

[Report 1918] / Medical Officer of Health, Canterbury Borough / City & County.

Contributors

Canterbury (England). City & County Council.

Publication/Creation

1918

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/sgt2a2hh>

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
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



City and County of Canterbury.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1918.

CITY OF CANTERBURY.

SANITARY COMMITTEE, 1918.

Mayor :

Councillor R. A. BREMNER.

Chairman :

Alderman W. WILTSHIER.

Councillor	R. H. ARROWSMITH	Councillor	L. A. PHILPOT
"	H. J. BELSEY	"	W. J. RUSSELL
"	W. G. DICKINS	"	J. G. B. STONE
"	P. FINN	"	J. McCLEMENS
	Councillor F. WEST		

Town Clerk :

HENRY FIELDING, ESQ.

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK WACHER, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

Sanitary Inspector :

SAMUEL JEFFERY, C.R.S.I.

Census 1911.

Population, 24,621.

No. of Houses in Borough, 5669.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS. 1918.

1911.	1918.
Population Census 24,621 ...	For Births ... 25,089. For Deaths ... 22,892.
Area of District 3,976 acres	No. of persons per acre, 6·1. No. of persons per house, 4·3.
Births Nett, ... 459.	Birth rate, ... 18·2 per 1,000.
Average Birth rate for six years—1913 to 1918, 19·1.	
Deaths, Nett ... 415.	Death Rate, Nett ... 18·4.
Average Death Rate for six years—1913 to 1918, 15·48.	
Deaths under 1 year of age—Nett, 24. Infantile Mortality 52.	
Rate for six years—1913 to 1918—84·6.	
Excess of Births over Deaths—44.	

1918.

Statistics for England and Wales

Birth Rate	...	17·7.
Death Rate	...	17·6.
Infantile Mortality	...	97 to 1,000 births registered.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending 31st December, 1918.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my 42nd Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary condition of the County Borough for the past year.

Births. The gross number of births registered during the year 1918 was 467; 243 of which were males and 224 females. There were 13 outward transfers, 4 males and 9 females, and 5 inward transfers, viz. 2 males and 3 females, making the nett number of births 459, 241 of which were males and 218 females. There was an increase of 65 births over 1917, and a decrease of 57 over 1916.

Birth-rate. The nett Birth-rate of the estimated population for 1918 including the Military Population viz. 25·89 would be 18·2 per 1,000. For England and Wales 17·7 per 1,000.

Deaths. The gross number of deaths registered was 542, 294 of which were males and 248 females. There were 7 inward transfers and 134 outward transfers. These included all soldiers dying in Canterbury during the year, making the net number of deaths 415.

Death-rate. The nett death-rate for the year 1918 of the estimated civil population for 1918, viz. 22,892 would be 18·4 per 1,000 for England and Wales 17·6 per 1,000 16·8 for the estimated population of 1915, viz. 24,595. The nett increase of deaths over 1917 was 55.

The nett excess of births over deaths was 44.

There were 26 deaths under 1 year of age.

16	„	of 1 year and under 2.
23	„	of 2 years and under 5.
28	„	of 5 years and under 15.
52	„	of 15 years and under 25.
119	„	of 25 years and under 45.
103	„	of 45 years and under 65.
and 175	„	of 65 years and upwards making a total of 542.

TABLE 1. Vital Statistics of Whole District During 1917 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1913	24,561	468		19.05	382	15.05	44	7	62	132	347	14.1
1914	24,531	466		19.04	344	14.02	42	7	28	60	209	12.5
1915	24,595	498		20.24	483	19.2	79	7	54	108	411	16.71
1916	24,595	527	529	21.5	426	17.3	72	9	34	64	363	14.7
1917	24,108	405	401	16.6	440	20.3	90	8	37	92	358	16.5
1918	25,089	467	459	18.2	542	21.6	134	7	24	52	415	18.4

Measles caused 8 deaths, 4 more than last year, one under 1, 1 of one and under two, 1 of two and under 5, four of 5 and under 15, and one of 15 and under 25 years of age.

Scarlet Fever. Nil, one less than last year.

Diphtheria caused 3 deaths, two of 2 and under 5, and one of 5 and under 15 years of age, one more than last year.

Whooping Cough caused one death of 5 and under 15 years of age, two less than last year.

Laryngitis caused one death of 2 and under 5 years of age, one more than last year.

Croup caused one death of 5 years and under 15 years of age, same as last year.

Enteric and Typhoid Fever caused one death of 15 and under 25 years of age, one more than last year.

Erysipelas caused two deaths, 1 under one, and 1 imported of 2 and under 5 years of age, two more than last year.

Influenza caused 103 deaths, increase of 98, 37 of which were imported. There were 2 deaths in the 2nd Quarter, 2 deaths in the 3rd Quarter and 99 deaths in the 4th Quarter, two of 1 and under 2, three of 2 and under 5, seven of 5 and under 15, 22 of 15 and under 25, 52 of 25 and under 45, 11 of 45 and under 65, 6 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis caused 3 deaths, decrease 2 two of 15 and under 25, one of 25 and under 45 years of age.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis caused 31 deaths, 8 of which were outward transfers, four more than last year, one of 1 and under 2, four of 15 and under 25, 16 of 25 and under 45, 6 of 45 and under 65, and 4 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Other Tuberculous Diseases caused 5 deaths, three less than last year, two of 1 and under 2, one of 2 and under 5, one of 25 and under 45, and one of 45 and under 65 years of age, two of which were outward transfers.

Tuberculous Meningitis. Nil, 6 less than last year.

Meningitis caused 4 deaths, 1 more than last year, 2 of which were imported, one under 1, two of 15 and under 25, and one of 45 and under 65 years of age.

Rheumatic Fever caused 1 death of 15 and under 25 years of age.—1 more than last year.

Cancer, Malignant Disease caused 46 deaths. 10 more than last year, 14 of imported. 7 more than last year. 1 of 5 and under 15, 7 of 25 and under 45, 16 of 45 and under 65, and 14 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Organic Heart Disease caused 57 deaths. 1 less than last year, 5 were imported. 1 of 5 and under 15, 4 of 25 and under 45, 12 of 45 and under 65, and 4 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Bronchitis caused 38 deaths. 12 more than last year, 4 of which were imported. 4 under 1, 2 of 1 and under 2, 1 of 2 and under 5, 1 of 5 and under 15, 1 of 15 and under 25, 2 of 25 and under 45, 6 of 45 and under 65, and 21 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Pneumonia (all forms) caused 36 deaths, 10 of which were imported, increase of 3 deaths more than last year. 4 of 1 and under 2, 4 of 2 and under 5, 1 of 5 and under 15, 4 of 15 and under 25, 10 of 25 and under 45, 9 of 45 and under 65, and 4 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Other Diseases of the Respiratory Organ caused 7 deaths, 2 of which were outward transfers. 1 of 25 and under 45, 3 of 45 and under 65, and 3 of 65 years and upwards.

Diarrhœa caused 8 deaths, increase 2 more than last year. 1 under 1, 1 of 1 and under 2, 3 of 2 and under 5, 1 of 5 and under 15, and 2 of 65 years of age and upwards.

Appendicitis and Typhilitis caused 3 deaths one of which was an outward transfer. 1 of 5 and under 15, and 2 of 15 and under 25 years of age, increase 1.

Cirrhosis of Liver caused one death of 65 years and upwards.

Alcoholism nil, decrease 1.

Nephritis and Bright's Disease caused 5 deaths. One of 2 and under 5, 2 of 45 and under 65, and 2 of 65 years of age and upwards, decrease 12.

Syphilis Nil, decrease 2.

Puerperal Fever caused 1 death of 25 and under 45 years of age, increase 1.

Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy nil, decrease one.

Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth, caused 6 deaths under 1 year of age.

Infantile Debility caused 3 deaths under 1 year of age.

Violent Deaths excluding Suicide caused 23 deaths, 19 of which were imported, viz., 5 of 5 and under 15, 4 of 15 and under 25, 7 of 25 and under 45, 6 of 45 and under 65, and 1 over 65 years of age.

Suicide caused 4 deaths, 3 of which were outward transfers. 1 of 15 and under 25, 2 of 25 and under 45, and 1 of 45 and under 65 years of age.

Senile Decay caused 37 deaths. 2 between 90 and 100, 26 between 80 and 90 and 9 between 70 and 80 years of age.

Convulsions, 5 Deaths 4 under 1, and 1 of 1 and under 2 years of age.

Hipida
Spinal Deforms no deaths under 1 year of age.

Intussusception 1 under 1 imported.

Rickets 1 of 1 and under 2 years of age.

Other defined Diseases caused 94 deaths, 21 of which were outward transfers. 2 under 1, 1 of 1 and under 2, 3 of 2 and under 5, 3 of 5 and under 15, 7 of 15 and under 25, 17 of 25 and under 45, 27 of 45 and under 65, and 35 of 65 years of age and upwards.

From Disease illdefined or unknown 7 deaths occurred, 1 under 5, 2 of which were imported, 3 of 2 and under 5, 1 of 15 and under 25, 1 of 45 and under 65, and one of 65 years of age and upwards.

INFLUENZA.

During the past year there were two distinct outbreaks of Influenza, 1 in July and 1 in October, November and December. The July Epidemic was comparatively mild only causing 4 deaths. The Epidemic in the last quarter was very severe all over the City and caused no less than 99 deaths, more fatal than the Epidemic in 1890, and, as far as I can remember, much more serious in its character and accompanied by more severe complications.

There were no deaths until the week ending July 2nd, when 2 occurred, both soldiers. Weeks ending July 9th, 1, and week ending July 23rd, 1.

There were no more deaths in this Epidemic.

• In the week ending :—

October	8th,	1 death occurred		
	„	15,	Nil.	
	„	22,	2 deaths occurred	
	„	29,	10	„ „ including 4 Military
November	5,	14	„	„ 7 „
	„	12,	15	„ „ 9 „
	„	19,	12	„ „ 3 „
	„	26,	11	„ „ 2 „
December	3,	18	„	„ 1 „
	„	10,	6	„ „ 4 „
	„	17,	1	„ „
	„	24,	7	„ „
	„	31,	2	„ „
		—		—
Total		99		including 30 military.
		—		—

Age Distribution. 2 of 1 and under 2, 3 of 2 and under 5, 7 of 5 and under 15, 22 of 15 and under 25, 52 of 25 and under 45, 11 of 45 and under 65, and 6 over 65 years of age.

Sex. Distribution. Male 61, including 30 Military cases. Female 42.

Probable number of cases treated between two and three thousand. The death rate, among cases complicated with Pneumonia, was very high, there was not a single death from simple Influenza. Previous attack did not afford much protection, as cases in July were attacked again in October.

The large number of cases attacked at once made it extremely difficult to carry out the proper nursing. Miss Upton, Lady Superintendent of the Nurses Institute, put on one extra nurse and she did all she could, but it was impossible without a large staff of nurses to cope with it. Whole families were down at once and any over-crowding increased the infection. Infection is carried from the weak to the healthy by the secretion of the respiratory surface. The period of incubation is about 48 hours or even less somewhat. At the first feeling of illness or rise of temperature the patient should go to bed and at once summon his medical attendant. The early stages of an attack are most infectious, but infection may persist throughout the illness, and segregation should be maintained at least till the temperature is normal. Relapses and complications are much less likely to occur if the patient goes to bed at once and remain there until all fever has gone for two or three days. The virus of Influenza is very easily destroyed, expectoration should be received when possible in a glazed receptacle in which is a solution of chloride of lime. Discarded handkerchiefs should be immediately placed in disinfectant, or if of paper burnt. The throat should be gargled night and morning with a disinfectant gargle of which one of the most potent is a solution of 20 drops of liquor soda chlorinate in a tumbler of warm water. A solution of common table salt, one teaspoonful to a pint of warm water is suitable for the nasal passages, a little may be poured into the hollow part of the hand and sniffed up the nostrils twice a day.

The Public Elementary Schools were closed for three weeks and the Sunday Schools, also the Cinema performances for all children under 15. The disease was so widespread and so sudden that all precautions taken had very little effect in checking it. It was the most awful Epidemic in Canterbury, and killed more people than any other Epidemic during my 42 years as Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.

Summary of Notifications during the period from the 30th December, 1917, to the 28th December, 1918, in the City and County Borough of Canterbury.

AGE PERIODS:	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up- w'ds	total	Number of Cases notified on Form C.	
													Poor Law Institution.	Sanatoria.
Pulmonary Males...	—	—	—	2	2	—	5	3	2	2	—	16	3	7
Pulmonary Females ..	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	2	—	2	—	11	5	1
Non-Pulmonary Males ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Females	—	4	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	9	—	1
Totals	—	4	3	2	5	3	8	6	2	4	—	37	8	9

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases notified by the Military and Civilian Doctors of Canterbury was 39, 3 less than last year.

There were 4 military and 35 civilians notified, 5 were outward transfers, 29 were Pulmonary, viz. 12 females and 17 males, 10 were non-Pulmonary, 8 females and 2 males, 6 out of the notified cases died during the year.

The Canterbury Tuberculosis Dispensary for expert diagnosis and treatment is doing very valuable work under the able supervision of Dr. Pearce whose report I enclose.

The Canterbury Union Outdoor Shelters are available for 2 female and 2 male patients.

The Lenham Sanatorium in which we are to have 10 beds is still unopened.

The Small Pox Hospital could be used for advanced cases, and the Annexe for a staff, and shelters might be erected for early cases in the grounds. There has not been an outbreak of small pox since 1897 (22 years ago). The difficulty would be in staffing it.

I have visited all the notified cases, and monthly the cases under the *Sanitary* National Health Insurance at their own homes, and have had any defects remedied as far as possible.

**Table showing Attendances at the Canterbury
Tuberculosis Dispensary.**

No. of times open	...	...	...	48
Attendance of Old and New Patients, Insured				193
Uninsured	...	...	...	294
Total Attendances	...	...	...	487
Deaths	...	...	...	9
Patients still attending on January 1st, 1919—				
Insured—Male	...	...	...	21
Female	...	...	...	14
Uninsured—Male	...	...	...	27
Female	...	...	...	21
Totals—Male	...	...	...	48
Female	...	...	...	35

New Patients.

Insured—Male	...	...	...	17
Female	...	...	...	9
Uninsured—Male	...	...	...	20
Female	...	...	...	37
Total—Male	...	...	...	37
Female	...	...	...	46
Tuberculosis —				
Male	...	...	...	3
Female	...	...	...	7
Non-Tuberculosis—				
Male	...	...	...	3
Female	...	...	...	8
Observation—				
Male	...	...	...	2
Female	...	...	...	2

Diagnosis of New Patients—

Q.O.	T.B.	Br.	O.D.	A.H.	Obs.
31	12	3	5	13	19

THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

Dr. Harold Wachter, the Inspector under the Act, having retired from his Military duties, took on the work on the 1st of April, 1918, and reports as follows: "I have visited the Midwives, 6 in number, and examined their equipment and records and found them all in order.

Penet HEALTH VISITOR.

Miss ~~Knott~~ having resigned, Mrs. Maguire was appointed, in April, Health Visitor, and has carried out her duties with great credit to herself and advantage to the babies, mothers, and children under school age, visited by her. The Infant Consultation Clinic has been removed to more commodious quarters in the Northgate Church and has been well attended by the mothers, their babies, and young children up to 5 years of age, during the past year as shown by the Health Visitor's report which is appended.

THE DAY NURSERY.

Under the able supervision of Miss Waterfield continuing to flourish and make weekly visits and give Hygienic and Dielitic advice on any case requiring it. The babies have been removed to White House, St. Peter's Lane, where they are well housed and cared for by a Matron and Assistant Nurse.

Antenatal Clinic Re-opened 4th June, 1918.

Members—93. Attendances—908.

Antenatal and Post Natal Cases—

Received Medical Advice—

Post Natal—25. Antenatal—26.

Infant Consultation Clinics.

Registered—274. Attendance—1044.

Medical Advice—127. Trusses supplied—4.

20 successfully operated upon in own homes or hospital.

50 Infants visited in own homes by M.O.H., on behalf of Health Visitor.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year of age was 26, two which were outward transfers. There was a decrease of 12 deaths under 1917, of 24 under 1915.

The Nett Infantile Mortality measured by the number of deaths under one year of age to 1,000 births registered, was 52.

The rate per 1,000 births for England and Wales was 97, nearly double.

Premature Births caused 5 deaths, 7 decrease from last year.

Measles, one death, one more than last year.

Erysipelas, one death, one more than last year.

Meningitis, one death, one more than last year.

Bronchitis, 4 deaths—increase, 3.

Pneumonia, Nil—decrease, 5.

Diarrhœa, Enteritis and Gastro Enteritis caused 1 death—decrease 2.

Abdomen Tuberculosis, nil—decrease 1.

Convulsions, 4 deaths—same as last year.

Infantile Debility, 3—decrease 2.

Spinal Bifida, 2—increase 2.

Intussusception, 1—same as last year, outward transfer.

Other Defined Diseases, 2—decrease 1.

Ill-Defined cause, one which lived only 5 minutes.

VENEREAL CLINIC.

The Venereal Treatment Centre was opened in May at the special Annexe erected in the ground of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, and up to the end of December 57 cases had been treated and the total number of attendances were 329.

There were two Sessions weekly, one on Thursday for women from 11 to 1, and one on Saturday for men from 11 to 1. It is proposed in 1919 to have two Sessions in addition.

In December, 1917, a branch of the National Council for Canterbury Venereal Disease was formed for the City and County of Canterbury with the Mayor, Dr. Bremner as Chairman, and the Rev. P. A. L. Clarke as Hon. Secretary. During 1918 the following educational propaganda work was successfully carried through, viz.: A series of Lectures for Women Social Workers, a Lecture for Men, a Lecture for Women, a Lecture for Young Women, and a Conference for Clergy and Ministers. The Lectures for Social Workers were held at Eastbridge Hospital, the attendance was good, averaging 70 each time. The Lecture for Men was disappointing as regards attendance, but those for Mothers and Young Women were very well attended and much interest was aroused. The Conference for Clergy and Ministers was also a success. At all the meetings the literature of the National Council was on sale, and good use was made of the opportunity for acquiring information. At least it may be said that the initial effort at propaganda work was decidedly encouraging, and the Local Committee are prepared to extend their effort in the coming year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of chief Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1918 was 452 as follows:—

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Poliomyelitis	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Measles.	German Measles.
1917	11	21	—	16	2	8	1	1	339	210
1918	9	76	2	27	3	8	—	6	265	56
Increase ...	—	54	2	11	1	—	—	5	—	—
Decrease ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	74	154
Military Cases	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	6	11	4

TOTAL DECREASE ... 158.

The largest increase over 1917 is Diphtheria, 54, with a total of 76; this, however, is not much above the average of the last five years.

The 6 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever notified occurred among members of His Majesty's Forces.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths notified from Zymotic diseases was 17, as follows:—Diphtheria, 5; Measles, 8; Whooping Cough, 1; Erysipelas, 2; Enteric Fever, 1.

The Zymotic death rate was 0·7 per 1,000.

TABLE II.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1918.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	At all Ages	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							Total cases removed to Hospital.	Members of H.M. Forces.
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and up-wards		
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colera and Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup ...	76	1	11	53	4	2	—	—	69	5
Erysipelas	27	1	—	2	3	8	10	3	—	—
Scarlet fever	9	—	—	3	2	2	—	—	7	2
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—
Relapsing fever Continued fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	27	—	—	3	5	13	2	—	16	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	10	—	4	2	3	1	—	—	1	—
Measles	265	7	93	142	9	3	—	—	—	11
German Measles	56	1	12	27	9	3	—	—	—	4
Totals	489	18	120	232	36	36	12	3	95	32

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.:—Isolation Hospital within the District.
City of Canterbury Corporation Sanatorium. 4 Military cases removed to Sanatorium during the Year.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The number of cases treated at the Sanatorium was 79, as follows :—

Diphtheria, 69. Scarlet Fever, 7. Tonsilitis and Typhoid Fever, 2.

The accommodation was sufficient, the institution being at all times in good order under the efficient supervision of the Matron.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

During the year 1918, the Council decided to appoint an Housing Committee to consider and report on the house accommodation within the City area.

After hearing evidence the Committee instructed the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector to visit and report as to the several houses mentioned during the Committee's discussions.

This report having been presented, the Committee came to the conclusion that 250 new houses are needed immediately.

The Housing Committee are now considering :—

- “(1.) Plans and sites.
- (2.) Preparing a rough estimate of the probable cost per house.

And to report at their early convenience.’

The inspection under the Regulations have been suspended during the year 1918.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The number of inspections made during the year was 54, viz.: Factories, 6; Workshops and Work-places, 48; also a number of visits while repairs were in progress.

Eight Preliminary Notices were served to abate nuisances, as follows:—

Particulars.	No. of Defects Found.	No. of Defects Remedied.	Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—			
Want of Cleanliness ...	2	2	
Want of Proper Drainage to Floors ...			
Other Nuisances ..	8	8	
Sanitary Accommodation Insufficient ...			Nil.
Sanitary Accommodation Defective ...	8	7	
Offences under the Factory Acts—			
Breach of the Sanitary Requirements as to Bake-houses ...	Nil.	Nil.	
Totals ...	18	17	

One report was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. The occupier's attention was called to the matter, when it was immediately remedied.

Three Underground Bakehouses are registered in the City. These, on inspection, were found in good order. One of these at the present time is not in use.

Medical Inspection of School Children.

Mr. Brian Rigden reports that he has examined 1,110 children, 559 of which were boys and 550 girls during the year 1918. 845 had one or more defects, and 256 were perfectly sound. 650 defects were treated.

The School Nurse, Mrs. Haynes, made 774 visits to children with defects, and 170 visits in connection with want of cleansing under Section 122 of the Children's Act, 7 cases of school children suffering from Tuberculosis were reported.

In concluding may I again be allowed to congratulate the Council on the following facts disclosed by my report.

- 1st. On The low Infantile Mortality of 52 to 1,000 births registered against 97 for England and Wales.
- 2nd. The increased Birth rate from 16·6 per 1,000 for 1917 to 18·2 per 1,000 for 1918.
- 3rd. The low Zymotic Death rate 0·7 per 1,000.
- 4th. The Death rate on the estimated population for death rate purposes for 1918, viz. 22,522 I consider a very low estimate of the civil population; if you take the estimate for 1915, viz. 24,598, the death rate would be only 16·8 for 1,000 against 16·5 for 1917, and 17·6 for England and Wales. The increase in the deaths of 45 over 1917 is entirely due to Influenza, which caused 103 deaths.

Mr. Jeffery, your Sanitary Inspector continues to give me the benefit and assistance of his valuable services, for which I am more than grateful.

I remain, Mr. Mayor,

Aldermen and Councillors,

Your faithful and obedient servant,

FRANK WACHER.

RANMORE,

April 3rd, 1919.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1918.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Municipal Buildings,
Canterbury.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure herewith in presenting to you my report and summary of work done during the year 1918.

The number of inspections and visits are set out in the following tables. Some difficulty has been experienced owing to shortage of labour. The notices served have been directed to the abatement of urgent nuisances injurious to health; no large amount of structural alterations being requested.

Thirteen Statutory Notices and 106 Preliminary Notices were served to abate nuisances.

The control and inspection of food stuffs has again taken up a good deal of your Inspector's time, it has been possible, however, to carry out many improvements, especially as to places where food is stored or prepared for sale.

With the relaxation of various food orders, I hope the present year will see a large increase in the amount of sanitary repairs carried out, which has been much curtailed owing to other work since 1915.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

SAMUEL JEFFERY.

Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute.

Meat Insp. " " " "

Advd. Hygiene Board of Education.

Member Sanitary Inspectors' Association

Return of Sanitary Work for 1918:

No. of Premises Inspected (Public Health Acts).	...	613
" " " (Infectious Diseases)	...	72
" " " (Factories and Workshops)	...	24
" " " Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops	27	
" " " Ice Cream Makers	...	2
" " " Bakehouses	...	30
" " " Slaughterhouses	...	309
" " " Food Control	...	1250
Visits <i>re</i> Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	...	116
" " Samples of Water—Public Supply...	7	
" " Private Supply	12	
" " Sale of Food Stuffs	...	108
No. of Dwelling Houses inspected (Housing and Town Planning Act)	...	1
<i>Re</i> Inspections, calls made, etc.	...	2224
Total Inspection and Calls		4795

Preliminary Notices served	106	No. complied	127
Statutory	...	13	" " 12
Complaints received	59.	Verbally	11. In writing 48.
Letters written	96.		

Particulars—

Drains tested, Water	119	Smoke	143	Chemical	60—322
" defective "	12	"	68	"	26—101
No. of Closets or W.C.'s.	215.	No. of W.C.'s. without flushing apparatus	174.		

IMPROVEMENTS.

Drains—Re-constructed	...	...	...	56
Repaired	...	...	...	81
Soil pipe or ventilation pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	43
Gulley or other Traps fixed	...	...	...	133
Water Closets or Closets—				
W.C.'s provided with pan trap and water supply	9			
Pan and trap provided	...	...	...	90
Water supply provided	...	...	...	16
Cleansed or pail repaired	...	...	...	80
Ventilated	...	...	...	23
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	1
Urinals Cleansed or Water supply provided	...	...	...	1
Sanitary Dustbins provided	...	...	...	—
Yards—Paving repaired	...	...	...	60
" provided	...	...	...	19
Sinks provided	...	...	...	19
Water supply provided to dwelling house	...	...	...	15

Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	2
Other improvements—					
Rooms cleansed	.	...	...	...	33
Walls repaired for dampness		...	...	...	22
Floors „ or ventilated		...	...	...	20
Roof „	...	...	...	...	17
Guttering	...	...	...	...	19
Rooms Disinfected	...	...	...	...	323
Miscellaneous Improvements	...	...	...	...	87
Total Improvements					1165
Total Premises Improved					298

Summary of Prosecutions during the Year.

Nature of Offence.	No. of Summons.	Fines, etc
Food and Drugs Acts	6	£29 2 0
Diseased Meat	1	2 0 0
Non-compliance with Notices : Public Health Acts	2	
Orders made, costs allowed		3 2 0
Breaches of Food Controller's Orders	29	56 16 6
Totals	38	£91 10 6

Inspection of Food.

417 inspections of Slaughterhouses and Food Depots were made during the year 1918.

The inspection of Food Stuffs has engaged a large part of your Inspector's time, it having been decided to sell part of the diseased meat for purposes other than human food. The meat is cut and treated with carbolic fluid before being sold.

The special circumstances of the War has, no doubt, tended to diminish the amount of prime beef, etc., on the market.

Food Orders are still in force allotting the meat to each butcher in proportion to his 1917 sales.

I am pleased to say, however, that up to the present time an application has not been received to sell horse-flesh for human consumption in Canterbury.

During the year a greater percentage of meat sold has been inspected, under the arrangements made to comply with the Food Orders. It has been found necessary to slaughter a large proportion of the animals at two central slaughterhouses.

The carcasses are then sent to adjoining districts, the major portion, however, has been supplied to the butchers in the City's area.

3 Seizures were made during the year. Upon being reported to the Public Health Committee a prosecution was ordered in one case, the defendant being fined £2 and costs, in the other two cases the persons in whose possession the meat was found were cautioned.

MEAT TABLE.

No. of Animals Diseased, &c.	DESCRIPTION.	DISEASE.	Weight in lbs.
5	Carcase of Bullock and Offals	Tuberculosis	2,329
16	Part of Beef Carcase and Offals	Tuberculosis 9 Injuries 4 Unsound 3	3,843
119	Bullocks Offals	Tuberculosis 53 Actins 10 Distoma Hept. 43 Cysts 6 Unsound 7	3,554
6	Carcase of Sheep and Offals.	Unwholesome 5 Dropsical 1	316
31	Offals of Sheep	Cystic 5 Fluke 22 Tumour 1 Unsound 3	145
2	Part Carcase of Lamb and Offals	Tumours, un- wholesome	22
4	Carcase of Pig and Offals	Tuberculosis 3 Unwholesome 1	452
19	Offals of Pig	Tuberculosis 14 Cirr 3 Jaundice 1 Unwholesome 1	214
6	Veal	Various	137
9	Bacon	Unsound	1,875
6	Bread	Ropy	1,030
5	Fish	Unsound	203
1	Cheese	Unsound	3½
1	Butter	Unsound	1
1	Canned Meat	Unsound	6

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The number samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year was 115.

TABLE A.

Samples obtained.	Number	Genuine.	Adulterated	No. of Samples informally taken
Milk	57	47	10	9
Butter	8	8	—	8
Margarine ...	2	2	—	2
Cheese	2	2	—	2
Sausage Meat...	6	3	3	4
Baking Powder	4	4	—	4
Coffee	2	2	—	2
Cocoa	1	1	—	1
Lard	5	5	—	5
Honey	1	1	—	1
Sweets	1	1	—	1
Rice	1	1	—	1
Scones	2	2	—	2
Pepper	4	4	—	4
Jam and Jelly...	7	1	6	7
Bread	1	1	—	1
Beer	2	2	—	—
Vinegar	3	3	—	1
Olive Oil	3	3	—	3
Sweet Spirits of Nitre	3	1	2	3
Total	115	94	21	61

TABLE B.

Article asked for.	No.	Adulteration.	Action Taken.
Milk ...	154	6·8% Extraneous Water ...	Further Sample taken, No. 157, see below.
Milk ...	157	21% " "	Vendor prosecuted, Pay costs.
Plum and	161	Under 65% of Solids	
Apple Jam	166	" "	Jam sold under standard of Food Control
" "	169	" "	Order containing an excess of water over
" "	170	" "	the 35 per cent. allowed.
" "	171	" "	
" "	172	" "	
" "	180	5·5% Extraneous Water ...	Vendor prosecuted. Fined £10 0s. 0d.
" "	181	16% Deficient in Fat	" " £5 0s. 0d.
Milk ...	182	10% Extraneous Water ...	Vendor cautioned. Supply samples.
" "	210	11% Deficient in Fat	"Appeal to Cows." See Samples 213, 214.
" "	213	Contained 2·85 Milk Fat...	Attended at milking of cows; then took samples
" "	214	2·80 " "	immediately.
" "	242	(27% Deficient in Fat	Vendor prosecuted. Fined £10 0s. 0d.
" "	244	(15% Extraneous Water ...	Informally procured.
Sausage Meat	244	(Contained 56·0 grains of Boric	
" "	245	Acid ...	
" "	252	Contained 57·8 grains of Boric	Vendor prosecuted. Fined £1, £1 costs.
" "	259	Acid Pulb. ...	
Sweet Spirits	261	Below Standard ...	No action. Formal samples correct.
of Nitre	216	" " ...	
Milk ...	216	11% Deficient in Fat	Vendor prosecuted. Fined £2, 5/- costs.

The vendor of samples of jam No. 161 etc. was cautioned, when he immediately took steps to produce a jam complying with the Jam (Prices) Order.

I beg to draw the attention of the Council to this matter as all staple foods should as far as possible be standardised, both as regards price and quality, it appears that a good step forward in this direction will be the outcome of the present Food Control.

"Appeal to Cow" Samples.

Sample No. 210. "Milk" was deficient in fat 11%. The sample was procured direct from the producer. Upon interviewing the farmer he requested samples to be taken at the farm.

I attended at the milking and procured 2 samples from the mornings supply, which upon analysis showed 5% and 6% deficiency in cream.

The farmer explained he had done his best to produce milk up to the standard, no further action was taken upon hearing his explanation.

Water Supply.

19 samples were submitted for analysis during the year 7 procured from the "public supply" were of good quality 12 samples were submitted from private supplies 3 of these were reported as being unfit for drinking purposes.

The owner of one cottage where these were procured, gave instructions for a "public supply" to be provided which was carried out.

In the case of the other two samples supplying six houses, it was necessary to apply to the Justices for an order to close the wells.

Upon the hearing the Justices made orders closing the wells in three months time. I am pleased to report that the "public supply" has now been provided, at a very large cost by the owners.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. JEFFERY.



