

[Report 1926] / School Medical Officer of Health, Exeter.

Contributors

Exeter (England). City Council.

Publication/Creation

1926

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/wm4me2s7>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

44362
City & County of the City of Exeter.



Annual Report for 1926,
Vital Statistics,
Sanitary Work, etc.,

BY

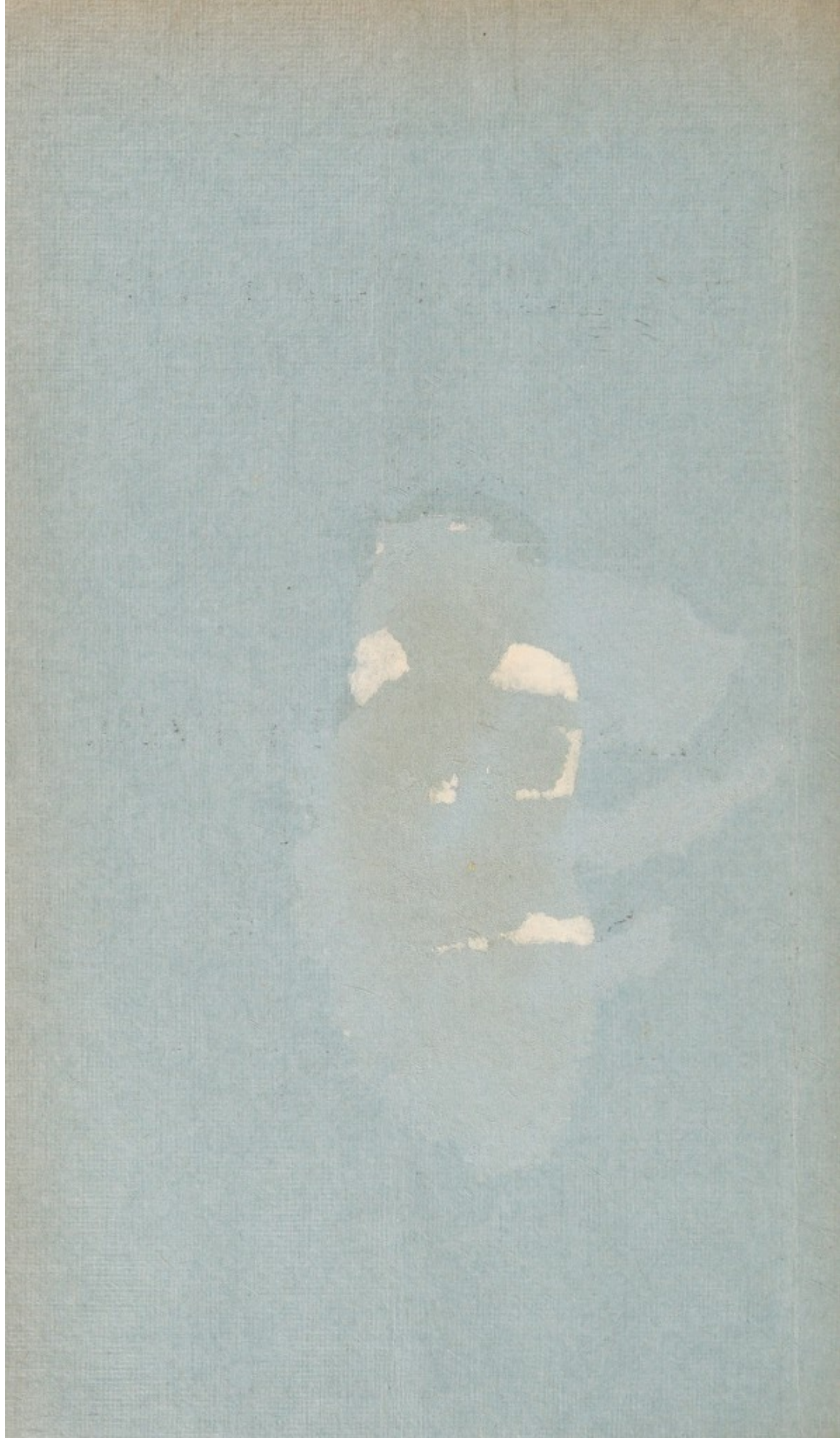
P. H. STIRK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Eng.,
Medical Officer of Health.

EXETER :

BEARNE BROS., PRINTERS, SIDWELL STREET.

1927.





11 AUG 1927

City & County of the City of Exeter.



Annual Report for 1926,
Vital Statistics,
Sanitary Work, etc.,

BY

P. H. STIRK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Eng.,
Medical Officer of Health.

EXETER :

BEARNE BROS., PRINTERS, SIDWELL STREET.

1927.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29199049>

I have the honour to present to the Right
Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the City of Exeter my Annual Report for the
Year 1926.

P. H. STIRK.

City & County of the City of Exeter.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mayor—

Councillor WILLIAM BROCK, O.B.E., J.P.

Chairman—

Councillor F. J. HANCOCK.

Deputy Chairman—

Councillor J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS.

Alderman R. M. CHALLICE.	Councillor G. G. DAWE.
Alderman J. R. NETHERCOTT.	Councillor F. HOULT.
Alderman P. KELLAND.	Councillor E. SALWAY.
Alderman C. J. VLIELAND.	Councillor Miss E. SPLATT.
Councillor W. T. BAKER.	Councillor J. PASSMORE.
Councillor Mrs. F. G. BROWNE.	

Town Clerk: H. LLOYD PARRY, Esq.

MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—

Councillor Mrs. F. G. BROWNE.

Deputy Chairman—

Councillor W. HEALE.

Alderman C. H. HARDING.	
Alderman C. J. VLIELAND.	
Councillor Miss E. SPLATT.	Mrs. ALLEN.
Councillor F. J. HANCOCK.	Mrs. DEPREE.
Councillor A. HIPWELL.	Mrs. MILLER.
Councillor J. PASSMORE.	Mrs. VLIELAND.
Councillor J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS.	

} Non-members
of the
Council.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Introduction ...	3	Milk and Cream Regu-	
Committee ...	4	lations ...	43—44
General Statistics ...	7	Arrangements for Iso-	
Vital Statistics—		lation and Disinfection	44
Birth Rate ...	7	Cleansing & Disinfecting	44
Death Rate ...	7—10	Prevalence of, and Control over,	
Infantile Mortality ...	7	Infectious Diseases—	
Measles ...	11	Smallpox ...	45
Diarrhœa ...	11	Scarlet Fever ...	45—46
Hospitals provided or		Diphtheria ...	46
subsidised ...	12	Enteric Fever (includ-	
Hospitals available for		ing Paratyphoid)	46
the District ...	12	Puerperal Fever ...	47
Institutional provision		Puerperal Pyrexia ...	47
for Unmarried Mothers	13	Pneumonia ...	47
Ambulance Facilities	13	Erysipelas ...	47
Clinics and Treatment		Cerebro-Spinal Fever	47
Centres ...	14	Dysentery ...	47
Public Health Staff ...	15—16	Malaria ...	47
Professional Nursing in		Trench Fever ...	47
the Home ...	17	Encephalitis Lethargica	48
Midwives ...	17	Acute Poliomyelitis	48
Laboratory Work ...	18—19	Chicken Pox ...	48
Local Acts, Orders, etc.	19	Mumps ...	48
Bye-Laws and Regulations	19	Influenza ...	48
Sanitary Circumstances—		Whooping Cough ...	48
Water ...	20	Cancer . . .	48
Drainage and Sewage		Tuberculosis ...	50—61
Disposal ...	20	Venereal Diseases ...	62—64
Sanitary Inspection	21—26	Maternity and Child Welfare—	
Smoke Abatement ...	27	Ante-Natal Work ...	64
Houses Let in Lodgings	27	Births ...	64—65
Offensive Trades ...	27—28	Stillbirths ...	65—66
Schools ...	28	Home Visits ...	66
Housing ...	29—31	Infant Welfare Centres	66
Inspection and Supervision of		Provision of Milk, etc.	66
Food—		Maternity Home ...	67
Milk ...	31—32	Dental Treatment ...	67
Meat ...	32—41	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	67
Other Foods ...	41	Isolation Hospital Report	68—72
Sale of Food and Drugs		Smallpox Hospital ...	72
Acts ...	42	Mental Defectives ...	72

The Minister of Health in Circular 269 issued in December, 1921, has given definite instructions as to the contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health. In the Circular it is intimated that he requires a full survey Report at intervals of five years, the intervening Reports to be of a more simple character. The following Report is therefore of the nature of an interim Report, and in its compilation the suggestions of the Minister have been closely followed.

Annual Report, 1926.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Area (acres)	...	...	...	4,702
2. Population (Civilians)	...	...	...	60,340
Total (including Military, etc.)	...	...	...	60,990
3. Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	13,904
4. Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921 Census)	...	...	...	14,843
5. Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	£453,999
6. Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,728

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.

Total (1,116 less 144 outward transfers and plus 34
inward transfers) ... 1,006 net

56 male and 40 female births were certified as illegitimate, being
8·6 % of the total births.

	TOTAL.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	957	497	460	} Birth-rate 16·49
Illegitimate	49	26	23	

DEATHS.

TOTAL.	M.	F.	} Death-rate (R.G.) Corrected	13·12 10·71
792	369	423		

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth :—
From Sepsis, 1 ; from other causes, 2.

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. :—

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :
68·5. Legitimate, 66·8. Illegitimate, 102·04.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Sex	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES	...	M	369	47	4	5	7	13	31	91	78	93
		F	423	22	6	5	12	11	41	93	99	134
1. Enteric Fever	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
2. Small-pox	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Measles	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Scarlet Fever	...	M	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
		F	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		F	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Diphtheria	...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		F	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Influenza	...	M	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	4
		F	22	2	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	13
8. Encephalitis		M	3	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...
Lethargica	...	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Meningococcal		M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10. Tuberculosis of		M	22	...	...	1	...	4	10	5	2	...
Respiratory System		F	33	...	...	...	2	6	19	3	2	1
11. Other Tuberculous		M	5	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	1	...
Diseases		F	5	1	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...
12. Cancer, Malignant		M	43	...	...	...	1	...	2	17	12	11
Disease		F	53	...	...	...	...	1	3	24	16	9
13. Rheumatic Fever	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Diabetes	...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...
		F	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1
15. Cerebral		M	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	8
Hæmorrhage, etc.		F	44	...	...	...	...	...	1	15	16	12
16. Heart Disease	...	M	47	...	...	...	...	...	3	12	17	15
		F	64	...	...	...	...	...	5	15	24	20
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	M	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	14
		F	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	9

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.
(CONTINUED).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
18. Bronchitis ...	M	17	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
	F	28	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	8	16
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	M	39	6	3	4	1	1	4	9	6	5
	F	21	4	5	...	...	...	1	5	2	4
20. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Diarrhœa, etc. ...	M	7	5	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
24. Cirrhosis of Liver ...	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
	F	12	...	...	...	1	2	1	3	2	3
26. Puerperal Sepsis ...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
27. Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
28. Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ...	M	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	9	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Suicide ...	M	8	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	2	1
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
30. Other deaths from violence ...	M	11	2	1	...	2	2	...	4	1	...
	F	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
31. Other Defined Diseases ...	M	70	11	...	...	...	2	5	11	16	25
	F	84	3	...	1	3	2	4	15	15	41
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR.

Cause.	Under 1 month	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total.
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Tubercular Meningitis ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	2	2	...	4
Pneumonia ...	...	2	2	3	2	9
Diarrhœa, etc. ...	...	2	3	1	2	8
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Pre- mature Birth ...	24	5	1	...	...	30
Neglect ...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Meningitis ...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Infantile Convulsions ...	1	1	2	2	...	6
Accidental Death ...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Ill-defined Causes ...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Total ...	28	12	12	9	8	69

Of the above 11 attended at the Infant Welfare Centres.

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	None
„ „ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	...	...	...	9
„ „ Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
„ „ Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
„ „ Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
„ „ Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	3
„ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...	65
„ „ Pneumonia	...	...	...	60
„ „ Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	1

MEASLES.

In the absence of Notification, only a limited number of these cases occurring come to my knowledge, mainly through co-operation with the Head Teachers of the Schools. 372 cases were notified, mostly occurring in the months of March, April, and May. There was no death from this disease, which I attribute to the work of the Health Visitors in visiting cases and advising the parent as to the necessity of calling in medical aid, and the management of their children in their illness.

DIARRHŒA.

There were ten deaths from this disease, nine of which were in children under two years of age. Posters pointing out precautions to be taken, safeguarding of milk, etc., in the homes, were exhibited in various parts of the City, and distributed by means of handbills.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED, BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Name.	Address.	Whether supported Wholly or Partly by the Council.	Accommodation.
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	Pinhoe* ...	Wholly ...	7 Male and 7 Female Beds
Tuberculosis Hospital ...	Whipton* ...	Wholly ...	7 Male and 7 Female Beds
Honeylands Tuberculosis Children's Hospital ...	Whipton ...	Wholly ...	10 Male and 10 Female Beds
Pensions Ministry and Red Cross Pavilion for Tuberculosis ...	Whipton*	Wholly ...	12 Male Beds
Maternity Home ...	Southernhay West ...	Partly ...	Council contribute £50 per annum, and reserve 2 Beds for the reception of necessitous and complicated cases, and cases in which the home surroundings are unsuitable. For these cases the Council pay £2 12s. 6d. per week each.
Isolation Hospital ...	Whipton*	Wholly ...	24 Beds for Scarlet Fever; 14 Beds for Diphtheria; 10 Beds for Enteric Fever and used at present for 14 Tubercular cases; 20 Beds interchangeable as required; 8 Beds for observation cases. By Agreement with 21 Local Authorities and other Bodies in the County of Devon, their cases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital of the City, which is capable of considerable extension in times of necessity.
Smallpox Hospital ...	Ide* ...	Wholly ...	—

HOSPITALS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT AND IN THE AREA.

Name.	Address.	Accommodation.
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital ...	Southernhay ...	Total beds 225. Children beds 40.
West of England Eye Infirmary ...	Magdalen Street ...	64 Beds including Cots
Poor Law Infirmary ...	Heavitree Road ...	100 Beds
Poor Law Infirmary ...	St. Thomas ...	84 Beds

* Situated in the area of the R.D.C. of St. Thomas.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED
MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND
HOMELESS CHILDREN.

Name.	Address.	Accommodation.
St. Olave's Maternity Home	33 Bartholomew Street, East ...	17 Beds for unmarried mothers
St. Mary's Home ...	25 Mary Arches Street	6 Beds for female V.D.
St. Elizabeth's Home (Home of Refuge)	36 Bartholomew Street, West ...	6 Beds for girls in temporary difficulties, or from Police Court
Dr. Barnardo's Home for Girls ...	Clifton Hill ...	55 Beds
St. Lawrence's Home for Waifs and Strays... ..	Polsloe Road ..	30 Beds

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(a) For infectious cases :—

One Motor Ambulance provided by the Council.

One Horse Ambulance for tubercular cases.

(b) For non-infectious and accidental cases :—

3 Motor Ambulances provided by St. John Ambulance Association. Council contributes £100 per annum.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Address.	When Held.	Arrangements for Medical Supervision.	Whether provided by the Council or not.
Central Infant Welfare Centre	51 Magdalen Street	Weekly on Tuesdays at 2.30	Dr. R. Harris	Yes
Western Infant Welfare Centre	138 Cowick Street	Weekly on Thursdays at 2.30	Dr. C. Mathew Asst. M.O.H.	Yes
Eastern Infant Welfare Centre	Church Street Heavitree	Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.30	Dr. P. H. Stirk M.O.H.	Yes
Eastern Infant Welfare Centre	St. Sidwell's Institute, Summerland Crescent	Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.30	Do.	Yes
Impetigo School	5 West Southernhay	Daily at 4.30	S.M.O.	Yes
Ringworm School Clinic	Do.	Do.	Do.	Yes
Scabies School Clinic	Baths & Wash-houses, King St.	When required	Do.	Yes
Diseases of Ears and Eyes School Clinic	5 West Southernhay	Daily at 9.30 a.m.	Do.	Yes
Treatment Centre for Tonsils & Adenoids Operations	Poor Law Infirmary, Heavitree Road	When required	Private Practitioner.	By agreement with the Board of Guardians.
Treatment Centre for Errors of Refraction (including Squint) and other defects or disease of the eyes, not treated at Daily Clinic, 5 West Southernhay.	Eye Infirmary Magdalen St.	Mondays and Tuesdays at 10 a.m.	Eye Infirmary Staff	By agreement with the Eye Infirmary Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	4 West Southernhay	Daily from 9 to 5.30 (except Saturdays 9 to 12.30)	Dr. J. H. Acheson, Asst. T.O.	Yes
Venereal Disease Clinic	Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital	MEN. Mondays, 4 p.m. Fridays, 7 p.m. WOMEN. Fridays, 4 p.m.	Dr. P. D. Warburton	Yes jointly with the Devon County Council
Cleansing Station	Baths & Wash-houses, King St.	When required	M.O.H.	Yes

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,
Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Medical Officer to the Mental Deficiency
Committee, and Medical Superintendent of the Isolation
Hospital and of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium and Honeyland's
Children's Hospital.*

P. H. STIRK, § M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Eng.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School
Medical Officer—*

C. MATHEW, § L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis
Officer—*

J. H. ACHESON, § M.B., Ed. and C.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer to the Central Infant Welfare Centre—

R. HARRIS, §§ M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dental Surgeon—

G. V. SMALLWOOD, §§ L.D.S. Eng.

Matron of Isolation Hospital—

MISS R. E. A. HUTTY, §

Matron of Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

MISS A. AVERY, §

Matron of Tuberculosis Children's Hospital—

MISS A. M. PHILLIPS, §

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector under the Food
and Drugs Acts—*

ARTHUR E. BONHAM, § Médaille d'Honneur en Vermeil, F.S.I.A.

Cert., London Sanitary Inspector's Exam. Board.

Cert., Royal Sanitary Institute.

Cert., Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Foods, etc.

Inspectors—

- R. B. PEARSE, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San. Inst.,
Cert. R. San. Inst., Meat and Foods.
- A. E. TROUNSON, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
Cert. R. San. Inst., Meat and Foods.
- C. H. WATTS, Cert. R. San. Inst.
- T. COATES, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
Cert. R. San. Inst., Meat and Foods.

Clerks—

- E. S. HOWELLS§ (*Chief Clerk*).
- H. TUCKER§ (*Tuberculosis Clerk*).
- MISS G. ROOKE (*Shorthand Typist*).
- W. G. LOTT (*Clerk*).
- H. GAYTON (*Junior Clerk*).

Health Visitors—

- MISS C. A. KNUCKEY,§ C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst.
for Health Visitors.
- MISS H. M. PAIN,§ C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst. for Sanitary
Inspectors and for Health Visitors. (To 8-6-26).
- MISS B. M. KNUCKEY,§ C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst.
for Health Visitors.
- MISS S. L. DAWKINS,§ General Training and C.M.B.
- MISS M. E. BLACK,§ C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst.
for Health Visitors. (To 14-6-26).
- MISS M. WALTERS,§ General Training and C.M.B.
(From 12-7-26).
- MISS F. E. WARD,§ General Training and C.M.B.
(From 27-7-26).

|| Denotes part time officers.

§ Denotes salary contributions by Exchequer Grants.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.

The Exeter and District Nursing Association provides Nurses who visit patients daily for nursing, dressings, etc., for which payment is required according to the means of the patient.

Trained nurses from Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital and private Institutions.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital provides nurses for fever cases, as also do the private Institutions.

No home nursing arrangements are made, or partially provided, by the Local Authority, but in the event of Measles becoming epidemic, the Medical Officer of Health is authorised to obtain Nurses should occasion arise, and this arrangement also holds good should a case of Pneumonia arise in a family whose circumstances are such as would not enable them to provide proper nursing.

MIDWIVES.

37 Midwives notified their intention of practising in the City; of these, 18 belonged either to the Exeter and District Nursing Association or St. Olave's Home: 35 were trained Midwives and certified by the Central Midwives' Board, and 2 were registered by reason of their being in practice prior to the Act coming into force.

The conduct and work of the Midwives has been good. The rules of the Central Midwives Board have been observed and in only two or three instances has the attention of Midwives had to be drawn to minor faults in connection therewith.

No Midwives are employed or subsidised by the Local Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.

In suspected cases of Diphtheria no charge is made. All V.D. work done without payment. The examination of swabs from Diphtheria contacts is only undertaken free if it is done after consultation with the Medical Officer of Health and the work is undertaken as a Public Health measure.

Pathological and Bacteriological work (V.D. only) is carried out for the Local Authority at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital by Dr. Solly; and Bacteriology (other than sputa examinations) is done partly by the City Analyst and partly by the Lister Institute. Sputa examinations are made by the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer.

EXAMINATIONS AT V.D. DEPARTMENT.

For detection of Spirochetes	...	...	6
For detection of Gonococci	...	...	86
For Wasserman re-action	...	...	176
Other examinations	...	...	3

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.**For Tuberculosis—**

Sputum—Positive	...	...	73
Negative	...	...	208
Total			<u>281</u>

Urine—Negative	...	...	<u>1</u>
----------------	-----	-----	----------

For Enteric Fever—

Negative	...	...	4
Sample insufficient	...	...	1
Total			<u>5</u>

For Cerebro-spinal fever—

Negative	...	...	Nil
----------	-----	-----	-----

For Diphtheria, for primary investigation—

Positive	...	...	24
Negative	...	...	210
Total			<u>234</u>

For Diphtheria, investigation before discharge from
isolation, of cases treated at home—

Positive	...	...	...	9
Negative	...	...	...	20
Total				<u>29</u>

For Diphtheria, investigation before discharge from
Hospital—

Positive	...	...	...	78
Negative	...	...	...	474
Total				<u>552</u>

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and Anti-Meningococcic Serum are
issued from the Public Health Department.

LOCAL ACTS, ORDERS, Etc.

Adopted—

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
P.H.A. (Amend.) Act, 1890.
Museum and Gymnasium Act, 1891.
Cleansing of Persons Act, 1897.
Public Library Acts.
Baths and Washhouses Acts.
P.H.A. (Amend.) Act, 1907 (all adopted 1909).
P.H.A. 1925, Part II. except Sections 20 and 34 : and
Parts III., IV. and V.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Houses Let in Lodgings, 1924.
Public Abattoir, 1913 and 1925.
Private Slaughterhouses, 1913.
Removal of Snow and Keeping of Animals, 1892.
Common Lodging Houses, 1902.
Prohibiting the Admission into the Cattle Market of
Animals Unfit for Food, 1911.
Building Bye-laws, 1926.
Offensive Trades, 1926.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The City has been singularly free from water-borne diseases. High pressure mechanical filters to supplement the sand filtration have been installed during the year, and this treatment, when combined with chlorination has given uniformly good results; but the bacteriological analysis which has been made from time to time indicates that it is desirable that the chlorination should continue. It is noteworthy that the initiation of chlorination was not accompanied by any complaints from users of the water as to palatability. This indicates the care with which the transfer was made, and reflects great credit on those concerned, despite the fact that a very small proportion of chlorination was required.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The experimental tank at Wonford for the treatment of sewage by the activated sludge method has now been in operation for some months, after much unexpected difficulty in rendering the tank watertight. The treatment, so far, has been highly successful, remarkably good effluent being obtained, and if this treatment on a large scale is as satisfactory as the working of the present experimental tank, I am of opinion that we have found a solution for the sewage disposal difficulty.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

STATEMENT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

NOTICES—

Number Served—Informal	...	...	439
Statutory	...	...	82
Number Uncomplied with at End of Year	...	...	10

HOUSES AND PREMISES—

Number Inspected upon Complaint	...	...	492
Number of Defective Yards Paved	...	...	51
Number of Defective Eaves and Gutters Rectified			32
Number of Walls, Floors and Ceilings Repaired	...	...	111
Number of Roofs Repaired	...	...	31
Number of Rooms Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	40
Number of Fire Grates Provided or Repaired	...	...	8
Number of New Pedestal Pans Fixed	...	...	10
Number of I.C's Repaired and Covers Provided	...	...	21

BATHS, LAVATORIES AND SINKS—

Number of Glazed Sanitary Sinks Provided	...	...	22
Number of Waste Pipes Trapped	...	...	56

WORK IN PROGRESS—

Number of Visits made thereto	...	...	3139
-------------------------------	-----	-----	------

OVERCROWDING—

Number of Cases Abated	...	...	4
------------------------	-----	-----	---

DRAINS—

Number of Smoke Tests Made	...	...	122
Number of Water Tests Made	...	...	269
Number Laid or Re-laid or Repaired	...	...	134
Number Cleansed, Trapped and Ventilated	...	...	129

DRAINS (continued)—

Number of Defective Bell and D Traps Replaced by Stoneware Gullies	...	...	36
Number of Rainwater Pipes Disconnected	...	...	8
Number of Cesspools Rectified	...	...	1

COURTS AND PASSAGES—

Number of Visits made thereto	...	...	524
Number Re-paved	...	...	12
Number Limewashed	...	...	15

WATER CLOSETS—

Number of Additional W.C.'s Provided or Re-con- structed	...	...	25
Number Repaired, Ventilated, etc.	...	...	82
Number of Soil Pipes Repaired, Ventilated or Re-con- structed	...	...	17
Number of Flushing Apparatus Improved	...	...	37
Number Limewashed	...	...	72

DUST RECEPTACLES (PORTABLE)—

Number of Visits	...	...	28
Number of New Dust Receptacles Provided	...	...	101

SLAUGHTER HOUSES—

Number of Visits to Public Abattoir	...	...	479
Number of Visits made to Private Slaughter Houses	...	...	795
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	...	...	21

BAKEHOUSES—

Number Inspected	...	...	36
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	...	...	4

OUTWORKERS—

Number of Premises	...	...	227
--------------------	-----	-----	-----

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS—

Number of Inspections Made	...	...	440
Number of Contraventions of Acts, Orders and Bye-laws dealt with	...	...	46

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

Number of Inspections Made	...	...	75
----------------------------	-----	-----	----

FOOD—

Number of Preparation and Storage Premises Visited			115
Number of Defects Discovered and Remedied	...		16

ANIMALS KEPT SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE—

Number of Cases Abated	...	...	15
------------------------	-----	-----	----

ACCUMULATION OF OFFENSIVE REFUSE—

Number of Removals	...	...	49
Number of Dung-Pits Provided or Re-modelled	...		5

MEETINGS OF OWNERS—

Number of Interviews and Appointments Kept	...		338
--	-----	--	-----

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

Enquiries	...	...	381
-----------	-----	-----	-----

MENTAL DEFECTIVES—

Enquiries and Visits Made	...	...	101
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----

MATERNITY HOMES—

Houses Inspected for	...	...	3
----------------------	-----	-----	---

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	125	9	—
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	216	3	—
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	5	5	—
Total ...	346	17	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—*				
Want of cleanliness ...	21	21	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances ...	24	24	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient ...	3	3	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	16	16	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories & Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—
Abstracts not affixed ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	66	66	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES
SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK.	Instan- ces.	Notices served.	Prose- cutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, &c. ...	2	—	—
Cleaning and washing ...			
Household linen ...			
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...			
Curtains and furniture hangings ...			
Furniture and Upholstery ...			
Electro-plate ...			
File making ...			
Brass and brass articles ...			
Fur pulling ...			
Cables and chains ...			
Anchors and grapnels ...			
Cart gear ...			
Locks, latches and keys ...			
Umbrellas, &c. ...			
Artificial flowers ...			
Nets, other than wire nets ...			
Tents ...			
Sacks ...			
Racquet and tennis balls ...			
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags ...			
Brush making ...			
Pea picking ...			
Feather sorting ...			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c. ...			
Stuffed toys ...			
Basket making ...			
Chocolates and sweetmeats ...			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ...			
Textile weaving ...			
Total ...	2	—	—

* Two were dealt with by verbal notice.

HOUSING ACTS.

Houses inspected	...	...	...	192
Tenements cleansed, whitewashed, etc.	...	...	...	165
Rooms closed for use as a bedroom	...	...	...	1
External woodwork, eaves guttering, etc., painted	...	...	...	4
Floors re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	91
Walls, ceilings, etc., repaired	...	...	...	360
Roofs repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	104
Stairs and doors repaired	...	...	...	15
Windows provided to rooms	...	...	...	12
Windows of rooms made to open	...	...	...	10
Windows of rooms repaired, etc. and sash cords renewed	...	...	...	111
Yards repaved or repaired	...	...	...	54
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	69
Drains repaired	...	...	...	13
Defective or insufficient eaves gutters or rainwater pipes	...	...	...	63
Bell or D traps replaced with stoneware gullies	...	...	...	24
Scullery troughs and baths provided	...	...	...	23
Waste pipes trapped	...	...	...	52
Water closets provided	...	...	...	11
Water closets repaired, etc.	...	...	...	41
Water closets reconstructed	...	...	...	8
Defective water closet pans re-placed with pans of wash-down pattern and flush improved	...	...	...	50
Flushing of water closets improved	...	...	...	13
Water closets provided with a window	...	...	...	8
Water closets limewashed	...	...	...	30
Coppers, stoves and grates repaired	...	...	...	38
Water tap provided on pipe direct from main	...	...	...	2
Baths provided	...	...	...	1
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	13
W.C. soil and vent pipes reconstructed	...	...	...	12
Defective drains disconnected from sewer	...	...	...	25
R.W.P.'s acting as drainage ventilation pipes disconnected	...	...	...	24
New inspection pits provided	...	...	...	5

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

A few observations of factory chimneys were made, but no case of bad emission of black smoke was reported, nor was any complaint of nuisance from factory chimneys received.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

A new set of Bye-laws controlling these premises were made, and allowed by the Minister of Health in May, 1924. They define the responsibilities of Owner and Occupier, and provide penalties for non-compliance of Notices, and because of this, notices served have been more readily complied with. On the whole, the houses registered under these Bye-laws are well conducted, but there are many that should be closed and demolished. The problem of providing accommodation for the occupiers that must soon be displaced, at present, appears to be well-nigh insolvable.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in any of these houses.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number of Offensive Trades in the City is as follows :—

- 2 Fellmongers.
- 1 Tanner.
- 1 Fat Boiler, Soap Maker and Artificial Manure Works.
- 1 Bone Boiler and
- 1 Gut Scraper.
- 31 Fish Friers.
- 6 Rag and Bone Dealers (excluding Collectors).

Bye-laws controlling these are dated 21st September, 1926, and were approved by the Minister of Health, 13th January, 1927. They now include the trades of Fish Friers and Rag and Bone Dealers.

At the Artificial Manure Works much new machinery and equipment has been installed, and it is to be hoped that because of this complaints will be fewer in the future.

SCHOOLS.

Exeter has a large number of Elementary Schools, considering the size of the school population. The general sanitation of the schools is fair, and they are all supplied with water from the Public Supply. There are four Secondary Schools, 2 Provided and 2 Non-Provided.

HOUSING.

1. GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS—

There is still a shortage of houses for the middle and working classes, as evidenced by the large number of applications now lying in the Town Clerk's Office. During the last six years the number of houses built in the City by Municipal and private enterprise was 864.

This number, considerable as it is, under all the circumstances, has not eased the position of the poor applicants, who can only afford to pay a small weekly rental, and who prefer to live near to their work.

2. OVERCROWDING.

As cases of gross overcrowding arise they are dealt with, as far as possible, by re-arranging the sleeping accommodation, but owing to the continued shortage of houses it is not considered practicable to enforce the abatement of overcrowding nuisances by application to the Justices, except in extreme cases.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) 280

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :

(i) By the Local Authority ... 32

(ii) By other bodies or persons ... 158

1. *Unfit Dwelling Houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 684

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 3

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 14

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 670

2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 333

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 24

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... 18

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 4

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... 4

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 9

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... 9

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... 17

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 17

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... —

- (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 1

- (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 2

- (6) Premises demolished after making of Closing Order but without service of Demolition Order, Closing Order withdrawn ... 3

- (7) Premises voluntarily closed by Owner in consequence of informal action, no statutory notice being served or representations made ... 11

Of these were—

Demolished ... 1

Rendered fit for habitation —

Awaiting demolition ... 3

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Conditions in the unhealthy areas, as reported in 1919, remain as then, save that the City Council is engaged on the

preparation of a Reconstruction Scheme for dealing with No. 4 Area, under Part 2 of the Housing Act, 1925. While it has not been found possible to start clearing these areas, it should be noted that they are not neglected. They are regularly inspected, and a great deal of repair work, under informal notice, is carried out by the owners.

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

New Bye-laws relating to Houses Let in Lodgings have already been commented upon, and I am of opinion that there is no need at present for any alterations.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The milk supply of the City continues to be good and ample.

At the end of the year 1926 there were on the Registers:—

Cowkeepers	...	...	30
Wholesale Purveyors of Milk...			87
Retail Purveyors of Milk	...		162

All are regularly inspected, and it was found necessary, in a few instances, to serve Notices requiring the cleansing of cattle and cowsheds. Apart from this, all were well conducted.

Since the coming into operation of the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, seven retailers, whose premises and methods were most unsatisfactory, were struck off the Register.

Nineteen samples of milk were taken under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, and sent to the Clinical Research Association for examination, and all were reported upon as free from tubercle bacilli.

In addition to the inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors, the Veterinary Inspector visits the cowsheds twice annually and examines the cattle. During the year two cases were dealt with under the Tuberculosis (in Cattle) Order, and upon *post mortem* both were found to be affected with advanced tuberculosis. The provisions of the Order were carried out in each case.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.

The number of samples of Certified Milk obtained under the above Order was 12, particulars of which are here set out :—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Count in $\frac{1}{10}$ C.C.</i>	<i>Presence of B. Coli.</i>
11-2-26	43	Not found
25-3-26	110	"
26-5-26	*Uncountable	"
23-6-26	133	"
6-7-26	295	"
20-7-26	*Uncountable	"
4-8-26	*Uncountable	"
27-8-26	219	"
14-9-26	192	"
28-9-26	280	"
26-10-26	118	"
7-12-26	227	"

*Sample delayed in transit to Laboratory.

Of Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk—

24-8-26	*Uncountable	Found
7-9-26	97	Not found
"	102	"
"	100	"
25-10-26	*Uncountable	"

*Sample delayed in transit to Laboratory.

MEAT.

Meat inspection throughout the City has been carried on as heretofore, and it is pleasing to report that the City's meat supply is, generally speaking, of excellent quality; indeed, there is no market for meat of the poorest quality, and any of this class that is slaughtered and passed as fit for food is sent away by the owner to other markets.

The Meat Regulations, 1924, are well administered and in the main are loyally carried out by the traders. No application was received during the year for the official stamping of meat.

Records show that at the Public Abattoir the killings were larger than the previous year, and the takings for the first time in its history exceeded the expenses.

There was one prosecution, the defendant being a hawker from outside the City. Several parcels of meat in an unsound condition, packed in a basket, were found in his cart and seized. The defence, that they were not intended for sale, was successfully raised and the case was dismissed by the Justices.

The following tables show the number of cattle dealt with, and give particulars of the diseased conditions found.

proval
eloa
f

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR AND THE FEES EARNED DURING
THE FINANCIAL YEAR, 1-4-26 to 31-3-27.

ANIMALS.	Number slaughtered.	Fees earned for slaughter.	Lairage No. of days.	Fees earned for lairage.	Storage. No. of days.	Fees earned for storage.	Total fees earned.
Cattle	4548	£ s. d. 454 16 0	327	£ s. d. 49 1 0	856	£ s. d. 10 14 0	£ s. d. 514 11 0
Calves	3680	122 13 4	27	4 6	254	1 5 4	124 3 2
Sheep	10603	178 1 0	426	1 15 6	50	4 2	189 0 8
Pigs @ 1/-	3930	196 10 0	{ }	2	80	13 4	202 13 8
" @ 2/6	44	5 10 0					
Total	22885	957 10 4	782	51 1 4	1240	12 16 10	1021 8 6

Amount received from the sale of Cartridges, £37 11s. 3d. Amount received from the sale of blood, £53 4s. 0d.

The following is a summary of Meat and Food Inspections and Condemnations for the year:—

No. of Visits made to Slaughter Houses ... 1274

No. of Seizures and Surrenders of Diseased Meat—

(a) At the Abattoir ... 1547

(b) At Private Slaughter Houses, Shops, etc. 170

Magisterial Orders obtained ... 9

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.

1926.

WHOLE CARCASSES SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF GENERALIZED TUBERCULOSIS.

Description.	Number of Animals.	WEIGHTS.											
		CARCASSES.				ORGANS & OFFAL.				TOTALS.			
		T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.
Cows	22	4	9	2	27	1	17	0	0	6	6	2	27
Heifers	9	2	10	1	4		14	2	6	3	4	3	10
Steers	3		13	1	16		4	3	14		18	1	2
Calves	1			2	14			1	2			3	16
Pigs	8		10	0	9		1	2	16		11	2	25
	(including 1 Boar Pig)												
Totals	43	8	4	0	14	2	18	1	10	11	2	1	24

PARTS OF CARCASSES, OFFAL, ETC., SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF LOCALIZED TUBERCULOSIS.

Description.	Number of Animals.	WEIGHTS.											
		MEAT.				ORGANS & OFFAL.				TOTALS.			
		T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.
Bovines	209		18	1	12	*3	11	2	13	4	9	3	25
Calves	3							1	27			1	27
Pigs	76		6	3	10		6	3	20		13	3	2
Totals	288	1	5	0	22	3	19	0	4	5	4	0	26

*Included here 54 Bullocks' heads and 1 Calf's head.

TABLE OF CHARGES.

Slaughtering tolls, including lairage for two days.	Lairage tolls per day, after expiration of second day.	Storage tolls per day, after expiration of second day.
For every Bull, Bullock, Cow or Heifer	s. d. ... 2 0	3d.
For every Calf	... 8	2d.
For every Pig	... 1 0	2d.
For every Sow or Boar over 14 score	... 2 6	2d.
For every Sheep or Lamb	... 4	1d.

WHOLE CARCASSES SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF DISEASES OR
CONDITIONS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Description.	Number of whole carcasses seized or surrendered.	Disease or condition which rendered meat unfit for food. •																							Weight, including Offal, etc.												
		Abscess, etc. of Liver and Vertebrae.	Anæmia.	Damaged and Injured	Decomposed.	Degeneration of Muscles.	Dropsical.	Emaciation.	Fevered.	Fibroid Tumour.	Hypertrophy (Kidney), Liver Tumour, etc.	Hydræmia.	Immature.	Inflammation.	Jaundice.	Johnne's Disease.	Joint Ill.	Local Sepsis and Fevered, etc.	Moribund.	Paralysis.	Pleurisy.	Pyæmia.	Quarter-evil.	Rheumatism.	Supremia.	Sarcoma.	Septicæmia.	Septic Abscess in Liver.	Septic Pneumonia.	Suffocated.	Uremia.	Wet and Emaciated	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	
Cows ...	10					1				1	2					3		1								1	1						2	15	2	19	
Steers	1							1																									6	1	2		
Calves	15	1					2				6						1			1	1	1							1				14	3	1		
Sheep	47	1	1	1	2	1	13	5	3	1	1		2						9		1					2			3		1	1	11	3	3		
Lambs	5			1									1						1								2						1	2	2		
Pigs ...	8				1								1	1											1			1					6	3	10		
Total	86	1	1	1	2	3	2	15	5	4	1	3	6	4	1	3	1	1	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	3	1	1	2	5	16	3	9

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR SURRENDERED.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Whole carcases including offals on account of Generalised Tuberculosis	11	2	1	24
Parts of Carcases and Offals, etc., on account of Localised Tuberculosis ...	5	4	0	26
Whole carcases including offals on account of diseases or conditions other than Tuberculosis ...	5	16	3	9
Parts of carcases and offals, etc., on account of Local affections ...	8	15	3	1
Imported Meat ...	1	3	2	13
Other Foods ...		18	2	9
Total weight of Meat and other Foods seized or surrendered ...	33	1	1	26

PARTS OF CARCASES, OFFAL, ETC., SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF MINOR DISEASES AND CONDITIONS (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS), SUCH AS RHEUMATISM, PLEURISY, PARASITES, ETC.

	Weight.											
	Meat.				Offal and Organs.				Total.			
	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.
Beef ...		17	3	17	*	14	3	22	6	12	3	11
Mutton and Lamb		4	2	20		19	1	16	1	4	0	8
Pork ...		2	1	9		13	1	4		15	2	13
Veal ...			2	8		2	2	5		3	0	13
Venison ...				12								12
Total ...	1	5	2	10	7	10	0	9	8	15	3	1

*Includes 3 Bullocks' heads and 22 Calves' heads.

PARTICULARS OF IMPORTED MEAT SEIZED OR
SURRENDERED, INCLUDING ORGANS, OFFAL, ETC.

Description.	Weight.			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef ...	1	2	3	17
Mutton and Lamb ...			2	24
Total ...	1	3	2	13

PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR
SURRENDERED.

Particulars.	Weight.			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
17 tins Preserved Fruit ...				15½
5 Potted and Tin Tongues ...				15
4 Tins of Beef ...				19
20 Tins of Fish ...		1	0	5½
3 Tins of Milk ...				3
10 Boxes of Fruit ...		2	0	8
2 Tins of Preserved Tomatoes ...				4
2 Tins of Preserved Egg Mixture ...			1	5
41 Boxes of Fish ...		12	3	24
10 Hake ...				8
1 Fowl ...				5
9 Ducks (2 being imported) ...			1	14
1 Turkey (imported) ...				19
Piece of Gammon ...				4
2 Sacks of New French Potatoes ...		1	0	0
Totals ...		18	2	9

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD SEIZED OR
SURRENDERED, SHOWING WEIGHT MONTHLY.

Month.				Weight.			
				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
January	...	...	...	3	5	0	10
February	...	...	...	2	10	1	9
March	...	...	...	2	17	3	1
April ...	...	...	...	2	16	0	14
May ...	...	...	...	1	18	0	17
June ...	...	...	...	2	12	3	26
July ...	...	...	...	2	2	1	4
August	...	...	...	3	11	2	22
September	...	...	...	3	8	0	18
October	...	...	...	3	0	0	16
November	...	...	...	3	6	3	1
December	...	...	...	1	12	0	0
Total ...				33	1	1	26

The following Table shows the number of Private Slaughter-houses in use in the City at the dates mentioned:—

		In 1920.		In January, 1925.		In Decem- ber, 1925.
Registered	...	10	...	10	...	9
Licensed	...	3	...	3	...	3
		<u>13</u>		<u>13</u>		<u>12</u>

These are well conducted, and all conform to the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

In most instances the occupiers have notified fixed days and hours of slaughter, and in the other cases prompt and correct notices are given of slaughter.

OTHER FOODS.

A tabular statement of Foods, other than Meat, that were condemned during the year will be found at the end of the Tables regarding Meat.

The Bakehouses in the City are regularly inspected, and are generally kept in a satisfactory condition. Two Bakehouses were remodelled during the year and brought thoroughly up-to-date.

A fish hawker was prosecuted for exposing for sale on a handcart ten fishes (hake) while unwholesome. He was fined £1 10s. and costs.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Article.	Examined.		Adulterated.	
	Formal.	Informal	Formal.	Informal
New Milk	70	2	4	...
Scald Milk	3	...	...	...
Cream	2	18	1	...
Condensed Milk (machine skimmed, sweetened) ...	...	8	...	...
Do. (full cream, sweetened)	...	11	...	...
Do. (do. unsweetened)	...	2	...	...
Dried Full Cream Milk and Virol	...	1	...	...
Dried Full Cream Milk ...	...	4	...	...
Butter	...	48	...	...
Jam	...	19	...	...
Gregory Powder	...	4	...	...
Ground Ginger	...	12	...	...
Custard Powder	...	10	...	1
Sponge Mixture	...	7	...	...
Baby's Food	...	1	...	...
	75	147	5	1
Total	222		6	

Due consideration was given to the articles reported upon as adulterated, and in no case was it decided to prosecute, it being taken into consideration that the milk samples were first offences and the amount of adulteration small; and in the case of the cream, which was taken under the Milk and Cream Regulations, the explanation of absence of guilty knowledge offered by the vendor to the Public Health Committee was accepted.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS,
1912 and 1917.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1926.

1. Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream—

	Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.	Number in which Pre- servative was reported to be present, and per- centage of Preservative found in each sample.
New Milk ...	72	—
Scald Milk ...	3	—
Cream ...	20	One (Contained not less than 0.1 % boric acid)
Condensed Milk (machine skimm- ed, sweetened)...	8	
Do. (full cream, sweetened) ...	11	
Do. (full cream, unsweetened) ...	2	
Dried Full Cream Milk and Virol	1	
Dried Full Cream Milk ...	4	

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statement on the label as to Preservatives were correct.

(1) Correct statement made	...	Nil
(2) Statements incorrect	...	Nil
(3) Percentages of Preservative found in each sample same as on label		Nil

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

(1) Above 35 per cent. ... Nil

(2) Below 35 per cent. ... Nil

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed ... Nil

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with and action taken ... Nil

3. Thickening substances. Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream.

The sample shown over page, to contain preservative, also contained starch in proportion not less than 2.2%.

4. Other observations, if any ... Nil

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ISOLATION AND DISINFECTION.

The City Council has ample accommodation at their Isolation Hospital, Whipton, for the treatment of Infectious Diseases. Cases are removed thereto in a Motor Ambulance, and the premises from which they are taken are afterwards disinfected, generally by fumigation, and subsequent removal of the bedding, etc., for steam disinfection.

See also Isolation Hospital Report.

CLEANSING AND DISINFECTING.

The Cleansing Station used by the School Authorities is available for use under the Cleansing of Persons Act, and also for the treatment of itch, clothing and bedding being dealt with at the Central Dépôt by steam disinfection.

Ordinary disinfection is carried out as follows :—

(a) At Isolation Hospital—all is done by steam except in the case of perishable articles, which are placed in a formalin chamber.

(b) There are similar arrangements at the Central Dépôt. House disinfection is done either with formalin vapour or spraying, and for vermin by sulphur.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox occurred in the area during the period under review. The last year that there was any Smallpox in the City was in 1905.

No primary or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Smallpox Regulations, 1917, all cases being referred to the Public Vaccinators.

VACCINATION.

The position with regard to Vaccination is very unsatisfactory. I am indebted to the Vaccination Officers for the following figures: In Exeter 505 only of the children born were successfully vaccinated, which gives a percentage of 55·3. For the part of the City which is in St. Thomas Union the position is even worse, 78 being vaccinated out of 182, which gives a percentage of 42·8. I view with apprehension the unprotected condition of the population of Exeter, in view of the continued extensive epidemic in certain parts of the country.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year, 212 cases were notified, which is the largest number for many years.

During the period, October, 1926, to March, 1927, Scarlet Fever took an epidemic form, the greatest number of cases notified during any one week during this period was 18 the week ending 23rd October, 1926, and 19 the week ending 1st January, 1927. The latter figure is rather remarkable in that it coincides with the period the schools were closed, and tends to show that at any rate in this epidemic attendance at school had no adverse effect in the occurrence of Scarlet Fever. 189 cases were notified during these six months. Clinically, the cases treated at the Isolation Hospital were of rather a remarkable type, not that the disease was severe, but in the number and severity of the complications. The number treated at the Isolation Hospital was 168. 14 I have excluded from the figures as they were not, in my opinion, true Scarlet

Fever, and of the remaining 154 cases no less than 87 developed complications severe enough to necessitate a special course of treatment. These 87 patients developed 111 complications, classified as follows :—

Rheumatism	...	...	...	15
Valvular Disease of the Heart			...	7
Otitis Media	...	...	...	20
Nephritis	...	...	...	11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	1
Erythema Nodosum		...	...	1
Alopecia Areata		...	...	1
Septic Sores	...	...	...	5
Adenitis	...	...	...	43
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	1

Only one of these cases ended fatally, that complicated by measles, nevertheless it represents a large amount of disability and sickness, some of which, of necessity, would be of a permanent character and serves to indicate that the mildest case of Scarlet Fever should be treated with the utmost care and as potential of serious complications.

DIPHTHERIA.

27 cases of Diphtheria were notified, which is the lowest number during any of the last five years.

Two deaths were attributed to this disease—one occurred in the Isolation Hospital and one in the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Four cases of this disease were notified during the year. Three were distinctly traceable to infection outside the City, and two were removed from the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital to the Isolation Hospital, where they made a complete recovery. In the other case no source of infection could be traced. The case was nursed at home, but unfortunately died.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Six cases of Puerperal Fever were notified—two were County cases admitted to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital with the disease from the County area; two were doctors' cases and two were attended by midwives; one of these was treated at the Isolation Hospital and proved to be a case of local infection only and rapidly recovered; the other was treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital and also recovered.

One City case died, which was a doctor's case, and was treated at home.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

This condition became notifiable in October of the year. Between then and the end of the year 5 cases were notified, and all were of a temporary character and no deaths were attributable to it.

PNEUMONIA.

27 cases were notified, which is the smallest number recorded since 1921. Six of these cases ended fatally.

ERYSIPELAS.

19 cases were notified, and there was one death.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

One case of this disease was notified which terminated fatally.

DYSENTERY.

No cases of Dysentery were notified during the year.

MALARIA.

No cases were notified during the year

TRENCH FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Seven cases of this disease were notified, which is the largest number notified since it was made notifiable in 1921. One case died in the Isolation Hospital.

ACUTE POLIOMYLITIS.

One case notified during the year.

CHICKEN POX.

The number of notified cases of Chicken Pox continues to increase. The number during the year was 386, which is nearly 100 more than the previous year.

No deaths were attributable to Chicken Pox.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In the absence of notification it is impossible to give even an approximate number of cases of these diseases, but it may be said that Mumps, Influenza and Whooping Cough were all below the average.

CANCER.

Table of deaths from Cancer for the past ten years.

Year.	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Deaths ...	67	80	79	83	72	95	108	91	99	96

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE	Cases Notified.													I. Hospital admitted to	Deaths.													Total
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2	1	5	3	6	4	1	4						23			1	1									2*	
Scarlet Fever	1	7	9	7	56	82	29	14	6	1				168				1	1								2*	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)						1	1	2						4					1								1	
Puerperal Fever											6			6†										2			2	
Puerperal Pyrexia											4	1		5														
Pneumonia	1	2	1	3	2	3	4	7	4	27									1	1						3	6*	
Erysipelas						2	1	2	1	10	3	19	5													1	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica						2	1	3	1	7	1	1*														1	1*	
Chicken Pox	17	20	19	20	46	202	49	64	1	2	386	5																
Cerebro-spinal Fever						1													1								1	
Acute Poliomyelitis...								1																				

* Deaths from cases notified and not total number of deaths.

† Of the 6 cases notified, 2 were in the local Hospital and were admitted from the County; one of these two cases proved fatal.

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
1	1	2	4	—	1	—	—	—
5	6	7	1	3	—	1	1	1
10	5	5	1	1	—	1	—	1
15	4	4	2	2	2	3	1	—
20	6	6	2	—	2	3	1	—
25	10	8	1	2	4	15	—	1
35	9	6	1	—	6	4	—	—
45	8	6	—	—	5	1	—	1
55	4	6	—	—	—	2	1	—
65 and upwards	1	—	2	—	2	3	1	—
Totals ...	54	50	15	9	22	33	5	5
					65			

The above Table shows the Notifications received during the year, also the deaths. The total number of Notifications received was 139. Eleven of these were duplicates, and are therefore excluded from the above table, and five were imported cases.

Included in the Deaths are 4 cases of which no Notification was received prior to the death certificate. In two of these cases the disease was only discovered at *post mortem*; in 1 the medical attendant thought it had already been notified by another doctor; and in 1 case the diagnosis was only made the day before death.

NEW REGULATIONS.

Two important Regulations were added by the Ministry to our methods of prevention during 1925: first the compulsory segregation of persons suffering from an advanced stage of the

disease (Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62), and secondly the power to prevent Tuberculous persons engaging in the Milk Trade [Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925]. So far it has not been necessary to take any legal action under either of these Regulations in the City as the action desired has been obtained without legal proceedings.

The following Table shows the number of Notifications received during the last ten years :—

1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	Total.
172	148	158	186	209	144	130	133	124	128	1532

The following Table shows the Deaths from Tuberculosis for the last ten years :—

Disease.	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	84	72	43	54	45	59	46	59	58	55	575
Other forms of Tuberculosis	19	21	17	10	12	12	5	14	14	10	134
Total ...	103	93	60	64	57	71	51	73	72	65	709

And the following the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the last ten years :—

Year.	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	84	72	43	54	45	59	46	59	58	55
Death Rate per 1000 ...	1.62	1.43	.728	.879	.756	.988	.763	.9807	.969	.911

SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS

The following Table shows the number of non-pulmonary cases notified during the last ten years :—

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	Total.
1917										
27	22	12	13	40	19	20	16	23	24	216

There are, at present, 99 non-pulmonary cases on the Register, classified as follows :—

Bones and Joints	...	...	40
Abdominal	...	...	15
Other Organs	...	...	9
Glands	...	...	35

The 24 new 1926 cases, included in the above, were classified as follows :—

Bones and Joints	...	...	8
Abdominal	...	...	5
Other Organs	...	...	7
Glands	...	...	4

The arrangements for the treatment of surgical cases is at present not entirely satisfactory. A certain number of cases are sent by arrangement to the local Hospital, but owing to pressure on the available beds they are unable to keep them (neither is it a suitable environment for them) for the necessary prolonged treatment. There is a movement on foot for the provision of a hospital for the care of children suffering from tubercular and crippling conditions, and it is expected that this will be working before the issue of my next Annual Report. Although it is true that there are suitable Institutions in the country, one finds in practice that it is well nigh impossible to persuade parents to part with their children for the prolonged period of necessary treatment.

We had altogether at the end of the year 742 cases of notified tubercular disease in the City; 643 were Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 99 Non-Pulmonary. Of these 742 cases, 431

were attending the Tuberculosis Dispensary, either for observation or treatment, and 56 were in Institutions.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

At the Tuberculosis Dispensary extra nourishment has been granted to various patients, and the total cost of same for the Financial Year 1926-27 was £67 19s. 2d.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

The accommodation for the treatment of early cases at the Pinhoe Sanatorium (14 beds) remains the same, as also does that for advanced cases at the Isolation Hospital, where there are two Wards, one (7 male and 7 female beds) for the accommodation of general cases, and the other known as the Red Cross Pavilion (12 beds) for ex-service men in an advanced stage of the disease.

Honeylands Children's Sanatorium, Whipton, was opened for the reception of patients on the 1st July, 1924. The figures for 1926 are appended :—

Remaining under treatment 1/1/26.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.								Remaining under treatment 31/12/26		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males.			Females.				M	F	TOTAL	
						Arrested.	Improved.	At Parents' request.	Arrested.	Improved.	At Parents' Request.	Same.	Total.			
10	10	20	16	13	29	12	1	2	11	2	1	1	30	11	8	19

The children are medically attended by myself ; I visit the Institution twice weekly and at other times when necessary.

The Minimum period that a case is ordinarily admitted for is six months.

It has been suggested that many of the Patients after leaving the Institution and returning to their home conditions deteriorated into their former condition; I therefore have had enquiries made as to the present condition of all the children who have been in the Institution.

The number dealt with is 66 and of this number 50 were found to be keeping well (in many cases—exceptionally well) and either at school or at work, 12 were found to have somewhat deteriorated, 1 died from Pneumococcal Meningitis, 2 were transferred to other Authorities and 1 was cured.

Educationally, in the opinion of the Teacher, they also benefit greatly. Most of these children, owing to their physical condition, are more backward than the ordinary child, but thanks to their improved health, and hygienic conditions under which they live, and the more individual attention they are able to receive, they leave the Sanatorium School, in most cases, fit for a higher Standard than that on their admission, improvement in their response and brightness being most marked.

The following Table gives details of patients treated at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Pinhoe:—

Remaining under treatment 1/1/26.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.								Remaining under treatment 31/12/26			
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males				Females.				M	F	TOTAL	
						Arrested.	Improved.	Same.	Worse.	Arrested.	Improved.	Same.	Worse.	Total.			
6	4	10	13	18	31	7	4	1	1	7	4	5	1	30	6	5	11

Table showing details of the cases treated at the Tuberculosis Hospital, Whipton, which is for advanced cases only, during 1926 :—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1926.			Admitted during the year.			Discharged during the year.			Deaths during the Year.			Remaining under treatment 31st Dec., 1926.		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL
6	6	12	12	14	26	9	8	17	3	5	8	6	7	13

Table showing details of cases treated at the Red Cross Pavilion, Whipton, which is for ex-soldiers and sailors in the advanced stage of the disease, during the year 1926 :—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1926.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged during the Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Remaining under treatment on 31st Dec., 1926.
11	18	15	3	11

Table showing details of cases treated in other Institutions during 1926 :—

Institution.	Remaining under treatment on 1-1-26.	Admitted during Year.	Discharged during Year.	Died.	Remaining under treatment on 31-12-26.
Preston Hall Tuberculosis Colony, Aylesford, Kent ...	2	—	2	—	—
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital ... (cases for whom the Public Health Committee have accepted financial responsibility.)	—	15	12	1	2
Total ...	2	15	14	1	2

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The following particulars are given of cases treated at the Dispensary by the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, and attached is also a Report by that Officer—Dr. J. H. Acheson.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts:)												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	28	23	7	6	3	1	4	1	31	24	11	7
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	3
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	4	8	11
B.—Contacts examined during the year:												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	1	...	7	6	...	...	2	...	1	...	9	6
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	5
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	18	12
(c)—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as:												
(a) Cured ...	12	...	23	2	1	7	4	7	13	7	27	9
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	12	40	37
D.—Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:												
(a) Diagnosis completed	195	116	66	53	10	10	28	9	205	126	94	62
(b) Diagnosis not completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7	8

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY (continued).

1. Number of persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st, 1926	663	9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary	Nil
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned	18	10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners (a) At Homes of Applicants	88
		(b) Otherwise	19
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"	159	11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes	1259
4. Died during the year	33	12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes	1005
5. Number of observation cases under A(b) and B(b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months	9	13. Number of (a) Specimens of sputum, &c., examined	281
		(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	Nil
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	2702	14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register on the 31st Dec.	215
7. Number of attendances of non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Outstations for treatment or supervision	Nil	15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st. Dec.	57
8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for (a) "Light" treatment	347	16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons : (a) Form G.P. 17	24
(b) Other special forms of treatment	44	(b) Form G.P. 36	48

REPORT BY THE ASSISTANT TUBERCULOSIS
OFFICER—DR. J. H. ACHESON.

In previous Reports I have dwelt on the difficulties met by so many Patients in the way of being able to find any employment, and undoubtedly this fact, more than any other, is responsible for the large number of refusals which one meets in trying to induce Patients to undergo any Sanatorium Treatment, especially in the case of those in whom the disease is not advanced, and unfortunately the same cause operates prejudicially very often among a certain number of Patients who, after having improved considerably while at the Sanatorium, within a few months of having been discharged are found to have gone back in health.

I am sure that, among Insured Patients, if an increased sum of money were forthcoming for six months after their leaving the Sanatorium, among those cases who have not been able to find employment during this time, not only would the extra nourishment which they could get in this way help materially in preventing their health from suffering, but the knowledge that this might be looked upon as a part of Sanatorium Benefit would very possibly influence some at any rate in consenting to accept Sanatorium Treatment, which at present one is unable to induce them to undergo.

Undoubtedly the most unsatisfactory question in connection with so many of the Patients remaining under observation at the Dispensary, in whom the disease shews no activity—some of them drawing a Pension, others not, and most of them having had Sanatorium Treatment, sometimes more than once—is the fact that they are too frequently, month after month, quite unable to obtain any work. Without any Pension how can many of these patients help, under these circumstances, losing heart and relapses frequently occurring among them. From the reports issued each year by Dr. Varrier Jones shewing

the increasing success which is attending "Papworth Industries," entirely run by selected Ex-Patients from Papworth, who have remained, in many cases with their wives and families, as settlers in the Colony which has sprung up, and is steadily growing at Papworth in Cambridgeshire, as well as the first Annual Report recently issued as regards the hopeful outlook at Preston Hall in Kent since having been taken over and managed by the British Legion, with the valuable assistance of Dr. Varrier Jones, a little more than a year ago, one can only feel that what has been already achieved elsewhere should before now have been followed more generally by similar developments throughout the Country. What this amounts to really means that in connection with all Sanatoria there should be, as at Papworth, not only accommodation for the earlier cases, but sufficient ground in the neighbourhood for the gradual colonization of those who have benefitted sufficiently to be considered suitable in all respects for remaining, and in this way to be given a reasonable prospect of becoming useful citizens through feeling that they have a definite object in life. In a Colony—call it a Garden City if you will—there must be plenty of work available for all, no matter what their previous occupations may have been. Granted that, at any rate in the commencement, subsidies would be required, surely the necessary funds should be forthcoming and would be very much better spent than, too often have in the past, the large sums—from whatever source they may have come—which have, with the best intentions, been advanced in countless instances only to find too late that the money has gone to little or no purpose, and that no lasting benefit has resulted. While on this subject I should like to have an opportunity of referring to the very excellent work which has for some time past been done under the direction of Dr. Smyth, Medical Superintendent at the Hawkmoor Sanatorium, where many of the patients are being employed in various handicrafts—under Ex-Patient Instructors—not only with benefit to their health, but profitably as a business proposition. Nor must I omit to again refer to what, I am sorry to say, still remains on a very small scale, is continuing to go on in our own City—I mean the "Semper Fidelis Company" for Ex-Service Patients. Orders are coming in steadily, and, with-

out doubt, this undertaking has, I consider, been of great help in keeping the men belonging to it contented and in better health than they would have been since it was started six years ago. This is very largely due to the advice and help these men have, from the beginning, had from a very small number of prominent citizens who have interested themselves on their behalf. I wish very much that it might be possible to extend the activities of this excellent undertaking.

Besides this question of unemployment, the other outstanding hindrance to the lowering of the incidence of Tuberculosis as well as to the means of treating Patients suffering from the disease, viz., Insanitary Housing and Overcrowding, remains very much as it has been in the past. Although there is evidence of improvement, and an increasing number of houses are being built, or purchased, both by the Local Authority and privately through the public spirited efforts of certain citizens—and one has already been able to notice improvement having followed very quickly after families have been fortunate in being able to move into better houses with more accommodation and situated on the outskirts of the City—very much more remains to be done. Naturally the two questions of Unemployment and bad Housing re-act upon each other, too many instances coming before one's notice in which, even if houses were available, the weekly rent with rates are beyond the means which many of these people can afford to pay, especially when there may be several children in the family.

Considerable difficulty, and in an increasing degree, is, I regret to say, being found in inducing Patients to undergo Treatment in the Sanatorium for earlier cases, and it is quite the exception when I find one who is ready and anxious to fill a vacant bed—rather suggesting, as an alternative, that he can go away for a change to the coast or into the country, possibly for even so short a time as a fortnight or three weeks, imagining that on coming back, because he naturally feels better for the change and through having enjoyed the rest from work, he will be in a fit state to forthwith ask his Doctor to “sign him off” as he feels perfectly able to begin work again. Very likely, perhaps several months later, this patient will agree to give the

Sanatorium a trial—possibly only because he has no other relatives to stay with or through funds having become scarce—and not even now because he really wants to do so. Under these circumstances it can hardly be expected that the full benefit is likely to be got while such patients are undergoing Sanatorium Treatment.

As regards the children at Honeylands, there is no difficulty at all in keeping the beds full, and time after time parents have said to me how pleased they have been that they had allowed their child to go there. The difficulty is sometimes when, after six months or so, the time comes for the child to leave and make room for another, that some persuasion has to be used to make him want to go back home. The fact that the School is at the Sanatorium, thus avoiding, especially among the younger children, the walks to and from School, plays, I think, a large part in the rapid improvement which so regularly follows admission to this Sanatorium.

I am more and more anxious for the time to come when the Hospital which will admit cases of Surgical Tuberculosis among children, now approaching completion just outside the City, will be opened, as it is only very exceptionally indeed that I have been able to induce Parents to allow their children to be sent to one or other of the existing Hospitals for these cases, all of which are, unfortunately, some distance away.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (with the approval of the Ministry of Health) jointly by the Devon County Council and the Council of the City of Exeter, for the treatment of these diseases at a special department of the Hospital.

The hours of attendance are as follows:—

Men ... Mondays, 3 to 5 p.m., and Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m.
 Women ... Fridays, 3 to 5 p.m.

If in-patient treatment is necessary, special beds are available in the Hospital.

Unmarried female patients are admitted to St. Mary's Home, by arrangement with the authorities of the Home, for in-patient treatment by the Surgeon in charge of the Clinic.

The following figures relate to the City only:—Number of persons dealt with during the year at, or in connection with, the out-patient clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

(a) Syphilis	...	...	39
(b) Soft Chancre	...	...	—
(c) Gonorrhoea	...	...	50
(d) Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	4
			93

Total attendances of patients during the year at the out-patient clinic	...	...	1,402
---	-----	-----	-------

Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment during the year	...	...	497
--	-----	-----	-----

Examination of pathological material—

For detection of Spirochetes...	...	6
For detection of Gonococci	...	86
For Wassermann Reaction	...	176
Other examinations	...	3

The following figures apply to the entire department and are not given separately for the City and County :—

Number of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient clinic—

(a) Before completing a course of treatment	31
(b) After one or more courses, but before completion of treatment	10
(c) After completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure	18

Number of persons transferred to other Treatment Centres after treatment 11

Number of persons discharged from Out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation 33

Number of persons who, on 31-12-26, were under treatment or observation 340

443

Attendances are not limited to Clinics, but patients attend on other days and hours for interim treatment.

Notices are exhibited in all the Public Conveniences, setting out the facilities available for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. Judging from the number of enquiries one has had originating from these notices, they are undoubtedly doing a good and valuable work.

On the commencement of work at the Clinic all the Medical Practitioners were informed of the arrangements for diagnosis, treatment and consultation by the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre. Every new Medical Practitioner is also informed. Seven Medical Practitioners in the City, who being fully qualified, were supplied with free supplies of arsenobenzol compounds, and the number of doses of these compounds supplied to Medical Practitioners by the Council was 168.

The number of pathological specimens examined for Medical Practitioners is as follows :—

For detection of Spirochetes	...	...	1
For detection of Gonococci	...	...	30
For Wassermann reaction	...	...	102

It has been unnecessary to take any action under the Venereal Disease Act, 1917.

During the year there has been a diminution in the number of cases treated, in the number of total attendances, and also in the laboratory work of investigation; but there has been a large increase in the aggregate number of in-patient days, there having been 497 in-patient days against 208 for the year 1925.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

The Ante-Natal work in connection with the Infant Welfare Centres continues. During the year 170 expectant mothers attended, making 1,083 attendances.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 728 visits to expectant mothers.

Ante-Natal work has now been undertaken by the District Nursing Association for cases attended by their nurses, and 186 mothers attended during the 12 months ended 31-3-27.

BIRTHS.

1,108 notifications of live births were received during the year. 12·5 of the notifications were made by Medical Practitioners, 73·7 by Midwives, and 13·6 by relatives, etc.

In 209 instances the Midwives summoned medical help for a variety of conditions affecting mother or child, while 31 other notifications in connection with still-births, artificial feeding, etc., were received from Midwives.

The amount paid by the Local Authority to Doctors under the Midwives' Act was £127 7s., of which £23 1s. 6d. was received back in part payment.

The conditions for which the Midwives summoned medical aid were as follows :—

Ruptured Perineum	...	...	69
Prolonged Labour	...	...	46
Abnormal Presentation	...	...	13
Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	7
Rise of Temperature	...	...	7
Post Partum Hæmorrhage...	...	...	5
Premature Labour	...	..	2
Adherent Placenta	...	...	6
Albuminuria	...	...	7
Previous History	...	...	3
Threatened Miscarriage	...	...	7
Various	...	...	9
Condition of Baby	...	...	28
Total			<u>209</u>

PUERPERAL SEPSIS.

This is dealt with under the heading of Notifiable Diseases.

MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA, ETC.

These are dealt with under the heading of Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.

STILLBIRTHS.

The number of Stillbirths that occurred during the year was 41, of which 18 were attended by Midwives and 23 by Doctors. 17 were first pregnancies and 24 were subsequent pregnancies. 4 were illegitimate. Of this number, 1 appears, from information obtained, not to have passed the 28th week of pregnancy, and therefore was not really a stillbirth.

Of the 40 rightly notified as stillbirths—

15 were macerated, showing they died at some period anterior to the birth, and of this number—

2 were due to accident or shock to mother.

9 were due to bad general health and poor physique of mother.

1 was due to malformation of foetus.

There were 3 cases in which no cause could be assigned.

Of the non-macerated infants, i.e., those who had not died previous to the time of birth—

- 6 were premature births
- 5 were connected with instrumental labour
- 5 were connected with difficulties at confinement (twins)
- 3 were abnormal presentations
- 4 were due to ill-health of mother.
- 1 was due to want of attention

and there was one case in which no cause could be assigned.

HOME VISITS UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 884 first visits and 3,139 subsequent visits to children under the age of 12 months, and 1305 visits to children between the ages of 12 months and 5 years.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

During the year there were recorded at the Centres 12,457 attendances of children, being an increase of 2140 over the previous year.

PROVISIONS OF MILK AND FOODSTUFFS.

The Council is responsible for the issue of fresh and dried milk. During the financial year 1926-27 the cost of milk issued either free or at half-cost was £646 13s. 9d. In respect of this sum £57 11s. 2d. was received from the mothers in part payment. Net cost, £589 2s. 7d., being an increase of £167 10s. 10d. over the previous year.

The scale approved by the City Council for the issue of milk is as follows :—

No. in Family.	Free of cost.	At half cost price.
	Income not exceeding per head, less rent.	Income not exceeding per head, less rent.
1 or 2	9/-	10/-
3	8/-	9/-
4	7/-	8/-
5 or more	5/6	7/-

MATERNITY HOME.

36 cases were admitted to the Home by the City Council at a cost of £173 11s. 9d., of which £16 2s. was received back in part payment. Net cost £157 9s. 9d., plus subsidy of £50, being an average of £5 15s. 3d. per case.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Arrangements have been made, with the approval of the Ministry and with the consent of the Education Committee, for dental treatment and supply of dentures for expectant and nursing mothers by the School Dentist. 23 mothers availed themselves of the opportunity and received treatment.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.				Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total blindness	Still under treatment	Deaths	Removed from District
	Notified	Treated.								
		At Eye Infirmary	At Poor Law Infirmary	Privately						
	12	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—

Under the Midwives Rules a Midwife has to notify any discharge from the eye. 26 notifications of discharging eye were received, but these would not be all cases of true Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Of this number 12 were subsequently notified by Medical Practitioners, and therefore may be regarded as the correct return of the number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum. All 12 cases were treated at the Eye Infirmary, and in no case was the vision left in an impaired condition. In the course of time this should lead to a considerable reduction in the number of blind persons.

EXETER ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

I have the honour to present the following Report of the work of the Exeter Isolation Hospital during the year :—

The accommodation consists of 88 adult beds, arranged in blocks as follows :—

One block of 24 beds for Scarlet Fever.

One block of 14 beds for Diphtheria.

One block of 10 beds for Enteric Fever, and used at present for Tubercular cases.

One block of 20 beds, interchangeable as required.

One block of 8 beds for observation cases.

One block of 12 beds, provided by the Ministry of Pensions and Red Cross Society, for the accommodation of 12 tubercular ex-soldiers or sailors.

The Hospital has a good administrative block, with ample accommodation for extension of Staff, and it is recognised that in case of necessity the number of beds can be considerably increased without detriment to the efficient working of the Wards and the well-being of the patients. The whole is of modern construction and design, and is an Institution far above the average.

At present, contracts for the admission of patients exist with the following Local Authorities and others :—

Urban District Councils—

Holsworthy.

Ottery St. Mary.

Budleigh Salterton.

Dawlish.

Seaton.

Exmouth.

Crediton.

Axminster.

Sidmouth.

Rural District Councils—

Newton Abbot.
 Honiton.
 Axminster.
 Crediton.
 St. Thomas.
 Okehampton.
 South Molton.

Town Council—

Honiton.

Exeter Port Sanitary Authority.
 Kelly College, Tavistock.
 Secretary of State for War.
 Prison Authorities, Princetown.

Excluding Tubercular cases, which are dealt with under a separate heading, at the beginning of the year 14 cases remained under treatment, 7 of whom were from the County. 306 cases were admitted during the year, 82 of these coming from the County, 224 from the City, and at the end of the year 1926, 71 cases were under treatment, of whom 17 were from the County and 54 from the City.

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the Exeter Isolation Hospital during the past ten years :—

YEAR.		COUNTY.	CITY.	TOTAL.
1917	Total treated at Isolation Hospital	59	98	157
1918	Do.	Do.	40	72
1919	Do.	Do.	61	68
1920	Do.	Do.	91	108
1921	Do.	Do.	90	190
1922	Do.	Do.	126	152
1923	Do.	Do.	119	98
1924	Do.	Do.	108	99
1925	Do.	Do.	112	95
1926	Do.	Do.	89	231
				320

The following is the mortality amongst the 320 cases during the Year :—

			<i>County.</i>	<i>City.</i>
From Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	1
From Diphtheria	...	...	—	1
From Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	1
From Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	—	1

This gives a death-rate of 2'1 per 100 cases treated.

The average duration of each patient's stay in the Isolation Hospital was 45'8 days.

			<i>Days.</i>
Against in 1917	...	...	35
Do. 1918	...	...	36
Do. 1919	...	...	44
Do. 1920	...	...	35
Do. 1921	...	...	43
Do. 1922	...	...	38
Do. 1923	...	...	39
Do. 1924	...	...	42
Do. 1925	...	...	43
Do. 1926	...	...	45

The average number of Fever patients per day was 31'5.

DISEASE.	Cases admitted during the year.	Cases discharged cured during the year.	Deaths.	Cases remaining under treatment at the end of year.	Remarks.
Diphtheria ...	37	28	1	8	This gives a mortality of 2·8 per 100 cases. In 3 cases Tracheotomy was necessary, 2 recovering. This gives a mortality of 1·4 per 100 cases.
Scarlet fever ...	233	169	3	61	
Measles ...	16	16	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal fever	1	—	1	—	This case proved to be one of slight local infection only.
Typhoid fever ...	3	2	—	1	
Pleurisy ...	1	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ...	5	4	—	1	
Chicken Pox ...	5	5	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	1	—	
Mumps ...	3	3	—	—	
Puerperal fever ...	1	1	—	—	

The Observation Block has again been of great advantage in the efficient working of the Institution, and has afforded satisfactory isolation for several diseases at the same time, although in close contact, and it gives me great satisfaction to report that no cases of cross-infection arose in this block.

During the financial year 1926-27 a total of £1724 2s. 8d. was received for the treatment of Infectious Disease, being £1230 from outside Authorities, and £494 2s. 8d. from City patients.

SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.

The accommodation remains the same, viz. 12 beds. The interior has been cleaned, window blinds fixed, stoves for heating installed, and oil lamps provided, and the Institution is ready at any time for the reception of patients.

It is curious that, concurrent with the occurrence of Smallpox in many parts of the Country, we have been visited in Exeter by a considerable epidemic of Chicken Pox, the differentiate diagnosis between Chicken Pox and Smallpox has given rise to some anxiety with a large amount of additional work, but so far there has been no case of Smallpox, and the Institution has not been needed.

MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The Supervision of Mental Defectives is in the hands of a Statutory Committee appointed by the City Council, composed partly by Members of the Council and partly by co-opted Members. The number placed on the Register since the passing of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, is 158. Of these 27 have died, 21 left the City, and 9 have been transferred to the Mental Hospital, leaving 101 at present on the Register. These are placed as follows:—

In Certified Institutions	...	...	34
In Non-Certified Institutions	...	...	8
At home under good social conditions and considered unnecessary to visit	...	...	1

The remaining 58 are well cared for in their own homes and visited from time to time by my staff in order to ascertain if these satisfactory conditions are maintained. The total expenditure for the financial year 1925-26 was £1,216 13s. 1d., the bulk of which is for the maintenance of patients in Institutions, the amount being £1,118 5s. 1d.

