[Report 1908] / Medical Officer of Health, Bilston U.D.C.

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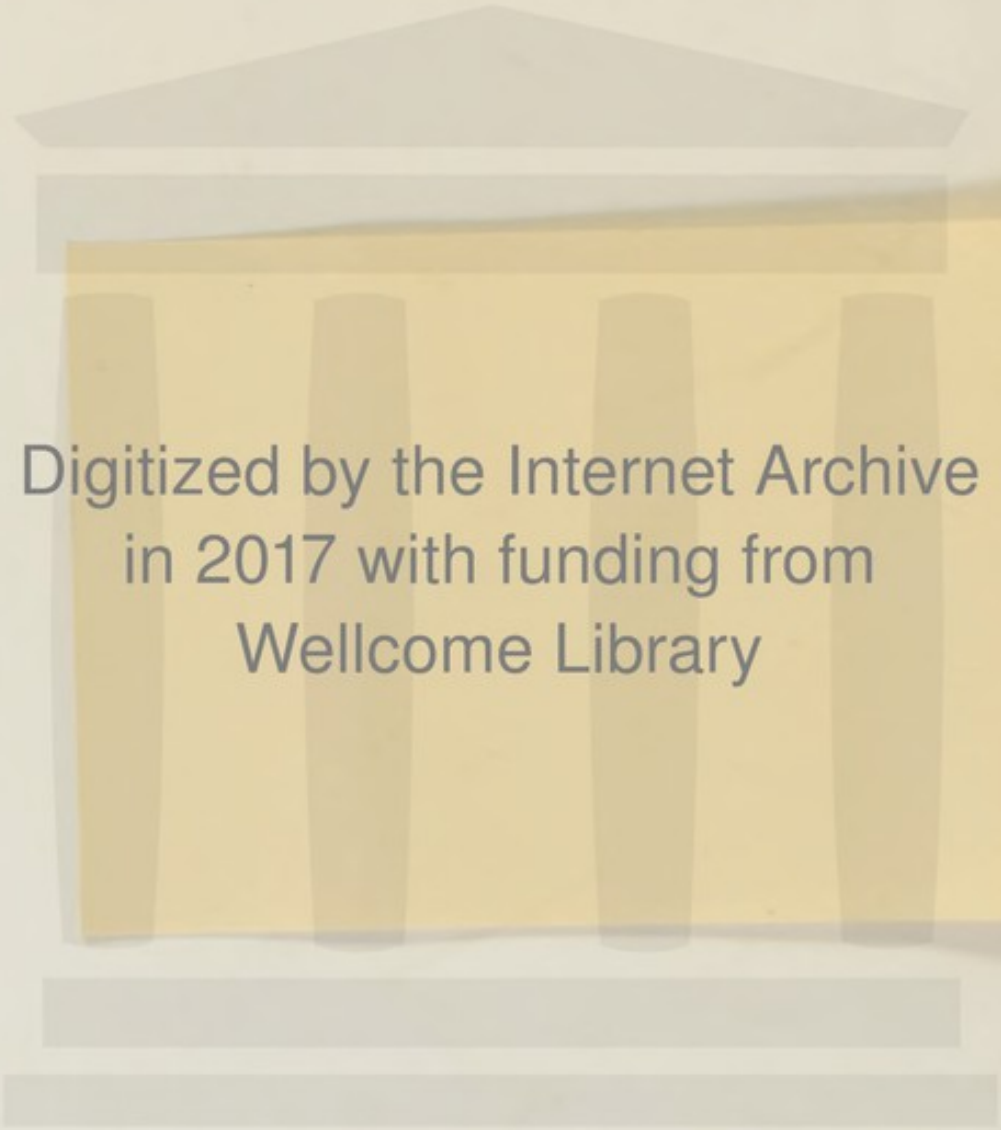

BILSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1908.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.

Past-President of the Midland Society of Medical Officers of Health, and of the Staffordshire Branch of the British Medical Association; School Medical Officer, &c., &c.

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BILSTON:
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BILSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

Herewith I present to you the Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the District under your control, together with the Vital Statistics for the year 1908; this being my Twenty-fourth Annual Report.

Enteric Fever.—Ten cases of Enteric or Typhoid Fever were notified during the year, being the same number as in the previous year, and of these 3 had a fatal termination, (one dying in the Wolverhampton General Hospital) 15 cases were notified in the year 1906, 12 in 1905, 4 in 1904, and 11 in 1902.

One case came from the High Town Ward, one from the Town Hall Ward, one from Bradley, and seven from Ettingshall Ward, four being in one house. In one case it was found that the soil pipe was inside the house, and the excrement escaped into the cellar, near to the larder where the food was stored. Notice was at once served on the owner and the nuisance remedied. The other cases were, as usual, associated with small property with privy-middens, where contamination of the soil around and near dwellings is so easy. In this connection the question of dealing with household refuse is important. Many people habitually throw into the ashpits, or even into the streets, vegetable matter of all kinds, potato parings, cabbage leaves, tea leaves, &c., where they decay and become germ laden and the vehicles of infection. If household refuse of this nature were burnt, as it should always be, it would cause no more trouble, great unhealthiness would be obviated and much disease prevented. It should be made an offence against the bye-laws not to do this.

Scarlet Fever.—One hundred and eight notifications of Scarlet Fever, in 88 houses, were received in the year, compared with 180 in the previous year, 107 in the year 1906, 50 in 1905, 155 in 1904, and 244 in 1903. Of these only 3 proved fatal, 2 being in children under 5 years of age and 1 above 5 years.

Seven notifications were received in the month of January, 11 in February, 5 in March, 7 in April, 5 in May, 12 in June, 23 in July, 13 in August, 16 in September, 3 in October, 1 in November, and 5 in December. Forty-seven were received in the Town Hall Ward,

20 in the New Town, 18 in the High Town, 6 in Ettingshall Ward and 17 in the Bradley Ward. 80 cases were treated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital and all recovered.

Scarlet Fever is a disease that prevails more than ever throughout the country, especially in populous districts where carelessness on the part of parents in heedlessly exposing children to the risks of infection adds greatly to its extension. The type of the disease has changed in recent years, being much milder and less fatal, though its prevalence has not diminished.

Measles.—Five deaths, all in children under 5 years of age, 2 being in infants under 1 year, were registered during the year as due to measles—one occurred in January, 1 in February, 1 in March, 1 in April, aud again 1 in October. Two of these deaths were in the Town Hall Ward, 1 in High Town, 1 in Bradley and 1 in Ettingshall.

Whooping Cough.—17 deaths, all, with one exception, in children under 5 years of age, were registered from whooping cough during the year, 1 in January, 1 in March, 4 in April, 2 in May, 1 in July, 1 in September, 1 in October, 1 in November, and 3 in December.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup—Eighteen notifications, referring to 14 cases of Diphtheria and 4 of Membranous Croup in 13 houses, were received during the year, as compared with 16 in the previous year, 10 in the year 1906, 5 in the years 1905 and 1904, 13 in 1903, and 17 in 1902.

These cases must have been of an exceptionally mild character, for only three ended fatally—all in young children under five years of age. The arrangement between the County Council and the Birmingham University for the bacteriological examination of these and similar cases free of charge is still in force, but was not used and in one case the suggestion to secure this, was contemptuously refused. This disease will never be controlled until bacteriological examination is freely adopted, not only of those affected but also of "Contacts;" and the isolation of all cases, and of those who, though possibly showing no signs of the disease, yet are found with Diphtheria bacilli in their throats.

Small Pox.—Again no case of Small Pox was notified, and none, I believe, has occurred in any of the constituent authorities forming the South Staffordshire Conjoint Small Pox Board. This is very gratifying.

Diarrhœa.—Twenty-nine deaths from Diarrhœa and allied conditions, 19 in infants under one year of age, were registered

during the year, as compared with 28 in the previous year, 41 in the year 1906, 42 in 1905, and 59 in 1904.

The term "Diarrhœa" now includes what is known as "epidemic" diarrhœa and certain conditions of the alimentary tract—such as gastro-enteritis, gastric catarrh, etc. Deaths from the latter causes were formerly not included under this heading—18 such are included in the total of 29.

The following table gives the total of these deaths in each month of the past five years, distinguishing those of infants under 1 year, of children between 1 and 5 years, and those above 5 years.

	1904.				1905.				1906.				1907.				1908.			
	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.
January ...	1			1	1			1		2		2	1			1	2	1		3
February ...		1		1	1			1		1		1		2		2				
March ...			1	1	1			1		1		1								
April ...			1	1	1			1		1		1								
May																				
June ...	1			1	1			1					1			1	2			2
July ...	4		1	5	8		1	9					1	1		2	2	1		3
August ...	22	3	3	28	12	4	3	19	10	1	1	12	4			4	5			5
September	11		1	12	5			5	12	6	2	20	4	1		5	1	4		5
October ...	2		1	3	1		1	2	1	3	1	5	9			9	4	1		5
November	2	1		3									1			1	4	1		5
December...	3		1	4									1		2	3	1			1
	46	5	8	59	32	4	5	41	23	14	4	41	22	4	2	28	21	8		29
Rate pr 1000				2·3				1·6				1·6				1·1				1·1

Erysipelas.—Fifteen cases of Erysipelas,—one of which, a young infant under twelve months of age, ended fatally,—were notified during the year as compared with 16 in the previous year, 22 in 1906, 30 in 1905, 37 in 1904, and 41 in 1903.

Puerperal Fever.—No case of Puerperal Fever was notified during the year.—This compares favourably with the preceding year when there were four cases and three deaths.

The administration of the Midwives' Act in this district rests with the County Council. After April 1 next year no woman, unless registered under this Act, will be allowed to practice as a Midwife for gain, and registration, fortunately, will then be preceded by proper training and examination.

Zymotic Diseases.—Sixty deaths, 55 being in children under 5 years of age, 25 of these being under 1 year, were attributed to the seven principal zymotic diseases, as compared with 74 in the previous year, 91 in the year 1906, 48 in 1905, and 95 in 1904.

The subjoined Table shows the number of deaths from each of these causes for the past year, and the previous 10 years, and gives the rates per 1,000 of the population.

Deaths from	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Scarlet Fever ...	6	1	4	2	5	8	11		1	8	3
Small Pox											
Measles	19		35	2	20	6	14	1	18	27	5
Whooping Cough ...	6	9	8	27	5	7	10	2	23	7	17
Enteric Fever ...	22	15	4	4	2	3		3	5	1	3
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	5	6	9	6	7	6	1	1	3	3	3
Diarrhœa	61	60	30	64	32	41	59	41	41	28	29
Totals	119	91	90	105	71	71	95	48	91	74	60
Rate per thousand...	5·06	3·8	3·6	4·3	2·9	2·7	3·9	1·9	3·7	3·02	2·4

Vaccination.—The returns of the Vaccination Officer are given for 10 years, 1898-1907, and the first half of 1908:—

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	Half Year to June 30 1908
Births Registered ...	934	959	892	878	939	895	899	937	899	934	447
Succ'ssf'lly Vaccinat'd	688	829	769	760	838	801	816	825	784	814	364
Insusceptible ...	1	11	7	3	3	1	1		1	2	
Died Unvaccinated...	143	94	96	91	70	77	56	91	91	92	50
Postponed	5	1	1		5		1	4	1	3	6
Removed from District	10	10	6	10	13	4	4	1	7	4	1
Certificates of Conscientious Objectors	12	8	6	14	10	12	11	12	15	15	24
Unaccounted for ...	75	6	7					4		4	2
	934	959	892	878	939	895	899	937	899	934	447

The increasing neglect of Vaccination in all parts of the country, and the facilities with which so called "conscientious exemptions" can be secured by parents who show the most astounding ignorance on the subject should give cause for serious alarm, and is in strong contrast to the custom in Japan and Germany. In those countries vaccination and re-vaccination are practised periodically, with the result that Small Pox does not exist, and there are no Small Pox Hospitals. Yet at the time Vaccination was introduced by Jenner Small Pox caused more than one-tenth of all the deaths of the human race. Fifty million people died in Europe from this disease during the eighteenth century. In the sixteenth

century the disease appeared in Mexico, and 3,500,000 of the population died from it in a few years, leaving some provinces almost depopulated. In one year—1707—in Iceland 18,000 died, the entire population being but 50,000. 70% of the people of Greenland died of this complaint in 1734. Small Pox is the most fearful disease inflicted on the human race, leaving on those whose lives it spared the hideous marks of its power, and attacking rich and poor, high and low alike. Unfortunately these things are forgotten, and because, thanks to Vaccination, it is now the exception, and not, as it once was, the rule to see pock-marked faces at every turn, we are doing our best rapidly to create victims for a huge epidemic.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1888—During the year 151 certificates were received under this Act, as compared with 226 in the previous year, 157 in the year 1906, 97 in 1905, 204 in 1904, and 316 in 1903. They included 108 of Scarlet Fever, 10 of Enteric Fever, 15 of Erysipelas, 14 of Diphtheria, and 4 of Membranous Croup.

The following table shows the number of notifications of each disease received in each month of the year, and also the totals for this and the previous 10 years.

	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Total
January	7	3		2			12
February	11	2		3	1		17
March	5			6	1		12
April	7				2		9
May	5	1		3	1		10
June	12	1					13
July	23	1			2		26
August	13						13
September	16				1		17
October	3	1		2	1		7
November	1	1		2	4		8
December	5				2		7
1908	108	10		18	15		151
1907	180	10	4	16	16		226
1906	107	15	3	10	22		157
1905	50	12		5	30		97
1904	156	4	1	5	37	2	205
1903	244	11	7	13	41		316
1902	56	12		17	39		124
1901	34	18	1	13	49		115
1900	41	18	1	11	45		116
1899	20	71	1	11	36		139
1898	91	92	2	8	34		227

Notifications received from each of the five Wards of the Township in each month of the year :—

	New Town Ward.	High Town Ward.	Town Hall Ward.	Bradley Ward.	Ettingshall Ward.	Total
January ...	2	1	5		4	12
February ...	2	1	7	5	2	17
March ...		3	3	2	4	12
April ...	2	1	2	1	3	9
May ...	2	1	3	4		10
June ...	1	1	8	2	1	13
July ...	9	5	7	3	2	26
August ...	1	3	7	2		13
September ...	1	3	10	2	1	17
October ...		2	2	1	2	7
November ...	1		3	2	2	8
December ...	2		1	4		7
	23	21	58	28	21	151

Infectious Diseases Hospital.—At the end of 1907 there were 11 patients remaining in the Isolation Hospital, and 80 were admitted during the year, 17 of these being under 5 years of age, and 44 above 5 years and under 10 years; 88 patients were discharged cured (after an average period of detention of 51 days), leaving 3 in at the end of the year.

The great advantages of the New Hospital over the old building are more and more evident and were commented upon by the L.G.B. Medical Inspector on his visit last August. He was much pleased with the cleanliness and general equipment, having regard of course to the limitations of the building and the very small staff by which it is worked. Indeed it has only been through the self-sacrificing devotion of the latter that so much has been accomplished at such a minimum of expense.

Disinfecting Apparatus.—The disinfecting apparatus (high pressure Steam Disinfector), has again proved of great value; 97 lots of bedding, &c., were disinfected, and 72 lots of clothes of patients on leaving the hospital. The bedding, &c., of infectious cases treated at home have been disinfected on the recovery of the patient; and I would suggest that in such cases a small charge should be made (to be remitted in certain instances where necessary) to cover the cost of fuel and of removal from and to the house of the patient. This, I believe, is frequently done in other towns.

The thorough disinfection of many of the houses here is practically impossible. The infected child is sometimes found dressed, sitting with the family in the one and only living room, and it is surprising, not that cases occur, but that more do not follow.

Meteorology.—The total rainfall for the year ending December 1908 was 27·67 inches, (with 166 rainy days), as against 28·81 inches in the previous year, 26·41 inches in 1906, 22·43 in 1905, and 20·6 inches in 1904. Observations were taken at the Lunt Outfall Sewage Works.

RAINFALL OF THE PAST 4 YEARS.

	Inches in 1908.	Inches in 1907.	Inches in 1906.	Inches in 1905.
January ...	0·98	1·22	3·55	·78
February ..	1.21	1·33	2·03	·64
March ...	3·16	1·12	1·10	2·95
April ...	2·38	1·87	1·54	1·89
May ...	2·65	3·09	2·72	·48
June ...	2·39	2·67	2·48	2·98
July ...	2·15	2·22	·82	1·85
August ...	4·68	2·78	1·21	4 63
September ...	1·90	·96	1·27	1·73
October ...	2·50	5·39	4·97	1·37
November ..	1·69	2·66	2·94	2·4
December ...	1·98	2·60	1·78	·76
Totals...	27·677	28·81	26·41	22·43

Sewerage.—A considerable portion of the town has been resewered under a scheme prepared and carried out by Mr. Baldwin Latham, M.I.C.E. The works were completed and taken over by the Council in May, 1908.

The New Sewers are flushed by Automatic Flushing Tanks with Town's Water.

Houses are gradually being connected to the New Sewers. Forty notices have been served during 1908 by the Surveyor's Department.

Sewage is disposed of at the Lunt Works, to which it is conveyed by gravitation, in a 40 inch brick Outfall Sewer.

Lime precipitation followed by continuous filtration is the method adopted.

The following is a copy of analysis by Mr. E. W. T. Jones, F.I.C., of a sample of effluent taken by him.

Wolverhampton,
30th August, 1908.

	Tank Effluent. (Parts per 100,000).	Filter Effluent. (Parts per 100,000).
Total solid matter dried at 212° F	165·0	206·0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	1·620	0·834
Albuminoid ,, ...	0·149	0·022
Nitric ,, ...	0·0	0·82
Combined Chlorine ...	49·5	47·8
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80° F	0·863	0·100
Appearance ...	nearly clear.	clear.
Smell	urinous.	none.

This Tank Effluent is very satisfactory clear, it is only moderately strong organically. The Filter Effluent is excellent, it is non-putrescible, low in Albuminoid Nitrogen and Oxygen absorbed and favourably high in Nitric Nitrogen, thus shewing that the Filters are doing good work.

The purification of the Tank Effluent in Albuminoid Nitrogen is 85% to 88% by Oxygen absorbed.

(Signed) E. W. T. Jones, F.I.C.

Moxley is not sewered and when a scheme is considered for this district some means of raising the sewage will have to be adopted.

Water Supply.—The water comes from the Council's own Water Works, and is pumped from wells at the Bratch, Wombourne, to the reservoir at Goldthorn Hill, thence to the Town by gravitation.

The following is a copy of the latest Certificate of Analysis by Mr. E. W. T. Jones, F.I.C.

16th February, 1909.

Sample of Water (Town Supply) drawn at the Town Hall, sent by your engineer, Mr. Turner, the 12th inst.

	Grains per Gallon.
Total Solid Matter dried at 212° F	28·00
Free and Saline Ammonia	0 000
Albuminoid Ammonia	0·000
Nitric Nitrogen	0·56
Combined Chlorine	1·82
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80° F	0·003
Color through 2 feet ..	Very pale bluish-green tinge.
Appearance	Clear.
Hardness before boiling	18·84°
,, after ,, ...	9·20°
Temporary Hardness	9·64°

Bacteriological Exam.	Organisms per C.C.
On Gelatine @ 20° C	2
On Agar-agar @ 37° C	0
,, ,, ,, ,, acidified and phenolized	0

This sample shows the water to still be in a most satisfactory condition for a Town supply.

(Signed) E. W. T. Jones, F.I.C.

New Streets and Buildings.—The number of new buildings certified during the year as fit for human habitation was 23.

New Buildings are erected under the supervision of the surveyor, and in accordance with the Council's Bye Laws, dated November, 1900, and August, 1904.

Dover Street and James Street have been made up and sewered in accordance with the Private Street Works Act, 1892. King Street has been sewered under the same Act.

The greatly increased and increasing traffic with motors not only in the country but in the main streets of towns, has caused what is known as the "Dust Problem" to reach a seriously acute stage. The dust itself rising in clouds is a grave nuisance, and the evil is intensified when we remember how doors, windows, &c., are now frequently kept closed, and the entrance of fresh air into dwellings thereby prevented. Various plans for modifying this condition of things have been suggested; among others the spraying of the roads with tar during the early summer. By this it has been found that not only is the dust greatly reduced, but the roads remain comparatively free from mud well into the winter, and the improved conditions are certainly conducive to health. It is interesting to learn from a lecture recently given by the Birmingham City Engineer, (Mr. H. C. Stilgoe), that the cost of tar spraying, which amounts to ¾d. per square yard, is more than recouped by the greater life of roads so treated, and the diminished cartage of mud—two coats of tar giving at least six months wear.

Workshops and Bakehouses.—All the workshops, 136 in number, including 30 bakehouses, have been regularly visited, and on the whole found satisfactory. Verbal requests were found sufficient to secure any cleansing or improvement; and only 4 outworkers are known in this district.

There is only one underground bakehouse and it is kept in a satisfactory condition.

Dairies, Milkshops, and Cowsheds.—There are 34 dairies and Milkshops, and 20 cowsheds on the register, all of which have been regularly inspected. The cowsheds are kept, on the whole in a fairly satisfactory condition but some are not so well ventilated as they should be. There seems in this district, a great dread of fresh air for bovine, as well as for human, animals.

Lodging-houses and Slaughter-houses.—The four registered lodging-houses have been regularly visited and have been found fairly satisfactory. There are 24 slaughter-houses; they are kept clean, and have been limewashed when required. The market place is regularly visited on market days and the meat exposed for sale inspected.

Excrement Disposal.—Now that the Sewerage scheme is completed a steady and continuous effort should be made to extend the water-carriage system throughout the district. During the past year 162 water closets have been substituted for privy-middens and vaults, and there are now in use 685 water closets, 102 waste water closets, and 20 automatic trough closets; and 406 portable ash bins in place of ash pits.

There still remain however, 1323 privy-middens, 1433 privy vaults and 900 privy pans, and the sooner these abominations are abolished the better. These methods are most injurious to health, for they entail the accumulation of fœcal matter close to dwellings and its dissemination by spillage and soakage, especially in the poorer and more crowded parts of the town, and are potent factors in the causation not only of enteric fever and diarrhœa but of other infectious diseases. The harmful effects of such conditions are greatly intensified in hot and dry weather, and even flies and dust add to this. There is also the moral aspect—the near presence of these filthy receptacles does not encourage ideas of cleanliness and decency—and further, there is the need of "tips" to get rid of the filth

This system of "tipping" has led to several complaints during the past year, and was also the subject of investigation in August last by Dr. Darra Mair, one of His Majesty's Inspectors from the Local Government Board. Every attempt is made to minimise the nuisance that must necessarily be caused at times, by taking the matter as far from dwellings as possible, and by covering it up with dry ashes, but the difficulty increases naturally as places for tipping become more scarce. The extension of the water-carrying system—and fortunately the Council owns its own water-works, with an abundant supply of good water—together with the erection of a Dust-destructor is the only possible remedy here.

The removal and disposal of house refuse is done by contract, uuder the supervision of a foreman Scavenger appointed by the Council. Houses and Courts are visited at different periods according to the size of the ash-pits or dust-bins—some of the former are still too large though every opportunity is taken to reduce the size.

Insanitary Dwellings—Systematic inspections of most of the streets in the district have been made by me, in company with the Inspector of Nuisances, during the year and a large number of notices issued for the remedy of defects found. 191 dwelling houses or parts thereof, have been cleansed; 35 houses repaired; 116 roofs repaired, 56 houses had new spouting, 32 ash-pits have been roofed over, 14 out-buildings and 26 privies repaired; 15 kitchen floors re-laid and 34 yards repaved.

The following statement, prepared for me, gives particulars of insanitary dwellings closed since 1902, after notice and in some cases by Magistrate's orders, and shews what attempts have been made to abolish houses incapable of proper renovation. In addition 18 houses in Court 13 Temple street, condemned by me, were purchased by Mr. John W. Sankey and pulled down; the site was asphalted and furnished with swings and then most generously presented by him to the town. In this way old properties were demolished and an open play ground provided for the children for all time—an act worthy of imitation.

Particulars of houses closed since 1902:—Bank Street, 3. Bristol Street, 13, of which 12 were after notice Bridge Street, 12, 10 noticed. Broad Street, 1. Bunker's Hill Lane, 2. Coseley Street 5, all noticed. Dudley Street, 3, improvement to the street and "Seven Stars" Inn. Fleet Street, 3. Free Street, 7, magistrates' order. Hall Street, 6. These were 12 back to back houses converted into double dwellings with through venlilation, W.C's in place of pans and sanitary bins in place of a filthy uncovered ashpit. Hare Street, 1, on account of night-soil having to be carried through living rooms. Hill Street, 2, dilapidated. Hospital Street, 6 after notice. John Street, 3. Owner unable to execute work required by notice. Lester Street, 4, dilapidated and obstructing ventilation. Millfield Road, 1 dilapidated. Oatmeal Square, 2 pulled down by the Council. Queen Street, 6 by order. 6 new houses were afterwards erected on the same site. Temple Street, 31. Of these 2 were in Court 11, dilapidated and insanitary. 3 in Court 7 obstructing ventilation and light, a trough W.C. was also substituted in this Court in place of a filthy vault privy. In Court 6, 1 was pulled down by order as obstructing ventilation and light. Court 29 and 2 houses adjoining have been absorbed by a large manufacturing business. In Court 10 all the houses have been thoroughly repaired and W.C.'s substituted in place of vault and pan privies. Ward Street, 6 all closed by order. Wellington Road, 2 pulled down, improvement to Green Lanes and main road. Willenhall Road, 2 dilapidated. Wolverhampton Street 2. Smith Street, 4. Gozzard Street, 7, on account of sanitary defects and after prosecution in the Police Courts.

Schools and Medical Inspection.—In January of last year the Bilston Education Committee, on receipt of the Memorandum from the Board of Education, accepted and endorsed the view of the Board that the Medical Inspection of children in the Elementary Schools must be under the control of the Medical Officer of Health and appointed me not mereiy to supervise, but to carry out the whole of the duties. A special report upon this work for the year 1908, has been presented by me to the Education Committee, and it is only necessary here to state that the Sanitary

conditions in some schools are not satisfactory. Now that the Sewerage Scheme is completed and there is abundant supply of water from the Council's Water Works, Water Closets should in all cases be substituted for the privy vaults or privies still in use, and *all* urinals should be provided with proper means of regular flushing.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the district at the census of 1901 was 24,034, 12,026 males and 12,008 females; and the area is 1,867 acres. 5,050 tenements were recorded at the census, including 3,372 with less than 5 rooms. It is estimated that since the census was taken 472 new houses have been erected but it is difficult to know how many have fallen into disuse or are void. The population in the middle of the year is estimated at 25,000 though this must be considered as approximate only.

Births.—882 births, 446 males and 436 females, were registered during the year, being a decrease of 52 on the previous year, and giving a birth-rate of 35·28 per 1,000. The following gives the number of births, male and female, for the past 3 years:—

	1908.			1907.			1906.		
	Males.	F'ales.	Total	Males.	F'ales.	Total.	Males.	F'ales.	Total
First Quarter	116	115	231	103	127	230	123	100	223
Second ,,	106	113	219	121	141	262	117	114	231
Third ,,	104	99	203	102	101	203	98	120	218
Fourth ,,	120	109	229	127	112	239	128	99	227
	446	436	882	453	480	934	466	433	899

Table showing the number of Births, and Birth Rates, for the decade 1898—1907.

Year.	Males.	Females	Total	Av'ge per 1000 of Population.
1898	490	445	935	39·7
1899	489	465	954	40·5
1900	440	452	892	36·4
1901	456	425	881	36·5
1902	442	492	934	38·7
1903	444	451	895	36·9
1904	465	434	899	37·07
1905	456	481	937	38·5
1906	446	433	899	36·8
1907	453	481	934	38·1
Yearly Average 1898-07	458	455	914	37·9
1908	446	436	882	35·2

For the purpose of comparison, the birth-rate of the whole country and of Staffordshire Urban and Rural Districts, for the same years, 1898-1907, are added, together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales, and of the large towns of England.

Districts.	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Staffs. Combined Urban & Rural	34	33·4	32·8	32·8	34	32·5	32·5	31·0	30·9	29·7
Staffs. Urban	35	34·5	33·9	34·1	35	33·4	33·7	32·0	31·9	30·9
Staffs. Rural	31·1	30·3	29·8	29·5	31·3	30·1	28·4	27·1	27·2	25·7
England & Wales	29·4	29·3	28·9	28·5	28·6	28·4	27·9	27·2	27·0	26·3
Large Towns in England ...	30·2	30·1	29·4	29·5	30	29·7	29·1	28·2	27·9	27·0
Bilston	39·7	36·4	36·5	38·8	38·7	36·9	37·07	36·8	38.1	35·2

The birth-rate this year is the lowest yet recorded, the nearest approach to it being in the years 1900 and 1901. The decreased, and continously decreasing, birth-rate throughout the country is a subject of grave importance and calls for earnest consideration.

Deaths.—During the year 408 deaths in the town were registered from all causes—214 Males and 194 Females, being a decrease of 47 as compared with the previous year, and giving a death rate of 16·3 per thousand of the population. The average yearly number of deaths for the decade 1898-1907 was 476, and for the last half of that period 452. In addition 35 deaths of residents occurred in the Workhouse, and 22 in the Wolverhampton Hospital, thus raising the rate to 18·5.

Table giving the number of deaths in the district in each quarter of the year, classified according to age, etc.

1908.	Males	F'ales.	Total at all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
First Qua'ter	66	68	134	41	28	1	4	27	33
Second ,,	57	43	100	33	17	2	1	26	21
Third ,,	41	35	76	28	13	4	3	22	6
Fourth ,,	50	48	98	43	16	1	1	22	15
	214	194	408	145	74	8	9	97	75

Table of Deaths on page 26.

Table of Deaths classified according to disease, distinguishing deaths of children under 5 years of age, for the past 10 years.

Years.	Age.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not 'spasmodic')	Whooping Cough.	Cont'd. Fevers	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Diseases of Alimentary Organs.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyœmia.	Puerperal Fever.	Phthisis.	Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Heart Disease	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Other Diseases.	Totals at Ages Stated.	Total at all Ages.	Death-rate per thousand.
1899	Under 5		1	1		3	8			2		58							47		12	1		115	247	469	19·9
	5 upwds.				2	1	1			13		2							55	13	21	3	4	88	222		
1900	Under 5		34	2	1	5	8					29			1			2	67	2	15		1	152	319	557	22·7
	5 upwds.		1	2	2	1				4		1		1		1	1	17	55	24	13	1	15	99	238		
1901	Under 5		2		3	2	26			1		56						3	45			6	2	135	281	499	20·7
	5 upwds.			2		1	1			3		2			2			28	52	19				6	218		
1902	Under 5		20	4	4	2	5					23			2			2	40		9		2	104	217	427	17·71
	5 upwds.		1	1	1					2		1						33	46	26	6		7	87	210		
1903	Under 5		6	4	1	3	7					32						6	46	1	9		3	85	203	428	17·6
	5 upwds.			4	1	1				3		1			2		1	24	40	29	26		9	84	225		
1904	Under 5		14	11		1	10					33			1			7	58		7		2	118	262	460	18·9
	5 upwds.											6						17	42	29	15		5	84	198		
1905	Under 5		1			1	2					7	30					4	54	1	4			113	217	429	17·5
	5 upwds.									3		2	3					16	53	21	19		2	93	212		
1906	Under 5		15	1	3		23					21	16					7	58	1	6			112	263	490	20·0
	5 upwds.		3							5		2	2		1			28	45	17	20		6	98	227		
1907	Under 5		26	2	1		6					26						7	45		5		1	111	230	455	18·5
	5 upwds.		1	6	2		1					2			1		2	18	44	21	17		4	106	225		
1908	Under 5		5	2	3		15					29			1			4	56	1				103	219	408	16·3
	5 upwds.			1						2								12	66	10			4	94	187		

For purposes of comparison, the death rate of the whole country, and of the Staffordshire Urban and Rural Districts, for the past 10 years are given, together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales, and of the large towns in England.

District.	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Staffs. General	17·7	17·2	18·7	17	15·8	15·3	16·4	15·4	15·2	14·7
Staffs. Urban	18·4	17·8	19·3	17·6	16·3	15·8	17·2	15·9	15·8	15·2
Staffs. Rural	15·5	15·4	16·8	15·4	14·4	13·5	14·4	13·5	13·0	12·9
England and Wales	17·6	18·3	18·3	16·9	16·3	15·4	16·2	15·2	15·4	15·0
Large towns in England ...	18·3	20·2	19·5	17·7	17·4	16·3	17·2	15·7	15·9	15·4
Bilston	32·3	19·9	22·7	20·7	17·7	17·6	18·9	20	18·5	16.3

It is very gratifying to be able to state that the death-rate this year is lower than it has been during the 24 years I have had the privilege of presenting these reports, or indeed, as far as I can learn, at any previous time.

Table of deaths during the past decade classified according to age and sex :—

Year	Males.	F'ales.	Total at all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
1898	276	273	549	214	100	17	23	124	71
1899	263	206	469	181	66	14	11	122	75
1900	294	263	557	198	121	14	18	110	96
1901	270	229	499	195	86	14	20	108	76
1902	229	198	427	142	75	17	18	117	58
1903	229	199	428	141	62	14	22	106	83
1904	250	210	460	198	64	7	8	109	74
1905	217	212	429	172	45	7	16	105	84
1906	233	257	490	161	102	17	19	115	76
1907	232	223	455	163	67	14	11	116	84
Yearly Average 1898-1907.	249	227	476	176	78	13	16	113	77
1908.	214	194	408	145	74	8	9	97	75

Uncertified Deaths.—For seven consecutive years no death occurred that was not certified either by a medical man or the Coroner. This year, however, one such occurred in the case of a young infant, aged four months.

Diseases of the Respiratory System—127 deaths were registered as due to diseases of the respiratory system, 31 being in infants under 1 year, and 26 in children above 1 and under 5 years of age. In the previous year there were 93 deaths from these causes, 103 in 1906, 107 in 1905, 100 in 1904, and 86 in 1903. 16

occurred in January, 15 in February, 23 in March, 13 in April, 10 in May, 5 in June, 2 in July, 6 in August, 6 in September, 6 in October, 11 in November, and 8 in December.

Tuberculosis or Consumption.—22 deaths, 4 being in children under 5 years of age, were registered as due to consumption of the lungs, and 7 more cases, all of which were in children under 5 years, were attributed to "other tuberculous diseases."

In the previous year 31 deaths were attributed to consumption of the lungs, and 11 to other tubercular diseases; 42 from the same cause in 1906, and 27 in 1905.

Tuberculosis of the lungs is a disease depending most of all upon the absence of light and ventilation, and nothing is so necessary as abundance of sunshine and fresh air. For some time it has been recognised that the milk of cows suffering from this disease could convey it to human beings, but in the third interim report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis a further most important relationship has been discovered. Experiments have been made, and it has been found "that even in the case of cows with slight tuberculous lesions tubercle bacilli in small numbers are discharged in the fœces, while as regards cows clinically tuberculous, the fœces contain large numbers of living and virulent tubercle bacilli. The presence of tuberculous cows in the cowsheds is therefore distinctly dangerous, as some of the tubercle bacilli which escape from their bodies in the excrement are almost certain to find their way into the milk." This points to the need of a stricter enforcement of the law in respect of cowsheds, their cleanliness, ventilation, etc., and to the importance of a more cleanly and pure supply of milk.

The influence of overcrowding on Phthisis death rates is ably shown by Sir Shirley Murphy in his report on the health of the County of London in 1907. Taking "overcrowding" as meaning that proportion of the population found living more than two in a room in tenements of less than five rooms, he prepared a table, (given below) showing the mortality from phthisis in groups of London Sanitary districts, arranged in respect to the proportion of their population living more than two in a room in tenements of less than less than five rooms, during the years 1906-7.

Percentage of overcrowding in each group of sanitary centres.	Crude Phthisis Death Rate per 1000 persons living.	Standard Death Rate.	Connected Death Rate per 1000 persons living.
Under 7·5 %	1·067	1·718	1·078
7·5 to 12·5 %	1·349	1·705	1·373
12·5 to 20 %	1·456	1·771	1·426
20 to 2·75 %	2·009	1·805	1·931
Over 27·5 %	2·015	1·651	2.118
London.	1·520	1·735	1·520

It will thus be seen that in the most overcrowded group of districts the death-rate from Consumption is approxmately twice that in the least overcrowded group.

Tuberculosis is not a notifiable disease and nothing hitherto has been done in this district to control the disease. The Local Government Board, on December 18th, issued an order making notification of all cases occurring in a Poor law institution, or in the practice of a District Medical Officer compulsory on or from the first day of 1909, and allowing certain small fees for the same. Regulations have been issued by the Board for this purpose and relieving officers also must now inform the Medical Officer of Health of any change of residence of a tuberculosis pauper, but, strangely enough, there seems no provision made in the regulations for the relieving officer to know definitely when a pauper case is tubercular.

No doubt this order will in due time lead to the compulsory notification of *all* cases of tuberculosis and means taken to deal with them, such as visitation by Health Officers and the free provision in necessitious cases of suitable spitting flasks, &c.

An important point in relation to this subject seems to be generally overlooked. It is most desirable, and from a hygienic point of view, imperative that the different Churches should arrange in administering the Sacrament to use separate cups and not one vessel common to all.

Infantile Mortality.—145 children died in the town in the first year of life, as compared with 168 in the previous year, 161 in the year 1906, 172 in 1905 and 198 in 1904, being equal to an infantile mortality of 167 per thousand registered births. This is considerably lower thau the average of the past decade but is still too high.

Table giving the births, deaths, rate of infantile mortality, etc., for each of the five Wards of the Town for the past year.

	Area (in Acres)	Population. Census 1901.	Births	Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Deaths from Diarrhœa.	Deaths from Tuberculosis	No. of Notifications of Enteric Fever.
Whole Town ...	1867	24,034	882	408	145	29	22	10
New Town Ward	289	5548	202	146	37	11	9	...
High Town Ward	115	5207	162	77	21	2	...	1
Town Hall Ward	520	5003	186	73	21	2	4	1
Bradley Ward ...	499	4221	163	92	33	10	2	1
Ettingshall Ward	444	4055	169	77	33	4	7	7

A consideration of table V. will show that of the 145 infants dying in the town under 1 year, no less than 27 died in the first week, (as compared with 40 in the previous year)—9 from premature birth; 5 from defects existing at the moment of birth; 1 from injury at birth; and 2 from other causes—19 more survived a little longer but died within the first month—9 again from prematurity or congenital defects, 2 from atrophy, 4 from bronchitis, 1 from erysipelas, and 3 from other causes; making a total of 46 in the first month of life. Within one year, out of a total of 145 deaths, 36 were ascribed to premature birth or congenital defects, 19 to debility or wasting disease, 7 to tuberculous disease, 32 to diseases of the respiratory system, 4 to whooping cough, 2 to measles, and 8 to diarrhœa.

The causes of infantile mortality and their remedy have frequently been considered and were fully discussed in last year's report. In that report the provisions of the Notification of Births Act were described and the advantages to be anticipated from its adoption. I am glad to be able to state that the Act has been adopted, and came into operation on October 1st, last. On my suggestion an arrangement was made for the appointment of a Health Visitor, who, in addition to the duties required under this Act, should also undertake the duties of a School Nurse, in connection with the medical inspection of the children in the elementary schools, to act under my supervision in both offices, and this was agreed to by the Local Government Board. In October Miss Grigor, a highly trained and certificated Nurse, holding also the Diploma in Midwifery from the Central Midwives Board, the three year's certificate from Guy's Hospital, and also the certificate for fever nursing from the M.A.B. was appointed to the dual post. Her report to me on this work to the end of the year is as follows:

"From November 1st to December 31st, 1908, I paid 186 maternity visits. Of these 131 were first visits, 48 second, third and even fourth visits, and 7 were made to midwives.

The mothers have been advised in the feeding, clothing, and general care of their infants and have also had impressed upon them the importance of themselves keeping in good health, and of the foods to be taken and avoided during pregnancy and the months of suckling their children.

Many old fashioned remedies for various ailments are quite prevalent, such as home-baked bread being good for young infants, and even in a few cases the rain that falls on Good Friday being a cure for Opthalmia!

The mothers have on the whole been interested and anxious to learn about their babies; but the repressed smile that means "I would have my work cut out if I did all those fiddling things" is often seen and will take much patience and time to eradicate.

This branch of visiting offers an extensive field of very promising work."

As shewing the advantages of health visitors and the importance of breast-feeding for infants, an interesting report by the Medical Officer of Health for Sydney may be quoted. In July 1904, he added to his staff a woman health visitor, and between that date and December 31st, 1907, 4748 nursing mothers were visited, representing 52 per cent. of all births registered, and 67 per cent. of all births which occurred outside public institutions. The visitor was to diffuse some general knowledge, among the more ignorant, of the methods and precautions necessary for the rearing of the babies, but her chief duty was to recommend that they be fed exclusively from the breast. The results have been as follows :

	1904	1905	1906	1907
Number visited ...	781	1455	1240	1272
Breast-fed only ...	564	1114	977	1019
Partial breast-fed ...	166	250	210	202
Not breast-fed ...	51	91	53	51

The beneficial results of the diminution in the number of infants not breast-fed is reflected in the steady diminution in the infantile mortality rate, as shown in the following table.

Year.	Death rate	Year.	Death rate
1901	1·55	1905	0·64
1902	1·86	1906	0·73
1903	1·83	1907	0·81
1904	0·96		

Another visitor is to be appointed to allow the Medical Officer of Health to extend his scheme to other parts of the city.

Milk Supply.—Improper feeding has constantly been recognized as a most potent factor in the causation of a high infantile death-rate, and it is a blot upon our so called enlightened civilisation that so many mothers exhibit such lack of knowledge of how to care for, and attend to, the wants of their children. It may be doubted if more than one half of the children born grow up to become efficient men and women, and this is not surprising when we remember the treatment to which they are perpetually subjected. Nothing can rival the mother's milk in the early months for not only is it the most perfect food, with all the necessary substances in the right proportions, but it enters the body of the child without

coming in contact with the air and is therefore practically pure from organisms.

In some cases, however, other milk is necessary, and then every precaution should be taken to keep it clean and pure. In this district some of the milk sold comes in cans from the country while some is sold by persons who keep their own cows. A good suggestion has been made that there should be an *Annual Licensing* of all premises where milk is either sold, collected or prepared for the purpose of sale, conditional upon their suitability for the purpose. No milk from a cow suffering from tuberculous disease, nor from any disease of the udder, should be allowed to be sold; and efforts should be made to reduce the amount of dirt in milk, and therefore the number of organisms, and to protect it from contamination by disease germs. In this connection the part played by flies, in contaminating exposed milk, and in propagating diseases of various kinds by this means, should not be overlooked. They transfer germs growing on animal and vegetable refuse, particularly in the warm weather, to the intants' food (when not breast-fed), producing diarrhœa and thus adding largely to the death roll. To prevent this there should be constant and thorough scavenging of organic refuse from the immediate region of dwelling houses.

In general terms it may be stated that the average weight of a new born baby is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds and its height $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches; that during the first year of life the infant doubles its weight (15 pounds), and its height increases by about half ($28\frac{1}{2}$ inches), and that at no other period of life does the child increase in weight at such a rate. This shows the further importance of carefully watching its food and clothing, and giving it proper and constant attention during this period of rapid change.

Appended are the Tables required by the Local Government Board, the Home Office, and the County Council, together with the Sanitary Inspector's Statement, which gives a summary of the work done in his department during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall, Bilston,
February 26th, 1909.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT OF BILSTON DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in District. Deaths under One Year of Age		Deaths at all Ages. Total.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1000 Births regist'd	Number	Rate per 1000		Number.	Rate 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1898	23,500	935	39·09	214	228	549	22·9			
1899	23,500	954	39·7	181	189	469	19·5			
1900	23,500	892	37·1	198	221	557	23·1			
1901	24,034	881	36·5	198	221	499	20·7			
1902	24,100	934	38·7	142	152	427	17·7			
1903	24,200	895	36·9	141	157·5	428	17·6			
1904	24,250	899	37 07	198	220·2	460	18·9			
1905	24,300	937	38·5	172	183·5	429	17·6	44	473	19·4
1906	24,400	899	36·8	161	170	490	20·0	80	570	23·3
1907	24,500	934	38·1	163	179	455	18·5	59	514	20·9
Averages for years 189-19078	24,028	916	37·9	176·8	192	476·3	19·6	18·3	519	21·2
1908	25,000	882	35·28	145	167	408	16·3	57	465	18·6

Rates in columns 4, 8, and 11 calculated per 1000 of estimated population

Area of District in acres—1,867.
(Exclusive of area covered by water.)

Total population at all ages—24,034.
(At Census of 1901.)

Number of inhabited houses—5,092.

Average number of persons per house—4·71.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—South Staffs. Conjoint Board Small pox Hospital.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—(1) Wolverhampton General Hospital; (2) Union Infirmary.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

In recording the facts under the various headings, attention has been paid to the notes on the Tables.

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1908 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	Whole District.				New Town Ward.				High Town Ward.				Town Hall Ward.				Bradley Ward.				Ettingshall Ward.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1898 ..	23,500	935	549	214																				
1899 ...	23,500	954	469	181																				
1900 ...	23,500	892	557	198																				
1901 ...	24,034	841	499	198	5,548	220	143	54	5,207	115	119	48	5,003	175	83	34	4,221	173	77	27	4,055	162	77	32
1902 ...	24,100	934	427	142	5,564	227	119	39	5,222	186	78	28	5,017	190	76	21	4,233	163	94	28	4,064	168	60	26
1903 ...	24,200	895	428	141	5,584	218	105	39	5,246	200	93	29	5,040	165	85	28	4,240	156	58	23	4,090	156	87	22
1904 ...	24,250	899	460	198	5,594	224	113	56	5,256	175	92	39	5,050	184	94	34	4,240	159	83	29	4,110	157	78	40
1905 ...	24,300	937	429	172	5,615	241	124	52	5,271	189	78	33	5,060	190	90	42	4,240	151	69	24	4,141	166	68	21
1906 ...	24,400	899	490	161	5,660	228	162	60	5,301	186	95	29	5,070	152	93	27	4,240	160	76	25	4,129	173	64	20
1907 ...	24,500	934	455	163	5,690	219	131	53	5,326	185	85	27	5,090	176	96	26	4,255	155	69	27	4,139	199	74	30
Averages of years 1898 to 1907 ...	24,028	916	476·3	176·8																				
1908 ...	25,000	882	408	145		202	120	36		162	71	21		186	163	21		163	88	34		169	66	33

Table III. Table of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1908.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total cases notified in each locality					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality					Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 5 Years	5 to 15 Years	15 to 25 Years	25 to 65 Years	65 years & upwards	New Town Ward	High Town Ward	Town Hall Ward	Bradley Ward	Ettingshall Ward	New Town Ward	High Town Ward	Town Hall Ward	Bradley Ward	Ettingshall Ward	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	18		12	4		2		2		5	5	6						
Erysipelas ...	15	2	1		1	10	1	1	2	5	5	2						
Scarlet Fever ...	108	2	27	71	8			20	18	47	17	6	18	15	34	9	4	80
Enteric Fever ...	10			6	1	3			1	1	1	7						
Puerperal Fever ...																		
Totals	151	4	40	81	10	15	1	23	21	58	28	21	18	15	34	9	4	80

Isolation Hospital—Mountford Lane. Total available beds, 24. Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 1.

Table IV. Causes of, and ages at, death during the year 1908.

Cause of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.				
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	New Town Ward.	High Town Ward.	Town Hall Ward.	Bradley Ward.	Ettingshall Ward.
Measles	5	2	3						1	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever	3		2	1						2	1	
Whooping Cough	17	4	12	1				7	1	4	2	3
Diphtheria (inc. Membranous Croup)	3		3					2				1
Fever { Typhus												
Fever { Enteric	3					3			2			1
Fever { Other Continued												
Epidemic Influenza	5					4	1		5			
Diarrhœa	11	8	3					3	1	1	3	3
Enteritis	18	11	7					8	1	1	7	1
Puerperal Fever												
Erysipelas	1	1									1	
Other septic diseases												
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	22	1	3	1	4	12	1	9		4	2	7
Other tubercular diseases	7	4	3					3	2		1	1
Cancer, malignant disease... ...	7					6	1	3	1	2		1
Bronchitis	98	25	19		2	22	30	27	17	17	26	11
Pneumonia	28	6	7	1	1	9	4	7	8	6	1	6
Pleurisy	1						1	1				
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver) ...	2					2		1		1		
Venereal diseases	2	2								1		1
Premature birth	20	20						3	3	3	4	7
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1		1				
Heart diseases	11	1		1		7	2	3	2	1	4	1
Accidents	6		2	2		2		2	1		1	2
Suicides												
Inquests	26	8	2	2	1	9	4	6	1	6	6	7
All other causes	168	52	14	3	2	44	53	60	31	22	32	23
All causes	465	145	80	12	10	121	97	146	77	73	92	77

Table V. Infantile Mortality during the year 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months	11-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year
1. Common Infectious Diseases.																	
Measles											1			1			2
Whooping Cough							1	2		1							4
2. Diarrhœal Diseases.																	
Diarrhœa, all forms						2	1		1		2			2			8
Enteritis, Muco-ent's., Gastro-ent's.				1	1		4		1	2			2	1			11
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh						1	1										2
3. Wasting Diseases.																	
Premature birth	19		1		20												20
Congenital defects	5	4	3	1	13	2	1										16
Injury at Birth	1				1												1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...			1	1	2	7	4	4	1			1					19
4. Tuberculous Diseases																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...													1			1	2
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica ...							1										1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	1				1			1			1		1				4
Erysipelas				1	1												1
Syphilis						1		1									2
Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*) ...										1							1
Convulsions							4	3									7
Bronchitis			2	2	4	4	2		2	1	1	4	6			1	25
Laryngitis											1						1
Pneumonia							1	1			1			1	1	1	6
Suffocation, overlying								1									1
Other causes	1	1		1	3	1		2	2	1	1				1		11
	27	5	7	7	46	18	20	15	7	6	8	5	10	5	2	3	145

Population, (estimated to middle of 1908), ... 25,000

Births in the year, (legitimate) ... 859

,, ,, (illegitimate) ... 23

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants ... 137

,, ,, illegitimate ,, .. 8

Deaths from all causes at all ages ... 465

TABLE VI. SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1907, IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BILSTON.

			Abatement Notices		Nuisances Abated After Notice By	
		No. of Inspections and Observations made.	Informal Notices by Inspector.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Inspector.	Authority.
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	3,257			191	
	Structural Defects, Spouting 56. Roofs Repaired 116, Ashpits Roofed 32, Houses repaired 35	239		23	239	23
	Overcrowding	12	12	1	12	1
	Unfit for Habitation	17	17		17	
	Lodging-houses	35				
	Dairies and Milkshops	102				
	Cowsheds	87				
	Bakehouses	112				
	Slaughter-houses	109				
	Canal Boats	58				
	Ashpits & Privies, 18,852, 9,257	28,109				
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	20				
	Water Closets, New	162				
House Drain'ge	Defective Traps	23				
	No Disconnection			3		3
	Other Faults, obstructed drains 42, soil pipe inside house	43		1		1
	Water Supply, plentiful supply tap					
	Pigsties	5				
	Animals improperly kept	9				
	Offensive Trades	None				
	Smoke Nuisances	None				
	Other Nuisances, yards paved 34, outbuildings repaired 14, privies repaired 26, kitchen floors repaired 15	89		30		30
	Totals	32,468	29	58	459	58

Seizures of unwholesome food	None
Condemned by Magistrate	,,
Prosecutions for exposing for sale	,,
Convictions ,, ,,	,,
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	,,
,, ,, found adulterated	,,
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	,,
,, ,, condemned as unfit for use	,,

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	97
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease—All that were practicable.	
Schools ,, ,, ,,	None
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	,,
Convictions ,, ,, ,, ,,	,,
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things	,,
Convictions ,, ,, ,, ,,	,,

NOTE.—When an Inspection or Notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.

Signed—**WILLIAM H. WELLS,**
Inspector of Nuisances.

February 11th, 1908.

TABLE VII.—BILSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL CANAL BOATS REPORT FOR 1908.

INSPECTIONS.		
Number of Boats Inspected ..	38	
,, ,, Conforming to the Act .	36	
,, ,, with one or more infringements	2	
	38	
INFRINGEMENTS WITH REGARD TO		
Registration	None	
Notification of change of Master	,,	
Absence of Certificate ..	,,	
Certificate not identifying owner with boat	,,	
Marking ..	,,	
Overcrowding	,,	
Partition for separation of the sexes .		
Females over 12 improperly occupying	None	
Cleanliness .. .	,,	
Painting	2	The aft cabins not being weatherproof & required painting
Ventilation .	None	
Removal of bilge water	,,	
Without pump .	,,	
Refusal of admittance to Inspector	,,	
No proper water vessel	,,	
Without requisite bulkhead ..	,,	
Notification of Infectious disease	,,	
Total infringements met with	2	
,, ,, remedied	2	
Number still corresponding about ..		

I certify this to be correct,

WILLIAM H. WELLS,

Inspector under Canal Boats Acts.

Table VIII. Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION

Including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	204	None	None
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	8		
Total ...	212		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of cleanliness	6	6		None
Want of ventilation	None			
Overcrowding	None			
Want of drainage of floors ...	None			
Other nuisances..	None			
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	None			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (s. 97 to 100)	None			
	6	6		

3.—HOME WORK.

Class.	Number.	
	Number of	
List of Outworkers :—	Lists.	Outworkers Residing in our District
Lists received	6	4
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities	3	
Addresses of outworkers { received from ,, ,,	3	
Inspections of outworkers' premises	16	

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Class.	Number.
Workshops on the Register at the end of 1908.	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, viz. :—	
Dressmakers and Milliners	41
Carpenters and Cabinet Makers	14
Bootmakers	12
Bakers	28
Miscellaneous	41
Total number of workshops on Register	136

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	1
Certificates granted during the year	None.
In use at end of the year	1

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D.,

February 26th, 1909. *Medical Officer of Health.*