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Burnley Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF

Dr. H. J. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1909.

BURNLEY :

GEORGE ANDERSON (BURNLEY) LIMITED, 50, ST. JAMES'S STREET.

Burnley Rural District Council.

Year ended 1909.

COUNCILLORS :

Altham	Rev. James Robinson, M.A.
Barley	John Collinge.
Blacko	Tom Ridehalgh.
Briercliffe	William Nuttall, J.P.
Cliviger	John Jobling.
Dunnoekshaw	Stephen Landless.
Foulridge	James Lonsdale.
Goldshaw Booth	Alexander Bell.
Habergham Eaves	Joseph Alexander Barlow.
Hapton	Frederick L. Riley, J.P.
Higham	John Charles Pollard.
Huncoat	Oliver Riley.
Ightenhill	Chas. H. Webster, J.P.
Old Laund Booth	Hezekiah Proctor.
Read	Rev. John T. Lawrence, M.A.
Reedley Hallows	Thomas N. Dutton.
Roughlee Booth	Richard Taylor.
Sabden	James Stuttard.
Simonstone and Northtown.....	Thos. H. Thompson, J.P.
Whorsthorne-with-Hurstwood ...	John Smith Leaver.

OFFICIALS :

Chairman—STEPHEN LANDLESS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—JAMES LONSDALE.

Clerk—J. S. HORN, J.P.

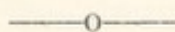
Medical Officer of Health—H. J. ROBINSON, M.R.C.S.

Surveyor—S. EDMONDSON.

Assistant Surveyor—HAROLD PRITCHARD.

Sanitary Inspector—R. J. ATKINSON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BURNLEY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1909.

The area of the district is 42,454 acres, as last year, and the physical and climatic conditions are the same. The district is damp, with a rainfall of over 40 inches; the subsoil is mostly clay, and Pulmonary and Rheumatic affections are very common.

The population at the census of 1901 was 16,589 and the estimated population at present is 20,000, and it is upon this estimate that the calculations and statistics of the following returns are based.

BIRTHS.—The number of Births registered in the district for the year is 383, Males 207, Females 176, and of these three only were illegitimate. This gives a birth-rate of 19.15 per thousand of the population, which is the lowest rate for this district of which I have any record. The rate for the previous year was 21.5, whilst the average for the last ten years is 22.4, so that the births in the district have never reached a reasonable or desirable figure. The highest rate recorded since 1899 is 23.9.

The number of births registered in the several sub-districts is given in Table II. The birth-rate for each of these is: Burnley 19.27, Colne 20.6, Pendle 18.18, and Padiham 19.9 per thousand of the estimated population of the said sub-districts.

I have no return of a death of any illegitimate child.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths of persons belonging to the district, whether they actually died in the district or not, is 280—Males 147, Females 133, giving an annual death-rate of 14 per thousand of the population. The death-rate of the previous year was 12, whilst the average for the previous ten years is 12.9. The highest rate for any one year in those ten years was 15 (1906) and the lowest 11.9 (1900) so that during this year the mortality has been rather high.

Upon referring to Table IV. it will be seen that the mortality amongst older people has been very heavy, as 91 of the deaths have been of persons over 65 years of age, whereas in the previous year there were only 59 of 65 years and upwards. This means that nearly one-third of the deaths during the year have been of residents well advanced in life. Fifteen died from Bronchitis, 15 from Heart Disease, six of some form of Malignant Disease and most of the 44 who died from causes not specified in the return died of old age.

If to these 91 we add the 42 of children who died under one year of age, we have 133 deaths or 47.5 per cent. of the total number for the year.

Taking the deaths at all ages, irrespective of age-periods, we find that 16 have died from Phthisis and 7 from other tuberculous diseases, as against 7 and 8 respectively for the previous year. One should state, however, that the deaths from tuberculous diseases in 1908 were unusually few.

There has been a heavier mortality this year from the following causes :

	Cancer.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Suicides.
This Year	20	26	30	11
1908	12	21	23	7

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—(*See Table V.*)—Of the 280 deaths 42 were of children under one year, giving an Infantile Mortality of 109.66 per thousand of births registered. The rate for the previous year was 114.7, whilst the average rate for the preceding ten years was 119.2. In the year 1907 it was my pleasure and privilege to report a rate of 94.5, and, as stated in previous reports, I am sure that a large number of infants are sacrificed through ignorance, carelessness, and neglect, and in some cases I am afraid, from criminal and wilful neglect. I have seen, for instance, more than once during the last few months, girls under twelve sitting on a doorstep nursing infants, whilst their mothers and fathers were drinking, and in one case the father was said to be dead and the

mother was⁷ at some music hall. These cases are not so uncommon as some may imagine, whilst in many other cases mothers leave their little ones dirty and uncared for whilst they gossip in neighbours' houses. And the homes of such people are dirty, ill-ventilated, with a thoroughly neglected appearance and condition. I have often said that a hose-pipe would be of no small service to play upon houses and people alike. Many others who have the charge of infants, I mean mothers and those who nurse the little ones whilst the mothers are at work, whilst they have houses clean and well-cared for, are so stupid and opinionated that they will not take advice as to the care, nursing and feeding of those entrusted to their care. Again and again has it been pointed out how infants, of a few weeks or months old, are fed with food absolutely unfit or ill-prepared, and notwithstanding all that has been said and done, we have mothers who know better or should know, pursuing the same fatal courses. I know of no remedy for this except the thorough training of girls in all that appertains to home duties and home life, including the care and proper feeding of infants, and the absolute necessity of cleanliness and fresh air. With these matters well taught and well followed the infantile mortality ought always to be below a hundred.

It will be noted with pleasure that only 2 have died during the year of diarrhoea, two of enteritis, diseases very common in ill-fed children, but 6 have died from convulsions, and some of these, I think, ought to have been saved.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—(See *Table III*.)—The number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year again shows a decrease from last year, the total being 96 as against 114 in 1908. With the exception of two years, it is the lowest number returned during the last ten years, the exceptions being 61 for 1904, and 89 for 1906. Of these 96 cases, 72 have been Scarlet Fever, 12 Erysipelas, 6 Enteric, 4 Diphtheria, 1 Membranous Croup, and 1 Puerperal Fever.

The most gratifying feature in these numbers is that we have only had four cases of Diphtheria, whilst in 1908 we had 22. This is the lowest number of Diphtherias reported in one year on record, so far as I can find.

Of the 72 cases of Scarlet Fever, the most have occurred at Hapton, Briercliffe, Worsthorpe, Old Laund Booth and Blacko.

The following Table gives the number of cases notified during 1909, and the preceding 10 years:—

DISEASES.	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Scarlet Fever.....	174	116	70	130	55	25	88	53	130	70	72
Typhoid Fever	14	9	5	8	6	14	10	13	4	8	6
Diphtheria	10	5	17	13	20	9	13	9	5	22	4
Erysipelas	8	10	8	7	6	9	18	11	18	12	12
Membranous Croup ..	4	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	1
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	3	1	1
Small Pox	1	0	0	11	18	2	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	211	142	101	171	107	61	133	89	163	114	96

Average for preceding 10 years—129.

Distribution during the twelve months:—

1909.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Membranous Croup.	Puerperal Fever.	Small Pox.	Total.
January	6				1	1		8
February	2							2
March	2		1	1				4
April	3			3				6
May	10		1	1				12
June	1							1
July	3	1		1				5
August	10	3		1				14
September	7		1					8
October	5			1				6
November	13		1	3				17
December	10	2		1				13
Total	72	6	4	12	1	1		96

On receipt of the notifications the infected houses have been visited as early as possible for the purpose of giving instructions as to the prevention of spread, supplying disinfectants, and, if possible, to ascertain information as to where the patients are likely to have contracted the disease.

After the recovery of the patients, or, if they are removed to the Sanatorium, immediately after such removal, the infected rooms have been disinfected either with formalin vapour or by spraying with formalin solution.

145 visits have thus been necessitated.

Where proper isolation could not be secured at home, 38 patients have been removed to the Sanatorium.

In all cases the School Authorities have been notified so that children from infected houses should not attend school until all danger of infection was past.

Two cases were reported from a farm house, and every precaution was taken to prevent the milk becoming infected. No cases have occurred since which could be attributed to the milk supply.

The following Schools have been closed, upon my recommendation, for varying periods on account of the prevalence of Measles amongst the scholars:—

Sabden Infant School.

Wheatley Lane School.

Roughlee Infant School.

Roughlee Mixed School.

The school premises were cleansed and disinfected during the period of closure.

Briercliffe and Hapton Wesleyan Schools were also disinfected during the Christmas vacation, the former owing to an outbreak of Measles, and the latter to Scarlet Fever.

The appended Table gives the estimated population of each Township, together with the distribution of Infectious Diseases compared with last year:—

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Township.	Estimated Population.	Scarlet Fever.	Cases per 100.	Diphtheria.	Cases per 100.	Typhoid Fever.	Cases per 100.	Erysipelas.	Cases per 100.	Puerperal Fever.	Cases per 100.	Membranous Group.	Cases per 100.	Small Pox.	Cases per 100.	Total number of Cases in each Township	Cases per 100
Altham	900	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	.11	..	..	..	..	1	.11
Barley-with-Wheatley Booth	290	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	..
Blacko	500	7	1.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1.40
Briercliffe	3000	9	.30	1	.03	..	..	3	.10	..	..	1	..	..	..	14	.46
Brunshaw	260	4	1.54	1	.38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1.92
Cliviger	1860	..	..	..	..	1	.05	2	.11	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	.16
Dunnochshaw	520	1	.19	..	..	..	..	1	.19	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	.38
Foulridge	1500	4	.26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	.26
Goldshaw Booth	160	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Habergham Eaves	460	2	.43	..	..	..	..	1	.22	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	.65
Hapton	2140	11	.51	..	..	1	.04	2	.09	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	.64
Higham	640	5	.78	..	..	1	.16	1	.16	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1.10
Huncoat	1500	5	.33	..	..	1	.06	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	.40
Ightenhill Park	120	4	3.33	..	..	1	.83	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	4.16
North Town	140	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old Laund Booth	900	9	1.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1.00
Read	770	..	..	1	.13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	.13
Reedley Hallows	750	2	.27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	.27
Roughlee	330	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sabden	1700	..	..	..	..	1	.06	2	.12	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	.18
Simonstone	550	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wheatley Carr	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Worsthorne-with-Hurstwood	960	9	.94	1	.10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	1.04
Totals	20000	72	.36	4	.02	6	.03	12	.06	1	.005	1	.005	..	..	96	.48
Corresponding Totals for last year	20050	70	.34	22	.10	8	.03	12	.05	1	.005	1	.005	..	..	114	.56

SANITARY MATTERS.—These have entailed much time and attention throughout the year, and so far as I have been able, have visited the various parts of the district, either alone or with one of the Inspectors, and the following particulars will give some idea of the work done and the improvements effected.

For getting out the tabulated details in this part of my report I am indebted to your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Atkinson, of whose thoroughness and conscientious work I cannot speak too highly.

WATER SUPPLY.—This, for the larger part of the district, is good and satisfactory, for of the 21 Townships, 15 have public supplies, 2 private, and the remaining are receiving attention. Last year I said that the supply of water to Briercliffe was practically effected, but unfortunately, through a mechanical defect in the bore hole, there has been a long delay in getting the pump into working order. This, however, is now well-nigh remedied. At Higham a water scheme has been under consideration for some time and last year a Local Government Board enquiry was held relative to that scheme, but little progress has yet been made.

The necessity for securing, as soon as possible, a good and sufficient supply of water for Newchurch-in-Pendle, has been felt by the Council for a long time, and many consultations have been held as to the best means of providing it, and I trust that the complaints from that district will soon be silenced by the Council carrying out the works suggested by the Committee appointed some time ago to enquire into the matter.

There have been 12 premises discovered or reported with polluted and insufficient water supplies; these, I am pleased to say, have been remedied. An improved water supply has also been secured for 7 farms.

SEWERAGE.—I am pleased to say that the Sewerage Scheme for Worsthorne, which occupied the attention of the Council and its staff for so long, is now practically accomplished. A Local Government Board enquiry was held last September, in consequence of proposed alterations and enlargements of the Sewage Works at Sabden, the result of which, I trust, will be satisfactory to the manufacturers and residents in that district.

The condition of Foulridge, I regret to say, is still very unsatisfactory, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Council and the Local Government Board enquiries relative to a satisfactory sewerage scheme for that district; the matter is now at a standstill, as the difficulty, I understand, is in securing a site for sewage outfall works.

From Whinney Hill I have not had any complaints for some months. A joint report from the Medical Officer of Clayton-le-Moors and myself, on the conditions obtaining with suggestions as to the removal of any possible unpleasant smells, etc., was sent to the Local Government Board, but no action, so far as I know, has been taken.

The Sewer at Simonstone from Valley Terrace to the Day School in Badger Lane, has been completed.

In other parts of the district particular attention has been paid to the abolition of insanitary privy-tanks; and many privies have been converted to the pail system. Galvanized iron privy pails are insisted upon in every case.

SCAVENGING.—The following Townships are now scavenged by the Council's own vehicles and labour:—Altham, Barley, Briercliffe, Brunshaw, Cliviger, Goldshaw Booth, Habergham Eaves, Hapton, Higham, Huncoat, Old Laund Booth, Read, Reedley Hallows, Roughlee, Sabden, Simonstone and Worsthorne.

The following summary, as well as indicating the quantities of house refuse, etc., removed, also shows how the district is divided up for the purposes of scavenging:—

	Ashpits emptied	Privy Pails emptied	Privy Tanks emptied	Loads of Ashes removed	Loads of Nightsoil removed
Briercliffe and Reedley ...	4493	1074	588	605	382
Hapton and Huncoat ...	6365	8947	59	1084	282
Altham, Simonstone, Read and Northtown ...	2700	2798	125	723	182
Sabden and Higham	3680	3411	172	654	360
Old Laund Booth, Barley, Goldshaw Booth and Roughlee	551	996	601	281	554
Worsthorne, Cliviger, Habergham Eaves and Brunshaw	3545	12079	1042	668	893

Much better results have accrued in the scavenging of the above Districts with the Council's own men and vehicles than was the case hitherto, when the work was let by contract, as great difficulty was always experienced in getting the Contractors to keep to anything approaching contract time for emptying ashpits, with the consequence that many nuisances were caused. In fact, when the latter system was in vogue 200, and even 300 "Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, etc.," were reported, whereas under the present system there were only 72 reported during the year now in consideration; so that it is evident there is considerable improvement in this respect.

Blacko, Foulridge, and Ightenhill are now the only Townships which are scavenged by contract. In these three cases, however, the work has been done satisfactorily, and no complaints have been received.

Owing to persons depositing vegetable refuse and garbage into the ashpits, hand bills have been distributed in various parts of the district warning the inhabitants against this, and at the same time informing them that all such refuse must be burnt.

20 ashpits have been abolished, and 46 galvanized iron ash bins provided in lieu of same.

DEFECTS DISCOVERED.—During the past year, the various Townships in the District have been periodically and systemically inspected, with the result that a large number of defects have been discovered, which are summarized as follows:—

Accumulations of Night Soil, Refuse, &c.....	72
Defective Closets	55
Defective Ashpits	48
Defective Drainage	53
Dilapidated Privy Pails	8
Choked Waste Water Closets	28
Polluted and Insufficient Water Supplies	12
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.....	2
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	2
Insufficient Accommodation for House Refuse...	33
Insanitary Conveniences, Factories and Workshops.....	5
Insanitary Middensteads	2
Damp Houses	3
Accumulations of Slaughter-house Offal.....	1
Defective, or absence, of Eaves Gutters and Rainpipes	31
Streets in such a condition as to be a Nuisance...	5
Choked Sewers	1
Overcrowded Dwelling-houses	2
Dirty Condition of Dwelling-houses	4
Smoke Nuisances	1
Choked Surface Water Gullies and Drains.....	8
Defective Water Fittings	14
Insanitary Urinals	2
Dilapidated Ash Bins	6
Defective Yard Paving	5
Insanitary Cesspools	4
Dwellings closed as being unfit for human habitation	1
Various	12
Total	420

The whole of the foregoing have been abated.

In addition to the foregoing, there are a few matters which have not yet been remedied, and these will be kept under close supervision until their abatement is secured. At the time of writing this report, however, some of the works are in progress and will be completed at an early date.

335 Notices were served upon the persons in default, and for non-compliance 21 were reported to the Committee. In no case has it been necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

49 written complaints were received and immediately inquired into. In three instances no nuisance existed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—Many inspections of the Dairies and Cowsheds have been made during the year for the purpose of seeing that they complied with the stipulations of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk-shops Orders, etc.

Generally they were found to be kept clean and every care appeared to be taken with regard to the limewashing of the walls at the proper time. We have not found any dirty milk cans, and the hands of the milkers were, as a rule, found to be clean.

The chief fault was with respect to the ventilation of shippons. In quite a number of cases, although there was ample provision in the way of fresh air inlets, these were rendered ineffective through being blocked up. In every instance where this has occurred, the value of adequate ventilation has been pointed out to the farmer, and the ventilators have been put into proper order.

The following is a list of improvements carried out at various farms after notices have been served upon the occupiers:—

- Improved Drainage of 7 Shippons.
- „ Ventilation of 4 Shippons.
- „ Lighting of 6 Shippons.
- Floors re-laid in 3 Shippons.
- Improved Water Supply to 7 Farms.
- Shippons limewashed, 2.

Several other defects in drainage, ventilation, lighting, and defective floors have been discovered, but too late in the year for any alterations to be made. Notices, however, have been served upon the occupiers, some of whom have promised to have improvements carried out as soon as the cattle are put out to graze, as it is impossible to carry out the greater part of this work whilst the cattle are housed for the winter.

I have not found any case of tuberculous milk, and from the County Borough of Burnley, where milk is often taken for examination for tubercle, there has been no case reported to me of infected milk. Whenever I have visited the farms I have always carefully examined each milch cow to see if there was any suspicion of a tuberculous udder, but have not found any. If I had I should have at once called in the Veterinary Surgeon.

In the farms visited this year there has certainly been a marked improvement in general care and cleanliness.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—The Slaughter Houses have been subjected to periodical inspections and there has been no cause for complaint as to the general cleanliness of the same.

Every care appears to be taken with regard to the removal of offal from the premises immediately after slaughtering.

At each visit the meat has been carefully examined, and no carcasses have been condemned.

In some cases meat is brought from the Abattoirs at Burnley and neighbouring towns.

A notice has been served upon a butcher who had deposited some offal in a field and in close proximity to dwelling-houses; and another person was found to be using premises as a Slaughter House without having procured a licence.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—Factories and Workshops have been visited as often as possible.

Three defects have been reported by the Factory Inspector, and were immediately remedied.

The Bakehouses in the District are all satisfactory, being clean and well ventilated.

Details of work done, and the number of Factories, Workshops, &c., on the register will be found in the tables at the end of this Report.

CANAL BOATS.—Small wharves exist at Foulridge, Hapton, and Huncoat. Frequent inspections have been made but no serious defects have been found.

I cannot close this Report without acknowledging my indebtedness to the Sanitary Inspectors, the Clerk, and all my fellow officers in the Sanitary and Surveyor's Departments. The work of all has been hearty, thorough and loyal, and to Mr. Atkinson I am very much indebted for supplying me with many of the details and statistics of the Report.

It is a matter of great regret that death has recently deprived us of one of the best officers I have ever worked with, namely the late Stephen Edmondson, the Surveyor to the Council and one of your inspectors. He was thoroughly devoted to his work, genial but always true to principle and duty, tactful yet firm, a servant of which any Council or District may be justly proud. He did his work without any ostentation but he did it well. Stephen Edmondson was a man, and his life was a commentary upon all that is manly.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. J. ROBINSON, M.O.H.

VITAL STATISTICS.—TABLE I.

of the Whole District during 1909 and Previous Years.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate. *	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate. *
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate. *					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	18500	416	22.5	64	154	259	14.00		2	1	260	14
1900	18500	412	22.3	40	97	218	11.9		5	3	216	11.9
1901	16589	373	22.5	49	131.6	211	12.7		1	2	212	12.7
1902	16600	390	23.5	43	110.5	215	13.00	5	5	4	214	13
1903	17000	366	21.5	45	123	217	12.7	11	10	1	204	12
1904	18000	370	21.6	58	141	250	13.8			8	258	14.3
1905	18000	403	22.3	42	104.2	220	12.2	3	3	4	221	12.3
1906	18000	429	23.9	52	121.2	270	15.00		7	4	267	15.00
1907	19000	423	22.2	40	94.5	235	12.4		5	5	235	12.4
1908	19800	427	21.5	49	114.7	236	11.9			6	242	12.00
Av'rges for years 1899—1908	17,999	400.9	22.4	48.2	119.2	233.1	12.9	1.9	3.8	3.8	232.9	12.9
1909	20000	383	19.15	42	109.66	276	13.8			4	280	14

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages, 16,589

No. of inhabited houses, 3,651

Average number of persons per house, 4.51

At Census of 1901.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 42,454.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1909 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.—TABLE II.
BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	1. BURNLEY REGISTRATION DISTRICT.				2. COLNE REGISTRATION DISTRICT.				3. PENDLE REGISTRATION DISTRICT.				4. PADHAM REGISTRATION DISTRICT.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.																
1899	7030	162	106	35	2100	46	19	3	1650	34	21	8	7810	155	102	18
1900	7240	164	98	16	2100	50	22	3	1650	36	21	1	7800	162	77	20
1901	6528	134	83	23	1858	31	12	2	1589	25	19	4	6614	183	93	21
1902	6539	163	84	19	1858	41	26	5	1589	37	17	2	6614	149	88	17
1903	7000	145	84	20	1870	32	17	7	1630	25	7	2	6500	157	96	16
1904	7000	143	91	17	1870	40	20	6	1630	41	26	6	7500	165	121	29
1905	7000	168	89	16	1870	35	24	2	1630	20	13	1	7500	160	95	2
1906	7000	151	80	20	1870	44	19	3	1630	41	22	3	7500	191	118	27
1907	7410	180	79	14	1960	43	23	2	1700	33	16	3	7930	167	117	21
1908	7660	171	95	24	2110	33	17	..	1850	40	22	4	8180	183	108	21
Averages of Years 1899-1908	7040.7	158.1	88.9	20.4	1946.6	39.5	19.9	3.3	1654.8	33.2	18.4	3.4	7394.8	167.2	102	19.2
1909 ..	7736	148	123	21	2133	44	33	4	1870	34	14	..	8261	157	110	17

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1909.—TABLE III.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each locality.				Total Cases removed to Hospital.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 Burnley Reg. Dist.	2 Colne Reg. Dist.	3 Pendle Reg. Dist.	4 Padih'm Reg. Dist.	1 Burnley	2 Colne	3 Pendle	4 Padiham			
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards											
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	5	1	3	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	12	...	...	...	2	9	1	7	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	72	1	14	44	9	4	...	27	11	9	25	...	...	7	...	13	...	93
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	96	2	17	45	12	19	1	39	11	9	37	8	...	7	...	15	...	38

VITAL STATISTICS.--TABLE IV.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1909,
BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.					Total Deaths whether of Residents or non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	B'rnley Reg. Dist.	Colne Reg. Dist.	Pendle Reg. Dist.	Padiham Reg. Dist.		
Smallpox	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Measles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Croup	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Typhus Fever	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Enteric Fever	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Other continued Fevers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Epidemic Influenza	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Cholera	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Plague	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Diarrhoea	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	
Enteritis	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
Puerperal Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Other Septic Diseases	16	3	1	1	4	10	1	6	1	1	8	1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	7	3	1	1	2	14	6	4	1	2	2	1	
Other Tubercular Diseases	20	1	1	1	1	18	15	10	2	2	6	1	
Cancer (Malignant Disease)	26	1	1	1	1	8	15	12	3	1	11	1	
Bronchitis	30	5	2	1	4	13	6	10	4	1	15	1	
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Pleurisy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Alcoholism - Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Venereal Diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Premature Birth	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	3	1	1	1	3	3	15	11	5	2	3	1	
Heart Diseases	29	1	1	1	3	11	3	11	5	2	11	1	
Accidents	9	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	1	2	7	1	
Suicides	11	1	1	1	1	11	1	4	1	1	6	1	
Chicken Pox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
All other causes	109	22	3	1	1	39	44	55	16	4	34	1	
All causes	280	42	11	5	17	114	91	123	33	14	110	280	

VITAL STATISTICS.—TABLE V.
 INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.
 BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Wk.	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes—	7	3	2	2	14	4	6	6	1	1	1	...	5	1	1	1	41
Certified	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
i. Common Infectious Diseases—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diphtheria: Membranous Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea, all forms .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
iii. Wasting Diseases—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	3	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Congenital Defects	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Want of Breast milk, Starvation .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus .....	...	2	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
iv. Tuberculous Diseases—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Mesenterica .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
v. Other Causes—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6
Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	5
Suffocation, overlying .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5
Deaths from all causes, at all ages	8	3	2	2	15	4	6	6	1	1	1	...	5	1	1	1	42

Births in the Year { Legitimate ... 380
 Deaths from all causes, at all ages ... 280.
 Deaths in the Year { Legitimate Infants ... 42
 Deaths from all causes, at all ages ... 280.
 Population Estimated to middle of 1909, 20,000.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.
1.—INSPECTION.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	INSPECTIONS. (2)	WRITTEN NOTICES. (3)	PROSECUTIONS. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	25	8	..
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	15	..	..
WORKPLACES .. .. .	..	..	..
TOTAL	40	8	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of Prosecutions (5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of Ventilation .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of Floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances	5	5	..	..
Insufficient	2	..	..	..
Sanitary Accommodation	3	3	..	..
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	..	..
Not separate for Sexes .. .. .	..	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses	1	1	..	..
Other Offences .. .. .	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	12	10	..	..

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR. (1)		NUMBER. (2)
Bakehouses	.. .. .	11
Various	.. .. .	9
Total number of Workshops on Register ..		20

4.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	..
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)	..
Other	3
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	3
In use at the end of the year .. .. .	..
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .. .. .	..
Notified by H.M. Inspector .. .. .	..



*With Dr. Elliott
Compliments*



BOROUGH OF BURSLEM.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

Sanitary Inspector,

AND

Lady Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

Burslem:

WARWICK SAVAGE, PRINTER AND LITHOGRAPHER.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS
of the Borough of Burslem.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my Ninth Annual Report (from January 1st to December 31st, 1909) on the sanitary condition of the Borough.

STAFF.—This consists of one Inspector, one Assistant Inspector, one lady Inspector, one Clerk, and myself.

OFFICES.—These were reported by me as inadequate, and in 1908 fresh ones were obtained in Queen Street, less than 100 yards from the Town Hall, and are now quite satisfactory.

AREA.—The Borough consists of 1,862 acres (three-fifths agricultural, two-fifths urban and industrial), and is roughly represented by a square; the north and south boundaries are each about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and the east and west about two miles in length; on the north is Tunstall Urban District, on the south Hanley County Borough; on the east Smallthorne Urban District and part of Hanley (*i.e.* Milton, recently annexed), and on the west Wolstanton United Urban District.

On the west the boundary, which deviates to include Longport Station (on the North Staffordshire Railway), is otherwise formed by the Foulea Brook, which lies between the above Railway and the Trent and Mersey Canal; the latter extends $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, entering on the north from Tunstall just inside the western border, and leaving on the south to enter Hanley.

The highest part of the Borough is High Lane in the North Ward, and is 640 feet above sea-level; the Town Hall is 515 feet, and Longport Station 400 feet above sea-level; the latter is practically the lowest lying part of the Borough.

The Cemetery abuts on High Lane, and is 32 acres in extent; the Park, also in the North Ward, is 22 acres and was opened in 1894; Westport Lake, 28 acres, is in the north-west corner of the Borough.

CHIEF INDUSTRIES.—Earthenware and China, coal mining, brick and tile, flint grinding, colour works, foundries and crate shops.

POPULATION.—The estimated population to the middle of the year was 44,310, and for the end of the year 44,646; the statistics are calculated on the former number.

DENSITY.—The density of the population is 20·8 persons per acre.

The following table gives the population and density per acre at the three last Censi—

		Population.	Density.
1881	...	26,581	14·2
1891	...	32,351	17·3
1901	...	38,878	20·8

The population in each Ward at last Census (1901) was—

North Ward	...	...	13,731
South „	...	...	12,064
East „	...	...	12,971

THE NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES, and average number of persons per house at the three last Censi was—

		No. of inhabited houses.		No. of persons per house.
1881	...	5,248	...	5.06
1891	...	6,010	...	5.38
1901	...	7,606	...	5.11

NEW HOUSES.—81 new houses have been built during the year, *i.e.*—

North Ward	...	...	...	46
South „	...	...	...	27
East „	...	...	...	8

The following table shows the number of NEW HOUSES built each year since 1896—

1896	...	...	...	142
1897	...	...	...	245
1898	...	...	...	240
1899	...	...	...	99
1900	...	...	...	69
1901	...	...	...	152
1902	...	...	...	152
1903	...	...	...	76
1904	...	...	...	72
1905	...	...	...	75
1906	...	...	...	88
1907	...	...	...	275
1908	...	...	...	114
1909	...	...	...	81

The building Inspector supervises the erection of new houses, to all of which the landlords have supplied ash-bins at the request of the Sanitary department, no ash-pits being built; and the Sanitary Inspector does all he can to persuade the landlords to have ash-bins instead of ash-pits when the latter require repair, and in many cases he is successful.

The Destructor at the Electric Power Station has been able to dispose of four-fifths of the ashes, the rest going to tips.

The ash-bins are emptied by the Corporation men, some weekly, others fortnightly, and others even oftener.

During the year 200 ash-pits have been done away with, being replaced by galvanized iron ash-bins.

Trade refuse from about 200 shops is collected weekly.

There are only about 20 back to back houses in the Borough.

The erection of a municipal model lodging house was discussed by the Sanitary Committee four years ago, but no other steps were taken in the matter.

BIRTHS.—The number of births registered during the year was 1,397 (717 males, 680 females) an increase of 16 on the previous year.

Birth rate for the year	...	...	...	31.5
" " 1908	...	...	...	31.6
Mean rate for the 10 years 1899 to 1908				35.3
Birth " 76 great towns	...	...	...	25.7
" " 143 smaller towns			...	24.8

NATURAL INCREASE.—The following table shows the natural increase—*i.e.* excess of births over deaths—for the last 19 years.

1891	...	...	...	487
1892	...	...	...	287
1893	...	...	...	537
1894	...	...	...	598
1895	...	...	...	600
1896	...	...	...	652
1897	...	...	...	486
1898	...	...	...	634
1899	...	...	...	594
1900	...	...	...	427
1901	...	...	...	456
1902	...	...	...	690
1903	...	...	...	689
1904	...	...	...	619
1905	...	...	...	483
1906	...	...	...	642
1907	...	...	...	586
1908	...	...	...	615
1909	...	...	...	547

STILL-BIRTHS.—During the last nine years the interments of still-born children have been registered in the cemetery as follows—

1901	...	...	...	125
1902	...	...	...	99
1903	...	...	...	120
1904	...	...	...	89
1905	...	...	...	95
1906	...	...	...	83
1907	...	...	...	93
1908	...	...	...	104
1909	...	...	...	99

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in Borough				Total Deaths in Public Insti- tutions in the Borough	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Insti- tutions in the Borough	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Insti- tutions beyond the Borough	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the Borough	
		Number	Rate per 1000 Popu- lation	Under 1 year of age		At all ages					Number	Rate per 1000 Popu- lation
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births reg- istered	Number	Rate per 1000 Popu- lation					
1899	35527	1408	39.6	278	197	818	22.9	18	4		814	22.9
1900	35955	1481	41.1	341	230	1016	28.2	21	3	38	1054	29.3
1901	38934	1367	35.1	286	209	871	22.3	21	4	44	911	23.3
1902	39609	1493	37.6	258	172	754	19.0	25		49	803	20.2
1903	40278	1434	35.6	262	182	695	17.2	14	2	52	745	18.4
1904	40950	1480	36.1	288	194	818	19.9	22	3	46	861	21.0
1905	41622	1346	32.3	272	202	793	19.0	21	4	75	864	20.7
1906	42294	1432	33.8	265	185	735	17.3	27	5	60	790	18.6
1907	42966	1334	31.0	197	147	701	16.3	34	10	57	748	17.4
1908	43638	1381	31.6	254	183	721	16.5	51	17	62	766	17.5
Averages for years 1899-1908	40177	1415	35.3	270	190	792	19.8	25	5	48	835	20.9
1909	44310	1397	31.5	251	179	821	18.5	67	23	52	850	19.5

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered in the Borough was 821, 35 of these occurred at the Haywood Hospital, and 32 at the Isolation Hospital; 12 at the Haywood and 11 at the Isolation did not belong to the Borough, while 52 deaths of residents belonging to the Borough occurred in public institutions beyond the district, *i.e.*—

Chell Workhouse ...	38
North Staffs. Infirmary ...	13
Manchester Royal Infirmary	1

bringing the nett deaths belonging to the Borough to 850.

Death-rate for the year	19.5
" " " 1908	17.5
Mean " " 10 years, 1908 to 1899...	20.9
Death " " 76 great towns	15.6
" " " 143 smaller towns	14.5

ILLEGITIMACY.—Of the 1,397 births, 4.2 per cent. were illegitimate, *i.e.* 59, 31 males and 28 females.

Of the 252 deaths of infants under one year of age, 6.7 per cent. were illegitimate, *i.e.* 17, 11 males and six females; four died of Premature Birth, three of Convulsions, two of Pneumonia, two of Marasmus, and one each of Anæmia, Bronchitis, Diarrhœa, Meningitis, Syphilis, and Tubercular Peritonitis.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1909.
Borough of Burslem.

CAUSES OF DEATH				All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	53	14	35	4	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4	1	3	...	...	...	...	5
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	32	12	19	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	20	1	13	6	...	...	...	22
Croup	...	...	...	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	5
Other Continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	34	29	3	...	...	1	1	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	8	2	1	...	1	3	1	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	49	4	...	3	3	38	1	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	40	14	11	7	3	5	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	26	...	2	...	...	18	6	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	110	16	12	3	...	45	34	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	72	21	22	4	1	19	5	2
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	3	3	1
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	...	...	...	32	32	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	53	3	1	1	2	35	11	1
Accidents	...	...	...	26	3	4	5	3	7	4	16
Suicides	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	4	...	1
All other causes	...	...	...	255	93	36	7	6	54	59	12
All causes	...	...	...	850	252	166	43	20	242	127	67

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.—Under this heading are included all deaths in which neither a medical certificate was given nor a Coroner's inquest held.

There were 15 such deaths (compared with 11 and 17 in 1908 and 1907), and the registered causes and ages were:—

Convulsions	...	...	...	2, 4, 6, 16, 19 days.
"	...	...	...	1 month.
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2 "
Heart	...	...	...	48 years.
"	...	...	...	51 "
"	...	...	...	59 "
"	...	...	...	61 "
Nephritis	...	...	...	57 "
Gout	...	...	...	70 "
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	71 "

Seven of these 15 uncertified deaths were under 12 months of age.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.—There were 60 of these; three being returned as deaths due to Plumbism.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The deaths of children under one year of age numbered 252, of these 251 occurred in the Borough, and one at Chell workhouse.

Infant death-rate for the year	...	...	...	180			
"	"	"	1908	...	...	...	183
Mean	"	"	10 years, 1899 to 1908	...	...	...	190
Infant	"	"	76 great towns	...	...	...	118
"	"	"	143 smaller towns	...	...	...	111

The chief causes of the infantile mortality were—

Convulsions	...	...	...	45 deaths.
Premature birth	...	...	...	32 "
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	29 "
Atrophy and debility	...	...	...	24 "
Pneumonia	...	...	...	21 "
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	18 "
Bronchitis	...	...	...	16 "
Congenital defects	...	...	...	15 "
Measles	...	...	...	14 "
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	12 "

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
<i>All Causes—</i>																	
Certified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245
Uncertified ...	3	...	2	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
<i>Common Infectious Diseases—</i>																	
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	2	2	3	14
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	...	2	1	2	...	1	...	12
<i>Diarrhoeal Diseases—</i>																	
Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	5	3	1	4	...	3	6	2	3	...	29
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
<i>Wasting Diseases—</i>																	
Premature Birth ...	20	5	1	...	26	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Congenital Defects ...	3	2	3	...	8	2	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	15
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Want of Breast-milk Starvation ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	...	2	...	3	5	2	1	5	5	2	...	...	2	...	...	2	24
<i>Tuberculous Diseases—</i>																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculous Peritonitis— Tabes Mesenterica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	10
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	5
<i>Other Causes—</i>																	
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Convulsions ...	7	3	3	1	14	4	5	6	4	...	3	2	2	4	1	...	45
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	2	1	3	3	1	...	16
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	1	2	21
Suffocation, overlying ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other causes ...	2	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	9
	32	13	8	6	59	18	22	27	23	12	15	18	22	17	10	9	252

The notification of Births Act (1907) was adopted by the Town Council in April, 1908. The lady Sanitary Inspector visits all houses where births are notified, gives advice on the feeding and care of infants, and leaves a printed card of instructions.

I give a table showing for a few diseases the youngest ages at which deaths occurred in 1909 and 1908 among children under one—

	1909.		1908.
Measles ...	6 months	...	7 months.
Scarlet fever	11 „		
Diphtheria ...	8 „		
Whooping-cough	4 weeks	...	5 months.
Diarrhœa ...	3 „	...	2 weeks.
Tubercle ...	2 months	...	2 months.
Syphilis ...	1 month	...	1 month.
Bronchitis ...	3 „	...	1 week.
Pneumonia ...	4 „		

Suffocation by over-laying in bed accounted for three deaths—three weeks, one month and two months of age. In 1908 there were four deaths from this cause, two at one month, and two at four months of age.

In September there were four prosecutions under the Notification of Births Act (1907), one against a doctor, and three against midwives: all the defendants were ordered to pay costs.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—There were 148 deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases.

	Under 5.	Over 5.	Total.
Small-pox ...	0	0	0
Scarlet fever ...	4	0	4
Diphtheria ...	14	6	20
Measles ...	49	4	53
Typhoid fever ...	0	5	5
Whooping-cough ...	31	1	32
Diarrhœa ...	32	2	34
	130	18	148

Zymotic death-rate for the year ...	...	...	3.3
"	"	" 1908 ...	2.4
Mean	"	" 10 years, 1899 to 1908 ...	3.2
Zymotic	"	" 76 great towns ...	1.4
"	"	" 143 smaller towns ...	1.0

This is the highest Zymotic death-rate since 1904, and is due to the large number of deaths from measles and whooping-cough. No year since 1890 (the earliest year I can find records of) has shown so many deaths from measles, the next highest number being 46 deaths in 1896, and the number of deaths from whooping-cough has only been exceeded in 1892 (44 deaths) and 1897 (79 deaths). Diphtheria also shows the greatest number of deaths since 1902.

The following table shows the death-rate per 1000 living from diarrhœa since 1896:—

1896	...	1.9	1903	...	1.1
1897	...	2.3	1904	...	1.8
1898	...	1.9	1905	...	1.2
1899	...	1.7	1906	...	1.7
1900	...	0.9	1907	...	0.5
1901	...	1.9	1908	...	1.7
1902	...	1.0	1909	...	0.7

The next table shows from 1890:—

- 1st. The number of deaths from the principal Zymotic diseases.
- 2nd. The Zymotic death-rate per 1000 living.
- 3rd. The number of deaths from Cancer.
- 4th. " " " Phthisis.
- 5th. The infant mortality per 1000 births registered.

Table showing No. of Deaths from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, the Zymotic Death Rate,
and No. of Deaths from Cancer and Phthisis, also Infant Mortality per 1000 Births registered.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Small-pox	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	1	45	1	37	2	10	46	8	37	1	35	4	27	1	21	11	30	31	2
Scarlet Fever	...	7	12	4	18	6	5	6	19	24	21	16	5	7	...	22	14	7	4	2
Diphtheria	...	1	1	...	...	2	7	16	5	17	39	83	63	33	14	14	13	10	8	9
Whooping Cough	...	31	18	44	5	18	15	14	79	9	4	18	27	7	6	25	20	1	15	8
Typhoid Fever	...	10	10	6	4	1	6	9	6	1	4	8	9	6	5	13	6	9	1	9
Diarrhoea	...	35	23	30	56	27	53	66	80	69	63	34	77	41	47	76	53	72	24	75
Total	...	85	108	85	120	56	96	157	197	157	132	194	185	121	77	171	117	129	83	105
Rate per 1000	...	3.1	3.4	2.6	3.6	1.6	2.6	4.3	5.6	4.5	3.7	5.3	4.7	3.0	1.6	4.1	2.8	3.0	1.9	2.4
Cancer	...	17	7	26	20	13	13	16	21	17	27	25	15	33	27	28	34	24	18	25
Phthisis	...	62	45	44	33	38	35	39	48	45	43	43	73	38	56	52	50	55	47	49
Infant Mortality per 1000 births registered	...	217	171	189	194	190	182	216	232	200	197	230	209	172	182	194	202	185	147	183

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during
the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	At all ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	Total cases removed to Hospital
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	162	2	62	86	6	6	...	133
Erysipelas	20	1	1	2	2	11	3	...
Scarlet Fever...	119	1	48	67	2	1	...	101
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ..	32	...	4	4	9	15	...	24
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neon.	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	41	...	1	1	9	29	1	...
Totals	388	15	116	160	29	64	4	258

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—There were 336 notifications received during the year of the ordinary notifiable diseases, compared with 239 and 195 for the two previous years; there were 101 more cases of diphtheria than last year.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, came into force on January 1st, and during the year 41 cases of phthisis occurring amongst poor-law patients have been notified.

Ophthalmia occurring in infants up to 14 days old was included amongst the notifiable diseases on September 11th, and 11 cases have been notified.

So 388 cases of notifiable diseases have been received, made up as follows—

The ordinary notifiable diseases	...	336
Phthisis	... ..	41
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	11

Each house was visited, disinfectants supplied, any defects in drainage or ash-pits remedied, and post-cards sent to the schools keeping the contacts away for specified times, and many of the schools have been disinfected, as well as all the rooms occupied by the infected cases.

I give a table showing the number of diseases notified since the adoption of the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (1889) in 1890, and the number of cases removed to Hospital.

Table of Cases Notified under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act,
(Adopted March, 1890.)

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	
Small-pox	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	12	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	93	236	124	415	157	95	184	326	401	481	243	100	118	43	415	239	140	104	145	119
Diphtheria	...	3	12	7	15	11	6	14	16	28	94	341	268	186	91	80	80	89	57	61	162
Typhoid Fever	...	21	50	28	37	24	34	45	36	16	44	38	50	31	20	32	29	25	11	20	32
Puerperal Fever	...	1	...	2	4	1	1	...	4	6	5	8	6	6	7	13	6	6	4	4	3
Erysipelas	...	13	24	23	50	16	16	14	17	18	15	35	36	21	17	30	14	18	19	9	20
Continued Fever	...	10	18	3	6	1	...	1	1	...	2	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	141	340	187	518	214	152	258	400	469	641	665	462	362	231	583	368	278	195	239	336
Cases removed to Sanatorium	4	9	9	...	20	7	29	62	119	151	93	86	67	48	97	80	19	...	...	...	...
do. Bucknall	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
do. Bagnall	52	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
do. Haywood Hospital	3	1	...	...	...	...
do. N. S. Infirmary	1	1	...	...	...	...
do. Burslem Isolation Hospital	128	139	193	258	...

Referring to cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, and typhoid fever, the following table shows the percentage of cases removed since 1897:—

1897	...	...	16	1904	...	...	18
1898	...	...	26	1905	...	...	23
1899	...	...	24	1906	...	...	58
1900	...	...	14	1907	...	...	80
1901	...	...	20	1908	...	...	85
1902	...	...	24	1909	...	...	82
1903	...	...	31				

The increase during the last four years has been due to the opening of an Isolation Hospital within the Borough in April, 1906; previous to that date the cases were sent to the Bradwell Sanatorium outside the Borough, and this was often full.

In June, four cases of diphtheria were refused admission, and in January one case of typhoid, as there were no beds available.

SCARLET FEVER—

Number of cases	...	...	...	119
Incidence per 1000 living	...	...	...	2.6
Number of deaths (two at home and two at hospital)	...	...	...	4
Case mortality (deaths per 100 cases)	...	...	...	3.3
Removed to Hospital	...	...	...	84 per cent.
„ „ 1908	...	...	...	88 „
„ „ 1907	...	...	...	78 „
Case mortality of the 18 nursed at home	...	...	...	11 „
„ „ 101 „ hospital	...	...	...	1.9 „

Simultaneous infection, *i.e.* subsequent infection of contacts in the same house within a few days.

Two cases occurred in each of 10 houses.				
Three	„	„	„	5 „
Four	„	„	„	2 „

The schools most affected by the scarlet fever and the number of cases in connection with them is given below—

Middleport ...	...	...	19
St. John's ...	...	...	13
Cobridge Church ...	...	...	8
St. Joseph's ...	...	...	7
Hill Top ...	...	...	6

DIPHTHERIA—

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	162
Incidence per 1000 living	...	...	...	...	3·6
Number of deaths (five at home, 15 at hospital)	...	...	...	...	20
Case mortality	...	...	...	...	12 per cent.
Removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	82
" " 1908	...	...	...	...	80
" " 1907	...	...	...	...	80
Case mortality of the 29 nursed at home	...	...	...	...	17
" " 133 " hospital	...	...	...	...	11·2
Death rate per 1000 living	...	...	...	...	·4
" " " for 143 smaller towns	...	...	...	...	·16

The following table shows since 1898 the incidence per 1000 living, death-rate per 1000, and case mortality—

	Incidence per 1,000	Death-rate per 1,000	Case mortality
1898	·7	·4	60
1899	2·6	1·0	41
1900	8·9	2·2	24
1901	6·8	1·6	23
1902	4·6	·8	17
1903	2·2	·2	15
1904	1·9	·3	17
1905	1·9	·3	16
1906	2·1	·2	11
1907	1·3	·1	14
1908	1·3	·2	14
1909	3·6	·4	12

Two swabs from suspected throats were sent to Birmingham University—both with negative result.

Simultaneous infection—

Two cases occurred in each of 18 houses.

Three	„	„	4	„
Four	„	„	1	„

The schools chiefly affected were—

Hill Top	...	...	31
Middleport	...	...	20
St. Paul's	...	...	9
Sneyd Green	...	...	6
Cobridge Church	...	...	6

TYPHOID FEVER—

Number of cases	...	...	...	32
Incidence per 1000 living	...	...	...	·7
Number of deaths (one at home, four at hospital)	...	...	...	5
Case mortality	...	...	...	15 per cent.
Removed to hospital	...	...	...	75 „
„ „ 1908	...	...	...	75 „
Case mortality of the 8 nursed at home	...	...	...	12 „
„ „ 24 „ hospital	...	...	...	16 „
Death rate per 1000	...	...	...	·1
„ „ for 143 smaller towns	...	...	...	·06

At the 32 houses where typhoid occurred—

15	had pans and traps
9	„ ducketts
4	„ cesspools
3	„ flush water-closets and
1	„ both water-closet and duckett

One house where there was a pan and trap had four cases, and two houses where there were ducketts had two cases each.

Only one blood tube was sent to Birmingham University—
with negative result.

The number of cases each quarter were—

1st quarter	...	...	15
2nd „	...	...	6
3rd „	...	...	4
4th „	...	...	7

In February a doctor was fined 10/- and costs for failing to notify a case of typhoid.

MEASLES.—This is not a notifiable disease; a few years ago I recommended it should be made so.

The infant department of St. John's School was closed from May 26th to June 4th, and of Hill Top School from May 26th to June 11th on account of its prevalence.

This was an epidemic year, 53 deaths occurring, compared with only two deaths the previous year.

Death-rate per 1000	...	...	...	...	1·1
„ „ for the 143 smaller towns					·3

WHOOPING COUGH—

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	32
Death-rate per 1000	...	...	...	...	·7
„ „ for the 143 smaller towns					·17

Deaths occurring from phthisis and from cancer are notified to the sanitary authorities by arrangement with the Registrar of Births and Deaths, as soon as they are registered. In all these cases offers are made to disinfect the rooms occupied by the patients, and this is done in all cases.

BAKE-HOUSES.—These are very good; there is one underground bake-house; four years ago we opposed the grant of a license to it, but the Stipendiary Magistrate decided against the Corporation.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Some of these are old, though kept clean: I think public abattoirs would be a great sanitary improvement.

DAIRIES.—These are kept clean.

COWSHEDS.—Some of these are old, and rather defective in light and ventilation.

NIGHT SOIL AND ASHES.—The removal of these is done by the Corporation.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—We have admitted 385 patients—

	Deaths
258 from Burslem, 101 Scarlet ...	3
132 Diphtheria ...	14
25 Typhoid ...	4
118 from Tunstall, 60 Scarlet ...	3
51 Diphtheria ...	5
7 Typhoid ...	1
9 from Smallthorne, 8 Scarlet ...	0
1 Diphtheria ...	1

The previous year we admitted 323 patients.

Death-rate	8·0
„ 1908	8·9

I should like to place on record my regret at giving up the office of Medical Officer after nine years, and to express my appreciation of the amicable relations that have existed amongst the officials of my department and between these officials and the Council. I wish to particularly mention the great assistance I have always received at the hands of the Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CLARENCE H. MOTT.

March 30th, 1910.

SANITARY OFFICE,
BURSLEM,

December 31st, 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my tenth annual report of inspectoral and other work in your Sanitary Department for the year 1909.

In all, 10,280 visits have been paid, including systematic inspections of various parts of the Borough, visits to houses from which complaints have been received with regard to nuisances, houses in which cases of disease have occurred, dairies, cowsheds, milk-shops, canal boats, and common lodging-houses, &c.

There has been 1,555 nuisances or breaches of the various bye-laws or Public Health Acts discovered. These of a necessity were of a very varied nature and the majority of such a character as to require no structural alterations to property to be remedied and in the majority of cases after an interview with the owner or the sending of a formal notice to the person responsible, the defects were remedied, and I am pleased to say that Police Court proceedings have not been necessary.

It is very gratifying to find on visiting the various quarters of the Borough how keen the residents are on any sanitary defects compared with some few years ago; in fact, they almost presume that you have men waiting for complaints to come in to proceed at a moment's notice to remedy anything that may be wrong.

I am pleased to state that the poverty in the town seems to be less acute and there is not as formerly that tendency for several families to live together in one cottage house. The cases of overcrowding this year being only eight compared with eleven last year.

The nuisances arising from waste water-closets being defective and choked are a source of trouble and expense to both landlord and Corporation alike. The number requiring attention this year being 673 compared with 720 last year. Many of these were put right by the Corporation workmen with the tongues and

pumps without expense to the owners of the property, but where necessary formal notices were sent, which either brought the necessary order or resulted in the work required being done, but the number of cats and fowls that find their way down these conveniences are very numerous.

While all nuisances are serious, some of the more serious type such as open and untrapped drains and lavatories connected direct on drains are now a thing of the past.

The old privy cesspools in the Borough are very much reduced. 69 have been replaced by the water-carriage system during the year.

The following list shows the number and the nature of nuisances discovered and dealt with during the year.

- 893 defective and choked waste water and water-closets.
- 221 defective and choked drains.
- 144 defective ashpits and privies.
- 26 dilapidated houses.
- 13 dirty houses.
- 14 structural defects at houses.
- 8 cases of overcrowding.
- 15 defects at dairies and cowsheds, viz.: limewashing and paving.
- 4 dirty bakehouses.
- 5 defects at slaughter-houses; no garbage vessel and limewashing.
- 40 contraventions on canal boats.
- 10 accumulations of filth.
- 40 no water supply.
- 15 animals (pigs and horses) improperly kept.
- 4 offensive trades.
- 3 defects at lodging-houses.
- 3 of smoke nuisance; and
- 97 nuisances of a less important nature.

1555 Total.

In connection with the abatement of the aforesaid nuisances 440 informal notices were sent and 28 final notices, which in every case had the desired effect.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.—63 of these have been taken during the year, but in only three cases has there been cause for serious complaint, and on interviewing the persons responsible, great improvement was made, showing that it was the outcome of carelessness.

The smutt nuisance in the Park and Cobridge districts is a thing of the past and no complaints are received *re* the same.

The dust complained of as falling from the Destructor chimney in Scotia Road, is now, owing to the better regulating of same, not heard of. At times the smoke in the Market Place and Waterloo Road is very bad, but these are two districts where there is a congestion of factories and the nuisance occurs at those times when the ovens are set alight, and until the fire gets through sufficiently to consume the smoke or reduce it to a minimum, there must be some smoke, but on speaking to the men in charge, I find them anxious to do what they can in the matter of reducing the same.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT.—The number of slaughter-houses in the Borough is 17 compared with 18 last year, one being unoccupied as such. These have been visited systematically during the year; 404 visits having been paid, but only on five occasions was there any breach of the bye-laws discovered. in two cases there was a want of garbage vessels, in two cases the want of limewashing, and in one other an accumulation of garbage. In several cases the slaughter-houses are very old buildings, but the best is made of them by those responsible who keep them in the best order possible.

One meat seizure has taken place during the year, viz., that of four quarters of beef with the organs belonging to the same animal. This was the property of T. UNWIN, of Werrington, who, on October 22nd, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine and to pay all costs of the court amounting to £5, or serve a further period of 14 days in prison, by the Stipendiary Magistrate.

Four surrenders, viz.: two of fish and two of meat were made.

The total weight of meat and fish seized and surrendered during the year was 1157 lbs.

Both the markets have been regularly visited on market days during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—We have none of these registered in the Borough as such, although many of the fried fish and chip potato shops owing to the oil used in the frying process are at times very offensive, but they are on the whole kept very clean and the cause of complaint is only of short duration.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—The number of dairymen and purveyors of milk on the register is 112, compared with 123 of last year, 11 having relinquished the business. 99 of these reside in the Borough, 72 of which are only vendors of milk, while 27 sell milk and keep their own cows. 13 others are registered to sell milk in the Borough, 12 of which have farms outside, the other being a milk seller from an adjoining town. 516 visits have been paid, 300 to the milk shops and 216 to the cow sheds. 11 complaints were made as to the latter, viz.: seven a want of limewashing and four in regard to milk shops—these were respecting the way the milk was kept, viz.: not in proper vessels or uncovered. The cause of complaint was remedied after the person responsible was spoken to or when a formal notice was sent. In one or two cases the cowsheds were not all that could be desired, being old buildings and lacking the desired light and ventilation, but they have over and above the requisite capacity per head of cattle, but in every case of cow keepers the cows are only housed partially a few months in the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—Every known factory and workshop in the Borough has been visited periodically; 687 visits having been paid, 279 to the various factories and 408 to the workshops. Any breaches in the various Acts or Bye-Laws discovered were reported to your Council and dealt with. On notice being sent to the various owners or tenants the defects were remedied and no legal proceedings have been taken during the year.

The limewashing and cleansing of these places is carried out in keeping with the various Acts and Bye-Laws.

The defects dealt with during the year were 40, viz.—

- 11 defective and choked water-closets.
- 9 defective, choked or insufficient drains.
- 7 no water-closet or privy accommodation.
- 2 defective urinals.
- 2 defective Rochdale pans.
- 2 dirty workshops.

During the year 16 flush water-closets have been fixed on various factories and workshops to replace old privy cesspools.

The number of factories in the Borough is 137; some of these appeared under the head of workshops last year, but motive power having been added constitutes them factories.

The number of workshops on the register is 204 compared with 161 last year. These are always a varying quantity, as every week some are being relinquished and others established.

Below is a list of factories and workshops :

FACTORIES.

66 Earthenware Factories and Tile Works	3 Color Works
12 Sausage Factories	2 Monumental Works
9 Iron Founders	2 Metal Mounters
9 Potters' Millers and Builders	3 Printers
5 Bakeries	2 Boat Builders
7 Brick and Pipe Makers	2 Cratemakers and one each of the following :—

electric plating, cabinet making, electric works, brewery chemical works, Rubber stamps, and one hospital where there is a laundry.

WORKSHOPS.

12 Millinery and Dressmaking	2 Paper Bag Makers
24 Shoemakers	2 Modellers
23 Cratemakers	2 Picture Framers
22 Bakehouses	2 Sugar Boilers
16 Tailors	2 Ice-cream Makers
15 Joiners and Cabinet Makers	2 Stonemasons
13 Wheelwrights & Blacksmiths	2 Carriage Builders
5 Engravers	2 Watch Makers
4 Cycle Makers	2 Marine Stores
4 Plumbers and Printers	2 Venetian Blind Making
3 Coopers	3 Decorators and one each of the following :—
3 Saddlers	

dye house, laundry, crayon making, jug making, tile decorating, nest egg making, boat repairing, metal mounting, making potters' tools, brush making, tinsmith, basket making, and color making. One bakehouse is underground.

At 170 of the workshops there is water-closets, and at 34 cesspools, and at 114 of the factories there is either water-closets or latrines, and at 23 cesspools. Where there is cesspools many of them are on the border of the Borough, and sewers are not at hand for connecting same if converted to water-carriage system.

I have also on the register, 9 outworkers whose premises are visited regularly.

CANAL BOATS.—360 boats were examined compared with 340 last year. All inspections were recorded in keeping with the Acts and Regulations. The boats on the whole were in a good state of repair, clean, well ventilated and free from overcrowding. 200 of the boats were owned by the Anderton Co. Ltd., 64 by the Salt Union, 50 by the Shropshire Union, 12 by Messrs. Bolton & Sons, of Frog Hall, and 56 by various other owners. 198 of the boats were registered at Runcorn, 104 by the Stoke Urban Council, 42 at Chester, 7 at Wolverhampton, 2 each at Manchester, Brierley Hill and Uxbridge, and 1 each at Leigh, Marple and Birmingham. The 360 boats were occupied by 1,039 persons, 613 men, 188 women and 238 children.

The percentage of men is larger this year than last, that of women smaller, and that of children greater, which is to be regretted.

The occupants of the boats works out at 2.88% persons per boat; last year 2.82. The accommodation on the boats was for 1,184½ persons, but reckoning 2 children for one adult the occupants total up to 910 persons, or an average per boat of 2.52, so that there was little overcrowding, only four cases occurring during the year. The ages of the children ranged from one to 13 years; 125 being males and 113 females. The number of children above school age was 85, but I fear that they seldom attend.

Two cases of infectious disease occurred on the boats, one was removed to our Hospital, the other, on going to visit the same, had left the district with the boat. Two other cases of sickness occurred on two other boats, one being a man the other a child, both were removed, one to the Hospital the other to its home. Two boats were disinfected, one after infectious disease, the other was a dirty boat, being verminous. 40 contraventions were discovered—

- 11 being for dilapidation
- 7 for no effective water vessel
- 6 cabins requiring repainting
- 6 for absence of Certificate
- 1 Certificate not identifying owner of boat
- 4 for overcrowding
- 3 improperly occupied
- 1 dirty boat
- 1 no bilge pump.

In each case of contravention a complaint note was sent to the owners giving reasonable time for the remedying of the defects and the return of the note duly signed. These were returned within the specified time, stating the work had been done so that no legal proceedings were necessary. The canal basin was visited weekly, and only on two occasions was anything offensive found floating in same, viz., the bodies of dead dogs, these were removed by the Canal Authorities on being written to. OWEN J. LLEWELLYN, Esq., H.M. Inspector, paid his annual visit on October 13th, and examined my books and expressed himself as satisfied with the work done.

ASHES AND NIGHTSOIL.—The work of removing the above has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner by your own men and teams under the supervision of my assistant, and I would like to mention that while the ashes in bulk is much greater than formerly—say ten years ago—owing to the erection of new property, and owing to the doing away with many ashpits, and bins being substituted, the labour is increased, as weekly or fortnightly visits have to be paid, yet there has been no increase in the teams which have been stationary for ten years. 11,437 loads of ashes were removed during the year, 9,859 of which went to the destructor, 649 to the Sytch tip, 493 to the free tip, 357 to the destructor road; also 79 loads of manure were removed by our teams, 39 of which went to the Cemetery and 40 to Park. Also 494 disused verminous or dirty beds and mattresses, all of which were destroyed at the destructor. There has been 304 loads of ashes less removed this year than last, but this is accounted for by the extra ash bins in the Borough as less loads of gatherings constitute a days work, rather than that of emptying pits, viz., four against six in many of the districts, but the cost compared with last year is less in proportion, viz., £1,208 2s. 8d. this year compared with £1,257 s. 5d. last, or £49 less. The cost per load this year was 2.1 $\frac{3}{8}$ of a penny less.

The weight of the ashes destroyed at the Destructor was 8004 tons, 18 cwt. compared with 8148 tons last year, or a decrease of 140 tons.

1852 loads of nightsoil were removed, all of which were deposited on land. The cost of removing same was £211 1s. or $2/3\frac{1}{2}$ per load. This is 34 loads less than last year and 114 loads less than in the year 1907.

The conversion of privy cesspools accounts for the steady decrease in the quantity of nightsoil which is very desirable as we have great difficulty in finding places to deposit same, yet nearly the whole of it last year was taken outside the Borough.

We have now about 4800 ash-bins in the Borough; these are emptied weekly or fortnightly as the case demands.

1149 ash-pits have been disinfected with carbolic acid after emptying same.

In addition to all ashes, &c., the fish garbage and vegetable matter from the markets, and the garbage from the slaughter-houses and fish and greengrocers' shops in the Borough is destroyed at the Destructor.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—347 cases were notified during the year, compared with 239 last year, a regrettable increase of 108 cases. The Scarlet cases are less this year by 26 than last, but the Diphtheria cases are more by 101, the Erysipelas and Typhoid also show an increase, viz.: 11 of Erysipelas and 12 of Typhoid.

Each case was visited and where necessary re-visited, disinfectants were supplied and the sanitary arrangements at each house were examined and where any defects were discovered the same was given attention, and at the houses where Typhoid occurred the drains were tested. The cases of Diphtheria affected children principally, from the Hill Top and Middleport Schools, and the sewers and the gullies in these districts were flushed weekly with disinfectants while the cases were most common. 41 cases of Phthisis were notified under the new order; these were all visited, the houses where possible were disinfected and in some cases re-disinfected. Cards of instructions and precautions to be taken by the patient with reference to fresh air and the dealing with the sputum were left, also sputum cups were provided for the patients by your Committee, with disinfectants for use in same.

Many of these patients give a lot of trouble, as they move from one place to another or go in the workhouse for a few days and then return.

The annexed table gives the number and the nature of each disease notified and removed for this and the three previous years.

DISEASE	CASES				REMOVED			
	1906	1907	1908	1909	1906	1907	1908	1909
Scarlet Fever ...	143	104	145	169	88	82	134	101
Diphtheria ...	89	57	61	162	42	46	46	133
Typhoid ...	26	11	30	32	16	11	14	24
Erysipelas ...	18	19	9	20	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ..	5	4	4	3	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia ...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	281	195	239	347	146	139	194	258

Erysipelas, Puerperal and Ophthalmia are not removed, six were dead on visit and three were too ill to move.

37 cases refused removal; the rest of the cases were accounted for by Erysipelas, Puerperal Fever and Ophthalmia. Two cases were notified from boats and one from a gipsy's van. 372 rooms, 27 schools, three wards at the Haywood Hospital, one van and one boat were disinfected after infectious disease. Some of the rooms were after Phthisis and Cancer. Also 363 beds and articles of clothing at the steam disinfectors.

The schools and the rooms were sprayed with formaline before fumigation. Also three lots of midwives' clothes were disinfected after Puerperal Fever.

LODGING-HOUSES.—We have as last year four registered lodging-houses in the Borough. Below please find names of those keeping same, situation of houses, and the number of lodgers registered to accommodate—

HANNAH HULME,	81 High Street,	25 lodgers.
JANET GOODWIN,	2 High Street,	16 „
WILLIAM BOWEN,	27 Commercial Street,	17 „
MICHAEL LAMB,	53 High Street,	10 „
Total		68

17,656 lodgers were accommodated at the four houses during the year. The number was made up of 17,085 men, 541 women, and 30 children under 8 years old, 8 of which were males and 22 females. This is a decrease on the whole of 1119 on last year. The daily average for the year was 48 lodgers.

The houses were kept clean and orderly. The limewashing and the painting being done regularly and in keeping with the bye-laws, and although the houses are old property, they are kept in a good state of repair. There were only two causes for complaint during the year, viz.: the not opening of windows and removing of slops until the afternoon of two days.

Only one case of sickness occurred during the year, viz.: at 2, High Street, and this was removed to the Workhouse Infirmary and recovered.

On two occasions a house was slightly overcrowded, but that was by my consent. On each occasion two persons had come into the town late at night and had nowhere to go and on request I allowed them to spend the night on benches in the day room.

No cases of infectious disease or death has occurred at any of the houses.

411 visits were paid by day and night.

HOUSES AND VOIDS.—There are 8,528 houses in the Borough this year, compared with 8,447 last year. 81 new houses have been erected and certified for occupation. The voids are slightly less than last year being approximately about 250 at the present time.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ANIMALS ACTS.—The Swine Fever movement—but in its modified form, the Sheep Dipping Order, the Parasitic Mange Order, and others issued by the Board of Agriculture have been in force in the Borough during the year. Licenses have been issued under these where necessary and an oversight of pigs coming in from outside markets and farms has been kept, but no case of swine fever or suspected case has taken place.

I would like to mention the new Tuberculous Order of 1909, which comes into operation January 1st, 1910, giving powers to Public Authorities to seize, through their officers, or to have examined any animal, milk, or discharges from animals, and if necessary, subject the same to a bacteriological examination for the purpose of ascertaining if such animals are suffering from Tuberculous, and if so, to have the same slaughtered and condemned subject to compensation to the owner in case the examination does not show Tuberculous sufficiently advanced to condemn the whole. This is a splendid order in the interests of health.

PETROLEUM ACTS.—43 samples of petroleum have been taken and tested during the year, but in no case has any sample been below the flash point required by the Act, viz., 72; therefore licenses were not required by the vendors.

There are four license holders for the sale of petrol and motor spirit. The premises where the same is stored have been visited periodically and on each visit the quantity stored was below that for which the license was granted, and the stores were kept as required by the Act.

The names of those so licensed are—

C. T. LYCETT,	Fountain Place.
H. K. HALES,	Market Place.
J. T. JOHNSON,	Newcastle Street.
J. OWEN,	Newcastle Street.

LAND SLIP.—The land slip has been visited weekly and remains safe and will soon, owing to the tipping of shords, etc., from the factories be a thing of the past.

ORDER FOR SANITARY WORK.—674 orders for sanitary work were got during the year, 617 for the opening, cleansing and the repairing of water-closets, drains, etc., 52 for the conversion of privy cesspools into the water-carriage system, and five for the putting in of new systems of drainage. This work has been carried out by the Corporation workmen. Many of the orders have been got without the sending of any notice, but by an interview of the landlord or his agent, and much time has been saved in the abatement of a nuisance.

NEW HOUSES AND DRAINAGE WORK.—81 new houses have been erected in the Borough during the year—

46	in the North Ward,
27	„ South „ and
8	„ East „

In connection with these there has been laid—

456	yards of 9 in. sewers,
642	„ 6 in. drains,
1169	„ 4 in. „
	6 manholes, 4 inspection chambers, 3 intercepting traps
	2 fresh-air inlets
	26 ventilating shafts
	89 flush water-closets.

During the year 16 new flush water-closets have been erected on various works, and 23 notices which have been served in connection with insanitary and dilapidated conveniences have been complied with, 69 privies have been replaced with water-closets, entailing the laying of—

290	yards of 9 in. sewers
487	„ 6 in. drains
305	„ 4 in. „
	2 manholes
	7 inspection chambers
	5 intercepting traps
	2 fresh-air inlets
	7 ventilating shafts.

Total drainage, etc., for the year—

764	yards of	9 in.	sewers
1129	„	6 in.	drains
1477	„	4 in.	„
174	water-closets		
8	manholes		
11	inspection chambers		
8	intercepting traps		
4	fresh-air inlets		
33	ventilating shatts.		

The work of laying the sewer for the drainage of High Lane and Scotia Road districts, and connecting the same to the town system is almost completed, and consists of the following lengths and sizes, viz.:

617	lin. yards of	24 in.	sewer
302	„	18 in.	„
640	„	12 in.	„

The whole of the aforesaid drainage was supervised by the Borough Surveyor's department.

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to the Council, and especially to the Sanitary Committee, for the support extended to me during the year, in the efforts to carry out that which often is difficult and dangerous comprised in my duties under the various orders and Public Health Acts.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. MARTIN.

SANITARY OFFICE,

BURSLEM,

December, 1909.

To the Mayor and Corporation of Burslem.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting a report of work done since my appointment—May 17th to December 31st, 1909.

1,686 visits have been paid. The greater number have been in connection with infants, as on the receipt of the notification of births each house has, with few exceptions, been immediately visited.

979 Notifications have been received—238 from Doctors and 741 from Midwives—42 were duplicated and three out of the district, leaving a net total of 934. Of these 849 were visited. Care has been taken to avoid paying unnecessary visits and re-visits.

The majority of the infants were healthy, although some of those which were apparently so had not much staying power, as despite care, and attention to proper feeding they died within a few weeks of birth.

A number were prematurely born or weakly; this in some cases being due to the mothers working up to the time of birth, and not being in a position to obtain proper nourishment before the birth of the child. But some of these weakly infants grew quite strong with the care given them.

In a number of cases there is a great tendency to give the infant soothing syrups, etc. In some, I was able to convince the the parents of the danger of this practice, and they desisted from so doing.

It is difficult to persuade the mothers that infants would be better if they slept in a separate cot; they will not believe that sufficient warmth can be obtained for the child if it sleeps away from its mother.

741 Infants were breast-fed, but in many cases artificial feeding, partially or wholly, had to be resorted to later. Some mothers had little or no milk; others went out to work; three cases being due to the mothers suffering from puerperal fever. In these cases, as in those fed by bottle from the first, viz. 49, numerous re-visits have been paid and the mothers advised as to the best form of food and method of administering it.

40 Infants were stillborn, and 19 died under one week. 34 Children were illegitimate, 24 mothers being single and ten married.

107 Mothers are factory operatives and are engaged in the following occupations:—

Tranferrers	...	27	Spongers	...	16
Dipping House	...	8	Warehouse	...	9
Towers	...	6	Gilders	...	4
Batters out	...	4	Tile Makers	...	3
Pressers	...	5	Thimble Makers		5
Paintresses	...	5	Lathe Treaders	...	5
Ware Cleaners	...	5	Lithographers	...	5

Three cases of Puerperal Fever were notified and visited, and if only attended by a midwife, the midwife was at once reported to the Medical Officer of Health, who gave instructions as to her suspension. Re-visits were paid in order to see if the instructions were being carried out.

Two of these cases recovered, the third being treated in the Haywood Hospital and eventually died.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum became a notifiable disease on September 11th. Since the adoption of the Act there has been a marked improvement in the condition of the infants' eyes. 11 cases of Ophthalmia were notified, all of which were visited and re-visited, and instructions given as to aseptic treatment under medical advice. For several weeks after the adoption of the Act the midwives did not thoroughly understand the meaning of it and in several cases the infants' eyes did not receive any medical attention until after my visit. My advice on this point was in all cases followed, although at first there was a little difficulty in persuading the mothers and also the midwives that a doctor was required, but when they quite understood the possible danger were at once eager for every attention to be given; the results in all cases were satisfactory. In one other case the mother refused to call in a Doctor until the child was some weeks old, although great pressure was brought to bear upon her. Fortunately the child's eyesight was preserved.

50 Visits have been paid to dirty or neglected children ; the improvement was great on re-visits and only in seven cases was it necessary to call in the services of the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. whose warnings had the desired effect with the exception of one case, Roger Tynsley, of Bridge Street, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of £20 or to serve a further six months. This man has been convicted twice before for neglect.

65 Visits have been paid to cases of infectious disease which have been nursed at home. The visits were paid in order to see that isolation of the patient was observed and to prevent the visits of neighbours.

The remaining visits have been re-visits, and some to sickness and poverty. Where possible relief has been given, and advice or practical help according to the case.

Any sanitary defect discovered on my visits have been reported to the Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FLORENCE BARCLAY.

