelas.....	18	13	14	11
Puerperal Fever.....	1	1	8	2
Totals.....	137	118	148	115

All the houses were visited, and the circumstances surrounding the cases entered in the Register for the information of the Medical Officer of Health.

In all cases of infectious diseases, disinfection is done free of cost to the occupier of the house.

171 rooms were disinfected by means of Formic Aldehyde, gas being generated by vapourising Formalin Tabloids, or vapourising 40 per cent. Formalin in the presence of steam.

767 articles of bedding and clothing were removed from infected houses, and put through the Steam Disinfector, which is fixed at the Newnham Pumping Station.

By means of this machine absolute disinfection can be obtained, as the main essentials for rapid and efficient disinfection are the use of "saturated steam," and the entire absence of residual air in the chamber, this insuring the utmost penetrating power of the saturated steam, acting as a vapour.

CONSUMPTION.

Arrangements have been made with the Registrar of Deaths to at once inform the Medical Officer of Health, when a death occurs from this disease, in order that disinfection of the house and bedding may be offered to the occupiers of the house.

In 30 cases this was accepted, and the rooms, etc., were disinfected.

ANALYSIS OF THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AT THE BOROUGH

ISOLATION HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1909.

No. of patients, 85, viz: Diphtheria, 23; Scarlet Fever, 62.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Medical Fees, attending patients	90	0	0			
Extra Nurses' Fees	50	0	0	—		
	<hr/>			140	0	0
PROVISIONS:—						
Milk	43	16	2			
Meat	50	11	1			
Groceries	104	11	0			
Bread, Flour, Etc.	21	13	1			
Fish	25	18	10			
Vegetables	17	8	11			
	<hr/>			263	19	1
Oil, Coal, Coke, Wood, Etc.	68	19	4			
Repairs and Sundries, Etc.	12	16	5			
Medical Sundries, Anti-toxin, Etc.	12	11	5			
Horse Hire, Ambulance	13	4	0			
Disinfectants, Soap, Sundries, Etc.	3	11	3			
Haberdashery and Sundries	13	1	5			
	<hr/>			124	3	10

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought Forward.....	528	2	11			
Salary of Matron	43	6	3			
Salary of Staff Nurse	30	0	0			
Salary of Caretaker and Wife	69	17	6			
Salary of Laundrymaid	19	5	3			
Salary of Wardmaid, and Extra Help	17	1	5			
				179	10	5
				£707	13	10
Received from Patients				52	17	0
				£654	16	10
Total cost						

EXPENDITURE.

			£	s.	d.
1902.	112	Patients	563	12	10
1903.	110	"	1001	15	10
1904.	57	"	448	10	7
1906.	272	"	1414	18	8
1907.	78	"	658	16	6
1908.	123	"	692	16	10
1909.	85	"	654	16	10

STATUTE FAIRS.

The dwelling vans of the Showmen who visit the Town for the purpose of attending these fairs, were all inspected.

The condition of the vans was satisfactory, though I believe many of them were overcrowded during the night.

No cases of sickness were discovered among the occupiers, but the congregation of visitors from the surrounding villages into the fair ground, at each fair, is not conducive to the health and morals of the community.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Common Lodging Houses on the Register number 5, with 74 beds, all being up to December last part of houses licensed for the retail of beer.

But "The Royal Oak" is now a Common Lodging House without a license for sale of beer, that having been refused by the Magistrates.

This is a step in the right direction with regard to Common Lodging Houses.

Numerous visits of inspection have been made by myself in company with the Medical Officer of Health, and, with the exception of a caution to the keeper of "The Boot," by the Medical Officer of Health as to the taking in of women lodgers in a cottage adjoining, no fault could be found with the manner in which they were conducted.

The rooms and beddings, etc., being kept in a clean condition, the periodical statutory limewashing of the premises being observed.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The following are the names of the houses, the number of beds in each house, and the number of persons who stayed in the house during the year, as shown by the weekly returns:—

1909.	THE BOOT. One room. Nine beds.		THE COCK. Four rooms. 22 beds.		THE LIVE & LET LIVE Four rooms. 26 beds.		THE WHITE HART Two rooms. 7 beds.		THE ROYAL OAK Two rooms. 10 beds.		TOTALS FOR FIVE HOUSES, 74 beds							
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.						
1st Qr.	409	4	413	825	0	825	1505	120	1625	489	0	489	760	0	760	3988	124	4112
2nd Qr.	382	4	386	1211	0	1211	1470	173	1643	482	0	482	637	0	637	4182	177	4359
3rd Qr.	494	0	494	1074	0	1074	1354	269	1623	481	0	481	767	0	767	4170	269	4439
4th Qr.	764	0	764	1283	0	1283	1832	270	2102	540	0	540	893	0	893	5312	270	5582
Totals	2049	8	2057	4393	0	4393	6161	832	6993	1992	0	1992	3057	0	3057	17652	840	18492
Average 5.6 per night		12.03 per night.		19.1 per night.		5.45 per night.		8.37 per night.		50.7 per night.								

1903	..	9917	Males	..	1567	Females	..	Total	..	11484
1904	..	12041	..	..	866	..	..	..	..	12907
1905	..	14828	..	..	636	..	..	..	..	15464
1906	..	12877	..	..	144	..	..	..	..	13021
1907	..	12447	..	..	74	..	..	..	..	12521
1908	..	16017	..	..	126	..	..	..	..	16143
1909	..	17652	..	..	840	..	..	..	..	18492

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of 1909, the Register contained the names of persons keeping 2 Cowsheds and 22 Milkshops, together with the names of 40 Purveyors of Milk. 13 of the latter reside outside the town but retail milk within, being a decrease of 2 Cowsheds, and an increase of 3 Milkshops, and an increase of 12 Purveyors of Milk.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Food Inspector make many visits of inspection to the Cowsheds and premises of the Milk Vendors in the Borough, and the Bye-Laws regulating these premises have been well observed.

One Purveyor of Milk, living outside the Borough, was summoned for not being registered according to the Orders in force in the Borough, was convicted, and fined 5s. and 8s. costs.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The Slaughter Houses in the Borough number 30, and yearly licences are granted by the Authority to 22. The remaining eight are "Registered" Slaughter Houses, *i.e.*, they were in existence before the passing of the Public Health Act, 1875, and are exempt from applying for a yearly licence, although they must comply with all the Sanitary Provisions of the Bye-Laws in force.

MR. FELL, the Food Inspector, reports:—

"That he has made 2,043 visits to Slaughter Houses, and examined the carcasses of 996 beasts, 1,651 sheep, and 1,348 pigs.

"He has seized and had destroyed, or obtained Magistrates Orders for the destruction of, in the aggregate, 1,814 lbs. of Meat, *viz.*:—

879 lbs. of beef.
237 lbs. of mutton.
698 lbs. of pork,
3 boxes of apples.
1 basket of peaches.
3 boxes of dried haddocks.

Proceedings were taken against 2 persons for depositing "meat" that was unfit for human consumption; one was convicted and fined £10 and £14 13s. 6d. costs. The other case was dismissed.

All round the premises have been well conducted, and the statutory limewashing carried out."

FOOD AND DRUGS.

One hundred and twenty-one samples of Food and Drugs have been purchased during the year, and submitted to the Public Analyst, for the purpose of analysis. The following table give the particulars of the articles analysed, results of the analysis, action taken, and expenses incurred under the Act:—

No. of Sample.	Articles.	Numbers.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Extent and Form of Adulteration.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Result of Proceedings.		Remarks.
								Fines.	Costs.	
	Milk ..	94	86							
32	" ..	..	..	1	2·3% deficient fat	..	..	..	..	Warned
34	" ..	..	..	1	6·0% " "	..	..	..	..	.. ..
35	" ..	..	..	1	2·0% " "	..	..	..	..	.. ..
4 ¹	" ..	..	..	1	3·0% " "	..	..	..	..	.. ..
50	" ..	..	..	1	5·0% " "	..	..	..	..	.. ..
54 ^A	" ..	..	..	1	·027% boric triox.	..	..	..	..	.. ..
54 ^A	" ..	..	..	1	6·0% deficient fat	..	..	..	..	.. ..
58	" ..	..	..	1	5·6% " "	..	..	..	..	.. ..
	Gin ..	7	6							
104	" ..	..	..	1	37·36% under proof	..	..	..	..	Warned
	Whisky ..	7	6							
115	" ..	..	..	1	36·83% under proof	1	..	..	3/10/-	To pay cost
	Lard ..	1	1	..	.. .. ..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
	Cheese ..	1	1	..	.. .. ..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
	Vinegar ..	1	1	..	.. .. ..	..	..	..	..	Informal
	Olive Oil	1	1	..	.. .. ..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
	Margarine	1	1	..	.. .. ..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
	Butter ..	8	4							
27	" ..	..	..	1	81·0% foreign fat	..	..	Informal sample same vendor of No. 108		
28	" ..	..	..	1	82·0% " "	..	..	Informal sample same vendor of No. 121		
108	" ..	..	..	1	84·0% " "	..	1	2/6	3/11/6	.. ..
121	" ..	..	..	1	87·0% " "	..	1	5/-	3/15/6	.. ..
121	" ..	..	..	..	Selling margarine as butter ..	..	1	2/6	No costs	.. ..
	Totals ..	121	107	14		1	3	10/-	10/17/-	

11 Samples were procured by Agents—2 were adulterated.

AMOUNT OF EXPENSES INCURRED.

Procuring Samples.	Procuring Boxes, Bottles, Printing, Postage, &c.	TOTALS.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2 3 5	2 13 11	4 17 4

11 Samples of Town Water were also sent to Analyst for Chemical Analysis.

Total Expenses incurred as above	£ s. d.
Railway Carriage on 11 Water Samples	4 17 4
Analyst's Fees on 133 Samples	1 4 0
	109 10 0

£115 11 4

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

The Tables in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health have been compiled from the Registers which are kept as required by Section 131. At the end of the year there were 507 Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Domestic Workrooms on the Register, of which the following list, shows the different occupations.

The following is a detailed list of the Factories and Workshops, Etc., on the Register.

Occupation.	Factories, etc, where Motive Power is used.	Workshops.	Domestic Workshops.	Outworkers.	Workplaces.
Dressmakers, Milliners, Mantle Makers, Costumers etc.	1	68	31	4	..
Tailors .....	..	25	51	46	..
Boot and Shoe Repairs ..	1	13	32	4	..
Builders and Carpenters, etc.	6	27	..	..	..
Printers	17	..	..	..	..
Motor and Cycle Repairs, etc.	6	15	..	..	..
Marine Stores .....	..	..	..	..	3
Painters .....	..	12	..	..	..
Plumbers	1	23	..	..	..
Upholsterers .....	..	10	..	3	..
Coach Builders and Wheelwrights	1	8	..	..	..
Chaff Cutters	1	..	..	..	2
Sugar Boilers .....	..	1	..	..	..
Cab Yards .....	..	..	..	..	8
Laundries	5	2	..	..	..
Watch Makers .....	..	9	..	..	..
Organ Builders .....	..	1	..	..	..
Breweries	5	..	..	..	..
Shoeing Smiths .....	..	2	..	..	1
Electro Platers	1	1	..	..	..
Wood Turners	2	..	..	..	..
Bedding Manufacturers ..	1	..	..	..	..
Rope Makers .....	..	1	..	..	..
Engineers	14	1	..	..	..
Masons Yards .....	..	..	..	..	4
Sale Yards .....	..	..	..	..	1
Coal Yards .....	..	..	..	..	4
Dyers	1	1	..	..	..
Gunsmiths .....	..	2	..	..	..
Aerated Water Manufacturers	2	..	..	..	..
Picture Frame Makers ..	..	1	..	..	..
Millers	2	..	..	..	..

Factories and Workshops Table—*Continued.*

Occupatio .	Factories, etc., where Motive Power is used.	Workshops.	Domestic Workshops.	Outworkers.	Workplaces.
Bottlers . . . . .	..	..	..	..	4
Wood Cutters	2	..	..	..	2
Photographers . . . . .	..	1	..	..	..
Bat Works	1	..	..	..	..
Engravers . . . . .	..	1	..	..	..
Umbrella Makers . . . . .	..	2	..	..	..
Timber Yards	3	..	..	..	..
Boat Builders	1	..	..	..	..
Saddlers . . . . .	..	5	..	..	..
Bakehouses . . . . .	..	56	..	..	..
Basket Makers . . . . .	..	1	..	..	..
Fish Curing . . . . .	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	74	289	114	57	30

Details of the various defects found on inspection are shown in the Tables in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 56 Bakehouses, none of which come under the definition of "Underground Bakehouse," as laid down by Section 101.

They have, on the whole, been maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, the defects found being chiefly limewashing overdue.

HOME WORK.

Occupiers of Factories and Workshops are compelled to keep lists of the names and addresses of persons employed by them, to execute work at their own homes, and to forward copies of such lists to the Local Authority in February and August of each year. Prescribed forms of lists are forwarded to the various tradespeople who employ persons, so there is no excuse for the non-delivery of the lists.

Fourteen lists, containing the names of 59 persons, have been received. These lists are of great assistance, as when a case of infectious disease is notified, a glance down the list will show at once whether any home work is being done at the infected house.

Each outworker's residence was visited, and in 22 cases the cleansing of the rooms used as workrooms was ordered and carried out, no case of infectious diseases occurred at any of them.

REPORTS OF H.M. INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES.

During the year, 2 notices of contravention of the Act, and remediable under the Public Health Act, were received from H.M. Inspector, and the necessary action taken, viz.:—Limewashing of bakehouses. In addition to the above, 27 notices of occupation of Workshops were received from him, and same were entered in the Register.

In conclusion, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, again I beg to thank you for your continued valuable support in the carrying out of my duties, and for your kind consideration in all matters I have brought before you.

To the Town Clerk, the Medical Officer of Health, the Borough Engineer, the Food Inspector, and other Officials, I also tender my thanks for their valuable co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

ALFRED WALLACE MERRIE,
Sanitary Inspector.

