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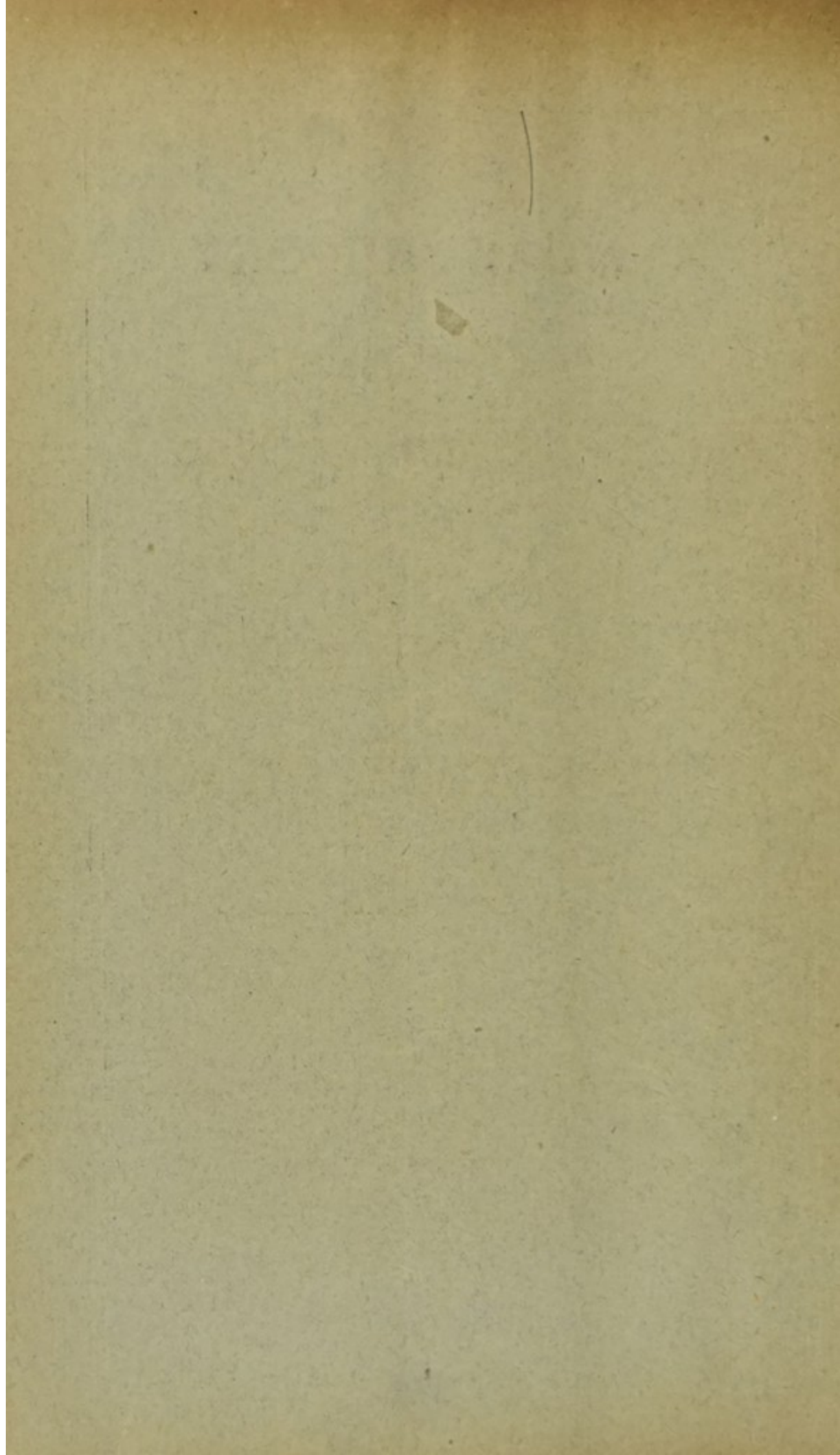
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1896.

CHELMSFORD :
PRINTED BY JOHN DUTTON, 8, TINDAL STREET.

MDCCCXCVII.

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Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Sub-Registration District.			Area in Acres.	Population. Census, 1891.
1.	Chelmsford, part of.	One parish ...	692	293
2.	Ingatestone.	Eleven parishes	26,541	6,175
3.	Writtle.	Six „	18,079	5,060
4.	Great Waltham	Eight „	19,080	5,133
5.	Great Baddow.	Six „	15,033	6,513
Total			79,425	23,174

	Population.	No. of inhabited houses.	No. of uninhabited houses.	No. of houses building.
1881	23,130	5,066	377	6
1891	23,174	5,102	319	17

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

During the past year a few sanitary improvements have been effected in the district, and some contemplated improvements of greater magnitude have been advanced a stage.

Water Supplies. The improvement of village water supplies has received a good deal of attention. At Rolphy Green in the parish of Great Waltham, I reported that there were

eight cottages entirely dependent upon a pond for water, and that this pond was contaminated by the drainage from a manure heap. The boulder clay here is about 70 feet thick and water could only be obtained by piercing this. An attempt to make some arrangement with the owners of the cottages appears to have lead to no result, and the Parish Council to whom the subject was remitted for consideration, has not yet furnished any report. The new well at Pleshey completed at the beginning of the year has yielded a satisfactory supply of water. At Stock the public well on the Green has been opened and cleansed, complaints about the quality having been received. It is hopeless, however, expecting to get a really good water from this source. In July, I made a report upon the water supply to Chignal St. James, recommending that two wells should be sunk to supply the parish. It has been decided however, to call upon the owners to sink one near the Church, and as the cost of a well near the Elms is considered excessive, nothing has been done there.

Portions of Great Leighs are badly supplied with water. A Committee was appointed to consider the subject, but as it has made no recommendation, the matter has been allowed to drop.

It was pointed out in my 1895 report that the supply of water to the parish of Ingatestone was inadequate, arising chiefly from the failure of the chain of wells supplying the service reservoir. During the year efforts have been made to find a supplementary supply. There is plenty of water in the neighborhood, and from a trial bore the Surveyor has raised 10000 gallons of water a day, and he believes that this yield will be fairly constant.

From one or more of such wells it is proposed to pump water to supply the higher portion of the village. With a suitable oil engine it is thought that two hours pumping a day will suffice to fill the house tanks. The pumping will thus be directly into the mains through a stand pipe of sufficient

elevation. The objections to this method are :—(1) that if the cisterns are not sufficiently capacious to stand the maximum daily draught, the houses will, from time to time, be deprived of water ; (2) that cisterns will be absolutely necessary, and must be of comparatively large size ; (3) that any defects in the mains will increase the risk of pollution ; (4) that there will be no reserve for use in case of fire.

Of course if every possible care be taken in the carrying out of the works, in seeing that proper cisterns are provided and placed in proper situations the objections are reduced to a minimum, but I should much prefer to see a constant service provided by the erection of a suitable service reservoir. Should the present supply fail to be sufficient to supply the remainder of the village, then water from the new wells will be pumped into the present low level service reservoir. A sample of the water from the trial well was examined by me, and from the results of the analysis and the examination of the source I concluded that it is suitable for all domestic purposes. The site of the old water-works belongs to Wadham College, and the lease under which it is held has just expired. The new well and pumping station will also be on land owned by this college, and terms have been again arranged for a long lease. The cost of the proposed works is estimated by Mr. I. C. Smith, the Surveyor and Engineer, at £670.

A small sewer from Fryerning which discharged upon some land near the present works has been diverted, as the ground was becoming boggy or sewage sick, and there was a certain risk of contaminating the ground water from which the present supply is obtained.

In 1895 I had recommended the Maldon District Council to acquire certain springs near Gay Bowers, Danbury, to supply a portion of their district with water. These springs I had opened out and gauged at intervals, and found that after stopping out some of them which were thought liable to pollution, there was a flow of about 30,000 gallons per

diem. Your Council objecting to this water being carried out of the district, made an application to the Local Government Board for the necessary powers for effecting compulsory purchase. Major-General Crozier held the Inquiry at Danbury in March, and the powers asked for were granted. No further steps have been taken to acquire the springs, as, at present, we have no need of the water.

On November 4th another Inquiry was held at Danbury, to enable your Council to borrow the sum of £4,000 to extend the present system of mains to:—(1) Woodham Ferris station; (2) to Battles Bridge; (3) to Runwell village; and (4) to Little Baddow, also to erect an oil engine at Danbury to replace the present ram. This ram failed in the summer time to keep the village of Danbury supplied with water. By substituting an oil engine the mains supplying Rettendon, Hanningfield, etc, could be connected with the reservoir at the springs instead of with the lower reservoir fed by the overflow from the ram. This additional 20 feet of head is, as at present, found necessary to supply several houses in the higher portions of the district in which the mains ramify.

When this scheme was agreed to I quite understood that the mains were also to be extended to Howe Green and Butts Green in the parish of Sandon. These extensions were not shewn on the plan produced at the Inquiry, and attention was directed to the omission. I understand the plans have since been returned for amplification, and that the extensions referred to will be added. The Cottages at Howe Green and Butts Green are entirely dependent upon ponds, and these dry up nearly every summer, causing very great inconvenience and danger to health. The present springs will probably be more than ample to supply the additional districts, but if a larger supply is necessary the springs at Gay Bowers can easily be utilized. Already there are demands for still further extensions and, doubtless, in a few years nearly every parish in the southern portion of the district will have water mains ramifying

therein. It is simply surprising to find a population which for ages has been satisfied with water from ponds and wells, now clamouring to have the water conveyed by pipes to every house. I am glad also to record that the use of public stand pipes is discouraged, and that nearly every house along the route of the water mains is directly connected therewith. The example set by your Council might with advantage be followed by many other Councils in this County.

I regret to say that the proposed water supply to the Parish of Writtle still remains in abeyance. The Parish of Writtle is a very extensive one and includes two Ecclesiastical Parishes, Writtle and Highwood. The latter parish will, derive no direct benefit from either the water supply or the proposed sewerage system, the more populous portion of Highwood being miles away from either. So far as I understand it, the present position is that the Local Government Board sanctions the schemes but refuses to limit the area of the parish over which the rates shall be levied, and your Council object to carrying out the works unless Highwood is excluded from the rateable area.

It is time some way out of the dead lock was discovered, as the village of Writtle is in a grossly insanitary condition from lack of an efficient sewerage system. The springs were gauged during the year and the flow found practically constant. The chief spring yields at least 23,000 gallons of water per diem. Samples of the water also were examined and found quite satisfactory.

Some attention has also been paid during the year to improving the water supply to the groups of cottages at Galleywood (Great Baddow Parish) by piping a spring from the 'High' to the 'Bottom' Road, but more requires doing here to make the supply satisfactory.

The Great Baddow water mains have been extended along the Baddow Road to the boundary of Chelmsford Borough,

and along Arbour Lane, Goal Lane and Mount Hill Avenue, Springfield to supply the houses recently erected.

Water Analyses. All the public supplies have been examined during the year and reported upon from time to time.

Sewerage Works. No important works have been carried out. Minor improvements have been effected in two or three parishes but are not worth recording.

The sewerage of Great Baddow, Springfield and Widford passes into the Chelmsford sewers and is conveyed by gravitation to the Farm at Springfield. Referring to this farm, Dr. Reece the Local Government Board Inspector, in his report on the General Sanitary Condition of the Borough of Chelmsford says " Its area is 107a. 3r. 17p., of this about $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres are pasture land and the remainder osier bed and arable land. The sewage is received into settling tanks, where the greater portion of the solid matter is deposited, the liquid matter being disposed of by surface irrigation on about $66\frac{1}{2}$ acres available for the purpose. A fairly clear effluent is discharged into the Chelmer Navigation Channel, near Cuton Lock. For some years the farm answered its purpose admirably, but now the ground is said to be sick and a larger area required " I may add that although no complaints have been received the effluent from the farm has on occasions been far from satisfactory.

The system of sewers connected with the Chelmsford mains has been extended in various directions to enable the houses which have sprung up in the Rural suburbs to be connected therewith. In the parish of Writtle, but in immediate contact with the Borough Boundary, a large Electric Light works is in course of erection. It will have an abundant supply of water derived from the subsoil by Abyssinian Tube wells, and I understand that the Company is arranging to dispose of the sewage from the works upon its own land.

Housing of the Labouring Classes. Attention has been directed during the year to many cottages which were becoming

dilapidated, and in most cases, the necessary repairs have been executed by the owners without a formal representation having been made that they were unfit for human habitation. Six houses have been so represented, and of these four have been closed, one placed in fair repair and the other will be closed.

In my last report I referred at length to the want of cottage accommodation at Ingatestone and to the proposal which had been made to put in force the Housing of the Working Classes Act. After the report of the Committee the whole subject was referred to a Parish Meeting which was held on January 21st. I attended and laid all the facts of the case before the Meeting and explained how the Rural District Council could supply the cottages required. It was then stated that certain landowners were willing to sell land suitable for the erection of cottages. Ultimately the meeting was adjourned and it was left to the Parish Council to call another meeting if necessary. Since then no meeting has been called, nor have any cottages been erected, but I understand that land has been acquired for the purpose and that one or more new roads will shortly be laid out.

Overcrowding. A great many cases have been reported during the year and all were dealt with without legal proceedings being found necessary.

Public Scavenging. At length it has been decided to scavenge the populous portion of the parish of Springfield, and this is now being done by contract, the carter going round on one day per week. He averages six to seven loads per week.

Alteration of Parish Boundaries. An enquiry has just been held on the application of the Corporation of Chelmsford for the inclusion of a portion of the parish of Writtle in the Borough Boundaries. This small portion which includes about one dozen cottages and adjoins a populous portion of the Borough, is far distant from the village of Writtle and cut off by a railway embankment from the rest of the parish. The houses have

been connected with the Borough sewers. The result of the enquiry is not yet known.

RESULTS OF INSPECTION.

All the parishes in the district have been visited by me during the year, and a considerable number of nuisances were detected. Some of these were reported to the Inspector and others to your Council. The Inspector has made from time to time detailed systematic inspections, and all nuisances detected or reported have been promptly attended to. Many of the Cowsheds, Slaughter Houses, Bake-houses, and some Workshops have been inspected and found generally in a satisfactory condition. Several additional Dairy Farms have been registered, more and more land in the district being yearly laid down to grass. The Manure Works at Springfield which caused so many complaints last year and lead to legal proceedings being taken, have been closed.

HOSPITAL REPORT.

The Hospital has been occupied during the whole of the year except two days in January, 15 in March, five in April and 25 in May. The total number of cases admitted was 37 and of these nine are in the Hospital at present. The cases include 15 Diphtheria, 21 of Scarlet Fever and one of Typhoid, of these three cases of Diphtheria and one of Scarlet Fever proved fatal.

The 29 patients discharged were in the Hospital 898 days giving an average of 31 days each.

In consequence of the outbreak of Scarlet Fever this Autumn the larger ward had to be furnished and the Hospital may now be said to be fully equipped.

The whole of the cases have been attended by me as Medical Superintendent, and during the year I have paid 250 visits three of them being in the middle of the night. If I am to continue to act as Medical Superintendent it is very desirable that, if possible, telephonic communication should be established between my house and the Hospital.

The disinfecting apparatus has been in frequent use and continues to give every satisfaction.

There has been no difficulty in persuading parents to allow their children to be taken to the Hospital. The Council has encouraged the use of the Hospital by remitting entirely, or in part, the charges for maintenance and attendance.

The Hospital has been of inestimable value to the district, and the patients have invariably expressed their appreciation of the care they have received. A trained nurse has on two occasions been engaged to assist in nursing. The caretaker and his wife have given every satisfaction.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Limited outbreaks of Measles and Whooping Cough occurred in several parishes—the Great Leighs, Little Waltham and Radley Green schools were closed for short periods. The total number of Infectious Diseases notified was 103. This is the smallest number which has occurred in any one year since the Notification Act was adopted. It may be a coincidence, but if so, it is a singular one, that during the two years the Isolation Hospital has been in use the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified has only been one-half of the previous average. I am inclined to think that much of this decrease is due to the prompt removal and isolation of patients, and that it affords valuable evidence of the utility of that institution.

The subjoined Table shews the number of cases of each disease notified and the parishes in which they occurred. Springfield and Writtle, two of our most populous parishes contributed the greatest number of cases.

No case of Small pox occurred during the year, but on one occasion I was summoned to visit a patient who was suspected to be suffering from that disease. I concluded that the case was simply one of Measles and this diagnosis proved to be correct.

	Diphth- eria.	Ty- phoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Ery- sipelas.	Total.
Springfield	18	3	2	3	26
Hanningfields	2	0	1	5	8
Writtle	2	1	6	4	13
Fryerning and Ingatestone ...	2	0	2	0	4
Broomfield	0	1	0	0	1
Widford... ..	0	1	6	0	7
Great Waltham	0	2	0	2	4
Great Leighs	0	0	2	0	2
Buttsbury	0	0	3	0	3
Sandon	4	0	0	1	5
Danbury	1	0	9	0	10
Boreham	1	0	4	0	5
Pleshey	0	0	3	0	3
Woodham Ferris	0	1	0	0	1
Roxwell	1	0	0	0	1
Runwell... ..	0	1	4	0	5
Rettendon	0	0	3	0	3
Great Baddow	0	1	0	0	1
Chignalls	0	1	0	0	1
Totals ...	31	12	45	15	103

DIPHTHERIA AND CROUP.

No case of Croup has been notified. Of the 31 cases of Diphtheria no less than 18, or more than half occurred in the parish of Springfield. Eleven of these cases occurred in the first three months of the year and most of them were from the cottages near the Canal. In two instances no Medical man was called in until several members of the family were infected.

The children had not been isolated and hence had spread the infection. Sporadic cases are constantly occurring in this parish and when such are neglected small outbreaks occur.

A small but very fatal outbreak occurred in the parish of Sandon with reference to which a special report was presented. The first patient travelled about with a threshing machine and slept in the van. How he became infected we could not discover. He infected a brother and sister. Another lad who took his place in the van was also attacked. The bedding was disinfected in the machine at the Hospital and the van itself fumigated and cleaned. Six cases which were notified when examined bacteriologically gave no Diphtheria bacilli, and though in some instances there were many children in the houses of the patients it is noteworthy that in no case were any of these infected. In four primary cases of true Diphtheria there were gross filth nuisances in or near the infected premises and no more probable cause could be ascertained. In two primary cases the infection was imported.

Out of the 31 cases notified there were 10 deaths. The 15 cases removed to Hospital resulted in three deaths, therefore seven deaths occurred amongst the remaining 16 who were not so removed. In two or three instances the patients were moribund when the Medical attendant was called in.

Although the total number of notifications of Diphtheria was much below the average, the number of deaths was excessive shewing that the type of the disease was of much more than usual severity.

The age and sex distribution of the cases was as under—

	Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-50	TOTAL.
Males	...	2	5	2	0	3	12
Females	...	4	6	4	5	0	19

SCARLET FEVER.

This disease has been somewhat wide spread. Forty five cases were notified and of these 21 were removed to Hospital. In quite a number of primary cases the origin of the infection could not be discovered. One case occurred in April in a house at Great Leighs. In the previous July all the children with one exception had suffered from Scarlet Fever, the exception being the boy who was attacked in April. The house had been fumigated, limewashed, etc., yet apparently the infection remained. Four primary cases were imported. In one instance a girl who had been discharged from a London Fever Hospital (having had Scarlet Fever) returned to her home here and within a week her mother was attacked. A small outbreak occurred at Boreham due to an unrecognized case which infected other members of the same family and children living in adjoining houses. Towards the end of the year a small outbreak occurred at Danbury limited to the Infants Department at the National Schools. Upon examining the registers and visiting the families of recent absentees we discovered two houses in which children were in the peeling stage of Scarlet Fever. The outbreak followed a few days after a child from one of these houses had returned to school.

The age and sex distribution of the cases was as under:—

	Under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	Over 35	TOTAL.
Males	1	3	7	5	3	0	0	19
Females	0	2	12	7	2	2	1	26

TYPHOID FEVER.

Ten cases of this disease were notified none of which

proved fatal. They were very widely scattered and there was nothing of the nature of an outbreak.

Two cases occurred in a cottage at Great Waltham, the first being a girl who came home ill from Southend where she had been nursing a relative who had Typhoid Fever.

One, not very typical case was associated with a cesspit nuisance. Two cases were probably contracted in Chelmsford. In one the man worked in Moulsham where Typhoid was prevalent, and in the other the girl was in service in Moulsham and was sent home when she became ill. Three cases occurred in the Autumn in two houses at Springfield, one not being notified until the patient had recovered. The origin could not be ascertained. One case at Runwell occurred in a house in which the drains were most defective, the scullery floor being honeycombed with rat runs. A child attending the Baddow School being attacked with Fever the School premises were examined. The closets are flushed by an automatic arrangement which does not work properly and frequently gives rise to a nuisance.

The age and sex distribution was as under :—

	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	Over 35	TOTAL
Males	0	1	1	4	0	0	6
Females ...	0	1	0	2	0	1	4

PUERPERAL FEVER. Two cases of Puerperal Septicemia were notified. Neither proved fatal.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Table I. The total number of deaths registered in the district was 287, but this includes two deaths in the Billericay

Isolation Hospital, at Buttsbury. Deducting these, the number is 285, but we must add 20 deaths which occurred in the Workhouse, of people removed from the parishes in the district. This makes the total 305, corresponding to a death rate of 13 per thousand. This is much below the average, and is very satisfactory.

The death rate from Zymotic Diseases is about the average, but is higher than in 1894-5. This is due to the deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diphtheria, all of which are above the average. The mortality amongst infants is also very low. It is only about half that which prevails amongst children in some of our Essex towns.

Table II. This Table gives various Death-rates in the sub-registration districts. The mortality has been highest in the Writtle and Ingatestone Districts and lowest in Great Baddow. Comparison with the figures for the preceding year will shew that these variations are chiefly accidental as exactly the reverse condition obtained in that year.

Table III. This gives the death-rates in various parishes and groups of parishes for the past year and also the mean for the preceding 15 years. Taking this long period, the group including Runwell, Rettendon, Woodham Ferris and the Hanningfields has the lowest death rate and Ingatestone and Fryerning the highest. Comparison with previous tables will show however that the death rate in the two latter parishes is slowly declining, and I hope in a few years it will be found that they do not exceed the average. The cause of these variations is very difficult to explain. As I am not able to offer any explanation satisfactory to myself I will not trouble you with vague surmises.

Tables IV. and V. are those specifically required by the Local Government Board. Table IV. shews the Deaths in the various Districts classed according to Diseases and Ages. We note that Measles has been especially fatal in the Great Waltham and Writtle districts, and Whooping Cough and

Diphtheria in the Great Baddow District. It is somewhat curious that not a single death from Phthisis (Consumption) has been registered in the district of Writtle.

Table V. shews the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in each district and also the number of cases removed to our Hospital.

Table VI. contains a monthly return of Meteorological data, of deaths from all causes, and from Zymotic diseases, and of the number and nature of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified. April, May, June and November were apparently the healthiest months, and January, February and March the most unhealthy.

If any member of the Council will study this Table and similar ones which have appeared in previous reports and can discover the relationship between the weather and the prevalence of disease, I shall be glad if he will communicate the result to me. That there is some relationship no one doubts. The relationship is not simple, and doubtless depends upon a number of factors of varying importance.

My report as a whole must be taken as being of a very satisfactory character. The important works carried out by your Council during the period I have had the honour of being your Medical Officer of Health, testify better than is possible in words to the real interest taken in improving the Sanitary condition of the district. I am deeply gratified also to feel that you are not wearied in well doing, and to be able to assure both the Local Government Board and the County Council that the works now contemplated prove that you have no desire to rest from your labours. It is also a great satisfaction to me, as it must also be to your Council, to know that the inhabitants of the district appreciate all that has been done to increase their comforts and improve their surroundings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN C. THRESH.

TABLE I.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, AND INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1896, COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Period.	Per 1,000 Population.			Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
	Birth-rate.	Death-rate all causes.	Death-rate Zymotic Diseases.	
1896	24·4	13·0	1·49	88
1895	25·3	13·9	1·03	94
1894	22·9	12·8	·55	72
1893	26·2	14·9	1·65	88
1892	24·5	18·2	1·85	96
1891	26·6	15·5	·95	91
1890	26·8	15·6	2·6	105
1881-90	28·0	15·3	1·65	92

TABLE II.

DEATH-RATES FROM ALL CAUSES, AND FROM THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE VARIOUS SUB-REGISTRATION DISTRICTS.

Sub-registration Districts.	1895.			1896.		
	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infantile Mortality.
Writtle ...	15·8	1·6	116	10·7	1·3	85
Great Waltham ...	13·1	·8	70	12·4	1·3	101
Great Baddow ...	11·8	·6	84	14·7	2·2	110
Ingatestone ...	15·8	1·3	101	12·3	·6	57

TABLE III.
DEATH - RATES IN THE PARISHES PER 1,000
POPULATION.

PARISHES.	Population	Death- rate, 1896.	15 years, 1881 to 1895
Boreham, Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon...	2,890	14·1	14·1
Runwell, Rettendon, Woodham Ferris and the Hanningfields	2,830	10·6	13·6
Roxwell, Chignall, Good Easter, Mashbury and Pleshey	2,155	12·1	15·4
Writtle (including Highwood)	2,565	7·4	14·8
Great Waltham... ..	2,285	10·9	14·6
Broomfield, Little Waltham, Little Leighs and Great Leighs	2,354	20·8	15·8
Springfield	2,660	13·5	15·0
Great Baddow (including Galleywood)	2,180	14·6	15·9
Margaretting and Widford	815	7·4	15·4
Stock and Buttsbury	1,064	15·9	15·6
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,680	15·1	16·8

TABLE IV.

TABLE of DEATHS during the year 1896, in the Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.		MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																						
		At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 65	65 & upwards																
NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	Sub-registration Districts.	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Group.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Influenza	Injuries	All other Diseases	Total	
Great Waltham	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	10	19	
Writtle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	6	7	...	3	22	48	
Great Baddow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	8	13	
Ingatstone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	...	...	20	39	
Widford (Parish)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	9	29	
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...	...	1	40	62
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8	...	...	...	10	15
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	58
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	10	1	...	...	16	...	...	2	39	77	
		...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	17	22	28	...	8	116	208	

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto	20	2	...	1	...	3	14	Under 5 5 upwds.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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TABLE V.

TABLE of POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.												NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.							
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1895.			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	FEVERS.				Cholera	Erysipelas	Total	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Total			
									Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing										Puerperal		
Writtle ...	5060	5126	138	Under 5 upwards.	...	1	0	...	...	1	...	0	...	0	2	...	0	...	...	...	0	...	...	0
Great Baddow	6513	6673	145	Under 5 upwards.	...	10	6	...	...	4	...	0	...	0	7	...	0	...	...	...	0	...	...	1
Ingatstone ...	6175	6175	156	Under 5 upwards.	...	12	3	...	...	1	...	0	...	1	22	...	0	...	...	...	3	...	...	5
Great Waltham	5133	5133	128	Under 5 upwards.	...	7	0	...	...	1	...	0	...	0	3	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	6
Widford (Parish)	293	293	4	Under 5 upwards.	...	5	0	...	...	1	...	0	...	0	6	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	5
TOTALS	23174	23400	571	Under 5 upwards.	...	39	7	...	...	8	...	0	...	2	88	...	2	...	...	...	19	...	...	33

"The Notification of Infectious Disease" has been compulsory in the District since 1890.

An Isolation Hospital is provided.

CHELMSFORD. TABLE VI.

TABLE OF METEOROLOGICAL DATA, DEATHS, AND OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES,
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1896.

Meteorological Data.				Deaths from all causes.		Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.								Infectious Diseases Notified.					Totals.			
Mean Temperature.	Mean daily range of Temperature.	Relative Humidity.	No. of Rainy Days.	Rainfall.	Total Deaths.	Under 1 year.	Over 65 years.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Group.	Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Erysipelas.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Totals.	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Group.		Fever.	Erysipelas.	
January	39.35	10.3	93	11	.70	35	7	11	0	4	0	0	0	2	3	9	0	0	10	0	1	11
February	38.75	12.3	89	8	.63	32	6	12	0	0	0	0	4	5	9	9	0	1	0	0	0	1
March	44.75	13.9	84	22	2.96	35	7	15	1	1	0	1	0	1	4	4	0	5	4	1	1	11
April	47.75	18.3	79	7	.59	18	6	7	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	3	0	2	0	2	1	5
May	52.95	23.2	66	3	.21	18	2	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	2
June	63.3	23.15	68.3	9	3.33	18	5	8	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	3
July	63.75	25.3	66.0	7	.59	23	1	11	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	3	1	0	4
August	58.45	18.5	73.0	12	3.65	27	1	16	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	3	1	3	15
September	56.9	12.46	85.5	20	5.04	22	2	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1	5	13
October	45.4	14.2	90.0	17	2.79	24	2	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	2	1	7
November	38.9	12.32	88.0	10	1.13	18	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	1	1	10
December	37.9	10.2	94.0	19	3.08	35	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	2	2	10
Means	49.01	16.17	81.3	145	24.10	305	50	127	3	11	2	1	1	10	11	38	0	45	31	12	15	103
and	48.2	17.2	83.8	144	18.42	323	55	149	0	2	3	10	1	5	4	25	0	44	24	12	27	107
Totals	49.1	15.7	83.7	197	24.34	300	39	131	1	6	1	2	2	2	1	15	2	81	73	8	27	191
1893	49.8	18.5	84.3	150	20.21	345	55	145	1	11	8	13	0	3	3	39	0	84	80	22	41	227

SUMMARY of WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector in
the Rural Sanitary District of Chelmsford during the year
ending December 31st, 1896.

	Total Number for Year.	Results of Inspection, &c.
1. Complaints received... ..	235	
2. Nuisances detected	250	
3. Nuisances abated	230	
4. Notices served	273	
5. Summonses taken out	—	
6. Convictions	—	
7. Cottages inspected	2,500	
8. Lodging-houses inspected	—	
9. Slaughter-houses inspected	19	
10. Bakehouses inspected	29	
11. Dairies and Milk Shops inspected	35	
12. Cowsheds inspected	54	
13. Workshops inspected	—	
14. Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875.	3	
15. Houses disinfected	54	
16. Overcrowding abated	22	
17. Houses placed in habitable repair	72	
18. Houses closed... ..	16	
19. Houses erected or re-built, for which "Certificates" were applied	37	
20. "Certificates" granted	37	
21. " " deferred	—	
22. Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded	4	
23. Wells cleansed or repaired... ..	8	
24. Wells closed	—	
25. Houses connected with sewers ...	37	
26. " " " with water mains	45	
27. Earth, pail, or improved Privies constructed or existing Privies altered	43	
28. Privies and W.C.'s repaired ; W.C.'s supplied with water...	72	
29. Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered	15	
30. Animals improperly kept removed	—	
31. Samples of water taken for Analysis	47	
32. Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	—	
33. Seizures of unsound Meat, &c. ...	—	

(Signed) I. C. SMITH.

