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BILSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

❖ 1914. ❖

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., Edin.

Past-President of the Midland Branch, and Representative Member on the Central Council, of the Society of Medical Officers of Health; Chairman of the County of Stafford Medical and Panel Committees; Ex-president of the Staffordshire Branch of the British Medical Association; School Medical Officer, &c., &c.

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

Gentlemen,--

Herewith I beg to 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 1914; this being my thirtieth Annual Report.

Physical Features and Social Conditions.

The district is situate on rising ground at a height of about 450ft. above sea level, having on its boundaries the County Borough of Wolverhampton, the Urban Districts of Willenhall and Darlaston, the Borough of Wednesbury and the Urban District of Coseley.

The population is almost entirely a working class one. The chief industries are iron and steel manufacture, galvanised iron, tin plate, boiler, and hollow-ware, etc.

Geology.

Bilston occupies a central position in the South Staffordshire coalfield, and is in a shallow syncline or trough having its axis N.W.-S.E., which is roughly represented by the Great Western Railway from the mouth of the Horsely Fields tunnel to Wednesbury. The old outcrop of the Thick coal gives a fair indication of the structure, and it runs from Claycroft due north to Priestfield, crossing the G.W. Railway at the Holyhead Rd. bridge, turning at right angles, passing by the cemetery, the Isolation Hospital and the Lunt on to Darlaston. These beds dipped inwards towards the town at 5 degrees for a very short distance and then became horizontal, so that over the town area the beds are horizontal and the thick coal a very short distance below the street level. This seam is very characteristic of the South Staffordshire District, and is here developed in its most typical form, especially on the western side, where it consists of ten yards of solid coal, which, however, consists of a series of beds of different kinds of coal with practically no partings in this district. In other districts, however, substantial partings develop. There are very few faults, the main one being the Lanesfield fault running, while in the district, N.N.W—E.S.E. North of this fault, the seam above the thick coal, viz., the brooch coal is not found, but south of this fault, the outcrop runs parallel

and close to that of the thick coal. South of this fault the seams beneath the thick coal also run close to and parallel to that seam, namely, the Heathen, New Mine, Fireclay and Bottom Coals. They are also developed, but not so fully, north of the Lanesfield fault, but on the N.E. limb of the syncline, owing to the very gentle dip of the beds, the Heathen is a quarter of a mile and the New Mine two miles from the thick coal. Intermediate beds have had great commercial value, especially the gobbins, ironstone and the fireclay, but they are not worked now in this part of the district. The coal outcrops have long been worked out; that at Claycroft was worked 15 years ago.

Population.—The population at the Census 1911 was 25,681 (12,804 males and 12,877 females). The figures for the Census 1891 were 23,453, and for 1901, 24,034. Calculating from this basis with the "factor" supplied by the Registrar-General (0.9888), the estimated population at the middle of the year 1914 is 26,254.

The area of the district is 1,867 acres; the number of inhabited houses according to the Census 1911, is 5,281. Thus the average number of persons per acre being 13.7 and per house 4.8. The number of inhabited houses is estimated to be 5,470, most of the houses void at the time of the Census being now occupied.

The rateable value of the district is about £83,000. The General District Rate is 4s. and the Poor Rate 5s. 4d. in the pound. The amount of money spent on poor relief, outdoor, during 1914 was £3,030.

The following Table gives the population of each Ward at various ages, and distinguishing sex.

CENSUS 1911.

AGES.	Bradley Ward.		Ettingshall Ward.		High Town Ward.		New Town Ward.		Town Hall Ward.		Total of Bilston U.D.	
	Males	F'ales	Males	F'ales	Males	F'ales	Males	F'ales	Males	F'ales	Males	F'ales
All ages ...	2114	2092	2428	2408	2527	2484	3105	3127	2630	2766	12804	12877
Under 1 year	64	73	73	80	57	64	89	92	73	70	356	379
One & under 5 years ...	208	251	250	270	269	251	359	334	244	258	1330	1364
5 years & under 15 years	500	524	566	554	568	592	564	741	557	542	2855	2953
15 y'rs & under 25 years	389	368	455	437	503	444	570	596	488	543	2405	2388
25 y'rs & under 65 years	870	789	1010	970	1048	1010	1323	1229	1164	1220	5415	5218
65 y'rs & under 80 years ^s	79	81	67	91	76	112	96	123	93	123	411	530
80 years and upwards ...	4	6	7	6	6	11	4	12	11	10	32	45

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The greater part of the town is now sewered, and the disposal works still continue to give excellent results, the effluents being most satisfactory. The scheme approved by the Local Government Board is now complete with the exception of the Moxley sewers, where delay has arisen owing to subsidence of the ground from mining operations.

It is hoped, however that the delay will not continue much longer, for the condition of some of the side streets—which have not been taken over by the Council—is extremely bad. The waste water from sinks, etc., is allowed to stagnate, or soak away, year after year. If the scheme is seriously delayed it will be necessary for owners to relay the street channel, and bring the drainage to the main street, or to the fields at the rear. Rather than this, money could with greater advantage be expended on new drainage.

The question of sewerage the upper portion of Bradley—Hall Green St to Cross St—is also of considerable difficulty, and is, I believe, receiving the attention of the Surveyor.

Closet and Ash Accommodation.—Full particulars of the closet and ash accommodation will be found in Tables D. and E. of the Sanitary Inspector's Report, where it is shown that during the past year 522 water-closets were fixed, as compared with 351 in 1913, 441 in 1912, and 313 in 1911.

The need for the abolition in this district of privy-middens, vaults and pails is most urgent. The existence of such a system has a deteriorating influence upon the occupiers and discourages any effort to maintain general cleanliness in their homes. The advantages to Public Health of the water carriage system have been fully discussed in previous reports and are now universally admitted. The full and complete adoption of this system would mean eventually economy to the town in the annual saving on the cost of collection; and the Council's own water supply is abundant. For this, however, it would be advisable to make the supply of water for closets as cheap as possible, and no charge should be made even for a second w.c. in the same house. From the point of view of public health, it is a mistake to charge for water for closets, or even for baths; every encouragement should be given to inhabitants to make use of more modern sanitary conveniences. The Council should consider obtaining powers under the Adoptive Act of 1907 to deal with the question, even though this would entail assistance being given to owners who have persistently refused to do anything.

Scavenging.—The work of scavenging is carried out by the Council's employees under the direction of the Surveyor.

The condition of the "tips" in the Lunt and Dudley Street has been very bad at different times during the year, and many complaints have been received. The early abolition of these and

the need of a Refuse Destructor have frequently been urged, and it is satisfactory to know that the Council have now purchased further land for sewage and refuse disposal purposes, with a view to the erection of a destructor. The Surveyor has been instructed to prepare plans and estimates for the latter.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—The report of the Sanitary Inspector, attached herewith, gives a classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in them, together with particulars of the premises and occupations controlled by bye-laws and regulations, such as Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, Slaughterhouses, and Offensive Trades. In this connection the Council should consider the prompt adoption of the Model Bye-laws dealing with tents and vans.

The medical inspection of children in the elementary schools is dealt with in a separate report presented to the Education Committee. That part detailing the sanitary conditions and water supply of the schools is appended here as requested by the Local Government Board.

Sanitary Condition and Equipment of Schools.

ST. SAVIOUR'S SCHOOLS.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Open fireplace, and hot water, low pressure : sufficient.

Ventilation.—Natural, hopper windows and openings in roof. There is occasionally a down draught from these openings which could be avoided by fixing a regulating valve, for use on windy days ; or by the provision of a disc below the opening to disperse the cold air.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory. Artificial, incandescent gas.

INFANT DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Open fireplace and hot water, low pressure ; sufficient.

Ventilation.—Natural, windows and opening in roof. The remarks as to down draught also apply to this department.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, incandescent gas burners.

Cloak Room Accommodation.

Boys' cloak room	...	sufficient
Girls' cloak room	...	"
Infants' cloak room	...	"

Ablution.—2 lavatory basins in each cloak room.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Girls' and infants' Trough water closets, 6 divisions
 Boys' ... " " " 3 "

Boys' Urinal.—The walls are in a good condition, but the brick channel is uneven allowing the urine to lodge in the joints. I would suggest that half channel pipes be provided, and that the caretaker pay more attention to the cleaning of the urinal.

Ash accommodation.—2 iron ashbins.

ST. MARTIN'S SCHOOLS.MIXED DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Hot water, low pressure, closed stoves and open fire place in room 6. The chimney of this room, referred to in last year's report, has been made higher, but experience alone will show whether this has been high enough.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows and Boyle's extractors; satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory. Artificial, incandescent gas. Classrooms 1, 6, 7, are insufficiently lighted.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Hot water, low pressure.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows and Boyles extractors.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory. Artificial incandescent gas.

Cloak room accommodation.

Boys' cloak room, satisfactory but not heated
 Girls' " " "
 Infants' " " "

Ablution.—2 lavatory basins in each cloak room.

Sanitary accommodation.

Boys' trough water closets, 6 divisions

Girls' and Infants' " 6 "

These are automatically flushed

Boys' and Infants' urinals. These are foul and requires more attention from the caretaker.

Ash accommodation.—covered ashpit.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOLS.MIXED DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Hot water low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows, Boyles extractors; satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural satisfactory.
Artificial, incandescent, satisfactory.

Cloak room accommodation.
Boys' cloak room, heated, satisfactory.
Girls' " " " "

Ablution.—4 lavatory basins for each sex.

Sanitary accommodation.
Boys ... 3 pedestal water closets
Girls ... 6 " "
These are automatically flushed.
Boys' urinal satisfactory.

Ash accommodation.—Covered ashpit.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Hot water, low pressure, and open fire.
The senior class room is not sufficiently warmed, being only 50 degrees at time of visit.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows and Boyles extractors.
Fair, tendency to draught from windows in senior class room.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, gas naked fan burners.

Cloak room accommodation.
Boys' cloak room satisfactory but not heated.
Girls' " " " "

Ablution.—3 lavatory basins.

Sanitary accommodation.—Trough water closets, 6 divisions.

Ash accommodation.—Covered pit.

ST. LEONARD'S SCHOOLS.

Warming.—Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory with the exception of room 3A. This room is usually cold owing to the fact that the outer door opens direct into it.

Ventilation—Natural, Hopper and ordinary windows, and openings in roof. Satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

Cloak room accommodation.
Boys' cloak room ... sufficient, heated.
Girls' " " " "

Ablution.—3 lavatory basins for each department.

Sanitary Accommodation.
Girls, trough water closets, 6 divisions.
Boys " " " 6 "
Boys' urinal satisfactory.

Ash Accommodation.—5 ash bins.

ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOLS.

Warming.—Closed stoves and open fireplaces, satisfactory.

Ventilation.—Natural, hopper windows, Tobin tubes and openings in roof, satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

Cloak room accommodation.

Boys' cloak room sufficient, but not heated.

Girls' " " "

Ablution.—3 lavatory basins in each department, sufficient.

Sanitary accommodation

Girls, trough water closets, 6 divisions.

Boys, " " 4 "

These are automatically flushed.

Boys' urinal. The walls are in a foul condition and require more attention from the caretaker.

Ash accommodation—Covered ashpit.

ST. LUKE'S SCHOOLS.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Open fireplaces and closed stoves, satisfactory.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows, Sherringham valves and Boyles extractors, satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.

Warming.—Closed stove and open fireplace, satisfactory.

Ventilation.—Natural, Hopper windows, Sherringham valves and Boyles extractors. Satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, naked fan, gas burners.

Cloak room accommodation.

Boys' cloak room, satisfactory but not warmed.

Girls' " " "

Infants' " " "

Ablution.—3 lavatory basins in boys' and girls' cloak room, and 2 basins in the infants'.

Sanitary accommodation

Girls and Infants, trough water closets 8 divisions.

Boys " " 4 "

These are automatically flushed.

Boys' urinal. The walls of this are in a foul condition and require more attention from the caretaker.

Ash accommodation—Covered ashpit.

FRAZER STREET COUNCIL SCHOOLS.

SENIOR MIXED.

Warming — Hot water, low pressure. Satisfactory.

Ventilation — Natural, Hopper windows, Sherringham valves, roof extractors.

Lighting. — Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

JUNIOR MIXED.

Warming — Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation — Natural, Hopper windows, Sherringham valves and roof extractors.

Lighting. — Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

INFANTS.

Warming — Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation. — Natural, Hopper windows, Sherringham valves and roof extractors. Satisfactory.

Lighting — Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas, satisfactory.

Cloak room accommodation.

Senior mixed, 2 cloak rooms, heated, satisfactory.

Junior ,, 2 ,, ,, ,,

Infants ,, 2 ,, ,, ,,

Ablution. — 4 lavatory basins in each of the mixed department cloak rooms, and 3 in each of the infants.

Sanitary accommodation.

Boys' 6 pedestal water closets

Girls' 12 ,, ,,

Infants', girls 5, boys 4 pedestal water closets.

These are hand flushed twice daily.

Boys' urinals require more constant flushing.

Ash accommodation — 6 ash bins.

STONEFIELD COUNCIL SCHOOLS.

GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

Warming — Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation. — Natural, Hopper windows, wail inlets and roof extractors, satisfactory.

Lighting — Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, electric incandescent globes.

BOYS.

Warming — Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation —Natural, Hopper windows, wall inlets and roof extractors, satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, electric incandescent globes.

INFANTS.

Warming.—Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation —Natural, Hopper windows, wall inlets, and roof extractors.

Lighting —Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, electric incandescent globes.
The artificial lighting for the three departments is not satisfactory, but it is stated that the present globes are being replaced.

Cloak room accommodation

Boys' cloak room, heated, satisfactory.

Girls' " " "

Infants' " " "

Ablution —9 lavatory basins in boys' and girls' department, and 8 for infants, situate in cloak room, satisfactory.
Also 2 basins in the Cookery centre and Manual Instruction room.

Sanitary accommodation.

Boys, 6 pedestal water closets

Girls 14 " "

Infants 5 " " for boys

5 " " for girls

Boys' urinals, boys and infants, satisfactory

The closets are hand flushed twice daily

Ash accommodation —6 iron ashbins, the covered ashpit being used for storing paper. Satisfactory.

ETTINGSHELL COUNCIL SCHOOLS.

MIXED DEPARTMENT.

Warming —Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation.—Hopper windows, Tobin tubes and Boyles extractors.
Satisfactory.

Lighting —Natural, satisfactory.
Artificial, incandescent gas in classrooms.

INFANTS.

Warming —Hot water, low pressure, satisfactory.

Ventilation —Hopper windows, Tobin tubes, and Boyles extractors.
Satisfactory.

Lighting.—Natural, satisfactory.

Artificial, incandescent gas in classroom.

Cloak room accommodation

Boys' cloak room, heated, sufficient.

Girls' " " "

Infants' " " "

Ablution.—2 lavatory basins in each cloak room, insufficient.

Auxiliary accommodation

Girls and infants, 10 pedestal closets.

Boys " 2 "

These are flushed daily.

Boys' urinal, satisfactory.

Ash accommodation.—4 ash bins.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The provision of a large clean towel to each lavatory basin is urgently necessary, and this should be renewed at frequent intervals; most of the towels seen at the time of inspection were very dirty and were useless for their proper purpose.

In many schools the boys use the walls adjoining the urinal, and so render them most obnoxious. Head Teachers should prevent this, and should insist upon caretakers, some of whom seem to have the most elementary idea of cleanliness, giving more careful and daily attention to their duties. The trough water closets, too, in most schools have an offensive smell, due to fouling of the troughs above the water line. A regular cleansing with acid by the caretaker would obviate this.

Automatic flushing tanks should be provided for all trough closets and urinals where they do not at present exist.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

The sanitary condition of the district is being steadily improved, though much remains to be done, particularly in the matter of housing. The fact that there have been three separate Inspectors in the last four years has interfered greatly with continuous development, especially in the following up of notices. The attention of the Inspector is required in so many directions that sufficient time cannot be given to the specific work of inspection proper, and the time has arrived when the appointment of a second Inspector should be considered.

Milk.—Most of the Milk supply here is local, though some is imported from neighbouring country districts. Of 34 samples taken by the County Analyst, whose report is appended, 30 were found to be genuine.

Milk is a perfect food, containing all the substances necessary for life, and should be the only food for young infants. Cow's milk

approaches nearest to the composition of human milk, and is easily contaminated, and therefore every effort to collect and store it in clean hygienic conditions and surroundings is of the highest importance.

The question of the conveyance of Tuberculosis to man from Milk is dealt with fully in the final Report of the Royal Commission appointed to consider the relation of human and bovine Tuberculosis. In that report it is stated that:—"The evidence which we have accumulated goes to demonstrate that a considerable amount of the tuberculosis of childhood is to be ascribed to infection with bacilli of the bovine type transmitted to children in meals consisting largely of the milk of the cow. Bovine tubercle bacilli are apt to be abundantly present in milk as sold to the public when there is tuberculous disease of the udder of the cow from which it was obtained. The fact is, we believe, generally recognised, though not adequately guarded against. But these bacilli may also be present in the milk of tuberculous cows presenting no evidence whatever of disease of the udder, even when examined post-mortem. Further, the milk of tuberculous cows not containing bacilli as it leaves the udder may, and frequently does, become infective by being contaminated with the fæces or uterine discharges of such diseased animal. We are convinced that measures for securing the prevention of ingestion of living bovine tubercle bacilli with milk would greatly reduce the number of cases of abdominal and cervical gland tuberculosis in children, and that such measures should include the exclusion from the food supply of the milk of the recognisably tuberculous cow, irrespective of the site of the disease, whether in the udder or in the internal organs."

The recent appointment by the Council of a Veterinary Surgeon to examine the cows and investigate into matters affecting the milk supply in this district is to be commended. His inspections should be of great value in preventing or reducing the evil results of an impure or polluted milk supply.

Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, particularly Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Epidemic, Enteritis, and Scarlet Fever, are sometimes due to infection from milk. The bacilli of the special disease may gain access to the milk directly from water added to the milk or used for cleansing cans or other vessels.

It is now recognised that "Typhoid Carriers"—that is, persons who, though recovered from an attack of enteric fever, still retain the specific bacilli of this complaint in their bodies and continue to discharge them—are a great source of danger, and have been the cause of many epidemics. The following particulars of such a case, published in "Public Health," are given as an instructive illustration:—

SUMMARY OF MRS. H.'S HISTORY.

Mrs. H. had a severe attack of enteric fever in 1906 while resident in a West Riding borough, and was admitted to the

isolation hospital on October 1st, and was discharged on December 24th.

From December 24th, 1906, till July 20th, 1909, she lived with her parents in the same borough, and as far as could be ascertained did not give rise to any cases of enteric fever.

From July 20th, 1909, till February 2nd, 1912, she was employed as housekeeper at a farm "E" in District C. In 1909, 1910 and 1911 30 cases of enteric fever occurred in District C. and B., and in 23 of these the source of infection was traced to farm "E."

1909. One case; farmer's daughter in District B.

1910. Five cases; four milk consumers in District C and farmer's grand-daughter in District B.

1911. Seventeen cases; 15 milk consumers in District C, farmer's son-in-law in District B, and boy working in yard adjoining farm, but residing in District B.

From February 2nd, 1912, till March 31st, 1912, living with parents; no cases.

From March 31st, 1912, till June 1st employed as a housekeeper at a farm "S" in District A. Milk supplied to Districts A and B. Between May 30th and July 2nd 15 cases occurred in District A and 10 in District B.

June 1st till the present residing with her parents. No further cases notified in any of the districts.

It will be interesting to note here that in the Great War now going on this question of the "typhoid carrier" is not overlooked. Indeed, very few of the public are aware of the magnificent and unique provision of all kinds to preserve the health and save the lives of our soldiers and those of our Allies fighting at the front. Thanks to the development of Science and the improvement of all kinds of apparatus, excellent work is being done in radiography and bacteriology by some of the greatest experts in the world, who have been sent by the Government and are engaged on work and in making researches which are of direct utility to the troops.

A small moveable vehicle, placed in the courtyard of a school in Flanders, and fitted up with the necessary apparatus, is occupied by one of the scientists from the Lister Institute in London, who is daily and hourly engaged in preventing the appearance and spread of enteric fever, and particularly in discovering any "carriers" among the troops. A list of the men who have ever had typhoid fever is secured, and examination of these is made on their return from the trenches. All "carriers" thus discovered are, of course, promptly removed, and in several instances outbreaks of enteric fever have been prevented or promptly limited. Indeed, "a complete history of the environment and previous occupation of every patient discovered to be suffering from a zymotic disorder of any kind is part of the prophylactic routine established by the Sanitary branch of the R.A.M.C."

In many parts of America schemes for recording the results of inspection of city cowsheds and dairies are in operation, and "certified milk"—milk certified as coming from healthy cows, kept in clean, well-ventilated and lighted cowsheds, with full cubic space for each cow; stored in clean, hygienic dairies, kept properly lighted and at a proper temperature, with pure water supply and wholesome utensils, and handled and conveyed on thoroughly protected principles—can be purchased.

Food.

Meat and Food Inspection.—This work is carried out by the Inspector; particulars of the visits made and amount of food destroyed will be found on Page 38

The work of taking samples under the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the County Inspector, who has kindly supplied me with the following summary of his work in this district for the year 1914:—

SAMPLES OBTAINED FROM BILSTON DURING 1914.

Nature of Article.	Number.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Remarks.
Milk	34	30	4	See (a)
Butter	31	29	2	See (b)
Coffee	6	6		
Arrowroot	1	1		
Mustard	1	1		
Pepper	3	3		
Ground Ginger	2	2		
Lard	11	11		
Tea	4	4		
	—	—	—	
	93	87	6	

(a) Two cases against one defendant. Fined £4 and costs
Retailer fined 5s. and costs, and wholesale dealer fined £3 and costs.

(b) Unofficial purchases. They contained excess of boric acid; further efforts to trace the supply failed.

(Signed) H. VAN TROMP.

Housing and Overcrowding.—The number of houses inspected during the year was 567, and a permanent record of each house is prepared and kept for future reference. This figure is higher than in any previous year, a special effort having been made to obtain as much information as possible of the housing condition of the district. Owing to the large amount of time devoted to this particular purpose, it has been impossible to follow up ordinary notices as thoroughly as they should be, with the result that in many instances the repairs carried out were not complete. In future it may be better to be content with the inspection of a smaller number of houses, and obtain a larger percentage of improvements, as the object of inspection is primarily to obtain improved conditions.

The result of this inspection is to show that overcrowding exists to a very large extent—the figures, indeed, include only those houses where overcrowding is of high degree.

The following table shows the defects found in these houses during inspection:—

Defect.	Number.	Percentage.
Houses damp	296	52.2
Houses dirty	177	31.2
Plaster defective	102	17.9
Windows defective (one, or more, not to open)...	230	40.6
No through ventilation	261	46.0
Floors defective	153	26.9
Stairs defective	108	18.1
Roof defective	173	30.5
Eaves gutters defective or missing	190	33.5
Brickwork defective	209	36.8
Overcrowded	82	14.6

From these figures it is evident that the most urgent public need is the provision of cheap sanitary dwellings in sufficient number, and the Council must face this serious problem in the immediate future. Attention has been frequently called to this in various reports, and in that for the year 1899 the following remarks appear:—

“The satisfactory housing of the poor is a question of the greatest moment, particularly in a district like this, teeming as it does with social and economic considerations. That overcrowding exists to a greater degree than should be the case, that in their present condition a large number of houses are unsanitary, clustered together with too little air space, and that the yards and courts are frequently dirty, ill-paved, or not paved at all, and too small, must be acknowledged. To-day we have to suffer for the parsimony and foolishness of those in authority in a past generation. Years ago when trade was prosperous, money plentiful, and dwellings in much request, it seemed to have been the rule to allow houses to be erected anywhere—in the street or down a back-yard, wherever a piece of vacant land could be discovered—without regard to line of building, proximity to out-houses, and, above all, with absolute indifference to the amount of space for ventilation, or even for ordinary sanitary conveniences. These houses still exist, are let, naturally, at a low rate to persons who are not able to pay a higher, and who are just those who require much looking after, and create, in turn, further nuisances. These houses, because they are small, are in narrow streets and courts, and in bad condition, are cheap, and are, therefore, the only houses these people—with low wages and often with large families—are able to command. Close them, and where can the people

go? And yet allow them to remain, and you have increased and increasing nuisances: ill-ventilated and ill-smelling rooms, still further personal uncleanness, closely confined and crowded yards, accumulations of filth, and all the attendant evils that these conditions engender, such as the prevalence of typhoid fever, diarrhœa, tubercular disease or consumption, a lowered vitality, especially of children, whereby the mortality from other diseases is increased. Overcrowding, of course, naturally follows, and the moral results that need not be described. These things will, I fear, continue to exist until the problem has been solved of providing cheap sanitary dwellings in more open places, with the yards paved and drained, so that the ground does not become polluted, at a rent within the limits of the poorest. There is here a great need not only of such dwellings, but also of houses for the better class artisan."

This need is now even more urgent, and has been recognised by the Council in appointing a special Sub-Committee to consider and deal with this great problem. In the meantime it is impossible in all cases to compel owners to carry our repairs fully, and closing orders are not always advisable, as other dwellings cannot be found for the tenants that would thus be dislodged. All houses should have ample air space and light, and easy access to an abundant supply of water. In some cases, especially in back-to-back houses, occupiers have to go some distance for water, with the result that thorough cleansing of the house and the inmates tends to be neglected.

There are now no congested areas in the district, the surroundings in most cases being open.

In October it was decided to issue a form of notice specifying all the requirements necessary to make a house in all respects reasonably fit for habitation, copy of which is here furnished.

Sir or Madam,

I beg to draw your attention to the fact that the undermentioned property is not in all respects fit for habitation, and that the following work is necessary to make it in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.

Situation of Property

For your guidance I enclose copy of general specification of work to be done to render houses reasonably fit, and it is hoped that any specification you submit will include such of the following suggestions as apply to your property.

1. **Dampness.**—(A) Where the dampness arises from want of damp-proof courses. Suitable damp-proof courses to be inserted above the ground level.

(B) Where dampness arises from the adjoining ground being above floor level. The earth to be removed, and a paved area formed below level of ground floor, laid with a proper fall to drain off any land water which may accumulate.

(c) Where dampness is caused by driving rain on exposed walls. All joints to be raked out, repointed and tarred or rendered with cement.

2. **Roof.**—To be repaired and made watertight. All flashings to be repaired and made good, verges to be repointed with cement mortar. Chimneys to be pointed and heads reset in cement mortar where necessary.
3. **Spouting.**—Eaves, gutters and fall pipes to be provided to back and front of houses. All fall pipes to discharge clear of walls. Defective spouting to be renewed.
4. **External Walls.**—Defective joints to be raked out and repointed with cement mortar. Perished bricks to be replaced by new work.
5. **Ventilation and Lighting.**—Through ventilation to be provided on each floor and all windows made to open for at least one half their area—double sash windows most efficient. Back to back houses can only be efficiently ventilated by their conversion into through houses—in all cases of single front houses, where space is available at rear, back doors should be provided where they do not at present exist—all sleeping rooms not having a fire-place to be provided with other efficient means of ventilation. The window area for each room should be one-tenth of of the floor area
6. **Cleansing.**—Dirty paper to be stripped off, defective plaster to be removed, the surface made good and the walls repapered or distempered. Ceilings to be washed, scraped, and afterwards limewashed. In order to preserve the walls it is suggested that a chair rail be placed on the wall about 3ft. from the floor, the space beneath could then be painted.
7. **Floors.**—Defective quarries to be removed and relaid in cement mortar. Where the floor surface is below the adjoining ground the quarries must be laid on a bed of cement concrete at least four inches thick. All wooden floors to be thoroughly repaired, and if on the ground floor to be efficiently ventilated.
8. **Pantries.**—To be cleansed and ventilated. Where there is no pantry or cellar head, an efficient food cupboard—properly ventilated—to be provided.
9. **Cellars.**—The cellar to be cleansed out, broken steps and paving to be repaired. The cellar light to be provided with an iron grating and the frame to be repaired where necessary.
10. **General Internal Repairs.**—Doors, window frames and fittings to be put in thorough repair and properly hung. Any

defective sills to be made good. All treads, risers and strings of staircases to be repaired.

11. **Outbuildings.**—To be thoroughly repaired and limewashed.
12. **Paving.**—Front, back and sides of house to be paved with blue bricks set in cement mortar. Paving to extent at least three feet beyond walls of house. The approaches to water closets and washhouses to be paved.
13. **Drainage, Water Closets, Etc.**—Provide proper drainage fitted with intercepting trap, inspection chambers, vent-shaft and fresh air inlet. Provide sufficient water closet accommodation. One water closet at least to be provided for every two houses. Provide glazed earthenware sinks to discharge over a gully in the open. Taps to be provided over each sink.
14. **Ashpits.**—To be abolished and galvanised iron ash bins to be provided.

General.—Any other work necessary under exceptional circumstances.

I shall be pleased to hear from you when you propose starting the work, so that supervision may be exercised to have the work carried out to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector. Unless the work is commenced, or a specification sent in, within 28 days of the receipt of this notice, the matter will be brought before the Committee with a view to taking further action under Section 15 and 17, extracts of which are given below.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

Housing Inspector.

Back-to-Back Houses.—The number of back-to-back houses in the district is approximately 350. This class of house is very objectionable, involving necessarily defective ventilation, light, and sanitary accommodation, and should be abolished as rapidly as possible.

According to an official report of the Local Government Board on the effect on health of back-to-back houses: "Even relatively good types of back-to-back houses when compared with through houses have a death rate from all causes taken together which is 15 to 20 per cent. in excess of the death rate in through houses."

The only method of providing efficient ventilation for the majority of back-to-back houses is to convert them into through single houses. To carry this out in this district would add to the

evils already existing, as the number of houses would be reduced by half. Further, the owner would be compelled to raise the rents—which at present vary from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.—and thus place them beyond the reach of many of the poorer class of tenants.

Houses demolished.

1914	18
1913	3
1912	21
1911	14
1910	10
1909	9
	—
Total	<u>75</u>

It is also stated that 134 houses were demolished between 1902 and 1908—no details being given in reports previous to this year—thus giving a total of 209

It is stated that about 800 houses have been built in the last 20 years in this area.

The figures in the Census 1911 show the increase in occupied houses to be 148, and this therefore leaves about 443 to be accounted for.

Sanitary Administration of District.—The staff of the health department, in addition to the Medical Officer of Health, consists of the Inspector of Nuisances—who is also Inspector of Canal Boats, Inspector of Workshops, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, and Housing Inspector—a Clerk, and a Health Visitor. The Clerk has recently obtained the Inspector's certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and is thus qualified to give some assistance in outdoor work, when he can be spared from his clerical duties. The Health Visitor also acts as School Nurse, but it is intended, when the proposed scheme of school clinic is established, to appoint a whole-time School Nurse, and thus allow her to give the whole of her time to health visiting.

The Health Visitor's report of her work for the year is as follows:—

5TH ANNUAL REPORT.

During the year 784 births (7 being twins) were notified under the Notification of Births Act.

In 60 of these visits were not necessary and 724 primary visits were made to the remainder; also 1,185 further visits.

The following table shows particulars of these, distinguishing between primary and subsequent visits:—

Primary Visits.

Breast fed	653
Breast and hand fed	16
Entirely hand fed	26
Still births	29
	—
Total	<u>724</u>

Return of Further Visits.

Visits to breast fed	769
„ „ breast and hand fed	120
„ „ entirely hand fed	64
„ „ premature births and weakly children	36
„ „ suspected cases of neglect	63
Removed from district since previously visited	133
	—
	1,185
	—
Full total	1,909

At the primary visits general advice is given to the Mothers as regards to their own diet and cleanliness, and in relation to the bathing and general care of the infants, particular attention being given to the eyes. For hand-fed children the tubeless hygienic bottle is suggested, and it is satisfactory to say that this advice is frequently adopted.

RETURN OF FURTHER VISITS.—These are made to cases which seem to require further attention, especially where neglect or indifference is suspected, where children are put out to nurse, or are hand-fed. In making these visits advice as to teething and general infantile ailments is given.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Since October 14 visits to cases of tuberculosis have been made, and leaflets giving suitable advice distributed.

Infectious Disease Hospital.—At the end of the year 1913 6 patients remained in the hospital, and 34—15 males and 19 females—were admitted during the year, 5 of these being under 5 years of age.

The age of the youngest patient was 14 months and the oldest 28 years.

Twenty-nine patients were discharged cured, and 3 died, leaving 8 in the hospital at the end of the year. The average period of detention was 50 days.

There were no return cases during the year.

The disinfecter (high pressure steam) has been used on 54 occasions during the year. Five hundred and thirty-three articles have been disinfected, including 44 beds.

In the Annual Report for the year 1911 I pointed out that “a discharging block and an observation branch require to be added, as well as additional accommodation for the Staff, which should be increased. The Laundry, also, is much too small for its purpose.”

I am glad to know that the Council have included monies in the current year's estimates, and agreed to make these additions.

Adoptive Acts.—The following Adoptive Acts and Regulations are in force in this district:—

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (parts of)

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops' Order (Regulations established under the Order, March, 1889).

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin Serum (Local Government Board Order, 1910) for curative and prophylactic purposes.

Extension of the Provisions of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, to include Poliomyelitis and Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907 (parts of)

The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The Notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum (this is now made compulsory throughout the country on and after April 1st, 1914).

Offensive Trades—New Bye-laws.

Bacteriological Examinations.—The Staffordshire County Council have continued the arrangement with the authorities of the Birmingham University for a free Bacteriological examination of the secretions in suspected cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Tuberculosis.

This privilege has been taken advantage of on 19 different occasions—10 of suspected diphtheria (8 with negative results), and 9 of suspected tuberculosis (9 with negative results).

Prevalence of, and control over, Acute Infectious and Zymotic Disease,

During the year 163 notifications were received—82 under the Infectious Disease Notification Act and 81 under the Tuberculosis Regulations.

The infectious notifications included 44 of Scarlet Fever, 16 of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 9 of Enteric Fever, 7 of Erpsipelas, 2 of Puerperal Fever, 3 Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and 1 Acute Poliomyelitis.

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

	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis	Total
January		7	1						8
February		3			1				4
March		7	2	1	2	1			13
April		5	3					1	9
May			1		4	1			6
June					1	1			2
July	2	4			4				10
August		1			1				2
September		3	1	1					5
October		4	1		1	2			8
November	1	5			2	1			9
December		5				1			6
1914	3	44	9	2	16	7		1	82
1913	11	28	2		10	14			65
1912	8	83	4	3	8	15			121
1911	3	57	1	3	16	24			104
1910		48	10	2	7	17			84
1909		74	7	1	13	22			117
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

The following table shows the number received from each ward, in each month of the year:—

	NEW TOWN WARD.	HIGH TOWN WARD.	TOWN HALL WARD.	BRADLEY WARD.	ETTINGSHALL WARD.	TOTAL
January ...	1	1	2		4	8
February ...				2	2	4
March ...	2	3	2	4	2	13
April ...	3	4	1		1	9
May ...					6	6
June ...		2				2
July ...	1	1	1	2	5	10
August ...			1		1	2
September ...		1	2	1	1	5
October ...	4	3			1	8
November ...	5			1	3	9
December ...	1	2	3			6
	17	17	12	10	26	82

All cases are visited as soon as possible after the receipt of the notification. Enquiries as to probable source of infection are made and general advice given. The patient is promptly removed to hospital when necessary, and the bedroom and bedding disinfected—in cases where the patient is isolated at home this does not take place until the medical practitioner in attendance notifies me that

the patient is free from infection. An inspection of the premises is made and notices served for any defect found. The following form is also despatched to the occupier:—

Dear Sir or Madam,=

Whereas a notification has been received by the Medical Officer of Health stating that an inmate of the house occupied by you is suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, I am directed to call your special attention to the following extracts from the above-named Acts relating to infectious diseases.

EXTRACTS.

38 and 39 Vict., cap. 55.

SECTION 126.—“ Any person who—

- (1) “ While suffering from any dangerous infectious disorder, wilfully exposes himself without proper precautions against spreading the said disorder in any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance ; or
- (2) “ Being in charge of any person so suffering, so exposes such sufferer , or
- (3) “ Gives, lends, sends, transmits, or exposes, without previous disinfection, any bedding, clothing, rags, or other things which have been exposed to infection from any such disorder, shall be liable to a PENALTY not exceeding FIVE POUNDS.”

SECTION 128.—“ If any person knowingly lets any house, room, or part of a house in which any person suffering from any dangerous infectious disorder has been, to any other person, without having such house, room, or part of a house, and all articles therein liable to retain infection, disinfected to the satisfaction of a qualified Medical Practitioner, as testified by certificate given by him, such person shall be liable to a PENALTY not exceeding TWENTY POUNDS. For the purposes of this section, the keeper of an inn, shall be deemed to let for hire part of a house to any person admitted as a guest into such inn.”

SECTION 129.—“ Any person letting for hire or showing for the purpose of letting for hire any house or part of a house, who on being questioned by any person negotiating for the hire of such house or part of a house as to the fact of there being or within six weeks previously having been therein any person suffering from any dangerous infectious disorder, knowingly makes a false answer to such questions, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to a PENALTY not exceeding TWENTY POUNDS, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding ONE MONTH.”

53 and 54 Vict., cap. 34.

The following table shows the deaths for each month of the year
all cases, those under a

TOTALS.		18
Other defined diseases.	1	8 23
Suicides.	1	1 13
Violent deaths, excluding suicide.	1	9 26
Congenital Debility.	2	4 16
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy, etc.		9 34
Puerperal Fever.		8
Nephritis and Brights Disease.	2	5 15
Alcoholism.		1 10
Cirrhosis of Liver.		1 6 22
Appendicitis.		2 16
Diarrhoea and Enteritis.	1	3 1 16
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.		
Pneumonia.	9 5	
Bronchitis.	3 4	
Organic Heart Disease.	4	
Rheumatic Fever.	6 3	
Cancer and Malignant Disease.	1	
Other Tubercular Diseases.	2 10 4	
Tubercular Meningitis.	1	
Phthisis.		
Influenza.	1 3	
Diphtheria and Croup.	1	
Whooping Cough.		
Scarlet Fever.		
Measles.		
Enteric Fever.		
	under 5	
January	over 5	
February	under 5	
March	over 5	
April	under 5	
May	over 5	
June	under 5	
July	over 5	

SECTION 8.—No person, without the sanction in writing of the Medical Officer of Health, or of a registered Medical Practitioner, shall retain unburied, elsewhere than in a public Mortuary, or in a room not used at the time as a dwelling-place, sleeping-room, or workroom, for more than forty-eight hours, the body of any person who has died of any Infectious Disease.

SECTION 13.—“ Any person who shall knowingly cast, or cause or permit to be cast, into an ash-pit, ash-tub or other receptacle for the deposit of refuse matter, any infectious rubbish without previous disinfection, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act, and liable to a PENALTY of FIVE POUNDS.”

As these diseases spread by communication from one person to another, and by the transmission of clothing and other things which have been exposed to infection, it is absolutely necessary for the protection of the Public Health, that the Council should adopt every possible means within their power to prevent their extension, and trust to the good sense and prudence of the inhabitants to afford them all needful co-operation.

Care must be taken to prevent indiscriminate or unnecessary visits to the sick. Persons attending upon the sick, or persons whose clothing has been in the infected part of the house, must not, without previously causing the same to be disinfected to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Authority, expose such clothing in any dwelling house, factory, workshop, school, church, chapel, or any place occupied by others. No child residing in the house must be sent to school or allowed to mix with other children, until the Medical Attendant certifies that infection has ceased.

I am directed to state that the penalty to which any person becomes liable under the above sections will be strictly enforced.

Enteric Fever.—Seven cases of Enteric or Typhoid Fever were notified during the year—2 being re-notified from the General Hospital after removal to that institution—as compared with 2 in the previous year, 4 in 1912, 7 in 1911, 1 in 1910, 10 in 1909, and 10 in 1908. Four of these were removed to the Wolverhampton General Hospital, 1 was too ill to move and died two days after notification; the other 2 were isolated at home. In 4 of the cases the cause of infection was due to the eating of shell fish, and in the others the cause of infection could not be definitely traced, one being a visitor to the town.

Scarlet Fever.—Forty-four cases of Scarlet Fever in 35 houses were notified during the year, compared with 28 in the previous year, 83 in 1912, 57 in 1911, 49 in 1910, 74 in 1909, and 108 in 1908. Thirty-four patients were removed to hospital and 10 isolated at home. Three of the cases proved fatal. There were also 2 fatal

cases belonging to the district, 1 at the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, and 1 in the Workhouse Infirmary. These cases were contracted outside the district, and were not notified to me.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—Sixteen notifications, affecting 12 houses, were received during the year, as compared with 10 in the previous year, 7 in 1912, 16 in 1911, 7 in 1910, 13 in 1909. Six of these were removed to the Wolverhampton General Hospital and the remainder isolated at home. Three proved fatal.

Erysipelas.—Seven cases of Erysipelas were notified during the year, as compared with 14 in the previous year, 15 in 1912, 24 in 1911, 17 in 1910, and 15 in 1908.

Puerperal Fever.—Two cases were notified during the year, as compared with none in the previous year, 3 in 1912, 3 in 1911, 2 in 1910, and 1 in 1909. One of these proved fatal. These cases were first attended by Midwives, Medical Practitioners afterwards being called in.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—There were 3 cases notified during the year, 1 of which was visited by the Health Visitor till cured, 2 being under the care of a Medical Practitioner.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—One case was notified, the child being resident in the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, at the time of notification.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.—There were no notifications of this disease during the year.

Whooping Cough.—There were 7 deaths from this disease during the year, as compared with none in the previous year and 19 in 1912. Five of the deaths occurred in children under one year of age, 1 between one and two, and 1 between five and fifteen.

Measles.—There was only 1 death from this disease, which occurred in a child between 5 and 15 years of age, as compared with 38 in the previous year.

Diarrhoea.—There were 25 deaths from diarrhoea or enteritis and allied conditions during the year, 16 being in children under one year of age and 9 between one and two years, giving a death rate of .96 per 1,000, as compared with 42 deaths in the previous year, 14 in 1912, 61 in 1911, 25 in 1910, and 24 in 1909.

The following table shows the number of these deaths in each month of the past five years, distinguishing those of infants under one year, of children between one and five years, and those above five years.

	1910.				1911.				1912.				1913.				1914.			
	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	2	1	1	1	3					
February ...					1		1	1	1	1	2						1			1
March ...											1	1			1					
April ...											1					1				1
May ...	1	1		2					1		1	1	1		2		2			2
June ...	4			4	2	1	1	4	1		1	1	1		3	1				1
July ...		1		1	1	1	1	3				3			13	5	2			7
August ...	2	2	1	5	15	9	3	27	1	1		2	7	5	1	13	6	3		9
September ...	3	1		4	12	7	1	20	2	1		3	3	6	2	11	6	3		1
October ...	2	5		7	2			3	1			1	4	1	1	6		1		2
November ...	2			2										1	1	2	2			2
December ...						1	1	2			1	1		1	1	1	1			1
	14	10	1	25	33	20	8	61	7	4	3	14	20	16	6	42	16	9		25
Rate pr 1000				.99				2.4				.506				1.6				.93

The appearance and prevalence of Diarrhœa, Enteric Fever, and similar diseases in a community depends very largely upon the aggregation and quantity of organic matter, particularly heaps of manure, filth, etc., and the contamination thereby of the subsoil. These, too, form breeding grounds for various kinds of flies which are now known to be the most dangerous carriers of disease. Flies will lay eggs in any fermenting organic matter, preferably in horse manure and human secreta. A female fly deposits about 120 eggs at a time, and usually lays four times during life. The egg stage lasts 8-12 hours, the larvæ stage 5 to 6 days, the pupal stage 5 to 7 days, and the fly is fully developed in about 10 to 20 days from the time the egg is deposited, and according to temperature, moisture, etc.

Flies carry infection in ways partly mechanical and partly intestinal.

The body of the fly is covered with bristles, the legs are covered with fine hairs, and the foot, consisting of two converging claws, also covered with innumerable hairs, especially on the under-side, where they are hollow and secrete an adhesive fluid. (It is this fluid which enables the fly to walk or rest in any position.) Bacteria are carried on these hairs and in this fluid, the latter especially readily taking up all kinds of germs from the filth upon which it has been feeding. The fly is very gluttonous, usually takes more food into the crop than it can digest, and then vomits this out on reaching fresh food. It is thus easy to see how it contaminates all kinds of food, and in particular the baby's food, upon which it alights, and this causes summer diarrhœa.

The Local Government Board have recently issued a report on "Flies as Carriers of Infection," of which the following is an extract, dealing with the question of prevention:—

"The Board are advised that the exact share borne by flies in conveying the infection of epidemic diarrhœa cannot yet be stated. It would be a mistake, with our present knowledge, to assume that the problem of the prevention of this disease is limited to the destruction of flies. It is concerned also with the personal cleanliness of the mother who has to prepare the infant's food, and with the cleanliness of the house, the backyard, the court, and the street, from which infective material may obtain access to the infant's food, with or without the intermediation of flies. But for practical purposes the number of flies in the summer months may be regarded in towns as a valuable index, under present conditions, of the possibilities of contamination of food by pathogenic microbes or by decomposing organic matter, especially in districts in which privies and pail closets persist, and in which accumulations of house refuse or stable refuse are permitted.

"It should be remembered in this connection that the ova of the fly, when deposited on organic matter, may develop in hot weather through the various stages to the adult insect in little more than a week. Hence the importance of the frequent cleansing of receptacles for house refuse and manure above alluded to. For the prevention of flies it is essential to deal with their breeding places. Destruction of flies in a dwelling is, however, also an important additional measure, and may be secured by fly-traps, fly-catching papers, or in other ways. An efficacious method is the use of saucers containing a solution of formalin (one teaspoonful to the half-pint of water, or milk and water) and a little sugar; a small piece of bread being placed in the saucer as a place for flies to alight on and drink. In living rooms these should be left out overnight, all other vessels containing fluid being removed or covered over."

Vaccination.--The following is the return of the Vaccination officer for the year 1913, and the first half of 1914, together with the figures of the ten preceding years.

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	Half Year to June 30 1914-
Births Registered ...	899	937	899	934	879	831	830	825	801	891	424
Succ'ssfully Vaccinat'd	816	825	784	814	703	621	570	530	467	485	209
Insusceptible ...	1		1	2	2	2	1	3		1	
Died Unvaccinated ...	56	91	91	95	87	51	52	41	69	72	40
Postponed ...	1	4	1	3	6	6	1	1	4	4	2
Removed from District	4	1	7	4	6	8	5	2	15	12	6
Certificates of Con- scientious Objectors }	11	12	15	15	74	143	200	229	239	288	161
Unaccounted for ...		4		4	1		1	19	7	16	6
	899	937	899	934	879	831	830	825	801	891	424

Zymotic Diseases. Forty-four deaths, 21 being in children under one year of age, 14 in children from 1 to 5 years, and 9 over 5 years of age were due to the eight principal zymotic diseases, giving a death rate of 1·7 per thousand, as compared with 84 deaths in the previous year, 67 in 1912, 119 in 1911, 32 in 1910, and 91 in 1909.

Deaths from	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Scarlet Fever ...	11		1	8	3	5	2	5	2	2	5
Small Pox ...											
Measles ...	14	1	18	27	5	46	2	49	30	38	1
Whooping Cough ...	10	2	23	7	17	14	2	2	19		7
Enteric Fever ...		3	5	1	3		1	1	1	1	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup } ...	1	1	3	3	3	2		1	1	1	3
Diarrhœa ...	59	41	41	28	29	24	25	61	14	42	25
Puerperal Fever ...											1
Totals ...	95	48	91	74	60	91	32	119	67	84	44
Rate per thousand...	3·9	1·9	3·7	3·02	2·4	3·6	1·2	4·1	2·6	3·2	1·7

Prevalence and control over Tuberculosis. During the year 81 notifications affecting 70 cases were received. Of these 62 were primary notifications (Form A.); two from School Medical Inspector (Form B); and 17 supplemental notifications by Medical Officers of Poor Law Institutions and Sanitoria.

Fifty-seven of these referred to pulmonary cases, and 13 to other forms of Tuberculosis; sixteen of the cases notified during the year have died.

The total deaths from Tuberculosis of the lungs during the year, belonging to the district, was 27,—out of these 22 died between the ages of 15 and 45—giving a death rate of 1·03 per 1,000.

The following table shows the age, sex, and parts of the body affected, and also the Wards in which the cases were notified.

Localisation of Disease.	Under 1 year.		1 & under 2 years.		2 & under 5 years.		5 & under 15 years.		15 & under 25 years.		25 & under 45 years.		45 & under 65 years.		65 years & upwards.		Bradley Ward.		Ettingshall Ward.		High Town Ward.		New Town Ward.		Town Hall Ward.		TOTAL.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Lungs ...			1	1	6	3	10	8	14	7	7					14	3	7	5	4	4	5	2	8	5	38	19	
Glands ...							2	1										1	1		1					1	2	
Bones & Joints ...							1																			1	1	
Abdominal ...			1		2	1	1														1				3	1	4	1
Larynx ...								1			1														1	1	1	1
Brain ...						1	1															2						2
Totals ...			1	1	3	2	7	7	12	8	14	8	7			14	3	8	6	5	7	5	2	12	8	44	26	

All cases are visited after notification, enquiries made as to probable causes, and advice given as to personal habits, the need of fresh air and the open window, and leaflets of instructions left, disinfectant and sputum flasks supplied.

After removal or death, premises are fumigated, and the bedding, etc., disinfected.

These visits are usually much welcomed and repeat visits are needed, to see that instructions continue to be carried out. This is not done, unfortunately, in all cases. The patients do not, always, realise the danger they are to contacts, although the leaflets explain this.

In one or two instances the visit following the notification was the first intimation to the patient and family that he was suffering from this disease. This should never be allowed, for the Medical Practitioner should not shirk from this duty, but see that the coming of our visit is anticipated.

One point in the treatment of Tuberculosis in this County needs emphasis—that every patient suffering from this disease, *whether an insured person or not*, has the right to the gratuitous services of the County Tuberculosis Office at the tuberculosis dispensary if sent by his medical attendant.

Vital Statistics of the District. Births: 863 births, 428 males and 435 females were registered during the year, being a decrease of 23 on the previous year; and giving a birth rate of 32.1 per 1000.

The following gives the number of births, male and female, for this and the previous two years.

	— 1914. —			— 1913. —			— 1912. —		
	Males.	F'ales.	Total.	Males.	F'ales.	Total.	Males.	F'ales.	Total
First Quarter	119	108	227	113	115	228	116	92	208
Second „	100	123	223	125	103	228	107	100	207
Third „	107	103	210	119	119	238	89	109	198
Fourth „	102	101	203	105	87	192	95	91	186
	428	435	863	462	424	886	407	392	799

Table showing the number of Births and Birth Rates for the years 1904—1913.

Year.	Males.	Females	Total	Pert'ge pr.1000 of Population.
1904	465	434	899	37.07
1905	456	481	937	36.5
1906	446	433	879	38.1
1907	453	481	934	35.2
1908	446	436	882	32.7
1909	418	408	826	32.1
1910	423	407	830	32.5
1911	417	408	825	31.1
1912	407	392	799	31.4
1913	462	424	886	33.97
Yearly Average 1904-13	439	430	869	34.06
1914	428	435	863	32.1

For the purpose of comparison the birth rate for the whole of the County, Urban and Rural Districts, together with the rates for England and Wales, and the large towns of England, for the period 1904-1913 is given in the following table.

Districts	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Staffs. } Combined Urban & Rural	32.5	31.0	30.9	29.7	30.3	28.3	27.7	27.7	27.2	28.2
Urban	33.7	32.0	31.9	30.9	31.4	29.0	28.7	29.3	29.0	30.2
Rural	28.4	27.1	27.2	25.7	26.7	26.2	25.1	24.2	23.2	23.7
England & Wales	27.9	27.2	27.0	26.3	26.5	25.0	24.8	24.4	23.8	23.9
Large Towns in England	29.1	28.2	27.9	27.0	26.9	25.7	25.0	25.6	24.9	25.1
Bilston	37.07	36.8	38.1	35.2	32.7	32.1	32.5	31.1	31.4	33.97

Deaths. During the year 462 deaths from all causes—245 males and 217 females—were registered for the district, giving a death rate of 17.59. The total number of deaths occurring in the district was 383, of these 6 belonged to other districts—to which they have been transferred. In addition 79 deaths of residents occurred outside the district, 25 in the General Hospital, 44 in the Workhouse Infirmary, and 10 in other institutions.

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

District.	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Staffs. } Combined Urban & Rural	16.4	15.4	15.2	14.7	14.6	15.3	12.6	15.0	13.9	14.4
Urban	17.2	15.9	15.8	15.2	15.0	15.8	12.8	16.1	14.4	15.5
Rural	14.4	13.5	13.0	12.9	13.1	13.5	12.4	12.5	12.8	12.0
England and Wales	16.2	15.2	15.4	15.0	14.7	14.5	13.4	14.6	13.3	13.7
Large towns in England	17.1	15.7	15.9	15.4	14.9	14.7	13.4	15.5	13.8	14.3
Bilston	18.9	20	18.5	16.3	16.9	15.7	15.9	15.6	17.6	17.59

Infantile Mortality. The particulars of these deaths will be found on Table IV.

One hundred and twenty infants died in the first year of life ; of these 27 died during the first week, 1 between the first and second week, 7 between the second and third week, and 10 between the third and fourth week.

The number of deaths and rate per 1,000 births, for this and the previous 5 years is shown below.

Year ...	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.
Number of Deaths ..	120	137	121	109	98	118
Rate per 1,000 births	142·3	154·6	149·7	130·5	118	142

The means generally recommended to combat infantile mortality are the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, and the appointment of a Health Visitor to visit homes and advise mothers particularly on the care and feeding of infants. These have been in operation here for years, and further, handbills have been printed and issued to mothers, giving suitable advice. It is to be regretted that the results so far are not more satisfactory. The subject has been frequently and fully discussed in previous Annual Reports where it has been shown that this all-important subject depends largely upon economic conditions, and further, that the rate naturally varies considerably, owing to the appearance of epidemic disease, especially measles, over which it is generally admitted Sanitary Authorities can exercise little control.

In recent years the Council have done a great deal of good work, and made much progress in various directions, but recent events have shown that in the matter, particularly of housing and overcrowding, there is need for prompt and extensive action. Everyone must admit that conditions exist that should not, and it is very hard to ^{put} get them right. The problem of ^{poverty} property and how to do real good to the community sometimes seems insoluble. Degeneration has been a slow process and regeneration must be a weary task for generations go to the re-modelling of any complete social state. Nevertheless we should not cease to do what we can, for there is scarcely any honest attempt which has not some effect, even if it is imperceptible.

Appended are the tables required by the Local Government Board, the Home Office ; and also a Report of the Sanitary Inspector, together with a tabular statement giving outlines of his work.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

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

Medical Officer of Health.

February 8th, 1915.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Gentlemen,

The following report of the work of the Sanitary Department for the year 1914 is herewith submitted; this being my Second Annual Report.

Complaints.—During the year 69 complaints were received and dealt with.

General—The total inspections are given in Table A. Inspections and re-inspections—2670; these figures include inspections of courts, yards, privies, etc.; re-inspections of premises where notices have been served, and visits to property with owners or builders. These interviews take up a large amount of time, but usually have good effect. Much can be done by persuasion.

During the year 637 Intimation, and 77 Statutory Notices have been served—The Intimation Notices often being verbal, or by letter. The defects for which these were served will be found in Table B.

The greater part of my time has been devoted to housing inspection and closet conversion, with the result that sufficient time has not been available for the proper inspection of the district, to enforce complete compliance with ordinary nuisances. This may not always be advisable, but the Council have shown preference for the former having prior claim.

There are a large number of Intimation Notices which have not yet received attention, neither have they been reported to Council. There are strong objections to serving Statutory Notices unless compelled, persuasion rather than force being preferable. Opinions as to the advisability of this course may differ. I think, however, that reference to Table C, showing the improvements for the year, will prove this policy to be the right one. The whole reasons need not be given.

Water Closet Accommodation—During the year 522 water closets have been fixed, in the place of 188 privy middens, 145 privy vaults, and 113 pail privies. This number is very satisfactory; as although there must result a saving in the cost of collection, the whole of the work has been carried out without cost to the rates. There are now 521 privy middens, 455 privy vaults, and 393 pails in the district—for details see Tables D and E. Approximately 200 of these cannot be dealt with at present, owing to there being no sewer in the vicinity.

The cost of conversion is a great hardship to owners. I usually arrange for them to convert at one or more properties,—according to their means—during the year. This accounts, to a great extent, for the number of notices which have not been dealt with. Notices asking for conversion, having been served over most of the district. There are, of course, owners who refuse to carry out this work, often giving pertinent reasons. Some of these cases can be dealt with, but it would be advisable for the Council to consider the claims of those who object on the grounds that the privies are structurally good, or that pails have been fixed under notice from your Council.

Sanitary Conveniences used in common.—There is still cause for complaint with regard to the misuse of the above. The constant visits by the man, appointed by you in August, and the serving of notices, are, however, leading to a gradual improvement. Since commencing his duties, he has removed stoppages from 168 water closets and 65 drains. In addition to these, 110 water closets and 89 drains have been opened by owners under notice. In all cases where the stoppage is found to be due to neglect on the part of the tenants, notices pointing out their responsibilities are served. It is practically impossible to obtain a prosecution owing to the fact that the closets are not allocated to separate tenants. Efforts are being made to persuade owners to do this.

Ashpits, etc — During the year 236 ashbins have been provided and 143 ashpits abolished. One experiences some difficulty when dealing with ashpits, a large number having been built or covered in during the last eight or ten years; and the owners in such cases have strong objections to demolishing the pits, and providing bins.

Dirty Tenants — One of the greatest set-backs to sanitary progress is the dirty and destructive tenant. The most perfect sanitary arrangements are useless if the occupants of the houses are dirty, either through carelessness, ignorance or idleness; or destructive. In addition to the mis-use of sanitary conveniences already mentioned, they neglect to clean gullies and flush drains; to cleanse yards, outbuildings and houses; deposit excreta and refuse on the yard surface; and in many cases use the walls adjoining the sanitary conveniences as urinals. It is impossible to devote the time necessary for constant inspection, and even if this could be done the procedure under the Public Health Act is very unsatisfactory. After inspection and the service of an Intimation Notice there is a delay of one to four weeks before the matter can be reported to Council, and a Statutory Notice served. Then another month must elapse before permission to take proceedings can be obtained. During this latter period there may have been some effort at cleansing, or, if a group of tenants is affected, there has been changes in the occupiers, and the whole business has to

be re-commenced. During the year 256 Tenants' Notices and Cautionary Forms have been served. The people do not realise the dangers arising from their neglect, and the advantages to be derived from cleanly habits. Cleanliness and filthiness are largely a question of habits formed in early life; and all children should be taught the elements of hygiene. Houses which have been thoroughly repaired are often reduced to the former state, at an early date, owing to the negative destructive tenant.

Meat and Food Inspections.—During the year 1,323 inspections of meat and food have been made—these being carried out in slaughter-houses, shops, and the market. The latter has received particular attention, visits being made on all occasions when food is exposed for sale, and there is now only one stall at which poor class meat is sold. In June a carcass of beef was seized from one of the lower stalls, the meat being unsound and diseased. This was condemned by a magistrate and the case taken into court. Unfortunately the case was dismissed. The quality of the meat killed in the district is good. Approximately 1,600 beasts, 14,500 pigs, and 5,000 sheep were killed during the year; it is impossible for the whole of this to be examined. The following Table shows the amount of meat, and disease affecting same, destroyed by me as being unfit for food. In cases of Tuberculosis in pigs, if the head glands only are affected, the head is destroyed and the carcass passed.

DISEASED OR UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

Description.	Disease.	How taken.	Weight.		
			Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
One carcass of beef ...	Diseased & un-sound	Seized from Mkt.	2	3	21
Three beasts' livers ...	Abscesses ...	Surrendered on request		1	18
Two beasts' livers ...	Flukes ...	" "		1	4
Three sets beasts' lungs ...	Abscesses	" "		2	8
One pig ...	Tuberculosis ...	" "	1	1	14
Eighty-three pigs' heads ...	Tuberculosis ...	" "	9	2	16
Twenty-six sets pigs' offal	Tuberculosis ...	" "	2	2	8
One sheep ..	Bruised and De-composing	Surrendered voluntary		3	16
Portion of sheep ...	Bruised ..	Surrendered on request		1	2
Three sheeps' livers ...	Flukes ...	" "			12
Seventy rabbits ...	Decomposing ..	Surrendered voluntary		3	3
			19	3	10

Slaughter Houses.—There are 15 slaughter-houses in use in the district, 13 of which are registered and 2 licensed. These have been visited on 785 occasions, and 11 notices have been served for cleansing and non-removal of offal. They are, generally, kept in a satisfactory condition, but some of them require structural alteration. These are receiving attention.

Bakehouses.

There are 21 bakehouses in the district, to which 92 visits have been made. Nineteen notices have been served for cleansing. Two complaints were received from H. M. Inspector of Factories. Several of the bakehouses are in a bad state of repair, and it is hoped to deal with them during the present year.

Workshops — The number of workshops on the register at the end of the year was 71 ; to which 195 visits were made. The particulars of the various trades are given in Table II. Two complaints were received from H. M. Inspector of Factories, and 7 notices served for cleansing. These matters have all received attention.

Milkshops.— The number of milkshops in the district is 40 ; and 104 visits have been made to them. The milk vessels are generally kept clean ; but it has been necessary to caution the occupants, in two cases, owing to the condition of the premises. Most of the milk-sellers have been persuaded to keep the milk vessels covered with muslin, as this prevents much contamination from dust, etc. The general conditions under which milk is sold are not always satisfactory. The shops in most cases being small general dealers, and it is impossible to obtain perfect cleanliness unless the shop is kept solely for dairy purposes.

Cowsheds — There are 14 cowsheds in the district, to which 71 visits have been made. These are kept clean in most cases ;—five notices have been served for cleansing. Ten of the sheds were not in my opinion suitable owing to insufficient lighting and ventilation, defective floors, improper drainage and overcrowding. Letters were sent to the cowkeepers concerned, but at present seven of these have not been satisfactorily dealt with. If not attended to, the matter will again be brought before you. Unfortunately some cowkeepers do not realise the danger, and the impossibility of obtaining a pure, clean milk supply when these defects exist.

Offensive Trades.— There are 23 fishfriers and 2 rag and bone dealers on the Register. Fifty-seven visits have been made to the premises. Several defects have been found, and will receive attention.

Infectious Disease.—Sixty-three enquiries have been made in connection with infectious disease, and 34 in cases of Tuberculosis. Two schools and 58 houses have been disinfected.

Housing & Town Planning Etc. Act—The number of houses inspected during the year was 567, a permanent record card being kept for each house. The number of houses thoroughly repaired is unsatisfactory. The whole of these matters will, no doubt, be dealt with in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year 28 Closing Orders and 34 Demolition Orders were served, particulars and results of which are given below.

NEW TOWN WARD.

Situation of Property.	Nature of Order.		Result.
	Closing	Demolition	In course of Demolition
22, Free Street ...			
24, " ...	"	"	"
26, " ...	"	"	"
28, " ...	"	"	"
30, " ...	"	"	"
32, " ...	"	"	"
34, " ...	"	"	"
House ct. 2, Warwick Street ...	"		
House " " " ...	"		
House " " " ...	"		
5 rear 57, Temple Street ...	"		Closed
6 " " " ...	"		"
House back 101, Temple Street ...	"		"
House " 103, " " ...	"		"
House " 105, " " ...	"		"

TOWN HALL WARD.

Situation of Property.	Nature of Order.		Result.
		Demolition	
House Stores Yard, Church St.		Demolition	Closed
House " " " " "		"	"
House rear 2, Vine Street ...		"	"
House " " " " ...		"	"
4, Orchard ...		"	Demolished
7, " ...		"	Closed
8, " ...		"	"
11 back 19, Bristol Street ...		"	Demolished
38, Willenhall Road ...		"	Partly demolished
40, " ...		"	"
42, " ...		"	"
4, Lichfield Street ...	Closing		Closed
1 back 4, Lichfield Street ...	"		"

HIGH TOWN WARD.

Situation of Property.	Nature of Order.		Result.
46, High Street ...		Demolition	Demolished
1, back Smith Street ...		"	Closed
3, Smith Street ...		"	Demolished
5, " ...		"	"
7, " ...		"	"
7, back Smith Street ...		"	"
13, " " ...		"	Houses re- paired
15, " " ...		"	"
17, " " ...		"	"
33, Thompson Street ...	Closing		Houses put in proper repair. Order determ- ined
35, " ...	"		
37, " ...	"		

BBADLEY WARD.

Situation of Property.	Nature of Order.		Result.
5 back 29, King Street ...	Closing		Closed
1, rear 81, Salop Street ...	"	Demolition	"
3, rear 81, " ...	"	"	"
4, rear 81, " ...	"	"	"
5, rear 81, " ...	"	"	"
46, rear 81, " ...	"	"	"
48, rear 81, " ...	"	"	"
46, back 46, rear 81, Salop Street	"	"	"

There were no Closing or Demolition Orders for Ettingshall Ward. In addition to the above, 8 houses have been demolished on request from this department, making a total of 14 for the year.

I am, your obedient servant,

FRED BARNETT, A. R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

Complaints received	...	69	Dealt with	...	69
Intimation Notices served	...	637	"	...	496
Statutory Notices served	...	77	"	...	72
Houses inspected	...	567	Visits to Bakehouses	...	92
Visits <i>re</i> complaints	...	85	Visits to Workshops	...	195
Inspections and reinspections	...	2,760	Visits to offensive trade premises	...	57
Visits to work in progress	...	939	Visits <i>re</i> keeping of animals	...	129
Drains tested	...	394	Canal Boats inspected	...	41
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	785	Infectious cases visited	...	63
Inspections of meat and food	...	1,323	Tuberculosis cases visited	...	34
Visits to Cowsheds	...	71	Houses disinfected	...	58
Visits to Milk Shops	...	104	Miscellaneous visits	...	61
				TOTAL	7,758

TABLE B.

SANITARY DEFECTS FOR WHICH NOTICES HAVE BEEN SERVED.

The house or part of the house being in a dirty condition	...	150
The house or part of the house being in a damp condition	...	154
The house or part of the house being in a dilapidated condition	...	141
The house or part of the house being improperly lighted or ventilated	...	221
The house or part of the house being overcrowded	...	8
The water closet being choked, foul or defective	...	107
The water closet being without a proper supply of water	...	26
The urinal being improperly constructed or foul	...	10
The closet accommodation being insufficient	...	2
The privy being in such a state as to be a nuisance	...	437
The sink being improperly constructed or improperly drained	...	103
The premises being improperly drained or insufficiently drained	...	129
The drainage being defective	...	6
Premises not being connected to sewer	...	5
The drain being stopped	...	84
The rain water pipe and eaves gutters being defective	...	93
The eaves being without guttering	...	32
The roof of house being defective	...	81
The paving of the yard being defective	...	37
The outbuildings being foul	...	11
The outbuildings being dilapidated	...	40
The ash receptacle being foul or defective	...	105
The premises being without proper ash accommodation	...	50
Accumulation of offensive matter	...	22
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	...	122
Dirty yards	...	33
Other defects	...	11
TOTAL PREMISES AFFECTED		1,347

TABLE C.

IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES SERVED.

Drains reconstructed	227	Floors relaid or repaired ...	54
Drains repaired or stoppages removed	109	Stairs repaired	33
Gullies fixed	508	Houses provided with through ventilation	15
Chambers constructed	355	Windows made to open or repaired	77
Water Closets fixed	522	Houses repaired (externally) ...	118
Water Closets repaired or cleansed	110	Spouting repaired or provided ...	148
Sinks provided	116	Roofs repaired	125
Out-door premises repaired ...	182	Overcrowding abated	10
Out-door premises cleansed ...	142	Animals removed	33
Yards repaved	136	Wash-houses built	29
Ashbins provided	236	Closets built	74
Ashpits improved	36	Water laid on in wash-houses ...	61
Ashpits abolished	143	Water closets replaced	11
Privy-middens abolished ...	188	Houses connected to the sewer	24
Privy-vaults abolished ...	145	Bakehouses cleansed	19
Pail privies abolished ...	113	Workshops cleansed	7
Offensive accumulations removed	49	Slaughter-houses cleansed ...	4
Urinals improved or cleansed ...	17	Cowsheds cleansed	5
Houses cleansed	105	Other ammendments	6
Plastering repaired	97		
TOTAL PREMISES IMPROVED ...			1,186

TABLE D.

Ward.	Privy Middens	Privy Vaults	Pails	Ashpits	Bins	Water Closets	Waste Water Closets	Trough Closets	Upstairs Water Closets
Town Hall ...	148	59	63	279	453	776	23	2	123
High Town ...	53	137	113	269	229	439	—	6	14
New Town ..	88	64	88	279	309	501	158	5	13
Ettingshall ...	142	79	77	204	264	461	11	—	9
Bradley ...	90	116	52	172	121	269	5	—	8
Total ...	521	455	393	1203	1376	2446	197	13	167

TABLE E

Ward.	Houses.	Houses with Water Closets	Houses without Water Closets	Houses with no Sewer	Water Closets	Other forms of Closets	Percentage of houses with W.C's.	Percentage of W.C's to other forms.
Town Hall ...	1,259	963	296	31	924	268	76.4	77.5
High Town ...	1,047	597	450	18	459	303	57.0	60.2
New Town ...	1,312	973	339	24	677	240	74.1	73.8
Ettingshall ...	1,009	619	390	12	481	298	31.3	61.7
Bradley ...	840	441	399	187	282	258	52.5	52.2
Total ..	5,467	3,593	1,874	272	2,823	1,367	65.7	67.3

CANAL BOATS ACT.

Gentlemen,

The following report of the work carried out under the Canal Boats Act and Regulations, for the year 1914, is herewith submitted.

During the year 41 boats were inspected ; of these 39 were in a satisfactory condition, but on the remaining 2 were found 2 infringements of the Acts and Regulations.

Infringements of the Acts and Regulations with respect to :—

(a) Registration	...	...	...	None.
(b) Notification of change of master	...	...	...	„
(c) Certificates	...	...	...	1
(d) Marking	...	...	...	None.
(e) Overcrowding	...	...	...	1
(f) Separation of sexes	...	...	...	None.
(g) Cleanliness	...	...	...	„
(h) Ventilation	...	...	...	„
(i) Painting	...	...	...	„
(j) Provision of water cask	...	...	...	„
(k) Removal of bilge water	...	...	...	„
(l) Notification of infectious disease	...	...	...	„
(m) Admittance of Inspector	...	...	...	„
(n) Leaky cabin	...	...	...	„

The number of persons occupying the boats inspected were : men 51, women 25, and children 50. The boats generally were in a clean and satisfactory condition. During inspection I received every assistance from the masters, and on no occasion has admission been refused.

It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings, the two infringements having been dealt with by means of Complaint Forms.

There have been no cases of infectious disease during the year and no boats have been detained for cleansing and disinfection.

I am, Yours obediently,

FRED BARNETT,

Inspector of Canal Boats.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT OF BILSTON.
DURING 1914 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		Nett Deaths belonging to Dist.			
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		AT ALL AGES	
								Number	Rate per 1000 Births regist'd	Number.	Rate
1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	25,000	826	32.7	427	16.9		64	118	142	491	19.4
1910	25,200	830	32.1	332	13.1		66	98	118	398	15.7
1911	25,681	825	32.5	410	15.9	6	75	109	130.5	479	18.6
1912	25,681	808	31.46	403	15.69	4	54	121	149.7	453	17.64
1913	26,076	886	33.97	438	16.78	3	73	137	154.6	508	19.48
1914	26,254	863	32.1	383	14.59	6	79	120	142.3	462	17.59

Area of District in Acres—1,867. Total population at all ages—25,681 } *At Census, 1911*
 (Exclusive of Area covered by water) Number of inhabited houses—5,281 } *(of Census, Vol. V.)*
 Average number of persons per house—4.86

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.							Total cases notified in each Ward					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 45 Years	45 to 65 Years	65 years & upwards	New Town Ward	High Town Ward	Town Hall Ward	Bradley Ward		Ettingshall Ward		
Small Pox ...																
Cholera, Plague ..																
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	16		5	7	3		1		1	2		1	12		6	
Erysipelas ...	7			1		5	1		2	1	1	2	1			
Scarlet Fever ...	44	1	11	25	6	1			11	9	9	5	10		34	
Typhus Fever ...																
Enteric Fever ...	9		1	4		3	1		1	3	2	2	1		6	
Relapsing Fever																
Continued Fever																
Puerperal Fever ...	2				1	1			1	1						
Cer.spinal Men'gitis																
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1								1					1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	3							1				2			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	68		2	9	23	26	8		10	12	15	17	14			
Other forms of Tuberculosis	13		5	4	1	3				6	5		2			
Totals ...	163	5	24	50	34	39	11		27	35	32	27	42		47	

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, } Bilston Isolation Hospital for Scarlet Fever. South Staffs. Conjoint
 Sanitoria, &c. } Small-pox Hospital (used as a Sanatorium for Pulmonary Phthisis).

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1914.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.	
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.		65 and upwards.
Enteric Fever	2						2			
Small-Pox										
Measles	1				1					
Scarlet Fever	5		1	2	2					3
Whooping Cough	7	5		1	1					
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	3			1	2					
Influenza	10	2	1				2	3	2	
Erysipelas										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)...	31		1			6	20	4		4
Tuberculous Meningitis	8	3		3	2					
Other Tuberculous Diseases	6	2	1	1	2					
Cancer, malignant disease... ..	20						6	7	7	
Rheumatic Fever	1				1					
Meningitis										
Organic Heart Disease	12				1		1	7	3	
Bronchitis	73	19	3	2	2		4	17	26	
Pneumonia (all forms)	36	6	3	5	3	2	9	6	2	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	2			2						
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	25	16	9							
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2						1	1		
Cirrhosis of Liver	3						1	1	1	
Alcoholism	3							3		
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	9		1			1	1	5	1	
Puerperal Fever	1						1			
Other accidents & diseases of Preg- nancy and Parturition	2					1	1			
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature birth	50	49		1						
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	27	3	2	3	4	1	3	6	5	
Suicide	5						2	3		
Other Defined Diseases	118	15	2	2	2	2	9	23	63	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...										
Totals	462	120	24	23	23	13	63	86	110	

TABLE IV.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
	Small-pox
Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	2	5
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ... ..	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	...	5
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	3	3	4	2	4	6
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	2	1	6
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	...	2	...	2	4	4	1	1	12
Diarrhoea ... ..	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	4
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	3
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	...	3
Suffocation, overlying	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital malformation	17	...	2	1	20	1	...	...	...	21
Premature birth	7	1	...	3	11	10	5	2	...	28
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	...	1	...	2	3	1	...	...	6
Other causes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	27	1	7	10	45	30	15	17	13	120

Nett Births in the year 1914 { legitimate 843
 { illegitimate 20

Nett Deaths in the year 1914 { legitimate infants 111
 { illegitimate infants 9

^{RECORDED} In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I, II, III & IV, attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE V. 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.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	287	26	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces (other than Outwork- ers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total ...	287	26	None

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H. M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				None
Want of cleanliness	7	7		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors ..				
Other nuisances..				"
<i>Sanitary accommodation—</i>				
Insufficient				
Unsuitable or defective	3	3		"
Not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				"
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouses (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary re- quirements for bakehouses (s. 97 to 100)	21	19		
	31	29		None

3.—HOME WORK.

Class.	Number.	
	Number of	
	Lists.	Outworkers Residing in our District
<i>List of Outworkers :—</i>		
Lists received	2	2
Addresses of outworkers	27	
Inspections of outworkers' premises	4	
	forwarded to other Authorities	
	received from	

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Class.	Number.
Workshops on the Register (s 131) at the end of 1914.	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bake-houses, viz. :—	
Dressmakers and Milliners	13
Carpenters and Cabinet Makers	9
Bootmakers and Repairers	20
Bakers and Confectioners	21
Miscellaneous	29
Total number of workshops on Register	92

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	4
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s 5, 1901) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	3
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	None.
In use at end of the year	



