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County Borough of Devonport.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

AND

SANITARY CONDITION

OF

DEVONPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1908

BY

**O. HALL,**

D.P.H., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., F.C.S., etc

Fellow and Member of the Council, Royal Institute of Public Health,  
Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health,  
Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute,

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**


**MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF BOROUGH HOSPITALS.**

**MEDICAL OFFICER TO THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.**

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# COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEVONPORT.

## SANITARY COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR—Mr. Councillor GOLDSMITH, J.P.

*Chairman*—Mr. Councillor MONK, J.P.

*Deputy Chairman*—Mr. Councillor COOMBS.

* Mr. Alderman BENNEE, J.P.	Mr. Councillor FULL
* " " GOODMAN	* " " HEALEY
" Councillor BAXTER	* " " LITTLETON
" " BRENTON	" " PARR
" " CUNDY	* " " ROBERTS
* " " DAYMOND	* " " SAWDY
" " ELLIS	" " SCREECH

\* Members of the Hospital Sub-Committee.

*Town Clerk*—R. J. FITTALL, Esq.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*Medical Officer of Health*—O. HALL, D.P.H., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health*—W. ST. CLAIR MCCLURE,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Public Analyst*—C. E. BEAN, F.R.C.S., F.I.C.

*Matron of Borough Hospital*—Miss BAKER.

### *Inspectors—*

JOHN THORNING, Cert. Royal Sanitary Inst., Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, &c.

G. T. GEATON, Cert. Royal Sanitary Inst.

W. S. NORTHMORE, Cert. Royal Sanitary Inst.

S. SKELTON.

*Clerk*—R. T. AVIS, Cert. Royal Sanitary Inst.

*Cleansing Superintendent*—W. E. ARSCOTT.

*House Disinfectors*—G. TRAFFORD and G. SMITH.



COUNTY RECORD OF 1884

STATE OF TEXAS

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the office of Justice of the Peace for the County of [Name] for the year 1884. The names are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames.

[List of names follows]

STATE OF TEXAS

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the office of Justice of the Peace for the County of [Name] for the year 1884. The names are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames.

[List of names follows]

[Additional text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or date]

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
DEVONPORT.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND  
COUNCILLORS OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEVONPORT.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to  
you my Fourth Annual Report on the Health  
and Sanitary Condition of the Borough,

The Report includes a detailed account of our  
proceedings under the Factory and Workshops  
Act, and, as requested by the Local Govern-  
ment Board, a résumé of the work done under  
the Administrative Provisions (Education) Act, etc.

Reviewing the death returns, it will again be  
seen we continue to maintain our good position  
among the seventy-six great towns, the rate for

the year being 13·3 per 1,000. It should be noted that 108 were returned as due to old age and were therefore, lives that had attained their "allotted span."

The Birth-rate which in 1907 was 27·6 per 1,000 fell to 25·3. It is difficult to determine the cause of this decline which for some time past has been fairly general throughout England, and, therefore, not dependent upon any exclusively local cause. It would appear, however, that during the past year there has been a slight increase in the number of births elsewhere, but as will be seen from the figures, Devonport has not participated in the improvement.

During the year there has been a further reduction in the number of Infectious Diseases notified, viz. 42 less than in the preceding year, although a larger number of cases were admitted into the Isolation Hospital. At first sight, this may appear somewhat paradoxical, but is explained by the fact that the increased Hospital accommodation has enabled us to isolate from the commencement those cases which, if refused



admission, would continue to act as centres of infection in their own homes.

As regards Tuberculosis, our position shows no appreciable improvement, but much is to be expected from the New Tuberculosis Regulations 1908, by which Poor Law Medical Officers, and Relieving Officers must report all cases coming under their observation to the Health Office. In the absence of more radical measures, our efforts must continue to be chiefly educational, and a new series of pamphlets is therefore in preparation, containing simple rules and advice for distribution in suitable cases. A great difficulty in dealing with the subject is the proverbial selfishness of the Consumptive, who, although he realizes the gravity of his own condition, will seldom inconvenience himself to the slightest degree for the safeguard of others.

One of the most important events of the year was the bringing into operation the New Education Act. This will be referred to at a later stage of the Report.

Infantile Diarrhœa as usual claimed a large number of victims, especially in the months of August, September, and October. This periodical occurrence of a preventable disease is greatly to be regretted, and it is a sad reflection upon maternal care and intelligence that so many lives are annually sacrificed. I have in previous Reports drawn attention to the principal causes of this scourge, and think some radical reform is required. During the year, I published a pamphlet bearing on the subject, but a measure of this kind without the co-operation of a Health Visitor is not calculated to bring forth much result. The usual adviser of the young mother, as is well known, is frequently the oldest and probably the most ill-informed of her acquaintances, and very often one of the race of midwives which is happily passing away. It can easily be seen that the substitution of enlightened and trained advice is unquestionably the remedy for this state of affairs, and I hope that when the matter is next brought before the Council they will be more inclined to give it favourable consideration. The urgent need for such an

official has been rendered still more imperative by the introduction of the New Education Act. Here we find the benefits which should follow examination and advice to a great extent must be lost unless followed up and applied.



## **GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.**

The area of the Borough of Devonport is bounded on the south and west by an expanse of estuarine water.

From the shore it rises in a series of somewhat isolated hills, the majority of which attain an elevation of slightly over 175 feet above the sea level.

At Mount Pleasant, on the South, the elevation is somewhat above 200 feet.

At Mount Pellier, on the East, the ground reaches 275 feet, and at St. Budeaux, on the extreme North, an elevation of 300 feet occurs. Formerly this area was intersected by several tidal creeks, branches of the Hamoaze; in part these still exist, but portions have already been filled and reclaimed and others are now in process of reclamation.

The whole district is occupied by rocks of the Devonian series, the more southerly portion of the Borough lying on limestone of Middle Devonian Age. Northwards are a succession of

slate and shales, through which at Ford and Keyham break considerable masses of igneous rock having an East and West trend; still further North at, or near Saltash Passage, several narrow bands of ancient lavas occur coursing in a similar direction.

The whole area may thus be said to be formed of practically impervious rock, although formerly some of the dwellings drew their water supplies from shallow wells.

The extent to which surface waters enter the strata is, however, limited to that small depth to which the slate cleavage is appreciably open.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### SUMMARY.

Population (Census 1901)	-	-	70,437
„ estimated by Registrar			
General	-	-	81,525
Area	-	-	3,176 acres
Density of Population <i>i.e.</i> , the number			
of persons per acre	-	-	25·66
Number of Inhabited Houses in the			
Borough last year	.	-	9,775
Number of houses built during the year			82
Rateable Value	-	-	£328,167
Borough Rate including Education			
Rate	-	-	2/-
Street Rate	-	-	2/-
General District Rate	-	-	1/4
Poor Rate	-	-	1/1
Births	-	-	2,065
Birth Rate per 1,000 living	-	-	25·3
Deaths	-	-	1,072
Death Rate per 1,000 living	-	-	13·2
Average for 10 years	-	-	14·8
Excess of Registered Births over			
Deaths	-	-	993



## Death Rate from 7 principal Zymotic

Diseases	-	-	-	1 21
----------	---	---	---	------

Infantile Mortality or Deaths of  
Children under 1 year per 1,000

Births	-	-	-	125
--------	---	---	---	-----

Average for 10 years	-	-	-	127.6
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## POPULATION.

**The Population** as enumerated at the last Census (1901) was 70,437, estimated by the Registrar General to middle of 1908, it was 81,525 this being an increase of 1,566 over the preceding year.

In arriving at these figures, the Registrar General assumes that the same rate of increase will hold good as in the preceding intercensal period. It must be remembered, however, that in a Military and Naval Town like Devonport the population is essentially a migratory one, and it is probable his estimate is only approximately correct.

**The Area** is 3,176 acres exclusive of water.

**Density of Population**, *i.e.*, the number of persons to each acre is 25.66.

**The number of Inhabited Houses** in the Borough is 9,775.

**Births.**—The number of births registered during the year was 2,065. This gives a rate of 25.3 per 1,000, and is 21 less than in 1907.

**Deaths.**—During the year 1,100 deaths were registered from all causes in the Borough; this is equivalent to a death rate of 13·3 per 1,000 as against 12·8 in the preceding year.

Of these deaths, 566 were males, and 534 were females. 943 occurred in private houses, 68 in the workhouse, 84 in the Royal Albert Hospital, and 25 in other Institutions. 28 were deaths of non-residents.

The rate of the 76 great towns as will be seen from the comparative table appended was 14·9. That for England and Wales being 14·7.

**The Zymotic Death Rate.** *i.e.*, the death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases (small pox, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria or membranous croup, enteric fever and diarrhœa) was 1·21 per 1,000.



TABLE I.

## DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS.

DISTRICT.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion (Census, 1901).
	quarter	quarter	quarter	quarter		
Tamar ....	161	139	111	139	550	23·8
St. Aubyn ....	140	164	166	139	609	26·5
Stoke ....	252	250	221	183	906	37·1

TABLE II.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

DISTRICT.				1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	Total	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion. (Census 1901).
Tamar	...	..	...	88	53	45	63	249	10·7
St. Aubyn		...	...	97	87	65	91	340	14·8
Stoke	...	...	...	165	120	84	114	483	19·7

TABLE III. VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT during 1908 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONG- ING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of Age.		At all ages.				Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				
1898	65432	1663	25.4	234	140.7	949	14.3	73	—	—	—
1899	66960	1918	28.6	313	163.2	1198	17.8	82	—	—	—
1900	68488	1938	28.2	321	165.6	1068	15.5	149	—	—	—
1901	70437	1962	27.8	289	146.2	1172	16.6	115	—	—	—
1902	72308	2091	28.9	254	122.4	1083	14.9	133	1	—	—
1903	73477	2055	27.9	154	73.0	1055	14.3	113	11	—	—
1904	75344	2222	29.4	256	115.2	1085	14.4	85	3	—	—
1905	76864	1824	23.7	248	135.9	1102	14.3	147	35	—	—
1906	78405	2135	27.3	238	111.4	1029	13.1	121	—	—	—
1907	79959	2186	27.3	226	103.2	1023	12.8	164	27	—	—
Averages for years 1898-1907	72767	1999	27.4	253	127.6	1076	14.8	118	15	—	—
1908	81525	2065	25.3	241	116.7	1100	13.4	157	28	1072	13.2

\* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.



TABLE IV. INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	{	Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Common Infectious Diseases.	{	Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Whooping Cough	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	2	4	...	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	18
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{	Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	1	1	7	3	5	9	5	...	2	...	4	1	1	38	
		Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	6	
		Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	4	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	12	
Wasting Diseases.	{	Premature Birth	...	...	38	3	1	3	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
		Congenital Defects	...	...	6	3	...	...	9	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	11
		Injury at Birth	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
		Want of Breast Milk, Starvation	...	...	2	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
		Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	4	3	1	1	9	4	2	1	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	20
Tuberculous Diseases	{	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
		Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	4
		Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
		Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Meningitis (not Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	
Convulsions	...	...	4	3	...	1	8	4	1	2	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	20	
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	...	2	3	4	2	3	2	...	2	4	1	2	1	2	26	
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	...	1	1	2	3	1	3	...	19	
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
				60	14	5	10	89	33	14	21	20	16	5	12	7	10	8	6	241









CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 35		35 and under 45		45 and under 55		55 and under 65		65 and under 75		75 and upwards		All Ages TOTAL.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
<b>Other Infectious Diseases—</b> <i>continued.</i>																						
Tetanus -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Actinomycosis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Syphilis—																						
Acquired -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Congenital -	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Visceral -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Gonorrhœal Infection -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Tuberculosis—																						
Acute Miliary Tuberculosis -	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Tuberculosis of the Lymphatic System -	2	...	...	...	2	2	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	
Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Phthisis, Consumption)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
	...	...	2	1	6	12	12	8	13	7	7	6	7	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	86	

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 35		35 and under 45		45 and under 55		55 and under 65		65 and under 75		75 and upwards		All Ages TOTAL.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
<b>Other Infectious Diseases—<i>contd.</i></b>																						
Tuberculosis—																						
Of the Alimentary Canal -	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Of the Liver - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Of the Brain and Spinal Cord - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Of the Genito - urinary System - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Of the Mammary Gland -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Peritoneum - - -	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Meninges - - -	2	1	1	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
<b>The Intoxications and Sunstroke.</b>																						
Alcoholism—																						
Chronic Alcoholism -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	







CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 35		35 and under 45		45 and under 55		55 and under 65		65 and under 75		75 and upwards		All Ages TOTAL.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
<b>Constitutional Diseases—</b> <i>continued.</i>																					
Muscular Rheumatism -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gout -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes Mellitus -	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Diabetes Insipidus -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets -	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Obesity -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Diseases of the Digestive System.</b>																					
<b>Diseases of the Mouth—</b>																					
Stomatitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aphthous Stomatitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcerative Stomatitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Parasitic Stomatitis (Thrush) -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangrenous Stomatitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sarcoma of Jaw -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1















CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 35		35 and under 45		45 and under 55		55 and under 65		65 and under 75		75 and upwards		All Ages TOTAL.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
<b>Diseases of the Digestive System—continued.</b>																					
Diseases of the Intestines—																					
Miscellaneous Affections—																					
Dilatation of the Colon																					
Intestinal Sand -	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Tabes Mesenterica -	1	1	...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		3
Diseases of the Liver—																					
Jaundice (Icterus) -	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Icterus Neonatorum	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Acute Yellow Atrophy	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Affections of the Blood-vessels of the Liver	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Diseases of the Bile-passages and Gall-bladder	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...
Cholelithiasis -	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		2
Cirrhosis of the Liver	...		...		...		...		...	2	...		...		...		...		...		1
Abscess of the Liver	...		...		...		...		...	...	1		...		...		...		...		9
New Growths in the Liver	...		...		...		...		...	...	...	1	...		...		...		...		1
	...		...		...		...		...	...	...	1	...		...		...		...		2

























































CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 35		35 and under 45		45 and under 55		55 and under 65		65 and under 75		75 and upwards		All Ages TOTAL.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Developmental Diseases— <i>continued.</i>																						
Inquests -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Fractures -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Contusions -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Gunshot wounds -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cut, Stab -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Burn, Scald -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Poison -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Drowning -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Suffocation -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Hanging -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Other and Undefined Forms	3	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	15	


TABLE VI.

**GIVING NUMBER OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS OF  
INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR DURING 1908  
AND 10 PREVIOUS YEARS.**

Year.	No. of Births.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.
1898	1663	234	140·7
1899	1918	313	163·2
1900	1938	321	165·6
1901	1962	289	146·2
1902	2091	256	122·4
1903	2055	154	73·0
1904	2222	256	115·2
1905	1824	248	135·9
1906	2135	238	111·4
1907	2186	226	103·3
1908	2065	241	116·7



TABLE VII      **COMPARATIVE TABLE,**  
**Showing Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of**  
**Mortality in the 53 Weeks ended 2nd January, 1909.**

Cities and Boroughs.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Principal Zymotic Rate.	Deaths under 1 Year to 1000 Births.
76 Large Towns -	26·9	14·9	1·59	129
London - -	25·2	13·8	1·35	113
Liverpool - -	31·7	19·2	2·19	141
Manchester - -	29·1	18·2	2·25	151
Birmingham - -	28·4	15·9	1·86	144
Leeds - -	24·8	15·3	1·49	137
Sheffield - -	30·7	15·8	1·85	140
Bristol - -	23·1	13·6	1·16	126
Newcastle-on-Tyne -	29·7	16·0	1·26	136
Hull - -	30·2	16·2	2·19	145
Nottingham - -	26·6	15·2	1·25	145
Leicester - -	23·4	13·0	1·53	131
Portsmouth - -	28·4	13·8	0·97	99
Cardiff - -	26·6	13·0	1·10	125
Bolton -  -	24·5	15·4	1·70	148
Sunderland - -	33·0	17·7	1·86	146
Blackburn - -	25·0	15·7	1·56	149
Derby - -	25·9	13·1	0·95	112
Plymouth - -	22·2	15·0	0·91	129
Devonport - -	25·4	13·3	1·21	125
Preston - -	27·7	18·0	2·24	153

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFICATION) ACT.**

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The following diseases are notifiable in the Borough :—

Small-pox.

Cholera.

Diphtheria.

Membranous Croup.

Erysipelas.

Scarlatina.

Typhus.

Typhoid.

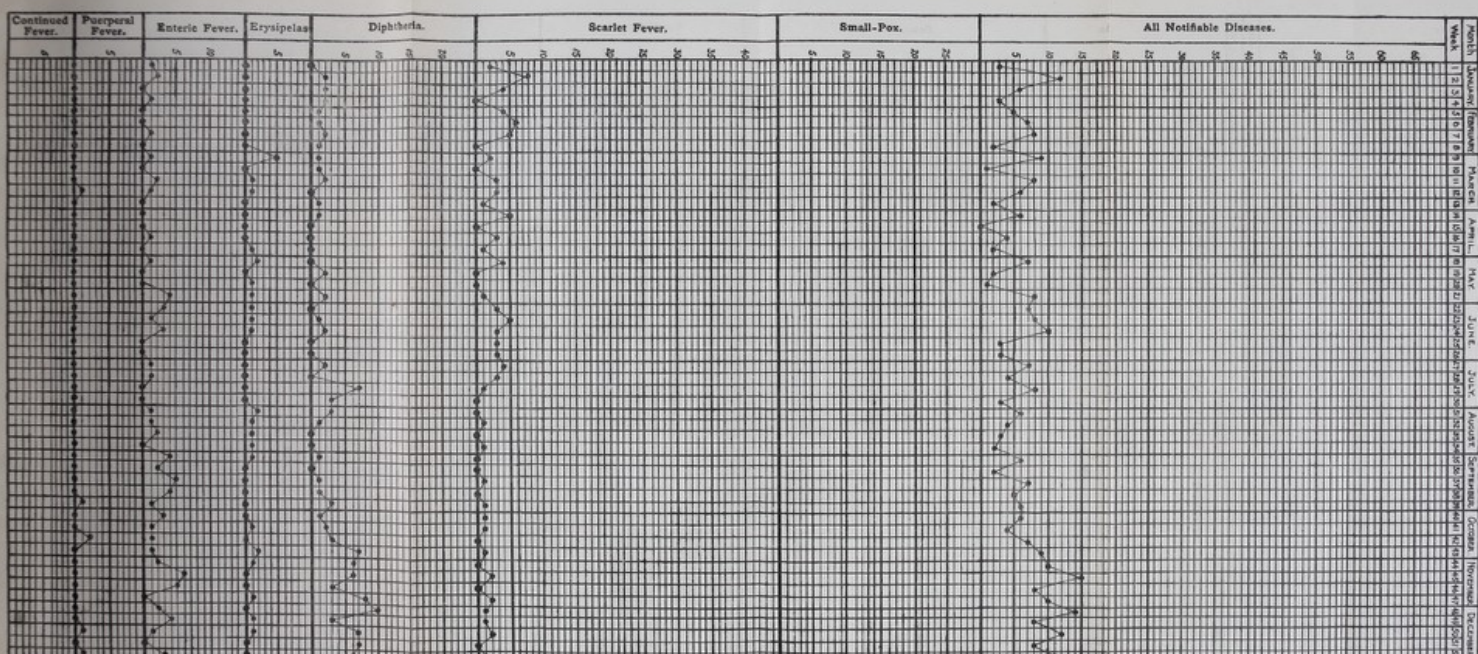
Relapsing.

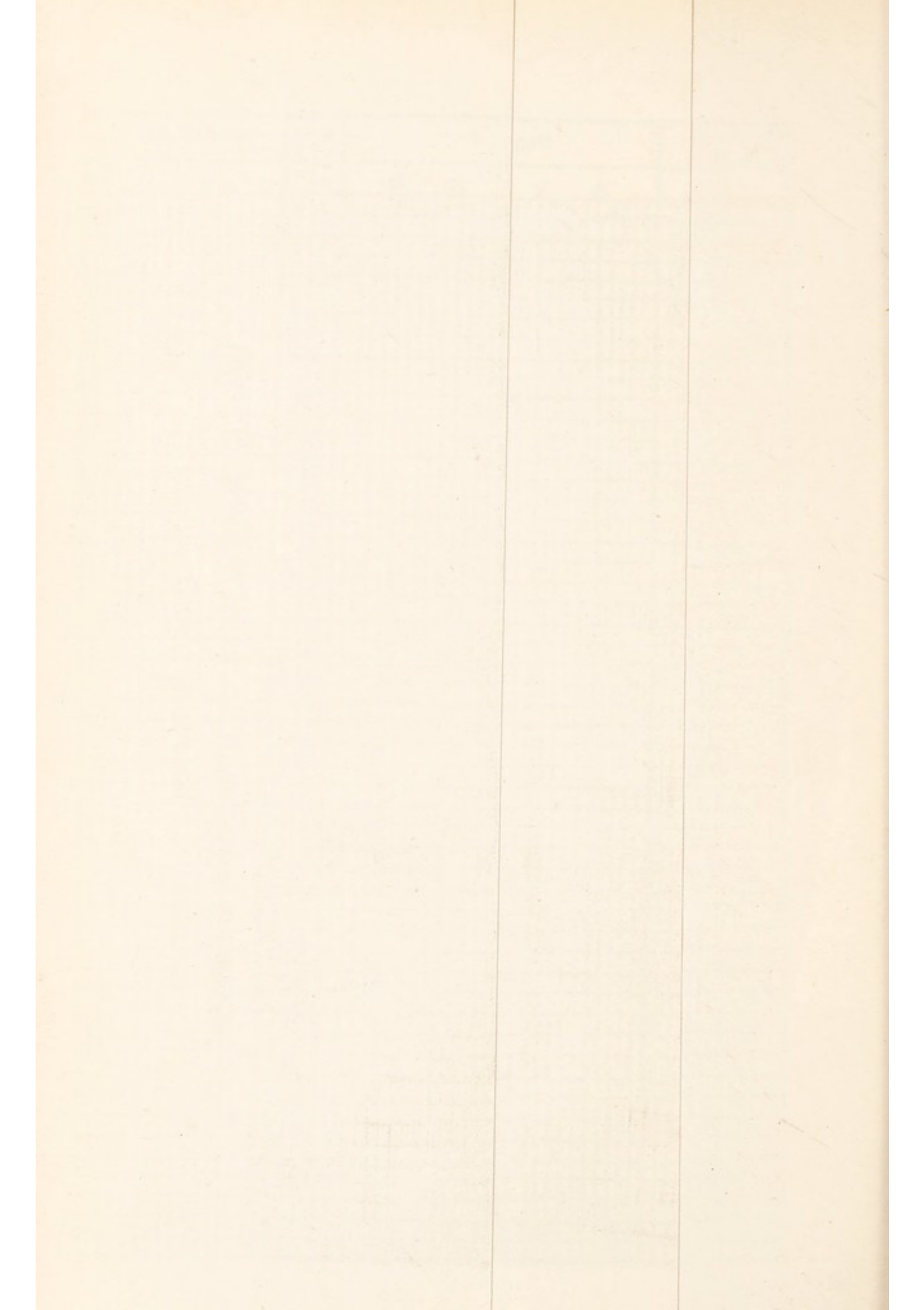
Continued and Puerperal Fevers.

The number of notifications received during the year was 321, being 42 less than in 1907. Of these 9 cases were found on further examination to be suffering from disease of a non-infectious nature.



Chart showing  
Weekly Notifications of Infectious Diseases.







Making the necessary corrections the infectious diseases which occurred in the Borough were as follows :—

Diphtheria	}	....	....	116
Membranous Croup				
Erysipelas	....	....	....	30
Scarlatina	...	...	....	94
Typhoid Fever	...	....	....	66
Puerperal Fever	....	....	....	6
Total	....	....	....	<u>312</u>

TABLE VIII. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Tamar.	St. Aubyn.	Stoke.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.			
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group).	117	3	36	69	3	6	—	23	29	65
Erysipelas	30	—	1	3	1	22	3	11	8	11
Scarlet Fever	94	—	24	58	5	7	—	18	13	63
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	74	—	6	10	26	32	—	17	23	34
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	6	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	5	1
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	321	3	67	140	39	69	3	69	78	174



## **MEASURES ADOPTED TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

Immediately on the receipt of a notification the sufferer is removed to the Isolation Hospital, all bedding, clothing, and other articles, which have been in contact with the patient removed and disinfected by steam under pressure, the method adopted being that known as the "Washington Lyon's" process, which ensures thorough disinfection.

The room occupied by the patient is thoroughly disinfected by means of the Formalin Spray, or Alformant Lamp.

All sanitary fittings of the house are examined, and notices served where defects are found, the source of the Milk and Water supply investigated, the number of inmates, their occupation and place of employment noted, and the employers notified of the existence of Infectious Disease.

In the case of children attending school, the Education Authority is notified, and the

children compelled to remain home until the house is certified free from infection.

Where books from Libraries are found in the infected premises they are confiscated, and the loss made good to the affected Library by the Sanitary Authority.

In those cases notified as not for removal to Hospital, the house is similarly visited and note taken as to whether isolation can be efficiently carried out. Workers in the house have the option of remaining at home till the patient is declared free from infection, or they must obtain lodgings elsewhere after disinfection of their clothing.

In addition to the verbal instructions given by the visiting Inspector, printed forms are left at the infected house which advise the occupiers what to do, and caution them as to the desirability of observing due precaution with reference to receiving visitors, and urge them to refrain from visiting other houses or mixing with the general public.



Similar precautions are taken with reference to all non-notifiable diseases which come under our observation, and after deaths from Phthisis, a notice is sent to the nearest relative offering free disinfection of the room occupied by, and all bedding, clothing, etc., which have been in contact with the deceased.

In houses where Small-pox makes its appearance, the measures taken are of necessity much more severe than in the other infectious diseases.

## **SMALL-POX.**

The Borough remained free from this disease during the year.

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## **PUERPERAL FEVER.**

6 cases of Puerperal Fever were notified as compared with 4 in 1907. Of these, 4 occurred in the practice of midwives, and 2 were attended by medical practitioners.



## ENTERIC FEVER.

Enteric Fever was somewhat prevalent especially during the latter part of the year. 74 cases were reported of which 8 proved to have been incorrectly diagnosed, making the actual number of cases 66. In tracing the origin of the disease it was found that 14 patients had consumed whelks which on bacteriological examination shewed evidence of sewage contamination. The source of supply was immediately stopped, and no further cases were traced to contaminated food.

Bathing in water of doubtful purity was the only cause that could be assigned in 3 cases.

In 8 cases the house drains were found defective, and in the same number the W.C's had no flushing apparatus. The origin of the other cases was not clear. 15 deaths occurred, 35 or 47·29 per cent. of the cases notified were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

TABLE IX.  
**ENTERIC FEVER** during 1908 & 10 previous years.

YEAR.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage fatality.	Rate per 1,000.
1898	39	20	51·3	·30
1899	80	9	11·1	·13
1900	37	13	35·1	·29
1901	25	6	24·0	·08
1902	44	9	20·4	·12
1903	50	3	6·0	·04
1904	50	9	18·0	·11
1905	82	14	17·1	·19
1906	72	8	11·1	·10
1907	34	6	17·6	·07
1908	66	15	22·7	·18



## **DIPHTHERIA.**

117 cases were notified during the year with 13 deaths, giving a percentage mortality of 11.1. It will be seen from the Table that this is the lowest percentage mortality recorded for 10 years, which may reasonably be attributed to the increased use of anti-diphtheritic serum. Of this number, 61 were admitted into the Isolation Hospital.

TABLE XI.

**DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS & OTHER TUBERCULAR  
DISEASES during 1908 and 10 previous years.**

Year.	Deaths from Phthisis.	Rate per 1,000.	Deaths from other tubercular diseases.	Rate per 1,000.	Deaths from all forms of tuber- culosis.	Rate per 1,000.
1898	90	1.3	46	.70	136	2.00
1899	94	1.4	64	.94	158	2.3
1900	101	1.4	48	.70	149	2.1
1901	92	1.3	37	.52	129	1.8
1902	92	1.2	37	.51	129	1.7
1903	90	1.2	37	.50	127	1.7
1904	81	1.07	40	.53	121	1.6
1905	90	1.1	43	.56	133	1.6
1906	81	1.03	29	.37	110	1.4
1907	63	.8	20	.25	83	1.00
Average for years 1898-1907.	88.4	1.18	40	.55	127	1.72
1908	86	1.04	32	.38	118	1.4



## SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases notified was 94, being 77 less than in 1907. This is the lowest number recorded since the year 1901.

It will be seen on reference to Table XII. that the decline in the number of cases of this disease has been continuous for some years past. Much of this success has undoubtedly been achieved by the increased Hospital accommodation, and better isolation of a larger number of cases, whilst the immediate disinfection of premises, bedding, etc., and following up contacts, has, I feel sure, gone far to reduce the incidence of the disease.

64, or 68·08 per cent of the cases notified were admitted into the Isolation Hospital.

Only 1 death from this disease was registered during the year.

TABLE XII.

**SCARLET FEVER.****During 1908 and 10 Previous Years.**

Year.	Number of Cases.	Number of Deaths.	Percentage Fatality.	Rate per 1000.
1898	144	4	2·7	·06
1899	201	0	0	0
1900	50	1	2·0	·01
1901	94	5	5·3	·07
1902	220	7	3·2	·09
1903	442	11	2·7	·14
1904	370	10	2·6	·13
1905	301	11	3·6	·14
1906	151	3	1·9	·02
1907	171	3	1·8	·02
1908	94	1	1·0	·01



TABLE XIII.  
**SHOWING DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC ENTERITIS**  
**During 1908 and 10 Previous Years.**

Year.	Number of Deaths	Under 1 Yr of Age	1 Year and Upwards.	Rate per 1000.
1899	86	77	9	1·2
1900	75	64	11	1·1
1901	31	28	3	·43
1902	36	32	4	·49
1903	34	30	4	·46
1904	51	46	5	·67
1905	24	19	5	·31
1906	28	19	9	·35
1907	21	13	8	·26
1908	43	39	4	·52

TABLE XIV. Showing number of Cases

DISEASE	TAMAR.							ST. AUGUSTINE.			
	AGES.							AGES.			
	At all Ages.	under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 & up- wards	At all Ages.	under 1	1 to 5	5 to 65
Small-pox - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)-	17	—	4	12	1	—	—	19	—	3	—
Erysipelas - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever - - -	7	—	1	4	2	—	—	8	—	1	—
Typhus Fever - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever - - -	5	—	—	1	3	1	—	11	—	3	—
Relapsing Fever - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS -	29	—	5	17	6	1	—	38	—	7	—





TABLE XV.

SHOWING CASES SENT INTO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL  
INCORRECTLY DIAGNOSED.

DISEASE.	Notified as suffering from—	
	Enteric Fever.	Diphtheria.
Scarlatina - - -	3	—
Pneumonia - - -	1	—
Pleurisy - - -	1	—
Tuberculosis - - -	1	—
General Paralysis - - -	1	—
Nil - - - -	1	—
Ulcerative Stomatitis - -	—	1
	8	1



TABLE XVI.

**SHOWING ADMISSIONS INTO HOSPITAL DURING  
THE YEAR.**

AGE.	Admitted.		Remaining in Hospital at close of 1907.	Total Admis- sions.	Remaining in Hospital at close of 1908.
	Males	females			
Under 1 year -	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 „ -	1	—	—	1	—
2 „ 3 „ -	4	4	—	8	—
3 „ 4 „ -	7	8	—	15	1
4 „ 5 „ -	10	6	—	16	2
5 „ 10 „ -	28	41	5	69	7
10 „ 15 „ -	8	13	4	21	1
15 „ 20 „ -	2	3	—	5	—
20 „ 25 „ -	2	10	—	12	1
25 „ 30 „ -	1	7	—	8	—
30 „ 35 „ -	3	2	—	5	—
35 „ 40 „ -	3	—	—	3	1
40 and upwards -	2	2	—	4	—
Totals -	71	96	9	167	13

## ARTICLES DISINFECTED AT BOROUGH HOSPITAL.

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Mattresses	...	...	...	161
Feather Beds		...	...	70
Blankets	...	...	...	409
Sheets	...	...	...	264
Quilts	...	...	...	183
Bolsters	...	...	...	72
Pillows	...	...	...	359
Pillow Covers		...	...	262
Dresses	...	...	...	124
Skirts	...	...	...	127
Coats, etc.	...	...	...	94
Trousers	...	...	...	63
Waistcoats	...	...	...	32
Carpets	...	...	...	27
Dressing Gowns		...	...	16
Curtains	...	...	...	42
Mattress Covers		..	...	41
Shirts	...	...	...	33
Towels	...	...	...	69
Aprons	..	...	...	44
Blouses	...	...	...	33



Shawls	...	...	28
Table Cloths...	...	...	10
Cushions	...	...	56
Corsets	...	...	67 pairs
Boots and Shoes	...	...	133 pairs
Hats and Caps	..	...	37
Braces	...	...	35 pairs
Belts	...	...	17
Cloaks	...	...	184
Jerseys	...	...	22
Bed Screens	...	...	6
Scarves	...	...	11
Rugs	...	...	24
Nightdresses...	...	...	50
Vests	...	..	57
Drawers	...	...	37
Stockings	...	...	46 pairs
Bags	...	...	21
Gloves	...	...	7 pairs
Handkerchiefs	...	...	47
Total			3,420

## EDUCATION ACTS.

During the year, 2,202 Exemption Certificates were granted to children unable to attend School in consequence of illness.

At the Special School 122 were medically examined and suggestions made where required; 16 new pupils were admitted and 13 discharged. On 9th July, His Majesty's Inspector (Dr. Eicholz) visited the School and in his report expressed satisfaction with the selection of the children, all of whom he considered were certifiable as mentally defective.

From June to August, a number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were reported, the schools chiefly affected being St. Budeaux, where the attendance fell from 90·5 per cent. to 83·4 per cent., and Montpelier from 89·5 per cent. to 78·9 per cent.

At no time during the year has any infectious disease assumed epidemic proportions, and it has not been necessary to close any School in the Borough.



## **ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**

### **(EDUCATION) ACT.**

The duties under this Act are carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and his Assistant. This decision was arrived at from a careful consideration of the Board of Education's Memorandum which recommended that the Local Education Authority should use to the utmost extent the existing machinery of Medical and Sanitary administration.

The work of inspection commenced on March 7th and ended December 23rd, 1908. During this period all children in 29 departments who have been admitted since January, 1908, and are expected to leave before December have been offered the advantages of Medical Examination, 2,080 presented themselves, only six refusing.

**Height and Weight of Children:**—These calculations expressed respectively in centimetres and kilograms have been found to compare

favourably with the British Anthropometrical Association's Standards except in the case of boys between the ages of 11 and 12. Charts 1 and 2 show the average height and weight at each age period.

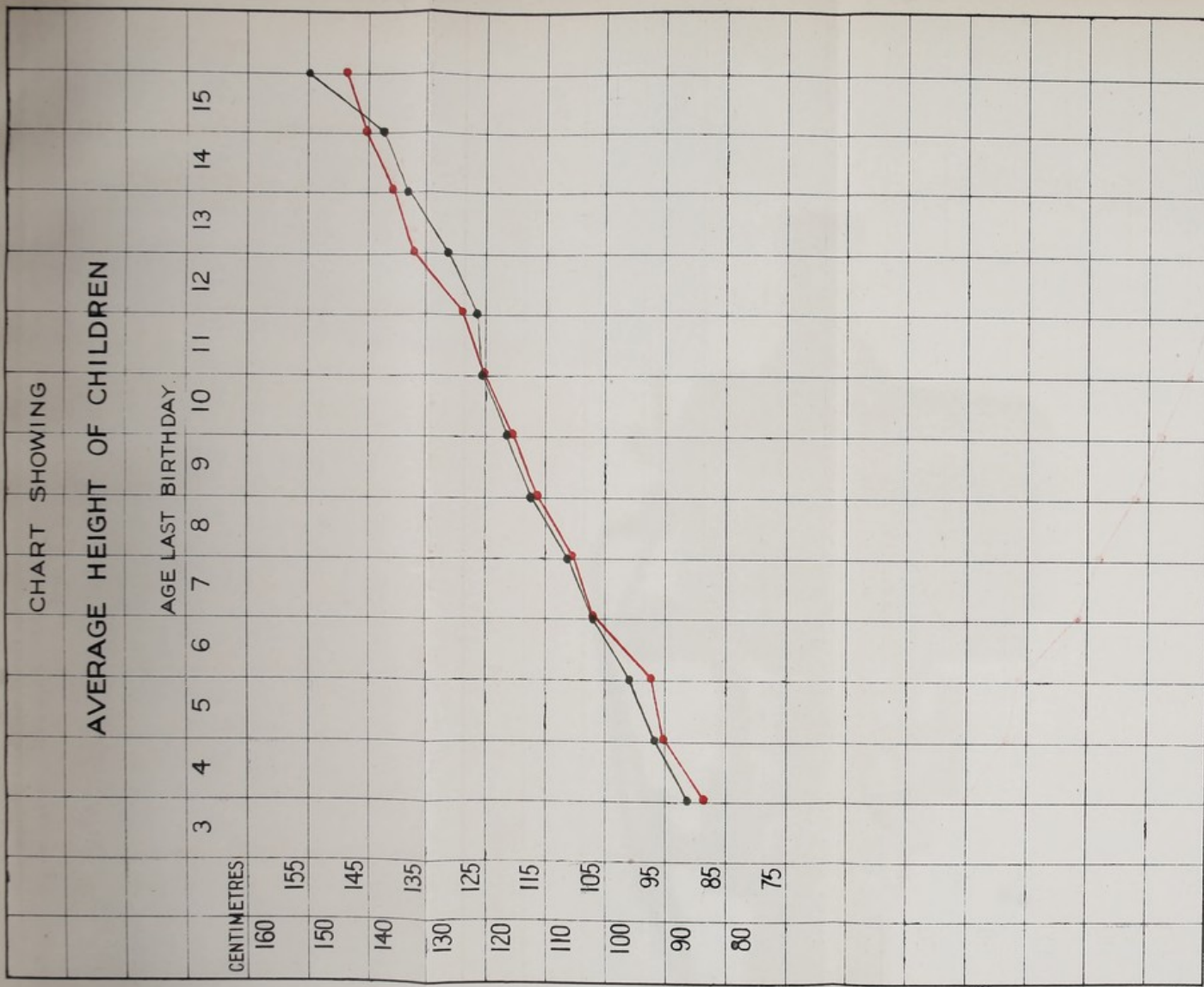
**Clothing and Footgear:**—In 90 per cent. of the cases examined the clothing was good, 6·72 per cent. indifferent, while only 3·3 per cent. could be considered bad.

**Nutrition:**—Nutrition on the whole was satisfactory. Out of the number examined 83 per cent. was good, 10·1 per cent. indifferent, and 6·1 per cent. bad.

**Head and Body Cleanliness:**—Body cleanliness generally was found to be good. Of 1,115 girls examined 179 had verminous heads. The extent was found to be markedly less in boys.

**Condition of Teeth.**—As will be seen from the accompanying Table, bad teeth are present to a deplorable extent:—

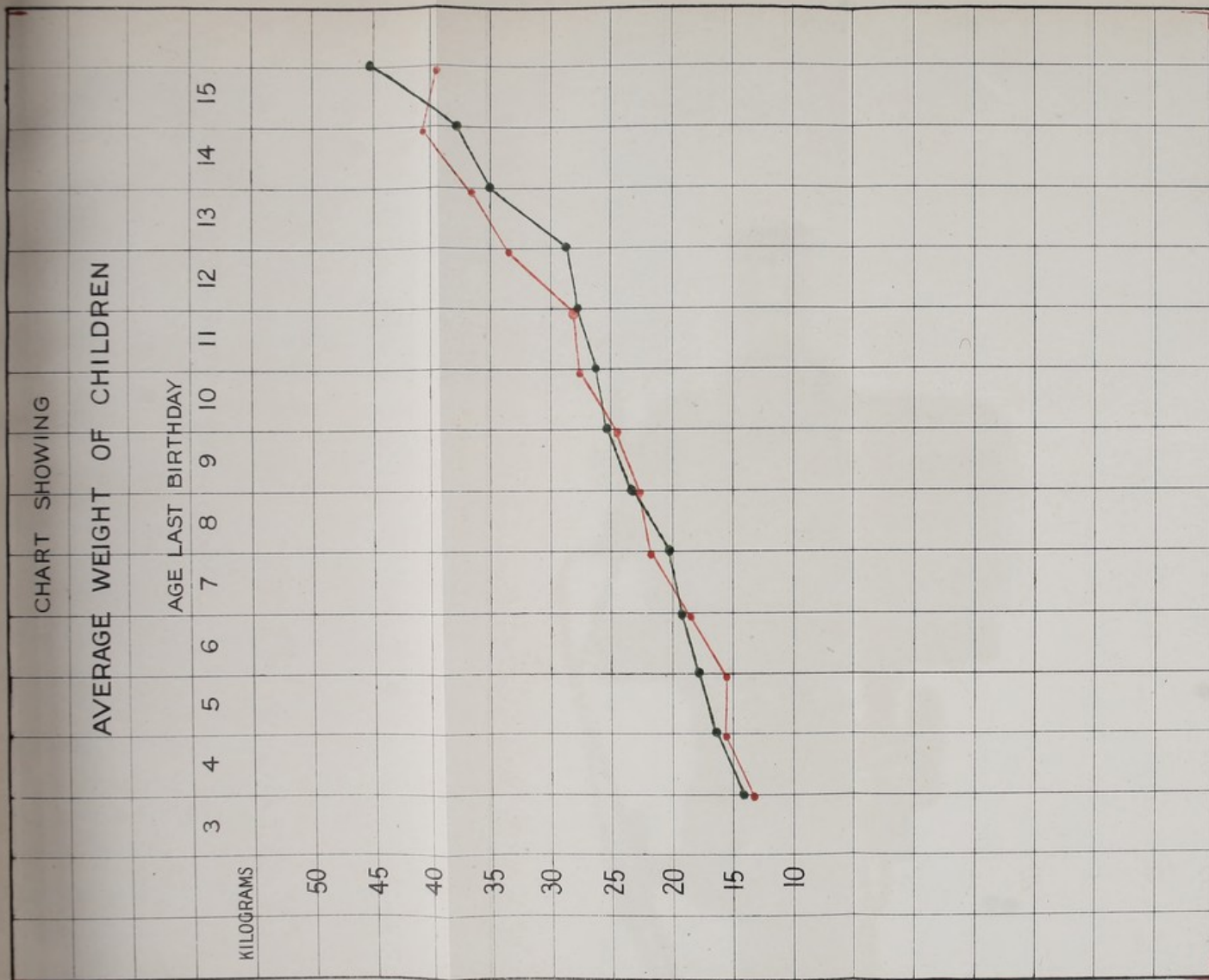




GREEN - BOYS.  
RED - GIRLS.







GREEN — BOYS.  
RED — GIRLS.





TABLE XVII.  
CONDITION OF TEETH.  
(BOYS AND GIRLS).

Age.	No. Exam'd	Good.		Indifferent.		Bad.	
		No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 6 yrs.	595	381	64.0	92	15.5	122	20.5
6—12 „	1259	450	35.8	352	28.0	457	36.2
Over 12 „	224	98	43.7	67	29.4	59	26.3
	2078	928	22.3	511	40.6	638	32.5

It should be understood that "Good" is a strictly relative term as a perfectly sound denture has been seldom found.

**Speech.**—Defective Speech (in a marked degree) was found in 51 cases, stammering being the most common.

**Hearing.**—Hearing was bad in 85 cases. The causes were usually sufficiently obvious. Otorrhœa was present in 69 children.

**Adenoids.**—Of the total number examined, 163 were found to be suffering from adenoids, 10 from Nasal Polypi, and 25 from Catarrh and Nasal Catarrh.

**Tonsils.**—Enlarged Tonsils were observed in 177 cases.

**Submaxillary and Cervical Glands.**—Glandular enlargements were discovered in 654 instances, and generally speaking were attributable to carious teeth, vermin, and constitutional causes.

TABLE XVIII.  
SHOWING CONDITION OF VISION.

	No. Examined	Satis- factory. ( $\frac{6}{6}$ — $\frac{6}{9}$ )	Per Cent.	Slightly Defective. ( $\frac{6}{12}$ )	Per Cent.	Seriously Defective. ( $\frac{6}{18}$ & over)	Per Cent.
BOYS - -	963	770	79·9	149	15·5	44	4·6
GIRLS - -	1115	803	72·0	255	22·9	57	5·1

**Mental Condition.**—In 6 cases, or only 24 per cent. of the children examined, the mental condition was found to be bad.

**Heart and Circulation.**—Under this head, 11 children were found to be suffering from valvular disease, in 5, the apex beat was conspicuously displaced, and in 54 anæmia was present.

**Blepharitis** (inflammation affecting the eyelids) was met with in 15 cases.



Other affections of the eye included :—

Conjunctivitis or Ophthalmia	...	8
Keratitis	... ..	1
Corneal Ulceration	... ..	10
Cataract	... ..	1
Nystagmus	... ..	1
Colour Blindness	... ..	1

**Lungs.**—The number of children suffering from affections of the lungs was :—

Tuberculosis	... ..	8
Bronchitis	... ..	20
Bronchial Catarrh	... ..	26

**Nervous System.**—Under diseases of the Nervous System, Chorea was found in 6 cases, Infantile Paralysis was present in 3 children, and a number suffered from nerve strain of a mild type.

TABLE XIX.  
CONDITION OF HEAD.

	No. Exam'd	Satisfactory.		Scurfy.		Verminous.	
		No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
BOYS - -	963	939	97·5	8	8	16	1·7
GIRLS - -	1115	816	73·2	120	10·8	179	16·0

**Rickets** :—Of the total number examined 91 were found to be suffering from Rickets.

**Spinal Curvature** :—Spinal Curvature of the Angular type was observed in 7 cases.

**Infectious and Contagious Diseases** :—Cases of Contagious Skin disease and Scarlatina in a desquamating condition were discovered as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	2
Whooping Cough...	...	...	3
Favus	...	...	2
Ringworm...	...	...	6
Scabies (Itch)	...	...	6
Impetigo	...	...	21

Other diseases or defects detected numbered 98. These will be found fully described in the Special Report.



## **MIDWIVES ACT.**

In the month of January 24 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough.

Quarterly visits to each Midwife's residence have been made either by my Assistant or myself with the object of ascertaining if her records, mode of practice, etc., are in conformity with the Regulations laid down by the Central Midwives Board. One Midwife was reported to the Board for a gross breach of the Rules, the case however, was not proceeded with owing to the unwillingness of the Medical man (subsequently called in to attend the case) to give evidence.

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## **STILL-BIRTHS.**

Nineteen Still-births were reported all of which occurred in the practice of Midwives. In every case visits were made, and particulars obtained as to the Midwives' conduct of the labour, methods of resuscitation employed, etc.

## WATER SUPPLY.

An upward surface supply, it is originally obtained from the upper reaches of the West Dart, Cowsic and Blackbrook rivers on Dartmoor near Princetown.

The gathering ground which is of granitic formation is 4,716 acres, the Dart being 1,539, the Cowsic 1,524 and the Blackbrook 1,653 acres. The highest point is 1,815 feet above Ordnance Datum. The water which is obtained by gravitation is conveyed for nearly 24 miles in an open leat from the gathering grounds to the Reservoir at Roborough, thence to the Storage Reservoir at Crownhill (which is about two miles from the Borough of Devonport) by a pipe line two miles long.

The Reservoirs are four in number, viz :—Belliver, Crownhill, Beacon, and Rowden, the total storage being just over 22,000,000 gallons, about eight days' supply. For a town of the size and importance of Devonport, this storage capacity is totally inadequate, and I am glad to say that at the present time projects are under



consideration which will ensure an ample and uninterrupted water supply sufficient to answer the demands of any probable increase of population for many years to come.

## DEVONPORT WATER

### ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE.

Physical Characters	Clear, pale blue in colour, no deposit, no smell		
	Parts per 100,000		
Saline Ammonia	-	-	a trace
Albuminoid Ammonia	-	-	·002
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in three hours at 98·4° F.	-	-	·103
Total Solid Matters	-	-	4·300
Volatile do.	-	-	2·100
Fixed do.	-	-	2·200
Appearance on Ignition	The residue charred		
Total Hardness	}	Equal to grains of Car- bonate of Lime	
Temporary			
Permanent			
Chlorine	-	-	1·100
Nitrogen as Nitrates	-	-	·000
Nitrogen as nitrites	-	-	·000
Poisonous Metals	-	-	·000
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	none		

There is no evidence of contamination shown in the examination. The usual excellent condition of the water is maintained.



Samples of the Water have also been taken from different parts of the Catchment area and subjected to bacteriological examination with the following results:—

1. From the Leat, B. Coli in 1cc.
- \*2. „ Dousland Service Reservoir, B. Coli  
in 5cc.
3. „ Belliver Reservoir, B. Coli not detected  
in 20cc.
- \*4. „ Crownhill Reservoir, B. Coli in 5cc.
5. „ „ Filter Beds, B. Coli in 20cc.
6. „ Pure Water Tank, Crownhill, B. Coli  
not detected in 20cc.
7. „ Devonport Mains, B. Coli in 10cc.

\*Failed to give Indol reaction.

There is no evidence that the presence of B. Coli is in any way due to human contamination, and it can readily be accounted for by access of cattle to certain points of the leat. With efficient filter beds, and the completion of the works now in hand, it is hoped that these or any other possible undesirable constituents will be eliminated.

TABLE XX  
Register of Rainfall, 1908.

Date, 1908.	White Tor. No. 1 Gauge Level 1640 ft.	Devil's Tor. No. 2 Gauge Level 1785 ft.	Beardown Tor. No. 3 Gauge Level 1550 ft.	Cowsic Head No. 4 Gauge Level 1580 ft.	Black Dunghill No. 5 Gauge Level 1590 ft.
	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.
January -	4·80	4·50	4·10	6·25	5·25
February -	2·80	2·70	2·60	3·95	3·15
March -	4·65	4·40	4·30	6·10	4·40
April -	3·05	3·10	3·08	3·80	3·00
May -	2·95	3·12	2·80	4·35	2·90
June -	1·62	1·65	1·53	1·80	1·25
July -	4·20	4·10	3·63	8·60	4·90
August -	4·90	5·10	4·60	6·70	4·60
September	2·40	3·05	2·60	3·40	2·75
October -	2·40	2·70	2·30	2·80	2·20
November	2·70	2·70	2·30	4·00	3·50
December	Gauge frozen	Gauge frozen	Gauge frozen	Gauge frozen	Gauge frozen
Total	36·47	37·12	33·84	51·75	37·90



## COWSIC VALLEY.

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LEVEL 1357-ft. ORD. DATUM.

RAINFALL, 1908.

				Inches.
January	-	-	-	4·10
February	-	-	-	5·08
March	-	-	-	4·75
April	-	-	-	3·77
May	-	-	-	5·82
June	-	-	-	1·50
July	-	-	-	6·54
August	-	-	-	6·15
September	-	-	-	4·75
October	-	-	-	1·80
November	-	-	-	4·35
December	-	-	-	5·90
Total				<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 54·51 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>

## LOWERY GAUGE.

---

LEVEL 890-ft. ORD. DATUM.

RAINFALL, 1908.

				Inches.
January	-	-	-	2·99
February		-	-	3·92
March	-	-	-	5·21
April		-	-	3·50
May	-	-	-	3·35
June		-	-	1·09
July	-	-	-	4·36
August		-	-	5·08
September	-	-	-	2·76
October		-	-	1·99
November	-	-	-	3·17
December		-	-	6·18
Total				<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 43·60 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>



## ROWDENS RESERVOIR.

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LEVEL 201ft. ORD. DATUM.

RAINFALL, 1908.

				Inches.
January	-	-	-	1·23
February	-	-	-	2·46
March	-	-	-	4·09
April	-	-	-	3·19
May	-	-	-	1·86
June	-	-	-	1·47
July	-	-	-	1·85
August	-	-	-	4·16
September	-	-	-	2·89
October	-	-	-	1·53
November	-	-	-	1·09
December	-	-	-	4·83
Total				<u>29·65</u>

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINAGE.

The sewage of a part of the Borough is discharged into the sea by seven outfalls.

The Borough for drainage purposes is divided into seven districts or drainage areas, each having its own outfall.

A small Septic Tank receives the sewage from those dwellings west of St. Budeaux station, the effluent being discharged into Kinterbury Creek.

The new Septic Tanks which are now in operation are four in number, each 140 feet long, 14 feet wide, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet in depth, and are calculated to contain 24 hours flow of sewage.

There are 16 rectangular Filter Beds, each measuring 60 feet long, 30 feet in width, and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep.

There are also 4 Sludge Filters, 3 of them measuring 41 feet in length, 30 feet in width, and 2 feet in depth, the remaining one, one third smaller.



The Tanks deal with the sewage of St. Budeaux and Ford Valley, East of Ford Hill, and also receive the sewage from a part of the Crownhill district outside the Borough.

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## **HOUSE INSPECTION.**

The systematic inspection of houses commenced three years ago has been continued during the year, and as will be seen from the Table, numerous defects have been discovered and many reforms introduced.

## GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

TABLE SHOWING DETAILS OF THE WORK DONE  
DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Houses inspected	-	2,191
„ „ re-inspected	-	2,677
„ Complaints	-	177
„ Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments	-	166
„ Houses repaired	-	23
„ New Drains laid and intercepted		192
„ Drains repaired	-	132
„ „ flushed	-	410
„ „ choked	-	179
„ „ cleared	-	179
„ „ tested	-	486
„ Gullies fixed	-	305
„ New Dustbins	-	332
„ Dustbins repaired	-	—
„ Pits covered	-	—
„ Notices served	-	330
„ Infectious Diseases notified		321
„ Cases removed to Borough Hospitals	-	161
„ Visits made under these Acts		482



Number of Houses disinfected	-	276
„ Courtyards repaved	-	119
„ Water Closets repaired	-	324
„ Visits to Bakehouses	-	248
„ „ Slaughterhouses	-	132
„ Sanitary Amendments	-	2,016
„ Notices (informal and legal)		
served	- -	496

## CLEANSING AND REFUSE REMOVAL.

During the year, the refuse collected and disposed of amounted to 26,649 loads, an equivalent of 18,964 tons.

The steady progress made by House to House inspection, and the abolition of a large number of wet and insanitary ashpits by the substitution of refuse bins has greatly improved the general collection of house refuse. It is to be regretted that a large number of pail earth closets still exist in the agricultural part of the town.

The present method of disposal is by discharging into the sea at a considerable distance from the mainland.

The privilege of using the Weston Mill Tip for refuse from the adjoining district was open to much objection during the late summer, and although it might have been a simple and economical arrangement, the prohibition has caused general satisfaction in the surrounding dwellings.



The amount of waste paper collected was 2,016 loads which was destroyed by burning.

Special attention has again been given to Street Cleansing. The frequent washing of all thoroughfares by hosepipe in the early hours of the morning has produced results more satisfactory than any other method of cleansing.

The number of loads of sweepings collected and removed to the available tips amounted to 5,176.

Water used by the water vans amounted to 2,715,980 gallons, in addition to which it was necessary, owing to the prolonged dry weather, to use sea water to the extent of 465,000 gallons.

The unusual fall of snow on March 3rd taxed the energies of the Department for a few days. The number of loads removed from the thoroughfares amounted to 1,072.

## Housing of the Working Classes' Act, 1890.

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### Part II.

Accounts presented to the Local Government Board, in Pursuance of Section 14 of the Housing of the Working Classes' Act, 1890, in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1908.

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#### BUILDINGS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which complaints were made by Householders during the year (Section 31 (1)) | 0 |
| 2. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which representations were made to the Local Authority during the year—     |   |
| (a) By the Medical Officer of Health   | 1 |
| (1) Upon complaints made by Householders, (Section 31 (1))   | 0 |
| (2) Without such complaints  |   |
| (Section 30)   | 0 |
| (b) By another Officer of the Local Authority or upon information otherwise given (Section 32 (1))                     | 0 |



3. Number (if any) of the Dwelling-houses above referred to in respect of which the Local Authority decided not to take any action under Part 2 of the Act. - 0
4. Number of Dwelling-houses respecting which action had been taken under Part 2 of the Act, which were satisfactorily dealt with by the Owner during the year, without a closing order being obtained - 0
- (a) Number made fit for human habitation- - - 1
- (b) Number closed or demolished voluntarily - - - 1

# LIST OF HOUSES BUILT & OCCUPIED FROM 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1908.

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Name of Street, etc.	No of Houses
Atherton Place ...	1
Beaumont Street ...	11
Belair Road ...	7
Chard Road ...	5
Church Street ...	1
De-la-Hay Avenue ...	3
Dixon Place ...	2
Elphinstone Road ...	9
Ferry Canal (Tamar Street) ...	1
Ford Hill ...	8
Fairfield Avenue ...	2
Fellowes Place ...	4
Forest Avenue ...	2
Hamilton Street ....	2
Jackson Place ...	1
Meredith Road ...	3
Northbrook Street ...	1
Northesk Street... ....	3



Name of Street, etc.	No. of Houses
Princes Street ... ..	1
Onslow Road .. ..	3
Renown Street ... ..	2
St. James Place ... ..	2
Salisbury Terrace ... ..	8
Total	<u>82</u>

**FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.****1. INSPECTION.**

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecut'ns
FACTORIES --- including Factory Laundries - - -	44	7	—
WORKSHOPS—including Workshop Laundries - - -	358	8	—
WORKPLACES . - -	—	—	—
HOMEWORKERS' PREMISES - -	384	10	—
TOTAL - - -	786	25	—

**TABLE XXII. 2. DEFECTS FOUND.**

PARTICULARS.		Found	Remedied.	Referred to H. M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness - - -		2	2	—	—
Overcrowding - - -		10	10	—	—
Other Nuisances - - -		24	24	—	—
Sanitary } Insufficient - - -		2	2	—	—
Accommo- } Unsuitable or Defective		5	5	—	—
dations } Not separate for sexes		3	3	—	—
TOTAL - - -		46	46	—	—



TABLE XXIII.

## 3. OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS.		Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—		
Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspectors	{ Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors.	3
as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory Act. (Sec. 5)		3
Homework :—		
Lists received from Local employers, and number of Outworkers (Sec. 107) :—		
Addresses of Householders.	{ Forwarded to other Authorities	8
	{ Received from other Authorities	4
Homework in Unwholesome or Infected Premises :—		
Notice prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (Sec. 108)	-	6
Cases of Infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	-	5
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (Sec. 110)	-	5
Total number of Workshops on Register		179

## **DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.**

### **ANTHRAX.**

One case of anthrax occurred during the year which was apparently imported from Cornwall. The animal (a sheep) was found dead under suspicious circumstances in a field on the north side of Alma Road. A bacteriological examination made at the Borough Laboratory showed the cause of death to be anthrax. The carcase was destroyed, and all precautions taken to prevent the spread of the disease. No further case occurred.

### **SWINE FEVER.**

During the year, the Swine Fever Order and the Regulation of Movement Order, 1908 came into operation.

Two outbreaks of suspected disease were reported, the first occurring in November at a farm in St. Budeaux the second in December at King's Tamerton. In the first case 65 pigs were affected, of which 4 died, 56 were slaughtered by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries



Inspector, and 2 by the owner. The second outbreak was confined to 22 pigs, 3 died, and 19 were slaughtered. The condemned carcasses in each case were buried in lime.

## **SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND BUTCHERS' SHOPS.**

The Slaughter Houses and Butchers' Shops in the Borough have been regularly inspected and have on the whole been kept in good condition. 52 visits have been made and 404 carcasses of beef, 758 of mutton, 17 of veal, and 300 of pork inspected. In a small number of cases evidence of putrefaction was detected, and on this being pointed out to the vendor the meat was voluntarily destroyed. It should be noted that at least 70 per cent. of the meat sold in the Borough comes direct from the Plymouth Wholesale Meat Market where it is subjected to a very rigid inspection.

Visits have been made to the London and South Western Railway Stations to meet the arrival of vans containing beef, mutton, and pork from outlying districts.



## **BAKEHOUSES.**

There are 62 Bakehouses in the Borough all of which have been regularly inspected, and found to be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

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## **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

During the year the premises in which offensive trades are carried on were regularly inspected, 52 visits being made, and generally found in a fairly satisfactory condition. One Bone Boiling Factory has been abolished. The Offensive Trades in the Borough now are :—

- 1 Blood Boiling
- 1 Tripe „
- 1 Gut Scraping

## **PIGGERIES.**

From time to time complaints have been received of nuisances arising from Piggeries. Frequent visits were made, and the nuisance in every case was willingly abated on drawing the attention of the responsible person to it.

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## **FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.**

One hundred and eighty six samples taken under the above acts were analysed, 167 were found genuine, and 19 adulterated. Proceedings were taken in 17 cases and fines amounting to £44 4s. 6d. inflicted. It will be noticed from the Table that samples of scald milk have for the first time been taken. The necessity for this procedure is apparent from the fact that the first sample analysed was found to contain 53 per cent. of added water.



TABLE XXIV.  
GIVING DETAILS OF SAMPLES TAKEN  
DURING 1908.

Number of Samples.	Description.	Number Genuine.	Number Adulterated.
59	Raw Milk - -	51	8
1	Scald Milk -	—	1
18	Butter - -	18	—
16	Cheese - -	16	—
16	Preserves - -	16	—
10	Cream - -	10	—
12	Brandy - -	9	3
14	Gin - - -	11	3
6	Whisky - -	3	3
4	Rum - - -	3	1
16	Lard - - -	16	—
6	Vinegar - -	6	—
3	Coffee - -	3	—
5	Margarine - -	5	—
186		167	19

TABLE XXV. Showing Adulterations and Results of Actions taken during 1908.

Description of Article	Date of Purchase.	Submitted for Analysis.	Extent of Adulteration.	Date of Proceedings.	Fines	Costs.
Raw Milk	4th February	4th February	13 % added water	4th March	£ s. d. 5 0 0	£ s. d. 1 1 6
Raw Milk	14th "	14th "	20 % fat abstracted	25th "	3 0 0	inclusive
Raw Milk	24th "	24th "	3 % added water } 16 % fat abstracted }	25th "	10 0	"
Raw Milk	2nd March	2nd March	8.3 % fat abstracted	8th April	5 0 0	19 6
Raw Milk	6th May	6th May	3 % added water } 6 % fat abstracted }	3rd June	10 0	1 2 6
Raw Milk	8th Sept.	8th Sept.	12 % added water	7th October	6 0	1 1 6
Raw Milk	8th "	8th "	15 % added water	7th "	10 0	1 2 6
Scald Milk	11th Dec.	11th Dec.	53 % added water	6th Jan. '09	1 0 0	19 6
Margarine	8th January	8th January	Sold without pre-scribed wrapper	5th February	10 0	inclusive
Rum	29th "	30th "	28.42° under proof	4th March	18 6	"



TABLE XXV. SHOWING ADULTERATIONS AND RESULTS OF ACTIONS TAKEN DURING 1908—*contd.*

Description of Article.	Date of Purchase.	Submitted for Analysis.	Extent of Adulteration.	Date of Proceedings	Fines.	Costs.
Gin	29th January	30th January	42·06° under proof	13th March	£ s. d. 2 10 0	£ s. d. 1 2 6
Gin	7th February	7th February	54·2° under proof	13th "	7 10 0	1 5 6
Brandy	25th Nov.	25th Nov.	31·96° under proof	23rd Dec.	5 0 0	19 6
Brandy	25th "	25th "	34·45° under proof	23rd "	5 0 0	19 6
Brandy	30th "	30th "	39·34° under proof	6th Jan. '09	1 0 0	19 6
Whisky	25th "	25th "	40·6° under proof	23rd Dec.	5 0 0	19 6
Whisky	30th "	30th "	30·71° under proof	6th Jan. '09	1 0 0	19 6
Raw Milk	4th February	4th February	7° added water	—	No proceedings of the do.	by order of the Committee.
Gin	7th "	7th "	40·5° under proof	—	do.	do.
Whisky	25th Nov.	25th Nov.	28·42° under poof	—	do.	do.

TABLE XXVI.

**GIVING PROSECUTIONS AND FINES  
INFLICTED during 1908 and previous years.**

YEAR.	Prosecutions.	Fines Inflicted.		
		£	s.	d.
1893	Nil.		Nil.	
1894	5	5	5	0
1895	4	2	6	0
1896	2	6	0	0
1897	4	2	6	0
1898	6	3	0	0
1899	Nil.		Nil.	
1900	8	6	5	0
1901	3	1	16	0
1902	2	1	1	0
1903	5	2	8	0
1904	Nil.		Nil.	
1905	1	0	10	0
1906	2	2	0	0
1907	12	33	0	0
1908	17	44	4	6



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