

[Report 1899] / Medical Officer of Health, Bexhill U.D.C. Borough.

Contributors

Bexhill (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1899

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BEXHILL

Urban District Council.

Medical Officer's Report,

1899.

O. OSBORNE, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Eng.

Bexhill-on-Sea :

PRINTED AT THE " CHRONICLE " OFFICE.

February, 1900.

BEXHILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sanitary Department,

Town Hall,

Bexhill-on-Sea, 1900.

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

MY LORD AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present herewith my Annual Report for the year 1899. I do not think its contents require any prefatory remarks.

I also beg to express to you my thanks for the courteous manner in which you have treated any suggestions that I have made during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

OSWALD OSBORNE.

POPULATION.

The district covers an area of 8,015 acres. At the end of the year there were 2,211 inhabited houses against 2,047 at the end of 1898.

There are 214 houses now in course of erection. During the year 254 houses have been certified as fit for occupation. In estimating the population I have this year again allowed $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons to a house as a large number are occupied by two or more families. This would bring the number of the population approximately up to 12,000 in the middle of the year. The following table shows the rate of increase since 1881.

Year	1881	1891	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899
	census	census						
Pop.	2452	5026	6770	7105	8150	8910	11250	12000

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

There have been registered during the year 265 births; 119 males and 146 females. This is

equivalent to a birth rate of 22·08 per 1,000 inhabitants, which is again lower than last year. The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 29·26 per 1,000.

The following table shows the number of births registered annually for the past seven years.

Year.	No. of Children born.	Male.	Female.
1893	173	79	94
1894	183	81	102
1895	173	84	89
1896	192	97	95
1897	218	109	109
1898	253	135	118
1899	265	119	146

There were ten illegitimate births this year. The decline in the birth rate still continues as will be seen from the following figures :—

In	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899.
It was	27·03 per 1,000	24·00	23·5	24·46	22·49	22·08

DEATHS.

During the year 1899, 143 deaths were registered as belonging to the district, 70 of males and 73 of females. This gives an annual death rate of 11·91. If from these figures be deducted the deaths of temporary residents in the public institutions of the town of which three occurred at Nazareth House, three at the Convalescent Home, and of three due to accident and two of visitors, the corrected death rate would then be 11 per 1,000. The Death rate for the whole of England and Wales being 18·3 per 1,000.

The chief cause of the slightly higher death rate was the number of deaths of old people in December from Influenza and Respiratory disease, and of infants under two years in August and September (during the hot weather) from Diarrhœa and diseases of the digestive organs.

TABLE OF DEATHS.

[illegible]

INFANT MORTALITY.

Of the deaths occurring under one year, three were due to premature birth; *five* were of illegitimate children (two other illegitimate children died at the age of 15 and 18 months); three of which deaths were certified as being due to Marasmus and Malnutrition, and two as due to Diarrhœa.

This return is equal to an Infant Mortality of 120·75 per 1,000 births; that for England and Wales being 163 per 1,000 births.

OLD AGE.

There were 16 deaths of persons over 80 years of age, twelve being primarily due to senile decay. The oldest had reached the age of 96 years.

PHTHISIS.

There were 12 deaths from Phthisis, giving a death rate from this cause of 1 per 1,000.

ACCIDENT OR VIOLENCE.

Of the three deaths registered in the district as being due to this cause :—

One was of a man killed on the Bexhill and Crowhurst Railway (inquest held out of district).

One of a man who was run over.

One of a child, accidentally scalded.

INQUESTS

were held on the above cases, and on two cases of sudden death from Heart Disease; also on the body of a man found dead at Little Common; death due to Lung Disease; and on the body of a man who died suddenly near the Cricket ground from Asthma and Syncope.

Besides these a man fell from some scaffolding whilst at work in a hall. He was removed to Hastings Hospital where he died from fractured skull and there the inquest was held.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Eighteen deaths occurred from Zymotic disease :—

Diphtheria	...	....	3
Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	5
Diarrhœa	...	...	9

producing a Zymotic death rate of 1·5 per 1,000, that for England and Wales being 2·19.

Zymotic death rate for the last six years:—

1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899
0·73	0·70	0·98	1·23	1·06	1·5

During the year the following 79 cases of infectious disease were notified:—

	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.	Total.
Scarlet Fever ...	8	13	21
Diphtheria ...	3	5	8
Measles ...	15	29	44
Rötheln ...	1	0	1
Typhoid Fever ...	0	2	2
Erysipelas ...	0	3	3

The following table shews the number of cases of infectious disease notified for the past three years:—

	1897	1898	1899
Scarlet Fever ...	26	12	21
Diphtheria ...	32	9	8
Measles	6	201	44
Rötheln	1	11	1
Typhoid Fever ...	5	9	2
Puerperal Fever ...	—	3	—
Erysipelas ...	8	5	3

SCARLET FEVER.

Fourteen of the cases occurred in January and February, and except in two cases which were evidently due to communication with an infected household, no definite source of infection could be traced, except that they were all children attending one school.

The other cases occurred at intervals scattered singly over the district.

One was infected by a friend living out of the district who was evidently suffering with a mild form of the disease when visiting at the house,

and one developed the disease within a week after coming from a town where the disease was prevalent at the time.

DIPHTHERIA.

The eight cases notified of the disease were distributed over the district. One death occurred at the Sluice, where during the early summer most of the children were suffering with sore throats. The drainage of the house in which the death took place was found to be defective. An order was made to close the schools, but as this was not properly complied with, a representation was in consequence made to the Education Department. The other two deaths were of severe cases of laryngeal type, following closely upon an attack of Scarlet Fever.

MEASLES.

The majority of cases occurred in the Little Common District during the month of March. There were no deaths from this complaint.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Five deaths were registered as due to this complaint. The disease was very prevalent in the district during the early part of the year, following

as it often does close upon the epidemic of measles. A good deal could be done to prevent the spread of this complaint if children suffering from it were prevented from attending school and from mixing freely with other children. But with the means at present at their disposal it is almost impossible for the Sanitary Authority to deal with it, as it is difficult to diagnose in the early stages, and if made notifiable, effective measures of isolation in hospital and disinfection of dwelling rooms could not be carried out.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Two cases only of Typhoid Fever were notified in the district during the year. One was at Sidley in a new building where the drainage was good and no cause was found. The mother of this case who did the nursing was taken ill during the convalescence and was removed to Brighton Hospital where she was found to be suffering from the same complaint. On making enquiries I found that she had been careless of the instructions that had been given her to prevent the nurse taking the complaint. The other case which proved fatal was due most probably to some oysters that had been eaten on the occasion of a public dinner.

A non-resident in the district was attacked with the disease after partaking of the same batch of oysters, and several others of those who had eaten of them suffered with gastric and intestinal irritation.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.

There were nine deaths registered from this cause. The increase of the working class population during the last two or three years who were living mostly in streets that had not been taken over by the Council and which were not properly scavenged, thus causing a large amount of dust to be blown into the houses and so contaminating the food used for infants, together with the want of due care in keeping the feeding bottles, etc., perfectly sweet and clean, and also the long continuance of the hot dry weather, seems to have been the cause of a large number of infant deaths.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Berthon Huts have not been used this year, as, although they are now quite weather-proof and comfortable, it is difficult to persuade the friends of patients and the nurses to consent to

making use of them. The objection that was raised in the cases that I tried to get removed was that it was not safe for a nurse to be left alone during the night with no means of communication with the doctors or others, especially as there are a good many of the rougher element of the population at present in the district.

The Council have now procured some land on which to erect a proper hospital, and are awaiting the Local Government Board Inquiry as to its suitability for the purpose.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town is still supplied with water from the springs at Buckholt, supplemented by a fresh supply that the Water Company have obtained from a well sunk at Sweet Willow Wood.

There were complaints on several occasions that the water on the high level system had been cut off without due notice having been given, and the Council have asked the Water Company to give reasonable notice in future before cutting off the supply, as most of the houses have no means

of storage. The water still maintains its reputation for purity. The following are the results of the analyses made during the year:—

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,
17, Great Tower Street,
London, E.C., 26th April, 1899

Ref. No. 867/99.

Result of Analysis of a Sample of Water received from the Bexhill Urban District Council on the 19th inst. Sealed plain wax.

		Grains per Gallon.
Total Dissolved Matter	... ..	18·48
Loss on Incineration of Residue	... ..	1·12
Chlorine in Chlorides	... ..	4·00
(Equal to Chloride of Sodium)	... ..	6·59
Nitrogen in Nitrates	... ..	·02
(Equal to Nitric Acid)	... ..	·07
Free (actual or saline) Ammonia	... ..	trace
Albuminoid (organic) Ammonia	... ..	·001
Oxygen Absorbed by Oxidisable Organic Matter, &c., from a solution of Permanganate of Potash at a tempera- ture of 80° Fahrenheit—		
	In 15 minutes	·006
	In 4 hours	·016
Phosphoric Acid	... ..	trace
Appearance in 2 feet tube	... ..	practically colourless

This is water of a very high degree of purity, both chemically and bacteriologically.

BERNARD DYER.

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,

17, Great Tower Street,

London, E.C., 28th July, 1899.

Ref. No. 1,780/99.

Result of Analysis of a Sample of Water received from the Bexhill Urban District Council on the 22nd inst. Sealed plain wax.

			Grains per Gallon.
Total Dissolved Matter	...	...	17.08
Loss on Incineration of Residue	...	...	1.96
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	3.90
(Equal to Chloride of Sodium)	...	...	6.43
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	inappreciable
(Equal to Nitric Acid)	...	...	—
Free (actual or saline) Ammonia	...	...	traces
Albuminoid (organic) Ammonia	...	...	.001
Oxygen Absorbed by Oxidisable Organic Matter, &c., from a solution of Permanganate of Potash at a tempera- ture of 80° Fahrenheit—			
	In 15 minutes	...	.004
	In 4 hours	...	.009
Phosphoric Acid	...	...	traces
Appearance in 2 feet tube	...	...	clear; practically colourless.
Total Hardness	...	...	7 degrees.

This water is of a very high degree of purity, judged from both a chemical and a bacteriological standpoint.

BERNARD DYER.

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,
17, Great Tower Street,
London, E.C., 1st November, 1899.

Ref. No. 2315/99.

Result of Analysis of a Sample of Water, received
from the Bexhill Urban District Council on the 28th ult.
Sealed plain wax.

			Grains per Gallon.
Total Dissolved Matter	...	...	19.60
Loss on Incineration of Residue	...	...	1.40
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	3.80
(Equal to Chloride of Sodium)	...	...	6.26
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	.01
(Equal to Nitric Acid)	...	...	.03
Free (actual or saline) Ammonia	...	...	.001
Albuminoid (organic) Ammonia	...	...	.001
Oxygen absorbed by Oxidisable Organic Matter, &c., from a solution of Permanganate of Potash at a tempera- ture of 80° Fahrenheit—			
	In 15 minutes	...	.003
	In 4 hours	...	.009
Phosphoric Acid	...	...	traces
Appearance in 2 feet tube	...		clear ; practically colourless.

This water is of a very high degree of purity.

BERNARD DYER.

There have been five wells closed, the water of which having been found on analysis to be polluted; one new one dug to replace one that ran dry during the summer; and one deepened.

There has been trouble with the water supply at the Sluice where the earthenware pipes conveying the water from the filter bed to the storage tank, a distance of 400 yards, were found to be leaky and letting in the surface water. A new filter bed has been constructed close to the tank, but until new pipes are laid the water will remain dangerously liable to pollution.

SANITATION.

DRAINAGE.

The Drainage Scheme for Little Common is being carried out and will be completed within the next twelve months.

The sewer outfall at Galley Hill is in course of being carried farther out and it is to be hoped that the work will be finished before the summer months.

The houses in that part of the town that lies between Sackville Road and Park Road had the basements flooded with sewage twice during the year, owing to the failure of the sewer to carry off the great quantity of water that fell during two heavy rain storms. Some alterations in the connection of the sewers at the East end of the town, together with the enlargement of the sewer outfall, will it is hoped remedy a state of things that may become dangerous to the health of the inhabitants of that particular district. The storm overflow that opens into the stream at Egerton Park is certainly not a remedy in the right direction, as a new source of nuisance is liable to be created thereby.

As predicted in my last year's report, the cesspools at Sidley have proved to be nuisances and the Sanitary Inspector has had to serve notices, both written and verbal, on the owners and occupiers to stop the contents, after having been removed, from running into the water table of the road.

HOUSE REFUSE.

This has been removed this year (since March) by the Council.

Numerous complaints were received as to the nuisance caused by the collection of a week's refuse at the larger houses in the town, and the Council decided that during the summer months the removal should take place twice a week from these.

There would not be so much cause for complaint if owners of houses would provide an adequate number of dustbins (the Sanitary Authority possesses no power to compel them to do this) and the occupiers would see that they were kept clean and properly covered, and would refrain from making them receptacles for matter which they are not intended to receive.

BAKEHOUSES.

There has been the usual inspection of these, and they are all in a sanitary condition. Structural alterations have been carried out in two cases to prevent the W.C.'s opening directly into the Bakehouse, and in one to secure proper ventilation. A cottage was found at Barnhorn in which a room was being used as a bakehouse which did not comply with the requirements of the Acts relating thereto. The occupier discontinued using it on receiving notice to make the necessary alterations.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There have been frequent visits to these and generally there has not been much cause for complaint. The occupier of the one in the Parish Meadow had several notices to keep the premises in a sanitary condition and to comply with the Bye Laws, but these having no effect, I recommended the Sanitary Committee to take proceedings against him, but the Council decided to take no steps but to warn him that he would be summoned if the nuisance was allowed to continue or to recur. Another application was made for a license to erect a Slaughter House near the Kennels, on the same site as was proposed last year, but was again refused for the same reasons as before.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

During the year there were registered:—
Three cowkeepers, two dairymen, and one purveyor of milk, while one cowkeeper, one cowkeeper and dairyman, and two dairymen left the district, making a total at present of:—

Cowkeepers.	Cowkeepers and Dairymen.	Dairymen.	Purveyors of Milk.
10	5	13	3

The premises have all been inspected at various times and the notices that were served upon the owners to repair paving, remove accumulations of manure, etc., were all complied with, so that they are generally in good sanitary condition. New sheds have been erected in one case to take the place of some that could not be kept in a condition of proper cleanliness owing to faulty construction. New regulations were drawn up and approved by the Local Government Board and came into force this year.

The following is an extract from the circular letter from the Local Government Board addressed to the Councils of Urban Districts.

Report of the Tuberculosis Commission—Milk.

Art. 15 of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885, provides that if at any time disease exists among the cattle in a dairy or cowshed or other building or place, the milk of a diseased cow therein (*a*) shall not be mixed with other milk ; and (*b*) shall not be sold or used for human food.

The term "disease" in the Order is limited to those diseases which were included under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1878, of which tuberculosis is not one, and the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis state, in

paragraph 39 of their Report, that "the evidence abundantly shows how this fact has precluded local authorities from any attempt to deal with tuberculosis in milch cows, although they may have shown themselves alive to the danger and anxious to provide a remedy," and they express the opinion that "it is desirable that the Order should be made applicable to all diseases of the udder in cows of which the milk is offered for sale."

The Board have issued an Order to amend Article 15 of the Order of 1885 by providing that, for the purposes of paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Article, reference to disease shall include, in the case of a cow, such disease of the udder as shall be certified by a veterinary surgeon to be tubercular.

The Board think that it will be competent for the Council to employ and pay a veterinary surgeon with a view of obtaining a certificate under the Article, as amended, or to appoint him as an Officer for this purpose, if they think fit to do so.

No action has been taken by the Council so far under this Order.

SANITARY WORK OF THE YEAR.

In the following tables the work of the Sanitary Department, which has been ably carried out by Mr. Flint, the Sanitary Inspector, is stated so far as it can be given in tabular form.

No. of Complaints received...	...	...	...	...	237
„ Drains choked or bad smells from same	...	...	...	...	37
„ Cesspools overflowing	...	...	...	...	4
„ Foul state of urinals or privies	...	...	...	...	6
„ Offensive smells from hog-wash	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ fish offal	...	...	..	...	4
„ „ „ slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ sewer grids or street gullies	...	...	...	...	10
„ House, or part overcrowded	...	...	...	...	2
„ Black smoke being emitted	...	...	...	...	3
„ Animals kept in such a state so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	4
„ Burning refuse in yards	...	...	...	...	3
„ Throwing slop water into roadway	...	...	...	...	2
„ Accumulations of garden refuse or manure	...	...	...	...	15
„ Houses or premises without a proper water supply	...	...	...	...	6
„ Closets without a proper water supply	...	...	...	...	4
„ State of well water	...	...	...	...	5
„ Premises without dust receptacles...	...	...	...	...	4
„ House refuse not removed	...	...	...	...	82
„ Dead horse lying in wood	...	...	...	...	1
„ Inspection cover broken	...	...	...	...	1
Houses without water supply for 43 hours, caused	by air in the Water Company's mains				7
„					
Flooding of basements and areas with storm	water and sewage				13
„					
„ Bad smells from waste pipes	...	...	...	...	2
„ Premises used as a bakehouse, and not in accord-	ance with the Act relating to same				1
„					
„ Complaints made found not to be a nuisance	injurious to health				19
„					

COMPLAINTS ATTENDED TO, INSPECTIONS MADE, AND DRAINAGE TESTED, &c.

No. of Houses and other premises inspected ...	...	307
„ Complaints attended to ...	...	253
„ Drains opened for examination ...	...	75
„ Visits to test or examine old drains ...	...	141
„ Visits to test by water drains or portions of drains		543
„ Smoke test applied to drains or soil pipes ...	...	27
„ To look up work in hand ...	...	214
„ To look up work, re notices served ...	...	94
„ Slaughterhouses ...	...	56
„ Cow Sheds... ...	...	59
„ Dairies ...	...	53
„ Fish Shops... ...	...	20
„ Bakehouses ...	...	94
„ Stables ...	...	50
„ Pigsties ...	...	8
„ In respect of sickness (private houses)...	...	257
„ To schools ...	...	13
„ To fumigate rooms ...	...	38
„ Cab fumigated ...	...	1
„ Smoke observations.. ...	...	4
„ Visits for sundry purposes ...	...	106
„ Visits, re removal of dust ...	...	20
„ Notices sent to dust contractor ...	...	35
„ Notices sent to private houses, re sickness ...	...	79
„ Notices sent to schools, re sickness ...	...	35
„ Samples of water taken for analysis ...	...	14
„ Visits house to house, re water supply ...	...	624

WORK EXECUTED BY OCCUPIERS.

NATURE OF NOTICE.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice	Total,
To Cleanse and whitewash premises after disinfection	3	5	8
„ Cleanse and whitewash bakehouses and flour stores	94	—	94
„ Cleanse and lime-wash cowsheds ...	14	—	14
„ Cleanse and lime-wash dairies ...	10	—	10
„ Cleanse and whitewash interior of house	1	—	1
„ Cleanse premises and remove all foul accumulations	7	—	7
„ Cleanse well	1	—	1
„ Remove accumulations of manure ...	12	—	12
„ Remove rotten and decayed vege- table matter, fish offal, &c. ...	20	—	20
„ Empty and cleanse cesspools ...	12	2	14
„ Cleanse urinal, or privy	4	—	4
„ Thoroughly cleanse interior of house	15	—	15
„ Cleanse watercourse, or ditch ...	5	—	5
„ Cleanse earth closets... ..	8	—	8
„ Cleanse water closets, urinals, &c....	6	—	6
„ Cleanse drinking water cistern ...	2	—	2
„ Thoroughly cleanse, lime - wash slaughter-house	1	—	1
„ Empty blood-pit and remove offal from slaughter-house	6	4	10
„ Cleanse yard, stable, &c.	1	2	3
„ Clear drain	6	—	6
„ Abate overcrowding	—	1	1
„ Abate discharging black smoke ...	1	—	1
	229	14	243

WORK EXECUTED BY OCCUPIERS.

(Continued.)

NATURE OF NOTICE.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice	Total
Brought forward	229	14	243
To Repair paving of yard	—	1	1
„ Discontinue throwing slop water or rotten fruit into public thoroughfare	2	—	2
„ Cleanse pigsties	3	—	3
„ Discontinue keeping animals so as to be a nuisance	7	1	8
„ Provide dust-bin	1	—	1
„ Bury dead horse	1	—	1
„ Discontinue discharging sewage into ditch	—	11	11
„ Remove drain trap from inside, and re-fix outside of cowshed	—	1	1
„ Discontinue supplying milk from unregistered cowsheds	—	2	2
„ Discontinue keeping cows in unpaved or drained cowshed	—	1	1
„ Repair paving of cowshed	8	1	9
„ Properly trap drain	1	—	1
„ Alter entrance to w.c. which opens into bakehouse, and cause same to open into external air	—	2	2
„ Properly ventilate bakehouse	—	1	1
„ Thoroughly cleanse floors and walls of cowshed	10	—	10
TOTALS	262	35	297

WORK EXECUTED BY OWNERS.

NATURE OF NOTICE.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice	Total.
To Drain premises and connect same to common sewer	—	3	3
„ Drain taken up and re-laid into the common sewer and properly ven- tilated... ..	37	6	43
„ Properly construct watertight drain, and connect same to watertight covered and ventilated cesspool ...	6	4	10
„ Repair drain and make same water- tight	14	3	17
„ Remove the defective and leaky zinc soil pipe ventilator, and replace by 4in. iron pipe... ..	14	18	32
„ Repair the joints of soil pipe or drain ventilator	13	3	16
„ Remove defective form of closet and replace by a more efficient form of closet	14	9	23
„ Properly ventilate drain	17	12	29
„ Provide the premises with a proper covered dust bin	22	—	22
„ Provide the premises with a proper water supply... ..	29	9	38
„ Lay on a proper and permanent water supply to closet or urinals ...	5	11	16
„ Provide and fix proper waste pipes...	4	—	4
	175	78	253

WORK EXECUTED BY OWNERS.

(Continued.)

NATURE OF NOTICE.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice	Total
Brought forward	175	78	253
To Provide and drain manure pit ...	3	—	3
„ Repair defective paving of yard, cellar, stable or cowshed	4	2	6
„ Clear choked drains	18	—	18
„ Cleanse, purify, strip, and white- wash rooms	—	13	13
„ Empty and cleanse cesspools ...	4	4	8
„ Empty and cleanse cesspools and fill up with solid material	5	5	10
„ Cleanse ditches or watercourses ...	—	1	1
„ Thoroughly cleanse and white-wash interior of house	—	4	4
„ Properly trap drain	3	1	4
„ Disconnect stack pipe from drain ...	4	—	4
„ Provide proper constructed earth closets in lieu of privies	1	—	1
„ Properly cover inspection chamber...	4	—	4
„ Disconnect waste pipe from drain and cause same to discharge in the open air	1	—	1
„ Abate discharging black smoke ...	2	2	4
„ Discontinue discharging sewage into ditch	—	2	2
„ Remove privy and substitute pro- perly constructed closet	4	—	4
	228	112	340

WORK EXECUTED BY OWNERS.

(Continued.)

NATURE OF NOTICE.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice	Total.
Brought forward	228	112	340
To Disconnect drain from ditch ...	—	1	1
„ Disconnect drain from street gully and connect same to drainage system	2	—	2
„ Properly drain cowshed	—	1	1
„ Properly pave and drain pig-sties ...	—	1	1
„ Provide proper pails to earth closets	—	1	1
„ Provide w.c. accommodation to workshop	1	—	1
„ Provide privies for workmen ...	—	—	1
„ Properly cleanse and cover drinking water cisterns	2	—	2
„ Cleanse earth closets... ..	1	1	2
„ Fix new pan to w.c.	2	—	2
„ Provide and fix fresh air inlet ...	1	—	1
„ Repair flushing cisterns	8	—	8
Alter water pipes so that water can be drawn from constant service main	1	—	1
„ Provide ventilation under floors ...	1	—	1
TOTALS	248	117	365

GEOLOGY.

The highest points in the district are 157 feet above sea level. The church in the old village is situated on one, and the other is just outside Sidley, near Mayo's Farm. According to the geological survey there is a good deal of variety in the soil in different parts of the district. The sub-soil is of Wadhurst clay, with patches of Tunbridge Wells sand of various size and thickness, on one of which the old village stands. Underlying this there are beds of sandstone and Ashdown sand. There is a narrow strip of Ashdown sand along the shore extending from Bulverhythe on the East to near Kewhurst on the West. The widest part of this is near the west of the station, where it extends a little north of the railway line. It is interrupted at the eastern end by a small patch of Fairlight clay. On the north-east, at Buckholt, there is an outcrop of Ashdown sand at the head of a small valley of alluvium, through which the river Asten finds its way to the sea. West of Kewhurst there is marshy land, consisting of alluvium, with two or three patches of blown sand lying just north of Pevensey Sluice, where there is also a small patch of the Wadhurst clay. The shore is of sand and sandstone, with beds of lignite from two feet to six inches in thickness.

This department is in the able hands of Miss Ann Scrivens, F.R.M.S., who has kindly furnished me with the following Notes.

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR THE WHOLE OF THE YEAR 1899.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1896

[illegible]

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT TO

THE HON. THE SECRETARY OF THE

NAVY, AND THE HON. THE SECRETARY OF THE

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

FOR THE YEAR 1881.

PREPARED BY

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