

**[Report 1913] / Medical Officer of Health, Buckingham (Union) R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Buckingham (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1913

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/tb9qvd3e>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR


TO THE

**Rural District Council of Buckingham.**

---

**1913.**

---



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28961146>

*Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for  
the year ending December 31st, 1913.*

---

STEEPLE CLAYDON,

*February, 1914.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure as your Medical Officer of Health in presenting you with my Sixteenth Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1913. I thank you very heartily for the kindness and consideration which you have always extended to me.

*Number of  
Meetings  
attended.*

During the year I have attended 24 Council meetings and 11 meetings of the General Purposes Committee. On August 22nd I attended a Sub-Committee meeting at Tingewick to inquire into the sewage disposal and water supply of that village. On January 28th I attended a meeting of the County Medical Officer and the District Medical Officers of Health at Bletchley to consider the New Tuberculosis Regulations. I attended inquiries held at Bletchley on March 17th and April 14th, to consider the provision for North Bucks of a Small-Pox Isolation Hospital. On June 20th I visited several villages in the district with Mr. Courtenay Clifton, Local Government Board Inspector, who was inquiring into the cottage accommodation of the District, and on September 17th I attended a Local Government Board Inquiry held by Dr. Fletcher, one of their Inspectors, at the Board Room, Buckingham, to consider and obtain particulars of the proposed site for an Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases other *than* Small-Pox, and I also visited the site with him.

*Area of  
District, etc.*

The Rural District of Buckingham consists of 33 parishes, comprising an area of 54,893 acres (over 85 square miles) and this area includes a small extent of inland water (197 acres). The Physical and Geological character of the District has been dealt with in the report for 1911.

*Rainfall.*

The rainfall for the past year amounted to 24.70 inches, which is a little less than 2 inches below the average for the last 30 years, but it is 5½ inches under the rainfall registered in 1912. The number of days on which rain fell was 159, compared with 183 in 1912. The wettest month was October, with 4.39 inches, and the driest August, with 0.57 inches. Although most rain fell in October, when 4.39 inches were registered, there were only 13 rainy days, while March and April had 19 each, with respectively 2.80 and 2.92 inches.

*Population.*

At the census of 1911 the District contained a population of 8322, being an increase of 198 since the census of 1901. There were 2084 inhabited houses, having an average number of 3'993 persons per house. In 1901 the figures were :— population 8124, inhabited houses 2007, and number of persons per house 4'047. I have estimated the population as being 8350 to the middle of 1913. The population is principally engaged in agricultural pursuits, but there are large brickworks at Calvert, in the parish of Charndon, which give employment to nearly 200 men and boys. Since the advent of Old Age Pensions the amount of Out-door Relief is not so large. The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, the Northampton Infirmary, the Bucks County Hospital, Aylesbury, and the Eye Hospital, Oxford, are largely made use of for serious cases and those cases needing operation. The Nursing Home at Buckingham also does good work.

*Hygiene, etc.*

A few years back in one of my reports I alluded to Hygiene and what it meant. As you know the work of a Medical Officer of Health is preventive work, and he does what he can to make the dwellings and surroundings of the people living in this area as healthful as possible. Before Medicine and Surgery had attained to their present state of comparative perfection a far greater percentage of people died from one disease and another. Nowadays with our improved methods of treatment many people attain to adult life, marry and have children, who would in former times have died before becoming parents. Here is a state of things quite opposed to the Darwinian theory of Natural Selection otherwise the Survival of the Fittest.

Only a few days ago at an annual meeting of Sanitary Engineers, a Medical Officer of Health stood up and spoke of the benefits that had been given to the nation by modern sanitation, and the ladies and gentlemen present were fully convinced that it was a good and beneficent thing to be a Sanitary Engineer. Then a celebrated scientist got up and asked the following questions : " Is it right that people should be coddled ? Is it right that you Sanitary Engineers should preserve the lives of the unfit ? Why not let them die out, then the next generation may be good." " Of course he had no wish to be the devil's advocate altogether. The modern trend of thought is that if you see a starved child you should feed it ; if you see one with leaky boots give it new ones ; if you see one without clothes, clothe it—all at the expense of the community. Where is it going to end ? Perhaps it will be when we forbid the production of children. The question of finding the happy means between the protection of the unfit and the helping of those who will give splendour (and strength) to the next

generation will be fought out some day. I believe the problem in time will settle itself.

In some of the United States they already demand that those who are about to marry shall show a clean bill of health. We are not ripe for any restrictions of that sort in this country, but the fact remains that there is no check on the marriage of degenerates or even of those who are mentally defective; they are free to pass on their constitutional defects and diseases to the next generation.

*Birth Rate.*

The number of births registered during the year was 145 (boys 74, girls 71), but the district is credited with one transferable birth, a girl, which brings the number up to 146; this is equal to an annual birth rate of 17.5 per 1000, compared with 18.7 for 1912. This is the smallest birth rate for many years. The rate for Rural England and Wales for 1913 was 22.2.

*Death Rate.*

The number of deaths registered during the year was 84, being equal to an annual death-rate of 10.1 per 1000 living. Fifteen deaths of residents were registered as having occurred in Public Institutions outside the district, and this makes the net death-rate 11.8, compared with 11.4 for 1912. The standardized death-rate (formerly called the corrected death-rate) is the rate which would have been recorded had the sex and age constitution of the population of the district been identical with that of England and Wales as enumerated in 1901. To obtain the standardized death-rate for the Rural District of Buckingham the net death-rate is multiplied by the factor for the district, which is 0.7901, and this gives us 9.3 as the standardized death-rate for this district, compared with 12.1 for Rural England and Wales.

*Infantile Mortality.*

The Infantile Mortality, or number of deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1000 births registered, was 82, compared with 58 for 1912. The rate for Rural England and Wales for 1913 was 96. Of the twelve deaths registered, one was caused by Whooping Cough, two from Convulsions, two from Pneumonia, one from Diarrhoea and four from Premature Birth. The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted in this district.

*Phthisis Death Rate.*

Seven deaths have been registered as caused by Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) during 1913 and the Phthisis death-rate would therefore be 0.83, compared with 0.72 for 1912. The rate for England and Wales is 1.08.

I must again remind you that on January 1st, 1912, all cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis became notifiable, and on February 1st, 1913, all cases of Tuberculosis became notifiable

whatever parts of the body were affected by the disease. The Chief Tuberculosis Officer for the County visits cases of this disease when asked to do so by the medical man in attendance and as a specialist gives his opinion on the case. Several cases in this district have now obtained Sanatorium Treatment with great benefit to themselves, but, unfortunately, the improvement in their condition is not always kept up when the return to insanitary homes and other less favourable conditions. Ten cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs were notified in 1913, compared with 22 cases in 1912, and 5 cases of Tuberculosis in other organs were also notified. In all cases of death from consumption the room occupied by the patient is disinfected.

*Scarlet  
Fever.*

Three cases of scarlet fever without a death were notified during the year 1913 compared with fifteen cases and no death in 1912. The cases occurred in the following villages:—Edgcott, Lillingstone Dayrell and Thornborough. The District has been fortunate in having so few cases as the disease existed in all the neighbouring districts. During the last ten years we have had 187 cases of Scarlet Fever and only one death.

*Diphtheria.*

Not a single case of Diphtheria has been notified in the District for the past year. This is almost a record as only once before since the Infectious Disease Notification Act came into force has this happened, and that was in the year 1892. During the past eight years 45 cases have been notified with only 3 deaths.

*Enteric  
(Typhoid)  
Fever.*

One case of Enteric Fever has been notified and this unfortunately proved fatal. In 1912 six cases were notified without a death. This fatal case was due to the man drinking from a well on the premises where four Enteric cases had occurred the previous year. The supply from this well had been condemned, but unfortunately the well was not closed.

*Measles.*

This disease is not notifiable in the district, and no deaths have been registered from it

*Whooping  
Cough.*

One death has been registered from this disease. It occurred in a child one month old, born in the Buckingham Workhouse, who had never been in the district, but whose death was credited to it because the mother was domiciled there.

*Erysipelas.*

Eleven cases have been notified without a death compared with 12 cases in 1912.

*Small-Pox*

No case has been notified in this district during 1913, nor has any occurred for the last 12 years.

*Cancer.*

Seven deaths were caused by cancer in 1913 compared with three in 1912. This is equal to a cancer death-rate of 0'83. The rate for England and Wales is 0'95. The deaths from cancer include those occurring from all forms of malignant disease.

*Influenza.*

No deaths occurred from influenza during 1913 or 1912.

*Polyomyelitis.*

This disease is now compulsory notifiable, but no cases have yet arisen in this district.

*Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.*

Eighteen cases of Infectious Disease were notified under this act during 1913 compared with 49 cases in 1912. Chicken pox has for the present ceased being a notifiable disease, but Ophthalmia Neonatorum has been added to the list. No less than eleven of the eighteen cases notified have been cases of Erysipelas and of the remaining seven, three were cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and 1 each of Typhoid Fever and Puerperal Fever. I give here the usual table of Infectious diseases notified for the last 10 years, and also a table with the estimated population and number of deaths from the diseases indicated, for the same period.

Since the first of January, 1911, it has been made compulsory for the Medical Officer of Health to send every week to the Local Government Board a return of the cases of Infectious Disease notified to him and a similar return is sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

## CASES NOTIFIED.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Small-pox.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Total.
1904 ...	44	7	14	1	1	0	0	2		69
1905 ...	33	9	21	1	0	0	0	0		64
1906 ...	8	6	1	0	0	0	0	0		15
1907 ...	3	6	21	0	0	0	0	0		31
1908 ...	19	5	9	2	0	0	0	0		35
1909 ...	8	5	1	0	0	0	0	0		14
1910 ...	15	8	8	0	0	0	0	0		31
1911 ...	39	16	1	0	0	0	0	0		71
1912 ...	15	12	4	6	0	0	0	1		49
1913 ...	3	11	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	18

## DEATHS FROM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Year.	Population.	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Small-pox.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Total.
1904 ...	7940	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2		5
1905 ..	7824	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1
1906 ...	7800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
1907 ...	7750	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1		4
1908 ...	7672	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
1909 ..	7600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
1910 ...	7600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
1911 ...	8340	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
1912 ...	8350	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1913 ...	8350	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2

*Tuberculosis  
Notification*

All cases of Tuberculosis are now notifiable whether the disease occurs in the lungs or in other parts of the body. Printed leaflets are issued giving hints as to diet, fresh air, etc., and pointing out precautions which should be taken for preventing the spread of the disease.

*Milk  
Supplies.*

The district is largely engaged in the business of sending milk to London and your Council has always taken a keen interest in safeguarding the supply. You have adopted, several years ago, the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1889, and your Inspector visits the cowsheds of the district periodically and pays particular attention to their sanitary condition and cleanliness. They are much improved. Your Council also sanction the calling in of a Veterinary Surgeon in case of any suspicious case of Tuberculosis amongst milking cows. Under the New Tuberculosis Order which came into force last year I received four notices of suspected Tuberculosis in milking cows, but only one of the four proved to be suffering from the disease after the Veterinary examination and tuberculin test.

*Water  
Supplies.*

Water Certificates for 8 new cottages were applied for and granted. Nine samples of water from the public supplies were taken and analysed by me, particulars of which are appended. The District obtains its water supplies principally from wells, but several villages have supplies under the direct control of your Council, and these are good and well protected from pollution.

*Factories,  
Workshops.*

These have been duly inspected.

*Schools.*

The Schools in the district are regularly inspected, and the sanitary arrangements are kept in a satisfactory condition. Every case of dangerous infectious disease is notified; Schools are disinfected after outbreak and before scholars return; scholars from infected houses are not allowed to attend school, and in some cases schools are closed. As Assistant School Medical Officer I visited 3 times a year 15 schools in the district. About  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the scholars in attendance are examined every year. Dental treatment for the children is now being provided and the cost is in a great measure defrayed by the County Education Committee. This last year provision has been made for the treatment of tonsils, adenoids, and eye troubles, such as errors of refraction, etc.

*Isolation  
Hospital.*

There is no permanent Isolation Hospital in the District, but Hospital Tents owned by your Council are used when isolation of infectious cases is necessary. The site for a permanent hospital has now been chosen and an inquiry as to its suitability was held on September 17th by Dr. Fletcher, Local

Government Board Inspector, who then visited the place. The provision of a Small Pox Hospital for North Bucks has now been decided on, the different Sanitary Authorities interested have come to an agreement to improve the present Hospital at Woughton-on-the-Green, near Bletchley.

*New  
Buildings.*

10 new buildings have been erected during the year. The six houses erected by your Council at Twyford have been completed after some delay and they are now all occupied.

*Sewerage  
and Sewage  
Disposal.*

During the past year a large amount of necessary work has been carried out, and the tanks and filters at Marsh Gibbon and Edgcott have been working satisfactorily on the whole. Privy middens are being gradually replaced by pail closets. House refuse is generally removed by the occupiers and in the great majority of cases there is ample garden and allotment space for its disposal. The Inspector has my instructions not to allow large heaps of rubbish and refuse to accumulate.

*Adoptive  
Acts,  
By-laws.*

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, was adopted on November 23rd, 1889, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, was adopted on February 28th, 1891. Regulations have been made for some time and are being put into force for the carrying out of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders for 1885 and 1899. By-laws are in existence the following :—New Streets and Buildings, Slaughter Houses and the laying of water connections.

*Housing  
Act, 1909.*

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, the Medical Officer of Health is asked by the Local Government Board to include in his annual report information and particulars in tabular form with regard to the number of dwelling houses inspected under section 17 (1) of the Act of 1909, the number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation, the number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders, the number of closing orders made, the number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders, the number of dwelling houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put in a fit state for human habitation, and the general character of the defects found to exist. For the purpose of carrying out these inspections, the Sanitary Inspector was specially designated by your Council, and I here tabulate the particulars of the work done by him.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE.

Statement, required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of Districts Regulations, 1910, in regard to the inspection of dwelling-houses under Section 17 (1) of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909.

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purpose of the Section ... ..	126	22	487	141
Number of such dwelling-houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	9	14	17	2
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which representations were made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders ... ..	9	14	17	0
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made by the local authority ... ..	9	14	17	0
Number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders .. ..	38	34	194	49
Number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were made fit for human habitation ... ..	3	7	8	0
GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DEFECTS FOUND:—				
(a) Drainage Defects ... ..	66	8	103	26
(b) Closet Accomodation, insufficient or defective ... ..	62	5	145	6
(c) Water Supply exposed to surface pollution ... ..	38	0	22	4
(d) Insufficient circulation of air ... ..	3	10	32	20
(e) Dampness.. ... ..	11	5	19	19
(f) Insufficient light... ..	1	10	14	6
(g) Dirty by landlords' default ... ..	21	0	15	3
(h) Dirty by tenants' default ... ..	4	0	4	0
(i) Dirty by default of landlord and tenant ... ..	0	0	1	0
(j) Insufficient paving ... ..	60	2	93	35
(k) Deficient method of refuse disposal ... ..	0	0	0	19
(l) Internal defects, walls, ceilings, floors ... ..	40	21	44	34
(m) Defective roofs or gutters and down pipes ... ..	20	21	21	23

In all cases where defects were found reports respecting such properties in the form of preliminary notices were served on the owners, and requests were made for having the necessary structural works carried out.

The general defects discovered were defective or non-existing drains, defective or insufficient yard pavement, dampness, defective roofs, eave gutters and rain water butts, and bad ventilation.

In all 81 written reports were sent to owners respecting properties inspected.

Where nuisances were found to exist through default of the tenant, immediate steps were taken to have same abated without delay.

Many improvements have been carried out to cottage property during the past year, and in no case was it found necessary to serve a statutory notice, as the owners were found willing to put their property into good repair as soon as the defects had been reported to them.

In conclusion, I beg to thank Mr. Oakes for his help and assistance since his appointment.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PHILIP L. BENSON, M.D., D.P.H. (CAMB),  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1913, for the Rural District of Buckingham, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

**1.—Inspection.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	2	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	74	Verbal notices sufficient in all cases.	
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ..			
Total .. .. .	76		

**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>				
Want of cleanliness.. .. .	2	2	Nil.	Nil.
Want of ventilation.. .. .	Nil.			
Overcrowding .. .. .				
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .				
Other nuisances .. .. .				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient .. .. . unsuitable or defective.. .. . not separate for sexes .. .. .	Nil. Nil.			
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101) .. .. .	Nil.			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) .. .. .				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total .. .. .	2	2		

## 4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	11
Wheelwrights	...	...	...	...	...	4
Shoeing and General Smiths	..	...	...	...	...	8
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Retail Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	13
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Painter	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
Total number of Workshops on Register	...				...	42

## 5.—Other Matters.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (s. 133, 1901) ...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Fac- tory and Workshop Acts (s. 5)	}	Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector...	1901 ...	...	...	Nil
Other ...			...	...	...	Nil

Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—

Certificates granted during the year ...	...	...	...	Nil
In use at the end of the year ...	...	...	...	Nil

P. L. BENSON, M.D., D.P.H. (CAMB.),

*Medical Officer of Health.*

28th February, 1914.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years for the Buckingham Rural District.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.	Number.	Rate.	of Non-registered residents in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
								Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1908	7672	179	23.3	98	12.8	..	5	11	61.4	103	13.4
1909	7600	172	22.6	88	11.6	..	13	12	69.8	101	13.2
1910	7600	189	24.9	105	13.8	..	6	18	95.2	111	14.6
1911	8340	182	22.1	80	9.5	..	15	7	38.1	95	11.4
1912	8350	156	18.7	91	10.9	2	6	9	57.7	95	11.4
1913	8350	145	17.5	84	10.1	..	15	12	82.2	99	11.8

Total population at all ages .. .. 8322 } At Census of  
 Number of inhabited houses .. .. 2084 }  
 Average number of persons per house... 3.993 } 1911.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) .. .. 54,983

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913 in the Buckingham Rural District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.			TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.—Years.					Registration Sub-District of Buckingham (Rural).	Registration Sub-District of Tingewick.	Westbury, Turweston, and Biddlesden.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.				
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	11	..	1	..	1	4	5	..	9	..
Scarlet fever	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Typhus fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Relapsing fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	..	2	2	3	3	..	..	4	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	1	..	3	2	..	..	..	2	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Totals	34	2	3	4	5	8	7	5	13	20

Hospital Tents are used for Isolation, but a permanent Isolation Hospital is about to be built. There is no Sanatorium in the District.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913, in the Rural District of Buckingham.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON-RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All Ages.	Under 1.	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.	
All causes { Certified ...	97	11	2		3	1	6	16	58	
{ Uncertified	2	1							1	
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1			
Small-pox ...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet fever ...										
Whooping-cough ...	1	1								
Diphtheria and Croup										
Influenza ...										
Erysipelas ...										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	7	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	1	
Tuberculous Meningitis										
Other tuberculous diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Cancer, malignant disease ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	
Rheumatic Fever ...										
Meningitis ...										
Organic Heart Disease	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	13	
Bronchitis ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	2	1							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...	2	..	...	...	1	1				
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	1	1								
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...										
Cirrhosis of liver ...	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	1		
Alcoholism ...										
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	2	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	1	
Puerperal fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1			
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1			
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	4	4								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	1	...	1							
Suicides ...										
Other Defined Diseases	23	1	...	...	1	...	1	5	15	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	22	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	



## Analysis of Water Supplies, 1913.

Source of Sample.	Physical Character.	Grains per Gallon.					Nitrites.	Parts per Million.		
		Chlorine.	Equivalent of Common Salt.	Total Hardness.	Nitrogen as Nitrates.	Free Ammonia.		Albuminoid Ammonia.	Oxygen absorbed in 15 min. at 212° F.	
Maids Moreton Pump Lower End	Greenish ; clear .. ..	2.4	3.9	26	0.02	None	0.03	0.06	0.7	
Poundon .. ..	Pale greenish ; clear .. ..	1.0	1.6	38	0.2	"	0.03	0.05	1.2	
Preston Bissett .. ..	Pale greenish ; no turbidity..	1.6	2.6	28	0.04	None	None	0.06	1.1	
Thornborough Pump No. 1 .. ..	" .. ..	2.7	4.5	36	0.1	"	0.01	0.05	1.6	
" " No. 2 .. ..	" .. ..	1.8	2.9	31	0.3	"	None	0.04	1.4	
Tingewick Pump, Chapel Lane ..		2.4	3.9	23	0.3	"	0.02	0.05	0.5	
Turweston .. ..	Faint bluish tint ; no turbidity	0.8	1.3	25	0.1		None	0.03	None	
Twyford .. ..	Pale greenish ; clear .. ..	0.8	1.3	28	0.08		0.03	0.08	0.4	
Westbury .. ..	Clear ; colourless .. ..	0.9	1.4	26	0.4		0.02	0.05	0.8	

*Annual Report of the Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector  
for the year ending December 31st, 1913.*

---

BUCKINGHAM,

*March 4th, 1914.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council  
of Buckingham.

GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in submitting to you my first Annual Report upon the sanitary works and improvements which have been carried out in your District since my appointment.

The past year has been rather an eventful one in the history of your Council. For the first time cottages have been built for the working classes in the District by your Council. These cottages, six in number, were erected at Twyford at a cost of (including the building, land, legal and other charges), £964 13s. 8d. Structurally, they are plain red brick buildings with slate roofs. Each cottage contains a good living room, scullery (containing sink, copper and stove), larder, stores (under stairs), three bedrooms, the usual out-offices, water laid on to premises, and a good garden, and are let at 4s. per week rental.

*Housing  
Regulations*

House to House Inspections have been made during the year in the Parishes of Maids Moreton, Padbury, Steeple Claydon and Thornborough. In each case where defects were found to exist, the details of the defects were laid before your Council. In several instances it has meant the outlay of large sums to put the cottages into habitable condition and to meet your requirements, and it is gratifying to report that this has been done with the least possible amount of friction, as in no case was it found necessary during the year to serve any notice beyond the preliminary notice on the owner to get the improvements carried out.

In one instance the following work was done after a preliminary notice was served :-

The dilapidated plaster to walls and ceilings made good.

” ” casement windows fitted with new lights to open.

The dilapidated stairs repaired and made sound.

3 new floors laid and others repaired.

The whole of the interior cleaned down and distempered.

The roof overhauled and made watertight.

The whole of the external walls were cement rendered.

Ash bin provided for refuse.

Details of Houses inspected will be found included in the Medical Officer's Report.

*Cowsheds  
and  
Dairies.*

There are 195 registered cowkeepers in your District. The cowsheds and premises are periodically inspected, and in cases where the Regulations with regard to cleanliness had not been observed, a verbal request in most cases had the desired result. Only in 3 instances were notices served.

During the year 12 cowsheds have been improved by laying new drains, repairing and making good defective floors, providing more light and ventilation.

In 3 instances new cowsheds of modern construction providing sufficient light, ventilation and air space per cow as required by your Regulations, were built replacing old and insanitary ones.

*Slaughter  
Houses.*

During the year all the Slaughter Houses in the District have been regularly inspected. It has been my endeavour to have them kept in a satisfactory condition, structurally, and with regard to the limewashing and the immediate removal of all offal. The necessary cleansing was in every instance carried out after making verbal request or serving a preliminary notice on the occupier.

No seizures of diseased or unsound meat were made during the year and it gives me great pleasure to be able to report that all the meat inspected was of prime quality only.

*Infectious  
Diseases.*

During the past year the District has been practically free from infectious diseases. The few cases that occurred were isolated ones and were treated in their own homes. On receiving the necessary information from your Medical Officer immediate steps were taken to prevent the spread of the infection.

Revisits were frequently made and disinfectants supplied.

After a house has been infected with any of the notifiable infectious diseases, the rooms, bedding and all clothes which have been in contact with the infection, are thoroughly disinfected. A notice is also served on the owner to have the house limewashed and cleansed throughout.

It was not necessary to have the Hospital Tents erected during the year.

*Factories,  
Workshops  
and  
Bakehouses.*

The Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses in the district have been periodically inspected and on the whole they are kept in excellent order; only on two occasions was it found necessary to complain, and these were attended to immediately.

There are 13 Bakehouses and 28 Workshops in your District.

In no case was overcrowding found.

*Petroleum  
Acts.*

I have made several inspections of premises with regard to the storage of Petrol and Carbide of Calcium.

Three applications were received for the renewal of licenses to store Carbide of Calcium and two for the storage of Petrol. In all cases the licenses were granted by your Council.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Inspections made for all purposes	...	...	...	1152
Complaints received	...	...	...	4
Nuisances detected without complaint	...	...	...	378
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	321
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	102
Statutory	„	„	...	2
Houses inspected	...	...	...	141
Overcrowded abated	...	...	...	7
Total defects	...	...	...	224
New drains laid	...	...	...	35
Earth, pail closets or privies constructed...	...	...	...	21
W. C's constructed...	...	...	...	7
W. C's supplied with water	...	...	...	7
Drains cleansed, repaired, relaid or ventilated	...	...	...	42
Privies and W. C's repaired	...	...	...	5
Certificates granted...	...	...	...	8
Wells closed	...	...	...	2
Slaughter Houses on Register	...	...	...	19
„ „ No. of inspections	...	...	...	132
„ „ „ defects found	...	...	...	6
„ „ „ repaired, cleansed, limewashed, etc.	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses on Register	...	...	...	13
„ No. of inspections	...	...	...	24
„ „ defects found	...	...	...	2
„ „ cleansed, limewashed, repaired, etc.	...	...	...	2
No. of Cowkeepers on Register	...	...	...	195
„ Visits made	...	...	...	275
„ Notices issued <i>re</i> cleansing, water supply, etc....	...	...	...	12
„ Workshops on Register	...	...	...	28
„ „ Inspected...	...	...	...	35
„ Visits to infected houses	...	...	...	24
„ Houses disinfected	...	...	...	10

*New  
Buildings*

During the past twelve months 9 new houses have been erected and additions to 4 existing houses.

All the buildings were frequently inspected whilst in course of erection; all drains were tested before allowing them to be filled in.

Your building byelaws in each case were enforced.

## NEW BUILDINGS:—

- 7 Cottages erected at Twyford.
- 1 House and Post Office at Steeple Claydon.
- 1 House erected at Tingewick Wood.

## Improvements and Additions to:—

- Rookery Farm, Tingewick.
- 1 House, Main Street, Tingewick.
- “Overnhill,” Maids Moreton.
- 1 Cottage, Swan Lane, Marsh Gibbon.

Plans have been submitted and approved by your Council for :—

- 7 Cottages to be erected at Calvert, Charndon Parish.
- 2     ”     ”     ”     Marsh Gibbon.
- 1     ”     ”     ”     Twyford.

*Sewerage  
and  
Sewage  
Disposal.*

The sewers of the district have been maintained in good condition; no serious complaints were received of offensive emanations from them.

Three blockages occurred; these were caused by roots of trees having found their way into the sewers through defective joints. It was found necessary to take up lengths of sewer to extract the roots and accumulations at Maids Moreton and Leckhampstead.

## New lengths of sewers laid:—

- 35 yards near schools at Thornborough.
- 55 yards, North End, Steeple Claydon.

The septic tanks throughout the district have been periodically cleansed. The filters at Steeple Claydon, Marsh Gibbon, Maids Moreton and Water Stratford have been cleansed and recharged.

During the year an additional septic tank and filter was constructed at Marsh Gibbon.

99 yards of effluent drain were laid from the filters at Water Stratford and 30 yards were laid at Chackmore. The old drains were crushed in and completely blocked.

*Water  
Supply.*

Water is supplied to 12 villages through mains to public stand pipes of the anti-freezing type, fixed in such positions to suit the convenience of the villagers.

The reservoirs, mains, stand pipes and the wind engine at Charndon have been maintained in good working order.

Leakages were discovered in the water mains at Padbury, Charndon and Poundon; in each instance the leakage was immediately located, and the main repaired without wasting serious quantities of water.

Stand pipes in the villages of Charndon, Twyford, Steeple Claydon and Preston Bissett got out of order and were repaired.

No. 1 stand pipe at Padbury failed to give water during the very dry weather for several years, owing to it being fixed at too high a level for a gravitation supply, consequently, failed to give water when the water in the well was a little low. This stand pipe was refixed about 30 yards down the lane, which provides an additional 4 feet head of water. Since then, a good supply of water has been obtained from it.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Chairman and Members of your Council for their willing support and confidence, and all the Officers for their ready help in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. ERNEST OAKES, A.R.S.I.,

*Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector.*

