

[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Caterham U.D.C.

Contributors

Caterham (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1925

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ghrmmp4c>

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>



REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1925.

The Corner,
CATERHAM.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Caterham.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925. The report is somewhat fuller this year as it is a survey report during the last 5 years.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area. 2438 acres.

Population (1921) 11,782.

Estimated Population for 1925 from the returns of

Registrar General, for Birth Rate. 13,650.

for Death Rate. 11,720.

Caterham is divided naturally into two levels, the high or Hill area and the low or Valley area. The Low level is 400 feet above sea level rising to 800 feet on the High.

The general character of the area is semi rural.

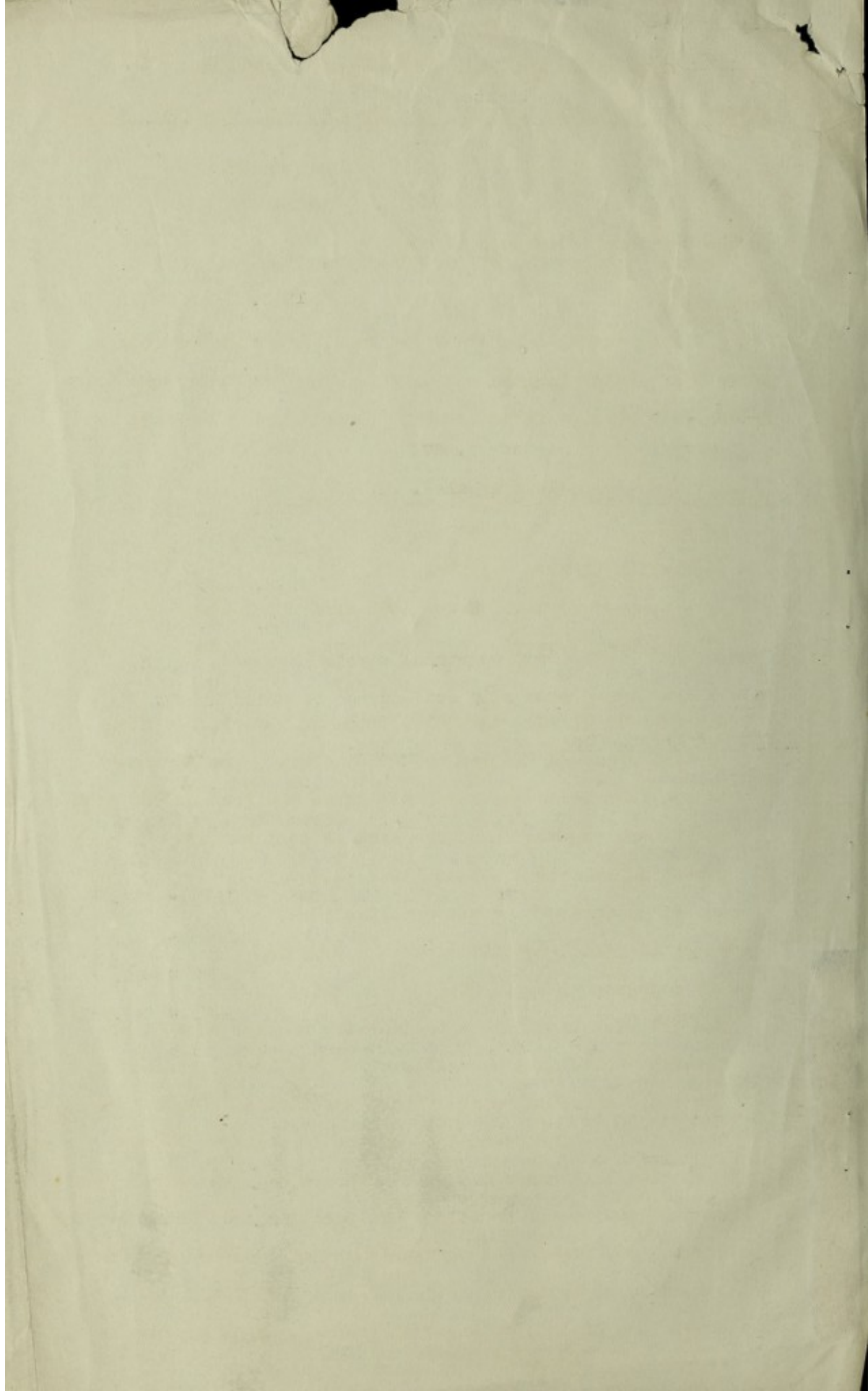
Number of inhabited houses (1921) 1807.

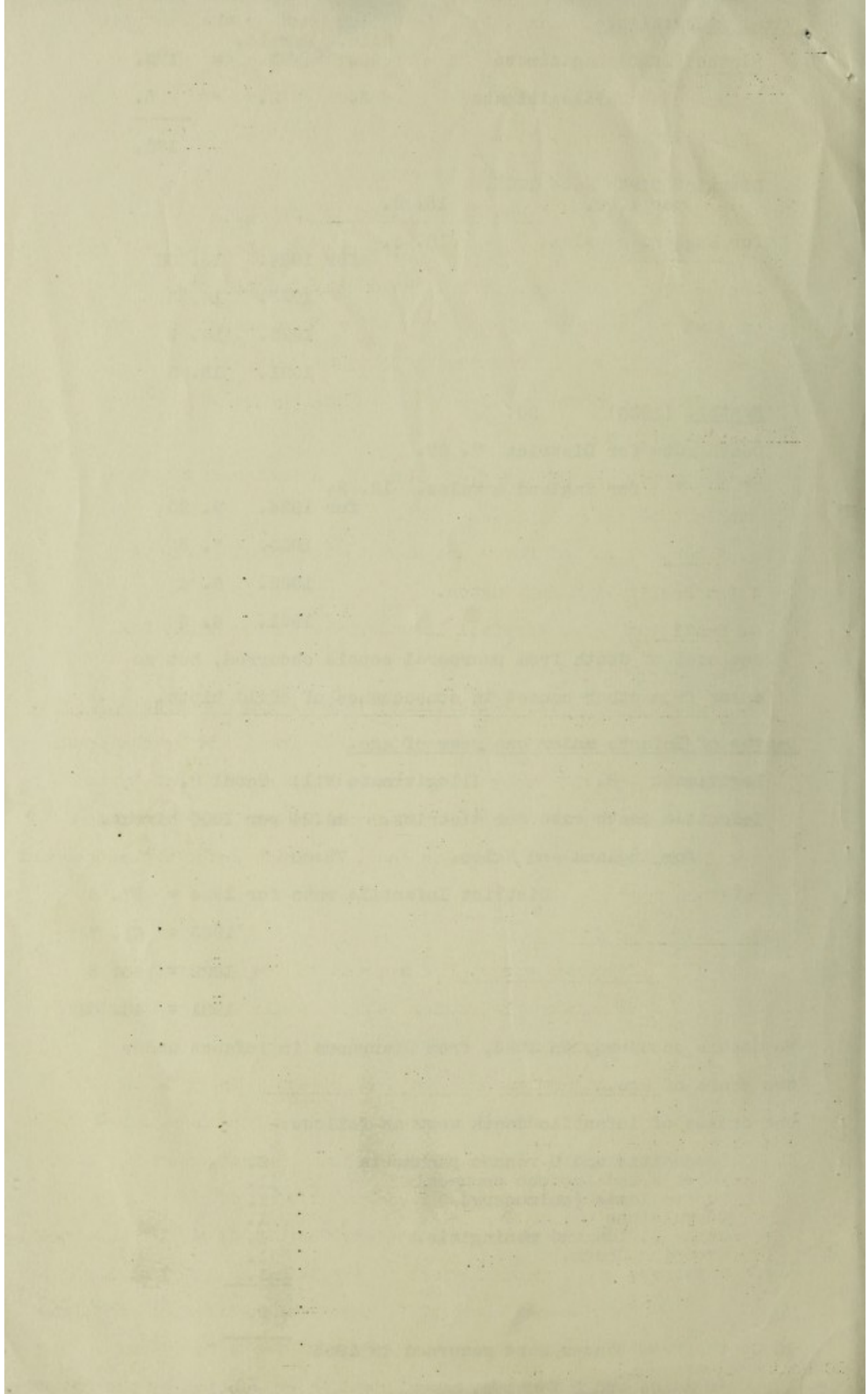
Number of separate occupiers (1921) 1963.

Rateable Value (Oct. 1925) £70,502.

Sum represented by ld rate. £283.

The district is mainly a residential one for those whose businesses lie outside - Except for the local tradespeople and those attached to the Mental Hospital and Guards' Depot, there is no chief occupation of the inhabitants - There are no factories, big shops or works of any kind. The Public health of the district is therefore not influenced by any particular occupation. There has been no cause of sickness or morbidity specially to be noted during the last five years, or any conditions of occupation or environment which have had a prejudicial effect on the health of the district.





Medical Poor Law Relief is administered by the District Medical Officer under the Godstone Union. - The amount of attendance averages about 6 - 8 persons weekly. Use is made of the Infirmary at Bletchingley for necessitous cases, but the number of cases sent there is small.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

1. Tuberculosis. There is no dispensary or Sanatorium within the area, but patients attend the County Council Dispensary at Purley. Accommodation is found for them when necessary at one or other of the County Sanatoria; those chiefly used being Cheam Sanatorium (40 beds), and the Barnes Isolation Hospital (12 beds)

2. Maternity and Children. There is no maternity home within the area.

3. Fever. Cases of fever are sent to the Wandle Valley Joint Hospital at Beddington.

4. Small Pox. The Hospital is under the Surrey Small Pox Hospital Committee.

5. Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate infants and homeless children. There is no institutional provision made for these by the Local Authority, but this work is to some extent carried out by a local branch of the Southwark Diocesan Society for Prevention and Rescue Work at 33, Chaldon Road, Caterham under the management of Miss Chadwick.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious cases, are removed to the Hospital by ambulances belonging to the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital.

(b) Non infectious and accident cases. There is no local ambulance except the hand ambulance of the St. John's Brigade; but an arrangement has been made with the Addiscombe Division of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade whereby the use of their ambulance and a trained nurse is available at a fee of 12/6d for every case within the Croydon-Caterham area, the Council guaranteeing payment of any fee where difficulty is experienced in collection by the Brigade.

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

Second block of faint, illegible text, appearing to be a continuation of the document's content.

Third block of faint, illegible text, showing further progression of the document's text.

Fourth block of faint, illegible text, continuing the narrative or information presented.

Fifth block of faint, illegible text, located in the lower portion of the page.

Final block of faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page, possibly a conclusion or signature area.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity, child welfare and school clinics are dealt with by the County Council. Weekly attendances by the Medical Officer of the Council take place in Caterham.

Tuberculosis, patients attend the County Council Dispensary at Purley.

Provision for treatment of Venereal Disease is made at the Croydon General Hospital - at Guildford Royal Surrey County and at various Hospitals in London.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer Health (part time)

F.R. CARROLL. M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector.

H. R. MARTIN. F.I.B.E., A.R.S.I.

Holds appointments of Highways and Building Surveyor to the Urban District Council.

In both cases contributions are received towards salaries under the Public Health Acts.

There are no arrangements made by the County Council or the Sanitary Authority for professional nursing in the Home; either for general or infectious diseases, but the Caterham Valley District Nursing Association provide a nurse who is also a midwife.

There is no employment of, or subsidy to practising midwives by the Local Authority.

There are 5 practising midwives in the area.

Legislation in Force.

Adoptive Acts, Local Orders etc. The Adoptive Acts in

force in the district are:-

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Parts II., III and IV.	1st January, 1900.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.	30th September, 1899.
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.	4th June, 1925.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Parts II, III., IV., V. and VI.	3rd June, 1910.
Public Health Act, 1925, Parts II, III (except s.44) IV and V.	7th January, 1926.

The powers of parish councils, granted by certain sections of the Local Government Act, 1894, were conferred on the Urban District Council, by orders of the Local Government Board, as follows:-

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.

18th November, 1899 - Sections 5 (1) and 14 (1)
 26th May, 1900 - Section 13 (2)
 2nd January, 1903 - Sections (5) (2) (c), 6 (1) (c) (iii),
 8 (1) (a) (b) and (h)

Byelaws and Regulations.

Regulations re Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.	3rd January, 1901.
Decent conduct of persons using sanitary conveniences.	6th August, 1903.
Pleasure Grounds - Townend and Chaldon Road Recreation Grounds.	2nd May, 1907.
Pleasure Grounds - Queen's Park and The Valley Recreation Grounds.	2nd May, 1907.
Regulations for house drainage and connections to public sewers.	3rd October, 1907.
Regulations re Burial Ground.	1st May, 1919.
Table of Fees for Burials.	1st May, 1919.
Hackney Carriages.	2nd February, 1922.
Slaughter-houses.	2nd March, 1922.
New Streets and Buildings.	2nd October, 1924.
Omnibuses.	4th February, 1926.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER. The supply is constant, from the East Surrey Water Company, which supplies the whole of the district and every house in the district. The source of supply is from deep wells at Purley. The Water analysis has been satisfactory and maintains a very high standard of purity.

WATER SAMPLE SERVICE SUPPLY.

I have made a Chemical and Bacteriological Analysis of the Sample of Water marked as above and received from Caterham Urban District Council on August 17th, 1925.

From the results of such examination I am of opinion that this water is of high organic purity and suitable for public supply.

Yours faithfully,

ERIC K. RIDEAL,

D.Sc.Lond., F.I.C., Water Analyst.

Chemical Analysis in parts per 100,000.

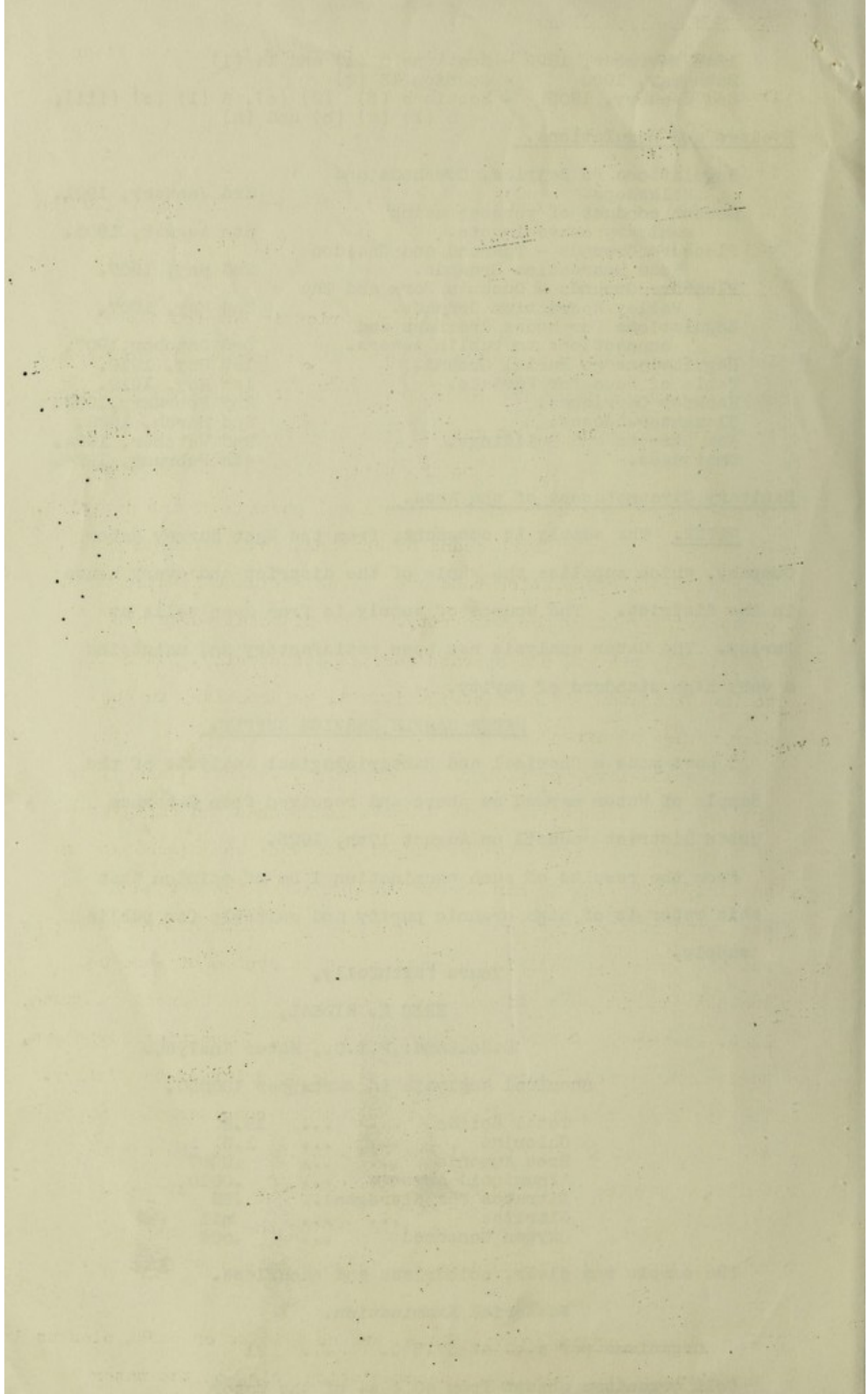
Total Solids	...	...	18.8
Chlorine	...	...	1.3
Free Ammonia	...	...	.0007
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	.0010
Nitrates (as Nitrogen)	..	..	.62
Nitrites	...	...	nil
Oxygen Consumed	...	...	.006

The sample was clear, colourless and odourless.

Bacterial Examination.

Organisms per c.c. at 37.5°C. ... 21

Coli organisms absent from 40 c.c. of the water



Drainage and Sewerage.

Surface water is chiefly drained by pipes taking the water from the high and low level districts to low lying land at the northern extremity of Caterham Valley, where it flows into open fields.

There are no rivers or streams in the area in which pollution can take place.

Sewage and Sewerage Disposal.

The high level portion of the district is sewered except in one or two outlying bye-roads where it is impossible to connect to the sewer. These few cases are all large properties standing in their own grounds, and are drained into cesspools.

The sewage gravitates to the sewage disposal works at the north-eastern extremity of the high level portion of the district, where it is dealt with by means of screens, sedimentation tanks, contact beds, percolation beds etc. The effluent is discharged on to land owned by the authority. The disposal works are efficiently managed and operate very satisfactorily, but owing to the expansion of the district it will be necessary in the near future to extend the works.

The low-level portion of the district, Caterham Valley, is drained into cesspools. The Council undertakes the emptying of these and the contents are pumped into vans and discharged on to land, belonging to Sir Bernard Greenwell at the southern extremity of the district. Owing to the development of the Valley and the increased building operations, this system of cesspool drainage cannot be continued much longer, and the Council in March, 1925, instructed Messrs John Taylor and Sons, Consulting Engineers, to prepare a preliminary report as to the sewerage of the Valley. The Sanitary Committee had this report under consideration at the latter end of 1925 and it was anticipated that the scheme would be submitted to the Council early in the year 1926-1927.

The number of cesspools emptied during the year was 910 the contents being de-odorised and removed in closed vans to the disposal site.

Closet Accommodation. There are no privies or earth closets in the district, all the closet accommodation being on the water

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.

carriage system.

Scavenging.

The removal of house refuse is carried out weekly by motor vehicles and horse drawn carts. During the year, 7674 cu. yards have been removed from houses in the district, and burnt on sites far removed from the inhabited houses.

Sanitary Inspection.

Systematic inspection has been made under the Public Health and Housing Acts and the following defects have been remedied:-

General Repairs.	75.
Drainage Defects.	71.
Limewashing and Distemping.	17.
Defective Walls roofs etc.	26.
Defective dustbins.	20.
Defective W.C's.	3.
Manure Nuisance.	1.
Overcrowding.	1.
	<hr/>
	214.
	<hr/>

Smoke Abatement.

Observations have been kept during the year but no case of smoke nuisance have been observed or reported.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

The premises controlled by bye-laws or regulations are:-

Slaughterhouses.
Dairies.
Cowsheds.
Milkshops.

There are no offensive trades carried on in the district.

All stables and piggeries have been systematically inspected from time to time.

Slaughterhouses.

There is no public slaughterhouse in the district. Private premises on the register are:-

	<u>in 1920.</u>	<u>Jan. 1925.</u>	<u>December, 1925.</u>
Registered.	-	-	-
Licensed.	4	4	4

These are in a clean and satisfactory condition and comply with the Byelaws.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. Samples of milk for bacteriological inspection are taken by the County Inspector. The milk produced within

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

Second block of faint, illegible text, appearing to be a list or a series of short paragraphs.

Third block of faint, illegible text, continuing the list or series of paragraphs.

Fourth block of faint, illegible text, possibly a longer paragraph or a detailed list item.

Fifth block of faint, illegible text, appearing to be a concluding paragraph or a final list item.

Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page, possibly a footer or a signature.

the district is of an exceedingly pure and wholesome character.

Milk (Special) Designations Order, 1923. Under these regulations three retailers are licenced to purvey "certified milk" In no case was it necessary to refuse or revoke registrations or licences for graded milk.

Meat.

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924. Notification as to slaughtering has been carried out without difficulty and continuous inspections made at the time of slaughtering. No cases of tubercular or unsound meat have been discovered.

Meat is not sold from stalls or vehicles within the district.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Urban District comes within the jurisdiction of the Surrey County Council for the purposes of the sale of Food and Drugs Acts. The report of the County Inspector shews that 39 cases have been analysed of which 2 were found to be adulterated, leading to prosecutions and convictions in one case.

Housing.

1. (a) Housing conditions in the urban district are on the whole very satisfactory.

(b) The Council have erected 110 houses and at present there are only 28 persons on the waiting list. Careful watch is being kept on the problem and the Council will doubtless consider the erection of further houses for the working classes so soon as conditions warrant the institution of fresh schemes.

2. The district is on the eve of rapid development and within the next five or six years the population will probably increase considerably.

3. Overcrowding At present no overcrowding exists in the district.

(a) The general standard of housing is satisfactory.

(b) Defects found to exist are chiefly of a minor structural and drainage character.

Housing Statistics for the year ending 1925.

Number of houses erected during the year.

(a) Total.	78.
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts.	
(1) By the local authority.	42.
(2) By other bodies or persons.	36.
(c) No. of houses in course of erection during the year, but not completed.	47.

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

Second block of faint, illegible text, continuing the document's content.

Third block of faint, illegible text, appearing to be a separate section or paragraph.

Fourth block of faint, illegible text, possibly containing a list or detailed notes.

Fifth block of faint, illegible text, continuing the main body of the document.

Sixth block of faint, illegible text, likely a concluding paragraph or signature area.

Final block of faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page.

Unfit Dwellinghouses.

Number inspected under Housing Regulations 1910.) or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.)	535.
Number found unfit for human habitation.	1.
Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	6.

Remedy of defects without service of formal notices.

Number rendered fit in consequence of informal action.	6.
---	----

Action under Statutory powers.

Proceeding under Section 3 of the Housing Act.

Number of notices served requiring repairs.	1.
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices.	1.
By owners.	1.
By Local Authority in default.	-

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling houses of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	214.
Number in which defects were remedied by owners.	214.

Proceedings under Section 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing
Act, 1925.

Number of representations made with a view of Closing Order.	1.
Number of houses in which closing orders were made.	1.

Infectious Diseases.

The returns for notifiable Infectious Diseases during the
period since 1920 are as follows:-

<u>1921.</u>	38.
<u>1922.</u>	80.
<u>1923.</u>	139.
<u>1924.</u>	37.
<u>1925.</u>	92.
	<hr/>
	386.
	<hr/>

These include cases notified from the Mental Hospital
which are as follows

<u>1921.</u>	3.	
<u>1922.</u>	63.	
<u>1923.</u>	99.	
<u>1924.</u>	22.	
<u>1925.</u>	48.	Total. <u>235.</u>

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work done during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the various projects undertaken and the results achieved.

The second part of the report deals with the financial statement of the organization for the year. It shows the income and expenditure and the balance sheet at the end of the year. It also includes a statement of the assets and liabilities of the organization.

The third part of the report deals with the administrative and organizational aspects of the work. It discusses the various committees and sub-committees set up for the purpose of carrying out the work and the progress made by them.

The fourth part of the report deals with the future prospects of the organization. It discusses the various plans and programmes for the coming year and the steps to be taken to carry them out.

The fifth part of the report deals with the various other matters of interest to the members of the organization. It includes a list of the names of the members and a list of the names of the staff members.

The sixth part of the report deals with the various other matters of interest to the members of the organization. It includes a list of the names of the members and a list of the names of the staff members.

The seventh part of the report deals with the various other matters of interest to the members of the organization. It includes a list of the names of the members and a list of the names of the staff members.

The eighth part of the report deals with the various other matters of interest to the members of the organization. It includes a list of the names of the members and a list of the names of the staff members.

I separate these in order to show how large a number is notified from this Hospital; which is also accountable for certain number of the cases which are notified from the district, by means of relatives or contacts of the attendants to the Hospital. - All cases occurring in the Mental Hospital are dealt with by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and removed to their own Isolation Hospitals.

Cases of notifiable infectious disease occurring in the District are either nursed at home, if there are proper facilities or sent to the Wandale Valley Isolation Hospital.

A supply of Diphtheria antitoxin is always available from the Medical Officer of Health.

An arrangement is made by the Local Authority with the Clinical Research Association for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens.

The Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet fever have not been made use of in this area nor has any artificial method of immunization against these diseases been employed.

No single case of vaccination or re-vaccination has been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health Regulations 1917 in the last five years. The number of cases vaccinated or re-vaccinated by the Public Vaccinator in that period was 501.

Of non-notifiable infectious diseases mumps was very prevalent during the Spring and early Summer of 1925; as also were measles german measles and chicken pox during the last five months of the year. Two deaths were notified as due to Influenza, but the incidence of this disease was slight.

Disinfection of premises and articles exposed to infection is carried out by the local authority in all cases of notifiable disease either at the termination of the case or as soon as removal to Hospital has taken place.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1925

	<u>No: Notified.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Small Pox.	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever.	51.	Nil.
Diphtheria.	26.	3.
Lobar pneumonia.	6.	5.
Erysipelas.	6.	Nil.
Enteric (para typhoid B)	2.	Nil.
Puerperal fever.	1.	1.
Ophthalmia neonatorum.	Nil.	Nil.

Faint, illegible text covering the majority of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

.....
.....
.....

The number of cases, exclusive of those from the Caterham Mental Hospital, nursed in Hospital was 12.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1925.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0					1.			
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25				1.				
35	1	1	1		1	1		
45	2				1	2		
55	2				2			
65								
	5	1	1	1	5	3		

Returns for the 4 previous years were as follows :-

	Pulmonary	Non pulmonary
<u>1924.</u>	9.	1.
<u>1923.</u>	9.	-
<u>1922.</u>	8.	1.
<u>1921.</u>	9.	1.

There has been no occasion for any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Public Health Act, 1925 Section 62.

FRANK R. CARROLL.

Medical Officer of Health.

