

**[Report 1920] / Medical Officer of Health, Bexhill U.D.C. Borough.**

**Contributors**

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# **Borough of Bexhill.**

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## **Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report**

FOR

Year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1920,

INCLUDING

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

AND THE

Report of the Medical Inspection of  
Children in Elementary Schools.

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## Borough of Bexhill.

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Area of the Borough ... ..	8,013 acres
Rateable Value ... ..	£142,386
Population, Somerset House estimate ... ..	17,037
Number of Houses ... ..	3,714
Gross Death Rate ... ..	11·9
Corrected ditto ... ..	10·02*
Birth Rate ... ..	16·49
Infantile Mortality Rate ... ..	42·7
Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases ... ..	0·41
Comparative Mortality Figure, <i>i.e.</i> compared with England and Wales, as 1,000. }	808

\* Corrected by Factor.



*Borough of Bexhill.  
Public Health Department.*

August 8th 1921

G. H. WESTON, M.B., D.P.H., CAMB.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER.


The Librarian  
British Medical Association  
429 Strand, London. W.C.2.

Dear Sir,

I enclose a copy of Annual Report for year 1920.

Yours faithfully,

*G. H. Weston*



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**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

Nov. 1919—Nov. 1920.

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The Mayor—G. H. Gray, Esq., J.P.

The Deputy-Mayor—Alderman F. W. Vane, I.S.O.

Mr. Alderman F. Bond, M.A.

„ „ G. Coppard.

„ „ J. Gibb.

„ „ J. Rogers.

Mr. Councillor S. Baker.

„ „ F. B. Bending.

„ „ T. Bodle.

„ „ H. Cockett.

„ „ F. S. Dunn.

„ „ R. Gibb

„ „ W. E. E. James.

Mrs. Councillor C. Meads.

Mr. Councillor R. C. Sewell.

„ „ J. E. Stevens.

„ „ F. W. Tidd.

„ „ T. J. Walters.

In Nov., 1920, Mr. Alderman J. B. Wall was elected Chairman.

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**Staff.**


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**Medical Officer of Health:**

G. H. Weston, B.A., M.B., D.P.H., Camb., etc.

**Sanitary Inspector:**

Alfred Flint, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

**Clerk:**

Miss H. Budden.

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
the Borough of Bexhill.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1920.

The wave of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria which commenced throughout the country in the Autumn of 1919, continued through the year. The work involved in dealing with a constant run of imported cases has been at times arduous.

The combined sewerage system has been severely tested by the Town's growth and exceptional rainfall. No doubt much could be done to relieve the stress. From the lower parts of the Borough most of the Diphtheria cases with local origin were notified.

The Maternity and Child Welfare has extended its useful work.

The need of a Maternity Home has become evident, the reduced Infantile mortality rate may be taken as a satisfactory proof of progress.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. WESTON.



## Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

---

### Population, &c.

The area of the District is 8,013 acres. There are 521 acres of foreshore, and 11 acres of inland water. The Borough is situated partly on the sea front and partly on gentle slopes rising behind to 150 feet above sea level. It is thus open throughout its whole extent to the sea breezes from the south and west but is partly protected on the north and east. Owing to the fact that the North Sea and Channel tides meet in its vicinity the climate partakes of the advantages of the winds brought by both, and is mild, bracing, and, from the number of open spaces, airy.

There are no manufactories or occupation especially injurious to health.

The character of the population is residential, with a relatively large number of hotels and apartment houses. There are also a number of private preparatory schools. The houses inhabited by the working classes are mostly of modern date and have plenty of air space around them, but in consequence of the relatively high rentals, often more than one family inhabit the same house in flats or otherwise. During the War in consequence of many of the heads of families having enlisted this condition has tended to increase, and since their return conditions have become much worse.

The figures of population as given by Somerset House are for both Births and Deaths 17,037.

The census returns of 1911, taken early in the year, gave a population of 15,330, including 6,065 males and 9,265 females, and composed of 3,314 families or separate occupiers, a larger number than that of the separate houses built at that time.

The number of houses erected and certified as fit for occupation during the year was 30, making a total of 3,714 houses.

The number of unoccupied houses shows a decrease.

Year	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Unoccupied Houses	135	103	73	51	25	19

The population has been calculated on a basis of 4.6 persons per house. This shows an increase of .4 on previous year.

The number of houses erected and certified fit for occupation during the year was ... ..	30
Wooden houses erected and not certified ... ..	5
	<hr/>
Total for year	35

Subsidy houses erected by private owners:—

Suitable for Middle Class ... ..	10
Suitable for Working Class ... ..	4
Erected by the Local Authority for Working Class ... ..	6
	<hr/>
Total	20

The following table shows the rate of increase in the population at the census years since 1891

Year	1891	1901	1911	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>
Pop.	5025	12210	15331	*13972	*13900	*14122	*16384	17037

\*For Death Rate only.

Density of population 2.12 persons per acre.

During the year ending September 30th, 1920, the amount of out-relief given was £537 4s. 10½d.

Number of unemployed registered at Sackville Road Office:—

January, 1920—120

December, 1920—80, or about 30% decrease

during later part of year, and includes many who have returned to Bexhill having been thrown out of work elsewhere.

The number of letters issued for the Hospitals (in and out) was:—Buchanan, in 22; out 81. East Sussex, in 124; out 403.

The distribution of the population according to the Wards is approximately estimated and shown in the following table.



Ward.	Persons per House.	Population.	Houses erected during year 1920	Total number of houses occupied.
Sackville ...	6.1	3141	5	515
Central ...	4.5	4904	—	1092
Egerton Park	4.3	2924	7	680
Old Town ...	4.3	2750	8	663
St. Mark's ...	4.4	3278	15	745
Average		16997	35	3695

### Births.

The total number of births as given by Somerset House, including those from outside the district, is 150 males and 131 females.

There were 19 illegitimate births: 10 males, 9 females.

Proportion of legitimate births to total births ... .93

Proportion of illegitimate births to total births ... .06

The Birth Rate for Bexhill this year was 16.49 per 1,000 of population.

The following tables gives the number of births registered, divided into males and females for this district, compared with those for the combined counties of England and Wales for the years stated.

Year.	No. of Births.	Male.	Female.	BEXHILL.	England & Wales.
				Birth Rate per 1,000.	
1911	248	133	115	16.00	24.4
1912	255	136	119	16.21	23.8
1913	244	120	124	15.25	23.9
1914	227	102	125	13.79	23.8
1915	236	116	120	16.2	21.8
1916	236	121	115	16.64	21.6
1917	202	92	110	13.1	17.8
1918	265	129	136	16.75	17.7
1919	219	115	104	12.24	18.5
1920	281	150	131	16.49	25.4

### Deaths.

There were 162 deaths registered in the district, of which 17 were visitors, and 27 residents who died outside during the year giving a net figure of 172, of which 75 were males and 97 females.

The gross death rate 11·9 includes all the deaths occurring in the Borough and those of residents who have died outside the district.

After deducting the deaths of visitors and those of temporary residents in the various homes and including those residents who have died out of the district, the corrected Death Rate= 10·02 per 1,000.

The death rate for England and Wales per 1,000 living	12·4
„ „ 96 Great Towns (including Lond.)	12·5
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns ... ..	11·3
„ „ London ... ..	12·4

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate.	Death Rate of England and Wales.
1911	196	12·64	10·70	14·0
1912	171	10·87	9·31	13·3
1913	186	11·51	9·47	13·7
1914	181	11·00	9·48*	13·7
1915	237	16·05	13·55*	14·8
1916	217	15·53	12·97	14·0
1917	211	15·17	15·03*	14·4
1918	204	14·44	14·31*	17·6
1919	176	10·74	10·64*	13·8
1920	172	10·09	10·02*	12·4

\*Corrected by Factor.

The number of deaths in Nursing Homes and Institutions was 57.

### Senile Mortality.

There were in 1920, 86 deaths of persons over 65 years of age, or exactly 50% of the total number of deaths.



### Deaths due to Accident or Violence.

There were 8 deaths:—

Fractured Thigh ...	2
Fractured Neck ...	1
Fractured Skull ...	1
Motor Accident ...	1
Accidental Poisoning	1
Found drowned ...	1
Found dead on shore	1

There was one case of suicide.

There were 10 Inquests held in Bexhill, and 4 outside.

### Uncertified Deaths.

By permission of the Coroner there were 2 deaths certified as due to natural causes.

### Infantile Mortality.

Infantile Mortality is calculated on the number of registered births, and in this connection "infants" are children under one year of age. During the year the number of infant deaths in the district was 7 males and 5 females. Only one of these was illegitimate.

The number of births being 281, this gives at rate of 42·7 per 1,000, as compared with 77·62 the previous year.

The infantile mortality for Bexhill	42·7	per 1,000 births
England and Wales	80·	"
96 Great Towns (including London)	85·	"
148 Smaller Towns	80·	"
London	75·	"

### Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

There were 7 deaths from this group of diseases, within the district.

Measles ...	3
Scarlet Fever ...	1
Diphtheria ...	3

## ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
1.16	0.31	0.50	0.54	0.82	0.27	0.57	0.28	0.24	0.41

## Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

## Water Supply.

The town generally is supplied by the Bexhill Water and Gas Company, whose mains extend to the adjoining suburbs of Little Common and Cooden. The supply is constant and is obtained from springs or wells at Hazards Green, Sweet Willow Wood, and Buckholt.

The different sources of supply are drawn from the sandstone beneath the upper clay and removed from any possible chance of contamination.

Much of the information has been given in 1919 Report, and it is now proposed to simply give up-to-date returns and corrections.

I am informed by the Company's Engineer that the average daily output amounts to 663,661 gallons.

The number of houses in Bexhill supplied by the Water Company at the end of the year was 3,081 and of hotels, shops, stables, etc., 205.

The number of houses to which the Water Company's water was laid during the year was 48.

The hamlet of Norman's Bay, which used to be known as Pevensey Sluice, is outside the area of the Town supply. Most of the houses have rain water cisterns, and there is a supply of water drawn from the river Haven, which is passed through a shingle and sand filter into a storage tank whence the inhabitants can obtain it by means of a pump fixed over the tank.



ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,  
17, GREAT TOWER STREET,  
LONDON, E.C.

**Results of Analysis of Samples of Town Water.**

The reports of the quarterly analysis by Dr. Bernard Dyer are here appended:—

1. The condition of this water is excellent, both chemically and bacteriologically.
2. This water is of a high degree of purity, both chemically and bacteriologically.
3. This water is of a high degree of purity from both a chemical and bacteriological point of view.
4. This water is entirely satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically.

It should be noted that the water coming from the sandstone does not contain chalk.

**Sewerage System.**

This combines both rain water and sewage from the urban part of the Borough and empties into tanks which are discharged into the sea every 12 hours.

This sewered district is level on the Sea Front and rises behind to over 100 feet. The lowest level is the reclaimed neighbourhood of Egerton Park, and the water course running into it from the Downs. Consequently the velocity of flow in the sewers decreases with diminishing fall, and the tanks in times of sudden stress from storms have not filled owing to air becoming imprisoned and keeping back the flow.

During the year there were two sharp storms in September, and as the result parts of the lowest levels, Sackville Road, Reginald Road, Little Common Road and the lower part of the Down, i.e. the area described above, showed back flooding and escape through the manholes.

Some of the houses on the Western side of Reginald Road have been built so low with regard to the sewer as to give insufficient fall. These naturally suffer from any access of rain fall.

The obvious remedies appear to be, unless the heavy expense of a separate system is to be provided,

(a) To enlarge the sewers from the manhole in the South Eastern Railway Goods Yard to Belle Hill, and construct an intercepting sewer two feet in diameter along the edge of the Down (Little Common Road) to Chandler Road, cutting off the sewer behind Beasonsfield Terrace.

To provide anti-flood traps on the house drains where necessary.

To relieve Sackville, Cornwall, Western and Parkhurst Roads by improving the weir on the overflow opposite Devonshire Road.

(b) The prevention of the contents of the sewers being held up by proper means for air extraction, and the keeping of the contents of the tanks at the lowest possible level by extending the period of their discharge. At low water at Dover the North Sea and Channel tides meet at Beachy Head, and about two hours after, the dividing line is Bexhill—Cayeux, the western portion of this stream setting S.S.E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. right with the Channel. In shore the stream sets about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours before the main stream, and consequently the contents of the tanks might be allowed to escape to the E. at from half an hour after low water at Dover to the time the inshore current changes, which at high water is running to the W. and would carry sewage across the Bexhill front. The advantage of utilising to the full the discharge out to sea cannot be exaggerated both for ourselves and our neighbours.

### Sanitary Inspection of District.

#### PREMISES WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

The need for fixing minimum air space has been evident as there is at present no Byelaw applicable. This part at least, of the Model Byelaws, Series XIII B, should be adopted.

**Schools.** Enquiries as to outbreak of Diphtheria at St. Peter's Infants' School showed faulty ventilation. This has been remedied.

**Little Common Sewer.** Cracks were found in overground portion. The matter was referred to Borough Surveyor for remedy.



<b>Camps.</b>	A number of small camps were opened for short periods on open ground at Western Front. Veness Gap Camp was re-opened during the year. Some trouble arose from imported cases of infectious disease.
<b>Flour.</b>	Examination of Samples showed presence of <i>Acarus Farinae</i> in American white. The batch was condemned.
<b>Fleas.</b>	An outbreak of Impetigo among school children, suggested fleas as probable carriers, as marks were found on practically all the cases.
<b>Venereal Disease.</b>	An increased number of fresh cases attending V.D. Clinic at East Sussex Hospital has been reported. This may be possibly due to elimination of quack treatment, educative propaganda is being arranged for.
<b>Cinemas.</b>	Have been visited at intervals with object of securing proper ventilation.
<b>Maternity Cases.</b>	The need for a Maternity Home for reception of cases with insufficient home accommodation has been evident.
<b>Bakers' Pool.</b>	Was still continued, only three bakehouses being in use.
<b>Milk.</b>	In May memo. as to "The Production of Clean Milk" was issued to all concerned. Steps have been taken to secure supply of Grade A. milk.

### Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908-1911.

During the year 1920 the following notifications have been made:—

#### Primary Notifications (Forms A and B)

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	9
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	1

#### Secondary Notifications (Forms C and D)—C 7, D 6.

The Sanatoria included Hastings, Eversfield, Fairlight, Hove, Benenden and Royal National Hospital, Bournemouth.

Two visitors were notified.

There were 8 deaths from Pulmonary Forms amongst residents and 1 of visitors.

There were two deaths from other Tubercular diseases.

Taking out the figures of deaths in Bexhill from Tuberculosis of all forms since 1912, of both visitors and residents and excluding transfers, the result shows that of 129 deaths only 60 were on the Register as notified.

For the efficient working of the Regulations such result is not satisfactory, and efforts to secure co-operation of doctors practising are being made.

#### YEARS OF AGE.

FORM A.	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis:								
Males ..	—	—	—	3	—	3	2	8
Females ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis:								
Males ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	—	—	—	3	—	4	3	10

The Dispensary opened in New Road on Thursday afternoons, under the direct control of the County Council, has proved a success, and efforts have been made to enlist the co-operation of the doctors in the Town.

The School Clinic has given many opportunities for finding out early cases, contacts, etc.

#### Infectious Diseases.

The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1889, and Notification Act, 1890. are both in force requiring the Notification of Small Pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlatina, Scarlet Fever, and the following fevers:—Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued or Puer-



peral. To these Acute Polio-Myelitis and Cerebro Spinal Fever were added in 1912, and Measles and Rotheln in 1892. Acute Encephalitis Lethargica in 1918.

Measles and Rotheln have now been withdrawn.

There were 129 throat swabs sent for examination by the Clinical Research Association for the Diphtheria (*Klebs Loeffler*) Bacillus at the expense of the Council.

55 were sent from the Hospital to establish freedom from infectivity before discharge, 6 proved positive and 49 negative. As a routine method, swabs are sent up for examination in all cases of suspected Diphtheria at the Council's expense in necessitous cases before notification.

The cost of the examination was paid by the Council.

During the year 121 cases of notifiable Diseases were notified at a cost of £5 18s. 0d.

This table shows the monthly incidence of the Infectious Diseases notified in the district among the civil population by Medical Practitioners.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Measles .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rotheln .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	3	2	—	2	3	—	1	2	9	2	15	11
Diphtheria ..	2	6	1	2	7	7	6	5	2	5	4	2
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Malaria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenzal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Primary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary	1	1	1	1	2	2	—	1	4	6	1	2
Other .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified for the past 10 years among the civil population.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	4	29	39	25	16	11	8	3	8	49
Diphtheria . . . . .	7	9	2	6	22	18	6	17	15	49
*Measles .. .. .	887	200	124	342	—	27	259	117	23	1*
Rotheln.. .. .	66	12	8	7	—	46	57	9	9	—
Typhoid Fever.. .. .	4	2	—	—	5	—	1	1	1	—
Malaria .. .. .	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas.. .. .	5	2	2	7	3	2	4	1	4	3
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	2	—	2	4	—	4	4
Broncho Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Primary .. .. .	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	1	1	—
Tuberculosis Pulmonary..	—	—	—	42	49	21	41	47	50	10
Other.. .. .	—	—	—	9	7	3	2	11	3	1
Acute Poliomyelitis . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total .. .. .	974	256	175	441	108	130	384	208	125	121

\*Incorrectly notified as Scarlet Fever.

### Measles.

Were not made notifiable during the year. Efforts were made to secure private information as to cases from the Parents and the Staff of the School Medical Clinic. 60 cases were so notified and all precautions taken. The school contacts who had not previously had disease were excluded for a few days, ranging over the incubation period.

One case incorrectly notified as Scarlet Fever was moved to Hospital as such.

### Enteric Fever.

No case was notified.

### Scarlet Fever.

The published figures for England and Wales showed a marked increase of cases, only four weeks being below the 1919 average. Bexhill did not escape, 49 cases being notified, 26 in November and December.

The private schools showed 7 cases.

The children's convalescent homes showed 13 cases.



In all of these 20 cases, the infection was probably imported from outside.

31 cases were moved to the Hospital of whom one died from complications.

### Diphtheria.

Concurrent with a wave of Scarlet Fever, a marked increase was shown during the year, and the published figures of England and Wales only nine weeks below the 1919 average.

49 cases were notified and verified by bacteriological examination of swabs. 39 were removed to the Hospital.

There were two deaths, one at home found too bad for moving and another at the Hospital from Toxaemia.

While in the presence of a general wave it has been difficult to find local insanitary conditions in a disease which is now considered to be largely spread by carriers it is remarkable that the district where the drainage showed back flow under storm stress, produced a far higher percentage of cases. The playground of the Girls' and Infants' Schools of St. Barnabas was invaded by diluted sewage and though disinfectants were used a relatively large number of children were attacked. Of a family keeping a stall adjoining, every susceptible member was attacked.

Comparing the total number of cases with the totals reported during the year in England and Wales shows that the Bexhill figures are in excess, and that some local cause has contributed.

The average figures for England and Wales for 9 years, 1911-1919, gives per 1,000 of population; Diphtheria, 1.07; Scarlet Fever, 2.75.

The Bexhill figures for 1920 give 2.96 for each disease.

### Epidemic Influenza.

Cases of a mild type occurred, but there was nothing approaching an epidemic. Two cases of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified, and there was one death.

Leaflets under Circular 68 of M.O.H. were issued.

### Encephalitis Lethargica.

Two cases were notified, one in January and the other in November, both in the rural area.

The former case, 36 years of age, showed the marked mask type and stupor, died. She had been in domestic service, and there had been cases of illness ascribed to Influenza in the house where she was taken ill. None of these cases showed any symptoms of Encephalitis

The second case, aged 46 years, was of a milder and intermittent type.

She recovered without paralysis.

### Puerperal Septicæmia.

One case which had not been notified as such, was removed for treatment at East Sussex Hospital, and there died. As the case had been suspicious full precautions were taken.

### Maternity and Child Welfare.

1. The inspection under the Midwives Acts is carried on by the East Sussex County Council.

#### Bexhill Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Opened April 1st, 1920.

Has continued its work and arrangements are being made for the provision of a Maternity Home of four beds at 23, Amherst Road.

The present staff consists of:—

Secretary.

Two whole time Maternity Nurses.

One part time Maternity and District Nurse.

One District Nurse.

Hon. Medical Officer (Medical Officer of Health).

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre has grown very much during the last year.

In December, 1919, the numbers on the register were 90

In December, 1920,     ,,     ,,     ,,     ,,     ,,     150



Total number of attendances for 1920 were:—

Mothers	Infants	Children	Expectant Mothers
1284	1016	437	40

Against:—

830 (1919)	526 (1919)	412 (1919)	90 (1919).
------------	------------	------------	------------

Meetings are held every Friday afternoon during the Session, of which there are three in the year, ranging from 12 to 14 weeks.

M.O.H. attends every week for consultations, all new Babies are seen, and those for whom advice is required.

During the time the Centre is closed interviews are arranged weekly for Mothers wishing to consult Medical Officer.

Virol, etc., is sold at reduced prices when ordered by Medical Officer.

Since October, 1920, the weekly Meetings have been held at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, the premises at 23, Amherst Road, not allowing for sufficient accommodation.

At the Dental Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Toddlers, 18 patients have received treatment:—

15 Mothers, 3 Toddlers.	
Extractions with gas	64
Extractions without gas	20
Fillings	19
Scalings	6
5 patients have received dentures—both lower and upper.	

In April 8 children were operated on for removal of tonsils and adenoids:—7 School children, 1 Toddler.

Since then, owing to sickness in the Town, the others on the waiting list have had to be postponed.

4 children have been circumcised at the Minor Ailment Clinic:—3 Babies, 1 School child.

The treatment Centre is at the Nursing Association, 23, Amherst Road.

Anaesthetics are given by Medical Officer.

Surgeon, Dr. Stokes.

Dentist, Mr. Marsh.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Four cases were notified, both eyes being affected in each case.

Three cases completely recovered. One was referred to the East Sussex Hospital and was treated there for sloughing of cornea of left eye.

### Whooping Cough.

No deaths were recorded.

### Diarrhoea.

No deaths were recorded.

### The Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1919.

#### STATEMENT OF ALLOWANCES FOR YEAR 1920.

				£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	6	3	5
February	...	...	...	6	12	2½
March	...	...	...	5	9	0
April	...	...	...	3	6	3
May	...	...	...	1	12	8
June	...	...	...		14	6
July	...	...	...		17	4
August	...	...	...		10	4
September	...	...	...		16	6
October	...	...	...	3	5	1
November	...	...	...	1	17	2
December	...	...	...	3	16	2½

Total £35 0 8

### No. I. Visits, &c., and Notices Served.

Particulars.	
Visits in respect of sickness .. .. .	119
No. of Rooms disinfected or sprayed .. .. .	120
„ Notices sent to Schools, <i>re</i> sickness .. .. .	87
„ Visits to Isolation Hospital or Disinfector .. .. .	131



## No. II. Particulars of Work Executed.

By Owners.					
To Cleanse, purify, strip, and whitewash rooms	..	..	..	..	9

By Occupiers.					
To Strip and whitewash rooms	..	..	..	..	2
„ Cleanse rooms	..	..	..	..	69
TOTAL ..	..	..	..	..	71

### Isolation Hospital.

This consists of.—Firstly, an observation block of 4 beds erected on approved plans.

Secondly, a corrugated iron building, with two wards of 5 beds each for Scarlet Fever cases.

Thirdly, another building of the same style, with two wards of 3 beds each.

Fourthly, a group of 3 Berthon Huts, one being used as the Matron's sitting room and dining room, the other two having 2 beds, one occupied by Matron.

There is a small brick building connected to the centre hut by a covered way which contains kitchen, maid's bedroom, and larder. A small lean to wash-house is attached. The drainage is by a system of septic tanks, well to the rear of the premises.

On January 1st, 1920, 8 cases were under treatment.

During the year 70 cases were admitted, 17 of which were visitors. 13 cases were still under treatment at end of year.

The average stay in Hospital was as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	... ..	42 days
Diphtheria	... ..	24 „
Cases under observation,		
doubtful Scarlet Fever		13 „

Two deaths occurred, one from Scarlet Fever and the other from Diphtheria.

The Hospital was empty for 2 days.

The need of accommodation for private school cases for where adequate isolation was not available at the schools, was made apparent by outbreaks of Scarlet Fever at four private schools.

### Hospital.

Expenditure for the year ending the 30th September, 1920, as supplied by the Borough Accountant.

	£	s.	d.
Nursing ... ..	126	16	6
Subsidy, Small Pox Hospital ... ..	8	8	0
Specimens examined (swabs) ... ..	15	14	9
Maintenance of Patients:—			
Meat ... ..	41	11	11
Bread ... ..	12	4	11
Milk and Eggs ... ..	30	3	3
Groceries ... ..	64	13	4
Fish, Vegetables and Sundries ... ..	10	18	4
	159	11	9
Repairs to Buildings ... ..	97	13	2
Fuel ... ..	22	12	9
Horse Hire—Removal of Patients ... ..	13	19	0
Wages ... ..	112	14	11
Water ... ..	26	17	6
Gas ... ..	33	4	1
Insurance ... ..	2	12	4
Telephones ... ..	10	15	0
Medicine and Medical requisites ... ..	15	6	1
National Health Insurance (Council's Contribution) ... ..	1	12	10
Rugs, China and Ironmongery, and Cleaning Materials ... ..	13	5	5
Mattresses, Pillows and Linen ... ..	68	18	0
Arm Chairs ... ..	10	5	5
Fruit Trees and Seed Potatoes ... ..	10	5	9
Sundries ..... ..	8	1	7
Repayment of Loans ... ..	94	9	1
Recovered from Patients (Civilians) ... ..	66	7	11
	£853	3	11



### Maintenance of Patients at Hospital.

Resolved by the Borough Council, May 17th, 1920:—

- (a) Old Scale to be suspended.
- (b) A charge of £2 2s. a week for use of private ward.
- (c) A standing maintenance charge of £1 a week as regards ordinary hospital accommodation, such charge to be reduced where circumstances of patient justify it.
- (d) For use of hospital by pupils from private schools, and by non-ratepayers, charge to be agreed according to circumstances of each case.

### Disinfector Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Insurance of Boiler ... ..	2	0	6
Repayment of Loans ... ..	47	3	2
Removal of Bedding ... ..	6	6	0
Repairs to Boiler ... ..	13	18	11
Coal and Coke ... ..	4	0	7
Sundries ... ..	11	0	
	<hr/>		
	£74	0	2
Amount recovered for year ending 30th Sept., 1920. ...	£18	15	0

### Disinfector.

The Steam Disinfector has worked satisfactorily during the year.

The number of articles disinfected after Infectious diseases were as follows:—

#### CIVILIAN POPULATION.

Beds	...	...	...	19
Mattresses or Palliasses	...	...	...	34
Bolsters	...	...	...	17
Pillows	...	...	...	105
Sheets, Blankets, etc.	...	...	...	205
Cushions	...	...	...	21
Wearing Apparel, etc.	...	...	...	67
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	32
				<hr/>
		Total	...	500

ARTICLES DESTROYED—NIL.



### Health Week.

With the object of bringing the objectives before the public lectures were given on general subjects by the Medical Officer of Health, and on Tuberculosis by Dr. Sutherland.

An expenditure was incurred of £13 11s. 8d.

### Housing.

The need for Byelaw fixing minimum air space for individuals has been apparent. Many, and often daily enquiries have been made which have shown a definite and increasing want of housing accommodation. 124 applications have been received for houses.

The Council have put forward two schemes to meet the demand. One for 106 houses on an excellent site at Broadoak, met with opposition on the grounds of distance and has not been proceeded with. The other for 66 houses on the road leading to Sidley, has been started, and by the end of the year 6 houses had been completed and occupied, and a further 20 promised completion at an early date.

Of these 66 houses, 46 come under Class B (living room, scullery and three bedrooms, letting at 9s. 7d. per week, tenant paying rates), and the remaining 20 under Class D (parlour, living room and three bedrooms).

The application from Ex-Service men have been marked for priority.

The time of the Sanitary Inspector being so much taken up with dealing with drainage construction in new buildings, little time has been available for the constant and systematic inspections, by which alone exact knowledge of the varying living conditions can be obtained. That cases should be reported of living in one room and expecting confinement shows of itself an urgent want for more houses.

1. Number of Houses in respect of which complaints were made that they were unfit for Human Habitation. ... .. 1
2. ACTION UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1909:—
  - (a) Number of Houses inspected ... .. 8
  - (b) Number of Houses found unfit ... .. 3
  - (c) Number of Houses in which defects were remedied ... .. 1

3. ACTION UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE HOUSING ACT,  
1919:—

(a)	Number of Houses inspected	...	...	40
(b)	Number of Orders for Structural Repairs issued	...	...	17
(c)	Number of cases in which Repairs carried out by the Local Authority			—
(d)	Number of Houses voluntarily closed	...		—
4.	Closing Orders made	...	...	—
5.	Demolition Orders	...	...	—
6.	Number of Dwelling Houses demolished voluntarily	...	...	—
7.	Obstructive Buildings	...	...	—
8.	STAFF ENGAGED—			

The Sanitary Inspector is specially appointed



## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, For Year 1920.

### Sanitary Certificates.

During the year the drainage system and sanitary arrangements of 17 houses were examined and tested by request for sanitary certificates. Three special certificates were granted as the conditions for the issue of the same was complied with. In two cases certificates (not special) were issued in consequence of certain sanitary fittings or arrangements not strictly complying with the regulations, but complying with the Bye-laws, and seven written certificates were issued. Amount of fees received £7 12s. 0d.

New Houses Erected—1 Special Certificate issued.

### Drainage of New Buildings under the Supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

New houses erected, not subsidy	...	...	10
" " " " subsidy	...	...	19
Number of visits to inspect or test drains or sanitary fittings	...	...	1003
Number of smoke tests applied	...	...	15

### Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops Order, 1885.

At the end of the year there were in the district:—

19 Cowkeepers	10 Dairymen
7 Cowkeepers and Purveyors	16 Purveyors

During the year the following changes took place:—

Cowkeepers, new premises registered	...	...	3
" change of occupier	...	...	3
" gave up business	...	...	1
" and Purveyors new premises registered	...	...	0
Dairies, change of occupier	...	...	3
Dairies, gave up business	...	...	1
Purveyors, change of occupier	...	...	1
Purveyors, gave up business	...	...	1
" new premises registered	...	...	3



## Defect Found and Notices Served, &amp;c.

Particulars.	Found.	Complied with.
To cleanse and limewash cowsheds, dairy, or milk store .. .. .	11	11
„ Thoroughly cleanse floors or walls or roofs of cowshed, dairy, or milk store	15	15
„ Repair defective walls or paving of cowshed, dairy, or milk store.. ..	13	13
„ Provide proper light and ventilation to cowshed, dairy, or milk store.. ..	2	2
„ Provide drain to cowshed .. ..	2	2
„ Cleanse out water storage tank .. ..	—	—
„ Cleanse udders or hindquarters of cows or hands of cowman .. ..	18	18
„ Remove accumulations of manure .. ..	12	12
„ Provide a proper water supply .. ..	1	1
„ Cleanse milking utensils.. ..	9	9
„ Register premises .. ..	7	7
„ Cover milk vessels .. ..	3	3
„ Discontinue using sheds for cows which do not comply with Bye-laws .. ..	1	1
Total .. ..	94	94

## Slaughter Houses.

There are one registered and three licensed slaughter houses in the district.

No. 1 (licensed) in Freezeland Lane

No. 2 (registered) in High Street.

No. 3 (licensed) in Kennels Road, Little Common.

No. 4 (licensed) at Cobbs Hill.

## Inspections.

Particulars.	Inspections	Notices.
Slaughter-houses .. ..	197	10
Total .. ..	197	10

### Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
To thoroughly cleanse or lime-wash slaughter-house ..	5	5
„ Empty blood pit and remove offal from slaughter-house	1	1
„ Cleanse floors of slaughter-house or lairs .. ..	3	3
„ Repair doors and windows..	1	0
Total .. ..	10	9

During the first six months of the year similar conditions under the Pool system were in existence as last year.

After this date permission was obtained to use in addition to the slaughter house situate in the Old Town, the slaughter houses situate at Cobbs Hill and Freezeland Lane.

By this arrangement the whole of the meat has been slaughtered, and distributed among the Master Butchers, so as to meet their requirements.

The system has worked well, and apparently, generally given satisfaction, and no trouble as regards keeping the premises in a clean and sanitary state has arisen.

### Food Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef, English, Tubercular	1	9	3	22
Beef, Frozen .. ..			1	4
Mutton, „ .. ..		3	0	27
Lamb „ .. ..			1	4
Tripe „ .. ..				23
Corned Beef, 3, 6lb. tins				18
Kippers .. ..				14
Butter, Imported .. ..				11
Apples .. ..				94
Potatoes .. ..	6	2	1	22
Figs, dried .. ..				84
Onions .. ..			bags	6
Rabbits (Frozen), 3 cases, 24 in case				72



### Bakehouses.

The Bakers' Pool which was formed under the Food Control Order during the War, to manufacture and supply Bread from three Bakehouses situate in the centre of the Town was still in existence at the end of the year.

The remaining Bakers, with the exception of one who supplies and delivers Bread in the Rural parts of the District, are chiefly employed in the manufacture of cakes and small goods.

At the end of the year there were sixteen Bakehouses within the District as follows:—Three Factories and Thirteen Bakehouses, three of which are underground.

### Inspections.

Premises.	Inspections.	Notices.
Bakehouses and Flour Stores .. .. .	38	13

### Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
To Cleanse or whitewash Bakehouses or Flour Stores and clean paint work.. .. .	7	7
„ Cleanse floor of Bakehouse .. .. .	5	5
„ Discontinue keeping fuel in Bakehouse .. .. .	1	1
Total .. .. .	13	13

### Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with **Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.**



## 1—Inspection.

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) .. ..	49	2
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	117	23
Workplaces other than Outworkers' Premises included in this Report .. ..	27	7
Total .. .. .	193	32

## 2—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness .. .. .	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors .. .. .	1	1
Other Nuisances .. .. .	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation Unsuitable or Defective	—	—
Total .. .. .	1	1

## 3—Home Work—Out Workers.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.				Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.	Outwork in infected Premises. Instances.
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.			
	Lists.	Workmen.	Lists.	Workmen.		
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc. . . . .	—	—	4	3	6	—
Furniture & Upholstery, Curtains, etc. . . . .	—	—	1	1	—	—

## 4—Registered Workshops and Workplaces.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number
Bakehouses .. .. .	13
Boot Makers .. .. .	15
Dressmakers and Milliners .. .. .	25
Laundries (including Factory Laundries) .. .. .	19
Others (see list in Health Report, page 33) .. .. .	156
Total number of Workshops on Register .. .. .	228

## 5—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) .. .. .	3
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector .. .. .	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .. .. .	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)—	
Certificates granted during the year .. .. .	—
In use at the end of the year .. .. .	3



Business.	Number of Premises included in Register as		
	Factory.	Workshop.	Workplaces
Bakers and Confectioners .. ..	3	14	—
Blind Makers .. ..	—	1	—
Bottling Stores .. ..	1	3	—
Boot Makers .. ..	6	15	—
Brick and Sanitary Pipe Makers ..	1	—	—
Brick Makers .. ..	—	—	3
Carpenters and Joiners .. ..	2	15	—
Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights	3	3	—
Corn Merchants .. ..	1	—	—
Cycle Makers .. ..	—	9	—
Dressmakers and Milliners .. ..	—	25	—
Dressmakers (Domestic) .. ..	—	3	—
Electric Light Works .. ..	1	—	—
Engineers and Motor Works .. ..	9	1	—
Firewood Works .. ..	6	—	—
French Polishers, Cabinet Makers, and Upholsterers .. ..	—	10	—
Fried Fish Shops .. ..	—	1	—
Gas Works .. ..	1	—	—
Hair Dressers .. ..	—	10	—
Laundries .. ..	3	16	—
Laundries (Domestic) .. ..	—	3	—
Mineral Water Manufacturers .. ..	2	—	—
Painters and Sign Writers .. ..	—	9	—
Photographers .. ..	—	6	—
Picture Frame Makers .. ..	—	2	—
Plumbers and Gas Fitters .. ..	—	20	—
Printers .. ..	2	1	—
Restaurants .. ..	—	29	—
Saddlers and Harness Makers .. ..	—	3	—
Sausage Makers .. ..	1	2	—
Shoeing and General Smiths .. ..	—	7	—
Stable Yards and Motor Garages ..	—	—	16
Stone Masons .. ..	—	1	—
Tailors .. ..	—	12	—
Umbrella Repairers .. ..	—	1	—
Watch Makers .. ..	—	7	—
TOTAL .. ..	42	225	19

### Complaints received during the Year.

No. of complaints received from:—

Drains and closets choked or in defective condition	18
Foul state of closets, urinals, privies, or waste pipes	6
Offensive smells from sewer grids or street gullies	2
“ “ cesspools overflowing ...	2
House or Workroom overcrowded or in an insanitary condition ...	13
“ “ walls damp and leaky roofs ...	9
Animals kept in such a state as to be a nuisance ...	8
Accumulation of garden, trade refuse or manure ...	9
Houses or premises without a proper water supply	1
Closets without a proper water supply ...	3
Pond, ditch, or watercourse in a foul state ...	2
Premises without dust receptacles ...	7
House refuse not removed ...	8
Stables, yards, or back passages, etc., in an insanitary condition ...	3
Discharge of black smoke ...	2
Accumulation of water in cellars ...	2
Coach-houses or temporary buildings used for sleeping purposes ...	1
Back flooding from surface water ...	11
Gipsy Encampment ...	2
Complaints made and found not to be a nuisance or injurious to health ...	12
Total ...	121

### Complaints attended to and Inspections made.

No of Complaints attended to ... 121

Inspections:—

“ houses or premises ...	259
“ cowsheds, dairies, etc. ...	112
“ bakehouses ...	38
“ slaughter houses ...	197
“ factories, workshops, or workplaces ...	251
“ butchers, grocers, and greengrocers shops, etc. ...	203
Samples of water taken for analysis ...	4
Visits <i>re</i> work in hand, serving notices, and sundry purposes ...	816
Letters written in connection with drainage and other matters ...	412



## Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909 and 1919.

No. of Houses inspected      ...      ...      ...      48

## Drainage Work.

PARTICULARS.		
To Drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> complaint	..	5
„ Drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> certificates	..	14
„ Visits to examine or test old drains or sanitary fittings		160
„ Visits to test by water, drains or portions of drains or examine sanitary fittings .. .. .	.. .. .	754
„ Smoke test applied to drains or soil pipes	.. ..	37
„ Notices served on Occupiers under Sec. 41 P.H.A. to enter on premises to examine drain	.. ..	2

In the following tables are given the number of Notices served on owners or occupiers for the abatement or suppression of nuisances, or for carrying into effect other sanitary work.

NATURE OF WORK.			Verbal or Written Notice.	Compl'd with.
Drains ..	..	New provided and connected to sewer .. .. .	—	—
" ..	..	Re-laid and connected to sewer .. .. .	8	8
" ..	..	Repaired and made watertight .. .. .	19	19
" ..	..	Provided to closet, cellar, motor garage, stable, or surface water .. .. .	35	35
" ..	..	Disconnected from cesspool and connected to sewer .. .. .	3	3
" ..	..	New provided and connected to cesspool .. .. .	—	—
" ..	..	Surface water intercepted from sewage system, or disc fixed to traps .. .. .	16	16
" ..	..	Cleared or cleansed .. .. .	26	26
Soil Pipes or Ventilators		Old removed and new 4 in. L.C.C. pattern fixed, joints repaired or pipe carried up to form a safe outlet for sewer air .. .. .	31	31
Closets ..	..	Defective pattern removed and efficient form fixed .. .. .	8	8
" ..	..	Provide water closet in place of earth closet .. .. .	1	1
" ..	..	New pans or traps fixed .. .. .	13	13
" ..	..	External ventilation or light provided .. .. .	1	1
" ..	..	Cleared or cleansed .. .. .	6	6
" ..	..	Provide and fix new seats .. .. .	4	4
Earth closets ..	..	New pails provided .. .. .	1	1
Anti-Syphonage pipes		Provided to closets, urinals and waste pipes .. .. .	7	7
Inspection Chambers		New provided, repaired, covered, or sealed down .. .. .	72	72
Lavatory Basins		Defective removed and new provided .. .. .	3	3
Carried forward .. .. .			254	254



NATURE OF WORK.		Verbal or Written Notice.	Compl'd with.
	Brought forward ..	254	254
F.A. inlets ..	New provided or repaired ..	24	24
Waste pipes ..	New provided, trapped, length- ened, or repaired .. ..	23	22
Flushing cisterns	New provided or flushing ap- paratus repaired .. ..	37	37
Scullery sinks..	New provided or repaired ..	7	7
Dustbins ..	New provided .. ..	17	17
Wells or cisterns	Closed, repaired, cleansed, cov- ered, or new pumps fixed ..	4	4
Cesspools ..	Emptied, cleansed, repaired, or new pumps fixed, filled up, or overflow pipes disconnected	6	6
Stables, yard, scullery, etc.	Repaved, repaired, or cleansed	51	50
Water supply ..	Provided to premises, Town supply .. ..	5	5
" ..	Provided to closets or urinals	5	5
House or rooms	Cleansed or whitewashed ..	36	35
"	Overcrowded .. ..	3	3
Walls, external	Rendered in cement, repaired, or damp courses provided ..	2	1
Guttering, stack pipes, etc.	New provided, repaired, cleared, or lengthened .. ..	19	18
Roofs, ceilings, etc.	Repaired .. ..	9	8
Floors, etc. ..	New relaid, repaired, or through ventilation provided, or site covered with concrete ..	12	12
Window frames or sashes	New provided, repaired, or new sash lines .. ..	7	6
Workshops or rooms	Provide external ventilation ..	1	1
Vacant plots of land	Cleanse site or remove refuse ..	3	3
Pond, ditch, etc.	Emptied or cleansed .. ..	1	1
	Total .. ..	526	519

### Work Executed by Occupiers.

PARTICULARS.				Verbal or Written Notices.	Final Notice.
To Abate overcrowding	...	...	...	3	3
„ Clear drain	...	...	...	2	2
„ Cleanse interior of house or rooms	...	...	...	5	5
„ Discontinue discharging black smoke	...	...	...	1	1
„ „ keeping animals so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	4	4
„ „ using underground rooms or cellars for sleeping purposes	...	...	...	1	1
„ „ conveying offensive matter through public streets during prohibited hours	...	...	...	5	5
„ Empty or cleanse cesspools, ditch, water closets, earth closets, urinals, privies, yards, stables, cellars, drains, waste pipes, pigsties, etc.	...	...	...	34	34
„ Remove accumulation of manure, vegetable matter, fish, offal or trade refuse	...	...	...	19	19
„ Repair flushing apparatus	...	...	...	4	2
Total				78	76

### Petroleum Acts, 1871 & 1897.

#### STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

At the end of the year there were 16 persons licensed to store and sell Petroleum Spirit, and Two to store Carbide of Calcium.

During the year 2 new stores were erected and licenses granted.

Inspections made, 39.



# **Borough of Bexhill.**

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## **REPORT**

OF THE

School Medical Officer

TO THE

Education Committee

FOR

Year ended Dec. 31st,

1920.

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## To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present herewith Annual Report for 1920. The suggestions of the Medical Department of the Board of Education for the arrangement under numbered headings have been followed as concisely as possible. The Report shows a large increase in both work done and results achieved.

### 1. STAFF.

School Medical Officer.  
School Dental Officer.  
School Nurse.

### 2. CO-ORDINATION.

- (a) S.M.O. is also M.O.H. and acts as Hon. M.O. to Infant and Child Welfare Clinic, which meets weekly and admits all children up to school age.
- (b) Nursery Schools have not yet been started.
- (c) Parents invited to bring all debilitated children under school age to Clinic. Some attend at every session.

### 3 THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

- (a) School Hygiene.—A good deal has been done during the year to raise the standard, especial reference having been paid at the Sanitary Visits to cleanliness, and avoidance of dust. St. Barnabas Boys' School has had the lowest standard, and the Down School the highest.
- (b) Work Done.—
  - St. Peter's Infant School.—In consequence of cases of Diphtheria, for which the condition of the School was partly responsible, improvements in ventilation and sanitation have been carried out with satisfactory results.
  - St. Peter's Boys' School.—To protect cloakroom an entrance door has been fixed.
- (c) Work Recommended.—
  - St. Peter's Boys' School.—Better lighting, heating, and ventilation required. Alterations have been promised by Managers.
  - St. Mark's School.—Lighting and ventilation require improvement. Managers promise to undertake work at Easter.
  - Norman's Bay School.—Outside door required to protect exposed cloakroom.
- (d) Proposed Transfer of Special School.—For this purpose the Hall in Chandler Road was acquired, and not until when ready for transfer was the opinion of the M.O.H. asked for as to sanitary conditions. As the site was known to suffer from defective drainage, it could not be passed as fit for the purpose, and the project has been accordingly given up.



#### 4. MEDICAL INSPECTION.

616 children inspected, including both Age Groups, and Specials brought up by the various teachers.

- (a) Age Groups.—At ages of 5, 8, 9 and 12 years.
- (b) Children who have not been inspected at 8 brought up at 9.
- (c) Every crippling defect is referred to and examined at School Clinic.
- (d) Every assistance has been given by the teachers, and no disturbance has been complained of.

#### 5. FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

- (a) Uncleanliness.—28 cases, mostly verminous, referred to School Clinic.
- (b) Minor Ailments.—Term is misleading, as ailments likely to affect child's future cannot be dismissed as minor. 22 cases marked as referred to Clinic for further examination and treatment.
- (c) Tonsils and Adenoids.—Enlarged and operation advised, 19. Found slightly enlarged, 71.
- (d) Tuberculosis.—No active case. Tendency shown by Pleurisy, 1; Glands, 4; Colitis, 1; Persistent Catarrh, 5; General, 9.
- (e) Skin Disease.—Three.
- (f) External Eye Disease.—Strabismus, 20; Strain, 2; Corneal Ulcer, 2; Blepharitis, 4; Marginal Eczema, 1.
- (g) Vision.—11 cases referred to Clinic for further test.
- (h) Ear Disease and Hearing.—Impairment of hearing of slight degree, 7; Discharge, 4; Obstruction, 9.
- (i) Dental Defect.—(See Report of School Dentist.)
- (j) Crippling Defects.—Spastic gait, 1; Pigeon breast, 3; Knock knee, 1; Fracture right arm, 1; Flat foot, 2; Traces Infantile Paralysis, 2.
- (k) Impairment of Nutrition, as shown by comparison with average.

St. Barnabas' Boys showed 28 more than 5lbs. below and to 24lbs.

St. Barnabas' Girls	„ 15	„ „ „	15 „
St. Barnabas' Infants	„ 9	„ „ „	9 „
Down Council Mixed	„ 49	„ „ „	25 „
Down Council Infants	„ 8	„ „ „	14 „
St. Peter's Girls	„ 36	„ „ „	15 „
St. Peter's Infants	„ 13	„ „ „	15 „
Sidley	„ 6	„ „ „	12 „
Norman's Bay Mixed	„ 2	„ „ „	8 „
St. Mary Magdalen's	„ 11	„ „ „	26 „

- (l) Special Inspections of Heads re Cleanliness.—52 found verminous and treated at Clinic; 113 found with many nits, and 61 with a few.

#### 6. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

- (a) Inspections by S.M.O. of Schools have been frequent. All suspicious cases excluded at once by Teachers, and followed up. 18 cases of Scarlatina in a mild form, with one exception, notified. 24 cases of Diphtheria (including carriers) notified.
- (b) School Closures.—

St. Peter's Infant School closed May 7th to Whitsuntide owing to Diphtheria and Measles.



As a further case of Diphtheria was notified in September, and the required sanitary work had not been done during the holidays, the School was closed again for its immediate execution.

The Down Infants' School was closed from February 2nd-16th for Measles.

(c) Temporary Exclusions from School under 53 b:—

(i). Early Cases of Diphtheria.—Swabs taken at Clinic, 2 found positive; found desquamating at Clinic, 4; found with Measles at Clinic, 5; found with Varicella at Clinic, 7; Contacts of Scarlatina excluded, 20; of Diphtheria, 35. Contacts of Measles, or Varicella, who are not infants, or cannot show previous attack, are excluded for a few days ranging over end of incubation period.

(ii.) For Verminous Conditions, 41.

(iii.) For Physical Conditions verified by School Clinic, 60.

## 7. FOLLOWING UP.

School Nurse reports:—"449 School visits. 975 Home visits. Clinic opened 205 days. Average attendance from 30-40. 20 Hospital letters given."

## 8. MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Local conditions. Nearest Hospital over five miles away, at Hastings. Results of sending cases there for treatment found unsatisfactory, as parents rarely persist, or will face the journey and waiting, or expense.

To give greater efficiency School Clinic has been remodelled on lines of Out-Patient Department to include such cases as would normally be sent there, and cases where treatment by private doctor has not been obtained owing to expense or cases having been dismissed as chronic. The Out-Patient Department of East Sussex Hospital has been used for consulting purposes in a few cases.

In addition to Minor Ailments cases where the physical future of the child has been at stake, the following have been successfully dealt with:—Tubercular Pleurisy, V.D.H. and D.A.H. Renal cases, generally first discovered at Clinic, Diphtheritic Paralysis, etc.

Two examples may be given. Physical. M.....S..... Girl, 10 years, pronounced permanently unfit by doctor to attend school. At Clinic Asthma found to be kept up by imperfect development of chest. By endocrine treatment and remedial exercises is now practically free and able to attend.

Mental. ....T..... Boy, 8 years, lethargic with history of Petit Mal, and unable to properly receive instruction. Under endocrine treatment shows marked intellectual improvement.

For marked cases of impaired nutrition Virol has been issued daily at the Schools by the Teachers under the Nurse's supervision at cost price. This system has worked well.

- (a) A large number of Minor Ailments have been treated of the usual character. Mainly preventive work.
- (b) Tonsils and Adenoids.—7 cases were operated on at the local centre in February. Afterwards, in consequence of the district being never free from infectious cases, which cropped up at intervals, the remainder were postponed until the present wave has passed.



- (c) Tuberculosis.—All cases with tendency shown by Pleurisy, Chronic Catarrh, Glands, Abdominal Distension, or Night Perspiration kept under constant observation at Clinic with good results. Four cases referred to Tuberculosis Officer for opinion. One case referred to Hospital while Clinic was closed for Summer holidays.
- (d) Skin Disease.—Impetigo Contagiosa. Outbreak during Spring found due to the want of cleanliness and probable flea infection. All cases excluded from School and treated at Clinic till cured. Also treated: Scabies, 5; Ringworm, 13; Eczema. Provision is being made for the use of X-Ray if required.
- (e) External Eye Disease.—20 cases of Conjunctivitis, Blepharitis, and Corneal Ulcer cured.
- (f) Vision.—41 cases examined at Clinic, of which 12 were found not to require glasses; 13 corrected to normal by glasses which were prescribed; 14 referred to Hospital as Out-patients for opinion of Eye Specialist; 2 sent in as In-patients.
- (g) Ear Disease and Hearing.—10 cases of Otorrhœa treated, and 6 of obstruction.
- (h) Dental Defects.—13 cases where the condition affected health were referred to the School Dentist.
- (i) Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.—Five cases of paralysis, diphtheritic and infantile, treated; also 3 cases of fracture. Recommended for special treatment, 2. Cripple sent to Home at Bexhill and attending school, 1.

#### 9. OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

Playground classes encouraged. Held in Summer months at the Down and St. Peter's Girls' and Infants' Schools.

Open-air School was recommended in Report for 1918 for certain children. No action has as yet been taken.

#### 10. PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Is carried out by the Teachers under the inspection at times of the S.M.O. No area organiser. Improvement of the rough surface of drill ground recommended for St. Peter's Girls' and Infants' Schools.

#### 11. PROVISION OF MEALS.

No provision found necessary generally. Special provision recommended for children who have more than a mile to walk each way, is being considered by the Committee.

#### 12. SCHOOL BATHS.

Children have access to the Corporation Swimming Baths when possible.

Cleansing Baths are required for certain cases already referred to under No. 5 (a), and were recommended in the 1918 Report. No action has as yet been taken.

#### 13. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

Parents are asked to attend both the Inspections and the Medical Clinics. An increasing interest is being shown. At Inspections 58 per cent. attended.

Difficulty has arisen in a few cases from parents going out to work for the day, and being therefore unable to properly look after their children while excluded for temporary conditions.

#### 14. CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

Teachers have given every possible facility for inspections, have brought forward special cases, and have sent to the Clinic children found flagging. In this way many serious illnesses have been prevented.

#### 15. CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

The School Attendance Officer has taken no part in either Medical Inspection, Following up, or Medical Treatment. The system adopted of the Teachers notifying children absent without medical certificate, and following such up, is working well, as the increased percentage of attendances shows:—

Average number on books	...	...	...	...	1,534
Average percentage of attendance	...	...	...	...	90
Average percentage of attendance previous five years	...	...	...	...	86

#### 16. CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children have helped with three cases of neglect shown by uncleanness. Five children have been sent to Dr. Barnardo's Homes. Care Committee at end of 1916 handed over work to Staff.

#### 17. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND ELIPEPTIC CHILDREN.

- (a) One blind boy has been admitted to the Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham.

Defective and Epileptic Children.—One case was examined at the Clinic for fits and mental defect. Institutional treatment was recommended, but as yet the parents object.

- (b) The Special School for backward and mentally deficient children is working well at the Down Schools. To give proper supervision the Staff has been increased by one assistant. The Stanford revision tests are used on admission and repeated at each half-yearly inspection.

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number examined re admittance	...	...	...	...	...	30
Transferred back to Normal School	...	...	...	...	...	5
Discharged	...	...	...	...	...	5
Recommended for Institutional Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### 18. NURSERY SCHOOLS.

No sanction has been given for Nursery School.

#### 19. SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

The Secondary Schools are in the hands of the County Council.



20. CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

Continuation Schools have not yet been started.

21. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

- (i.) Conditions are under Bye-Laws sanctioned 3rd November, 1920.
- (ii. and iii.) Leavers are examined specially at School Clinic and cards marked as to physical conditions and special recommendations if found required.

22. SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

Special inquiries have been made re outbreak of Diphtheria at St. Peter's Infant Schools, and results promise to be satisfactory from the sanitary alterations executed.

A special inquiry was made into the ventilation and lighting of St. Mark's School, and it is hoped that the recommendations will be carried out with the least possible delay.

23. MISCELLANEOUS.

The Medical Examination of Teachers has hitherto been done by the County Council.

24. STATISTICAL TABLES.

The six Statistical Tables required by the Board are appended.

G. H. WESTON,

S.M.O.

## Dental Clinic Report for 1920.

The work of the Dental Clinic was hindered during 1920, on account of illness and bad weather.

On eight Saturday mornings during 1920 the Clinic was closed, namely, January 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, May 8th; and November 13th.

The Schools examined were Sidley, and St. Peter's Girls' and Sluice Schools.

The Clinic was held on thirty Saturday mornings, and the following is an account of work done.

Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	170
Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	11
Root Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scalings	...	...	...	...	...	4
Examined at Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	42
Appointments made	...	...	...	...	...	533
Appointments kept	...	...	...	...	...	352
" Gas " cases	...	...	...	...	...	95
Extractions with " Gas "	...	...	...	...	...	350
Injections	...	...	...	...	...	147
Extractions with Injection	...	...	...	...	...	264
Cases completed	...	...	...	...	...	177

There is still a great lack of the use of the toothbrush. It is not uncommon to find the whole family using the same toothbrush!! In other cases the teeth are cleaned weekly, or monthly, or at times when the patient has a bath.

To help the good work done by the Medical Officer and School Nurse two improvements could be made.

(1) A more up-to-date " Gas " apparatus to facilitate the working of the " Gas " cases.

(2) Some *continual* instruction, during the term, on the use of the toothbrush, and cleaning the teeth **daily**.

This could be given by the Teachers, and need only take a few minutes.

C. H. BRADNAM, L.D.S.,

School Dentist.



**TABLE 1.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1st JANUARY, 1920,  
TO 31st DECEMBER, 1920.**

A. "CODE" GROUPS.

Age.	Entrants.					
	3	4	5	6	Other Ages.	Total.
Boys .. ..	—	—	70	—	—	70
Girls .. ..	—	—	51	—	—	51
Totals .. ..	—	—	121	—	—	121

Age.	Inter- mediate Group.	Leavers.					Grand Total.
		8	12	13	14	Other Ages.	
Boys .. ..	53	90	—	—	—	—	143
Girls .. ..	74	80	—	—	—	—	154
Totals .. ..	127	170	—	—	—	—	297

B. GROUPS OTHER THAN "CODE."

(1)	Intermediate Group (other than 8 years). (2)	Special cases. (3)	Re-examinations (i.e., No. of Children Re-examined). (4)
Boys .. ..	63	35	29
Girls .. ..	65	35	29
Totals .. ..	128	70	58

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

Defect or Disease.				Code Groups.		Specials.	
				Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	Malnutrition. ..			—	—	—	—
	Uncleanliness—						
	Head	..	..	—	25	—	—
	Body	..	..	—	16	—	—
Skin	..	Ringworm—					
		Head	.. ..	1	—		
		Body	.. ..	—	—		
		Scabies	.. ..	—	—		
		Impetigo	.. ..	—	—		
		Other Disease ..		—	—		
Eye	..	Defective Vision and					
		Squint	.. ..	43	—		
		External Eye Disease	.. ..	26	—	—	—
Ear	..	Defective Hearing..		—	7	—	—
		Ear Disease	.. ..	13	2	—	2
Teeth	Dental Disease (see N.B. (2) below) ..			(See Report of School Dentist).			
Nose and Throat		Enlarged Tonsils		36	67	—	44
		Adenoids ..					
		Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids					
		Defective Speech ..		—	—	—	—
Heart and Circulation.		Heart Disease—					
		Organic	.. ..	—	2	—	—
		Functional	.. ..	—	37	—	7
		Anæmia	.. ..	—	—	—	—



TABLE II—Continued.

Defect or Disease.		Code Groups.		Specials.	
		Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Lungs ..	Pulmonary tuberculosis—				
	Definite .. ..	—	—		
	Suspected .. ..	—	—		
	Chronic Bronchitis.	—	—	—	4
	Other Disease ..	—	27	—	2
Nervous System	Epilepsy .. ..	—	—		
	Chorea .. ..	—	—		
	Other Disease ..	—	—		
	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis—				
	Glands .. ..	—	4		
	Bones and Joints	—	—		
	Other Forms ..	—	2	—	—
	Rickets .. ..	—	—		
	Deformities . .	—	10	—	—
	Other Defects or Diseases .. ..	—	5	—	—

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1920.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Blind (including partially blind).		Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for the Blind	1	—	1
		Not at School . . .	—	—	—
Deaf and Dumb (including partially deaf).		Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf.	1	—	1
		Not at School . . .	—	—	—
Mentally Deficient.	Feeble Minded.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ..	14	7	21
		Notified to the Local (Control) Authority during the year ..	1	—	1
		Not at School . . .	—	—	—
	Imbeciles.	At School . . . .	—	—	—
		Not at School . . .	—	—	—
Idiots.		—	—	—	
Epileptics.		Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified School for Epileptics	—	—	—
		Not at School . . .	—	—	—
Physically Defective.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—
		Not at School . . . .	—	—	—
	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—
		Not at School . . . .	—	—	—
	Cripples others than Tubercular.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—
		Not at School . . . .	—	—	—
Dull or Backward *		Retarded 2 years . .	14	14	28
		Retarded 3 years . .	—	4	4
		Retarded 4 years . .	—	1	1

\* Judged according to age and standard.



TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1920.

Condition.	No. of defects found for which treatment was considered necessary.			No. of defects for which no report is available.	No. of defects treated.	Results of Treatment.			No. of defects not treated.	Per-centage of defects treated.
	From previous year.	New.	Total.			Remedied.	Improved.	Unchanged.		
Clothing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Footgear ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleanliness of Head ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleanliness of Body ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nutrition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat ..	—	36	36	—	10	10	—	—	26	28
External Eye Disease ..	—	26	26	—	26	26	—	—	—	100
Ear Disease ..	—	13	16	—	16	13	2	1	—	100
Teeth. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart and Circulation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lungs ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nervous System ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Speech ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mental Condition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vision and Squint ..	—	40	40	—	17	17	—	—	23	43
Hearing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	3	115	118	—	69	66	2	1	49	58

20 Out-Patient Letters and 2 In-Patient Letters supplied. Children with Ear trouble treated by syringing (chiefly secretion of wax relieved).

14 children had glasses provided. 10 children have been supplied with milk. 2 children have been supplied with Virol  
5 children sent to Dr. Barnardo's Home.

TABLE V.—INSPECTION, TREATMENT, ETC., OF CHILDREN DURING 1920.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child).	616
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment).	226
(3) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.).	106
(4) The number of children in (3) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.).	71