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City and County of the City of Exeter.



ANNUAL REPORT

For 1928,

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.

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**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 1928.**

P. H. STIRK.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Introduction ...	3	Arrangements for	
Committee ...	6	Isolation and Dis-	
General Statistics ...	7	infection ...	51
Vital Statistics—		Cleansing and Disin-	
Birth Rate ...	7	fecting ...	51
Death Rate ...	8—11	Prevalence of, and Con-	
Infantile Mortality... 12—13		trol over, Infectious	
Maternal Mortality... 14		Disease—	
Measles ...	15	Smallpox ...	51
Diarrhœa ...	15	Scarlet Fever ...	52
Hospitals provided or		Diphtheria ...	52
subsidised ...	16	Enteric Fever (includ-	
Hospitals available for		ing Paratyphoid)... 53	
the District ...	16	Puerperal Fever ...	53
Institutional provision		Puerperal Pyrexia ...	53
for Unmarried Mothers 17		Pneumonia ...	53
Ambulance Facilities... 17		Erysipelas ...	53
Clinics and Treatment		Cerebro-Spinal Fever	54
Centres ...	18	Dysentery ...	54
Public Health Staff ... 19—20		Malaria ...	54
Professional Nursing in		Encephalitis Lethargica	54
the Home ...	21	Acute Poliomyelitis	54
Midwives ...	21	Chicken Pox ...	54
Laboratory Work ... 22—23		Cancer ...	54
Local Acts, Orders, etc.	23	Tuberculosis ...	56—65
Bye-laws & Regulations	24	Venereal Diseases ...	66—68
Sanitary Circumstances—		Maternity & Child Welfare—	
Water ...	24	Ante-Natal Work ...	68
Drainage and Sewage		Births ...	68
Disposal ...	24	Stillbirths ...	69
Sanitary Inspection 25—30		Home Visits ...	70
Smoke Abatement ...	31	Infant Welfare Centres	71
Houses Let in Lodgings	31	Provision of Milk, etc.	71
Offensive Trades ... 31—32		Maternity Home ...	72
Schools ...	32	Registration of Maternity	
Housing ...	32—36	Homes ...	72
Inspection and Super-		Dental Treatment ...	72
vision of Food—		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	73
Milk ...	36—38	Isolation Hospital	
Meat ...	39—45	Report ...	75—79
Other Foods ...	45—48	Smallpox Hospital ...	79
Sale of Food & Drugs		Mental Defectives ...	79—80
Acts ...	49—50	Superannuation ...	80
Milk and Cream Reg-			
ulations ...	49		

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.

CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EXETER.

Public Health Committee.

MAYOR—

Councillor ARTHUR ERNEST BROCK, M.C.

CHAIRMAN—

Councillor J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—

Alderman R. M. CHALLICE.

Alderman J. R. NETHERCOTT
Alderman C. J. VLIELAND
Councillor J. W. ACKROYD
Councillor W. T. BAKER
Councillor Mrs. F. G. BROWNE
Councillor S. CHARD

Councillor G. G. DAW
Councillor F. J. HANCOCK
Councillor F. HOULT
Councillor E. SELWAY
Councillor J. PASSMORE
Councillor Mrs. E. W. REED

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 Mrs. R. ALLEN
Councillor G. G. DAW
Councillor Miss E. SPLATT
Councillor F. J. HANCOCK
Coun. J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS
Councillor Mrs. E. W. REED

Non-Members of the Council :

Mrs. DEPREE
Mrs. MILLER
Mrs. VLIELAND
Mrs. PICKARD
Mrs. SMITH

ANNUAL REPORT, 1928.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Area (acres)	...	...	...	4,702
2. Population (Civilians)	...	...	...	61,540
Total (including Military, etc.)	...	...	...	62,030
3. Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	14,806
4. Number of Families or Separate Occupiers				
(1921 Census)	...	...	...	14,843
5. Rateable Value	...	...	...	£475,210
6. Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,802

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE.

The population for the Birth Rate is 62,030.

The total number of births registered in Exeter in the year 1928 was 1094, divided as follows :—546 males and 548 females.

Of this number, 41 male and 55 female births were certified as illegitimate, being 8·7 per cent. of the total births. To the 1094 births must be added 23 male and 13 female (10 of whom were illegitimate) and deducted 83 male and 91 female (50 of whom were illegitimate) transferable births, giving a net number of 956 (486 males and 470 females).

The birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for 1928 was, therefore, 15·4, being '1 below that of last year, 1·3 below that of England and Wales, and 1·5 below that of the 107 Great Towns in which Exeter is classed.

The percentage of illegitimate births to total births was lower in 1928 than in any of the preceding 10 years

The following table gives the birth rate and percentage of illegitimate births to total births for the past 10 years:—

Year.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
England and Wales ...	18.5	25.4	22.4	20.6	19.7	18.8	18.3	17.8	16.7	16.7
Exeter ...	14.68	22.46	18.89	17.00	16.94	16.79	16.29	16.49	15.5	15.4
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to total births	13.74	8.6	8.3	7.05	9.03	9.1	7.9	8.6	8.4	5.8

DEATH RATE.

The population for Death Rate is 61,540.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring during the year 1928 was 773, divided as follows: 368 males and 405 females.

The death rate is the number of deaths per 1,000 of the population. The crude death rate for 1928 was 12.5 and the corrected death rate 10.2

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.

In order that the death rate of various places may be fairly compared, it is essential to correct the death rate for age and sex distribution. To correct a death rate for age and sex distribution, the Registrar General has published tables giving factors by which the death rate has to be multiplied. The factor for Exeter is .817, and the corrected death rate is, therefore, 10.2. Below is a table giving the corrected death rate for the past 10 years:—

Year.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
England and Wales ...	18·5	12·4	12·1	12·9	11·6	12·2	12·2	11·6	12·3	11·7
Exeter ...	12·28	10·91	11·66	13·22	11·02	11·8	11·29	10·71	10·1	10·2

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.

[illegible]

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is the number of deaths under one year per 1,000 births. There were 66 deaths under one year, and this gives an infant mortality rate for the year 1928 of 69·04 (legitimate 66·6, illegitimate 107·1), as compared with 60·0 for the previous year.

The infantile mortality rates for the year 1928 were as follows :—

England and Wales ...	...	...	65
107 Great Towns, including London (census populations exceeding 50,000)	...	...	70
156 Smaller Towns (census populations 20,000 — 50,000	...	...	60
London ...	...	...	67
Exeter ...	...	...	69

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate in Exeter for the past ten years :—

Year.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
England and Wales ...	89	80	83	77	69	75	75	70	69	65
Exeter ...	78·62	67·14	96·07	66·99	60·72	59·405	74·1	68·5	60·0	69·04

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.
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	1	2	...	3
Bronchitis ...	1	5	3	1	1	11
Pneumonia ...	...	2	4	2	3	11
Diarrhoea, etc. ...	...	2	6	...	2	10
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Pre- mature Birth ...	13	6	1	...	1	21
Infantile Convulsions ...	4	...	...	1	...	5
Accidental Death ...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Other Defined Diseases ...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Ill-defined Causes ...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...	23	15	15	6	7	66

Excluding those who died during the first month, the deaths of whom were almost entirely due to prematurity, if evidence were needed to emphasize the value of natural feeding over artificial feeding, it is furnished by an analysis of these deaths. Only six of the 43 deaths occurred amongst babies who were breast fed, and it is noteworthy that of the total of 66 deaths, only 17 occurred in infants who regularly attended the Infant Welfare Centres.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Four maternal mortality deaths occurred in connection with parturition and pregnancy, two being due to puerperal sepsis and two to other causes.

Of the two cases of non-sepsis character, one death was due to Pulmonary Embolism and occurred at Saltash and was an inward transfer; the other death was due to Heart Disease and Pneumonia. The two sepsis cases was notified as Puerperal Pyrexia; in one case there was Albuminuria and Ante Partum Hæmorrhage which received medical treatment and at the request of the doctor was removed to the Maternity Home; there was extensive damage at the confinement and the patient was transferred to the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital the day following the confinement, her temperature then having risen. In the other case the sepsis was apparently contracted before the birth of the child as the temperature was raised before the confinement; the confinement was attended by fits, and it seemed doubtful whether the death was due to sepsis or to a toxæmia of pregnancy.

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	4
„ „ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4
„ „ Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	...	...	...	12
„ „ Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—
„ „ Diphtheria	...	...	...	2
„ „ Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
„ „ Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1
„ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...	50
„ „ Pneumonia	...	...	...	49
„ „ Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	2

The only point needing comment is that there was a satisfactory reduction of 23% in the number of deaths attributable to Tuberculosis.

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. The number of cases is incomplete but 211 are known to have occurred, mostly in the months of January and February and there were four deaths from this disease. The number of cases was probably much in excess of 211; the deaths, of course, being accurate.

DIARRHŒA.

There were 15 deaths from this disease, 12 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 24 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
The Princess Elizabeth Devonian Orthopaedic Hos.	Buckerell Bore ...	40 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. Olaves 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	Exe Street School	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 Clinic	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, W. 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, 3 to 5 Fridays, 6 to 8 WOMEN. Fridays, 3 to 5	Dr. P. D. Warburton	Yes jointly with the Devon County Council
Cleansing Station	Baths & Wash-houses, King St.	When required	M.O.H.	Yes
Orthopædic Clinic	Exeter Dispensary, Queen Street	Twice a month	Orthopædic Surgeon	In conjunction with Devon County Council

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.* (To 31-10-28).

MRS. A. SUTTERS.* (From 1-11-28).

*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 Inspectors' 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.
Cert. R. San. Inst., Meat and Foods.
- 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*).
- C. STUART (*Junior Clerk*).

Health Visitors—

- MISS C. A. KNUCKEY,* C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst.,
for Health Visitors.
- MISS B. M. KNUCKEY,* C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst.
for Health Visitors.
- MISS M. WALTERS,* General Training and C.M.B.
(To 11-4-28).
- MISS F. E. WARD,* General Training and C.M.B.
- MISS E. M. HOYLES,* General Training, C.M.B., Cert. R.
San. Inst. for Health Visitors, issued by Ministry of
Health. (To 26-7-28).
- MISS D. METCALFE,* General Training and Cert. R. San.
Inst. for Sanitary Inspectors.
(From 11-6-28—To 14-9-28).
- MISS M. S. DALL,* General Training, C.M.B., Cert. R. San.
Inst. for Health Visitors, issued by Ministry of Health.
(From 1-9-28).
- MISS M. M. FOY,* General Training, C.M.B., Cert. R. San.
Inst. for Health Visitors, issued by Ministry of Health.
(From 1-11-28).

* Denotes salary contributions by Exchequer Grants

† Denotes part time officers.

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 the 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.

30 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 ; all were trained Midwives and certified by the Central Midwives' Board.

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 is done without charge. The examination of swabs from Diphtheria contacts is only undertaken free if it is done after consultation with the Medical Officer of Health.

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	...	...	4
For detection of Gonococci	...	...	117
For Wasserman re-action	...	...	195
Other examinations	...	...	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

For Tuberculosis—

Sputum—Positive	...	...	61
Negative	...	...	290
Unfit for examination	..		1
Total	...		<u>352</u>

For Enteric Fever—

Blood—Positive	...	...	6
Negative	...	...	8
Sample insufficient	...	...	1
			<u>15</u>

For Cerebro-spinal Fever—

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

For Diphtheria, for primary investigation—

Positive	...	...	...	99
----------	-----	-----	-----	----

Negative	...	...	...	442
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total	...	...	...	541
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----

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

Positive	...	...	...	10
----------	-----	-----	-----	----

Negative	...	...	...	12
----------	-----	-----	-----	----

Total	...	...	...	22
-------	-----	-----	-----	----

For Diphtheria, investigation before discharge from Hospital—

Positive	...	...	...	132
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Negative	...	...	...	460
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total	...	...	...	592
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and Anti-Meningococcic Serum are issued from the Public Health Department, free in necessitous cases, Doctors being charged in others.

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.

Exeter Corporation Act, 1928.

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 water supply continues to be of a satisfactory character. The high pressure mechanical filters, combined with chlorination, continue to give satisfactory results, no case of illness having been traced to the water supply during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The site for the proposed new Sewage Works has been decided upon, and submitted to the Minister of Health for his approval. It is situated on land at Countess Weir between the Canal and the River Exe, which is tidal at this point. It is proposed that the whole of the sewage from the 4 different works shall be concentrated on the new site and there treated by the activated sludge method, the residue being either disposed of on the site or barged out to sea.

It is to be hoped that formal approval will be given, in order that the necessary work may be commenced, when the present obsolete and unsatisfactory Disposal Works will be dispensed with.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA.

STATEMENT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

NOTICES.

Number served—Informal ...	...	...	344
Statutory ...	...	...	15
Number uncomplied with at end of Year	...	...	54

HOUSES AND PREMISES.

Number Inspected upon Complaint	...	...	466
Number of Defective Yards Paved	...	...	33
Number of Defective Eaves and Gutters Rectified	...	...	39
Number of Walls, Floors and Ceilings Repaired	...	...	177
Number of Roofs Repaired	...	...	50
Number of Rooms Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	35
Number of Staircases Repaired	...	...	1
Number of Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc., Nuisances	...	...	...
Abated	...	...	1
Number of Houses rid of Rats	...	...	3

BATHS, LAVATORIES AND SINKS.

Number of Glazed Sanitary Sinks Provided	...	...	125
Number of Waste Pipes Trapped	...	...	2

WORK IN PROGRESS.

Number of Visits made thereto	...	...	5588
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OVERCROWDING.

Number of Cases Abated	...	...	5
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DRAINS.

Number of Smoke Tests Made	...	...	96
Number of Water Tests Made	...	...	260
Number Laid or Re-laid or Repaired	...	...	213
Number Cleansed, Trapped and Ventilated	...	...	123

DRAINS (continued).

Number of Defective Bell and D Traps Replaced by Stoneware Gullies	46
Number of Rainwater Pipes Disconnected ...	23

COURTS AND PASSAGES.

Number of Visits made thereto	479
Number Repaved	5
Number Limewashed	18

WATER CLOSETS.

Number of Additional W.C.'s Provided or Reconstructed	21
Number Repaired, Ventilated, etc.	61
Number of Soil Pipes Repaired, Ventilated or Reconstructed	19
Number of Flushing Apparatus Improved ...	36
Number Limewashed	50

DUST RECEPTACLES (PORTABLE).

Number of Visits	97
Number of New Dust Receptacles Provided ...	161

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of Wells Cleansed and Repaired ...	1
Number of Samples of Water sent for Analysis ...	2

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of Visits to Public Abattoir	403
Number of Visits made to Private Slaughter Houses	721
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied ...	9

BAKEHOUSES.

Number Inspected	55
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied ...	11

OUTWORKERS.

Number of Premises	194
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DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Inspections Made	...	...	598
Number of Contraventions of Acts, Orders and Bye-laws dealt with	...	...	55

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of Inspections Made	...	...	184
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	...	...	1

FOOD.

Number of Preparation and Storage Premises Visited	...	...	172
Number of Defects Discovered and Remedied	...	...	24

ANIMALS KEPT SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE.

Number of Cases Abated	...	...	13
Number of Unsuitable Stables Abolished	...	...	2

ACCUMULATION OF OFFENSIVE REFUSE.

Number of Removals	...	...	42
Number of Dung-Pits Provided or Re-modelled	...	...	3

MEETINGS OF OWNERS.

Number of Interviews and Appointments Kept	...	...	271
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MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

Enquiries and Visits Made	...	...	102
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RATS AND PESTS.

Enquiries and Visits	...	...	60
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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)	131	10	—
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	174	14	—
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	4	—	—
Total ...	309	24	—

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 ...	7	7	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	2	2	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ...	10	10	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient ...	8	8	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	16	16	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	2	2	—	—
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 ...	1	1	—	—
Total ...	46	46	—	—

* 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.	—	—	—
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	—	—	—

Houses inspected—(a) under Regulations	...	...	71
(b) on Complaint	...	...	63
Tenements cleansed, whitewashed, etc.	...	...	134
Houses closed	...	...	2
Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	86
Walls, ceilings, etc., repaired	...	...	530
Roofs repaired or reconstructed	...	...	80
Stairs and doors repaired	...	...	41
Windows provided to rooms	...	...	10
Windows of rooms made to open	...	...	14
Windows of rooms repaired, etc., and sash cords renewed	...	...	132
Yards repaved or repaired	...	...	42
Drains reconstructed	...	...	50
Drains repaired	...	...	11
Defective or insufficient eaves gutters or rainwater pipes	...	...	50
Bell or D traps replaced with stoneware gullies	...	...	6
Scullery troughs and baths provided	...	...	50
Waste pipes trapped	...	...	8
Water closets provided	...	...	24
Water closets repaired, etc.	...	...	41
Water closets reconstructed	...	...	6
Defective water closet pans replaced with pans of wash-down pattern and flush improved	...	...	37
Flushing of water closets improved	...	...	12
Water closets provided with a window	...	...	4
Water closets limewashed	...	...	73
Coppers, stoves and grates repaired	...	...	77
Water tap provided on pipe direct from main	...	...	14
Rooms closed for use as bedrooms	...	...	8
W.C. soil and vent pipes reconstructed	...	...	3
Smoke tests	...	...	29
Water tests	...	...	107
Food cupboards provided	...	...	22
Dampness remedied	...	...	2
Water supply brought inside dwellinghouses	...	...	20

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No serious complaint of smoke nuisance was received during the year.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

These houses were regularly inspected during the year, and the annual cleansing, limewashing, etc., was carried out in every case.

Of the Closing Orders that were made during the year, 8 were in respect of houses of this type.

The Bye-laws were exceedingly useful in securing a higher degree of cleanliness in tenement houses than was possible in previous years.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

These trades, other than the Fish Friers and Rag and Bone Dealers, and all situated very near to each other, close to the Exe Bridge, and comprise :—

Tanner	...	...	...	...	1
Fat Boiler, Soap Maker, Cattle Feeding Stuffs, and Artificial Manure Works	...	...	...	...	1
Bone and Fat Boiler	...	...	...	...	1
Gut Scraper	...	...	...	...	1
Fish Friers	..	...	...	...	35
Rag and Bone Dealers (excluding collectors				...	6

Additions thereto during the year were 4 Fish Friers.

Complaints arose during the summer months of offensive smells in the neighbourhood of Exe Bridge, and were traced to the Artificial Manure Works.

The owners of these works—from the autumn of the previous year—had under consideration, the provision of special condensers, and a purifying plant. These were installed during the year, and have since appeared to be giving satisfactory results.

During the hot months, daily records of observations for offensive smells in the neighbourhood, were kept by chart, and very useful data was thus obtained.

About the end of the year, members of the Public Health Committee inspected the Works, and were shown the new Condensers and Purifier, which then appeared to be efficient. The test, however, will be during the hot months, when much of the raw material is in a decomposing condition, but it is hoped and believed that the new Plant will give the results hoped for.

Only one complaint was received of Fish Frier's premises, and in this particular instance, it was found by inspection, that the flue into which the fumes were lead had become obstructed. This was remedied, and the work carried on without complaint.

These business generally were well conducted.

SCHOOLS.

An entirely new drainage system was installed at the Exeter Grammar School, while the sanitation of the Secondary Schools, and of the Elementary Schools generally was maintained in good condition throughout the year.

HOUSING.

1. *General Housing Conditions.*

During the year, the number of houses built in the City by Municipal and Private Enterprise was 391, making for the last 8 years, a total of 1,811.

There is still a shortage of houses for the middle and working classes, the number of applicants for Council houses still on the waiting list, and believed to be genuine, is upwards of 500.

The work of closing unfit houses is hampered by the fact that there is no accommodation at rentals which the poor people who occupy the worse of the houses can afford.

2. *Overcrowding.*

Fewer cases of overcrowding were reported than in the preceding year, and were dealt with as far as possible by re-arrangement of the sleeping accommodation.

It has not been possible to make application to the Justices for abatement of overcrowding nuisances as the people are unable to find suitable accommodation.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1928.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) 391

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :

(i) By the Local Authority ... 32

(ii) By other bodies or persons ... 80

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.*

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 600

(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 71

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 41

(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	...	...	...	...	488
2. <i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices.</i>					
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	114
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.</i>					
A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	20
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	...	nil
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	466
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	5
(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	...	...	...	...	41
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	40

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	..	7
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	25
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	27
(6) Premises demolished after making of Closing Order but without service of Demolition Order, Closing Order withdrawn	...	...	5
(7) Premises voluntarily closed by Owner in consequence of informal action, no statutory notice being served or representations made	...	...	4

3. *Unhealthy Areas.*

Conditions in the unhealthy areas, as reported in 1919, are, to a certain extent, better than they were, owing to certain demolitions having been effected and improvements made in existing houses.

In May, an Inspector of the Ministry of Health held an enquiry on an application by the City Council for a Reconstruction Scheme for Section 'A' of No. 4 area. The scheme was approved with a few alterations, and a rehousing scheme for the people that will be displaced when Section 'A' is cleared is in course of construction at Burnt House Lane, which is situated just over a mile east of the Unhealthy Area.

A further Reconstruction Scheme was laid before the Ministry of Health which dealt with a small Section of No. 4 Area by the Norman House. An enquiry was held with regard to this portion, and at the time of writing, the Minister's decision is awaited.

Another small area was cleared by Closing Orders followed by Demolition Orders in North Street part of the City, the area being known as Garden Square. This was possible because of

a fire which occurred at a large factory which adjoins these houses, and which so damaged the latter as to render them incapable of reconstruction, so as to comply with the conditions laid down by the Housing Act, 1925. 15 houses were involved, and 14 have been demolished, the one which remains being the subject of an appeal to the Minister of Health, which is still pending.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The general milk supply of the City was good and ample.

At the end of the year 1928, there were on the Registers :—

Cowkeepers	38
Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	112
Retail Purveyors of Milk	153

The Cowkeepers' premises are regularly inspected, and the cows therein are examined four times per year by the Veterinary Inspector. It was found necessary in a few instances to serve Notices requiring cleansing of cattle and cowsheds.

Under the Tuberculosis (in Cattle) Order, 1925, 3 cows and 1 heifer were found in a cowshed to show clinical signs of Tuberculosis. These were dealt with under the Order, and upon post-mortem examination, were found to be affected with advanced Tuberculosis. A notification was also received from the Veterinary Inspector in his private practice of a cow that reacted to the Tuberculin test. This cow had a calf, and both were dealt with under the Order, and upon post-mortem, were found to be affected with Localised Tuberculosis.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, two applications for registration as Retail Purveyors of Milk were refused by the Public Health Committee on the grounds that there premises were not suitable.

There were 19 samples of milk taken under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, and sent to the Clinical Research Association for examination. All were reported upon as free from Tuberculosis.

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 1 C.C.</i>	<i>Presence of B. Coli.</i>
9-2-28	7,800	Not found.
3-4-28	4,000	"
15-5-28	6,000	"
14-6-28	16,100	"
10-7-28	180	"
25-7-28	120	"
16-8-28	750	"
5-9-28	510	"
23-10-28	710	"
13-11-28	900	"

As the maximum count for Certified Milk is 30,000, it will be seen from the above figures that all of the samples of Certified Milk revealed upon examination, a very high standard of purity, upon which the Producer (whose farm is situated within the City) is to be congratulated.

Of Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
9-2-28	45,000	Present in 0.1 c.c.
3-4-28	37,000	" " 0.05 c.c.
15-5-28	16,800	" " 0.5 c.c.
14-6-28	236,600	Absent from 1/100 c.c.
25-7-28	300,000	Present in 1/100 c.c.
"	60,000	Absent from 1/10 c.c.
12-9-28	120,000	Present in 1/10 c.c.
"	28,000	Absent from 1/10 c.c.
18-9-28	4,000	" "
13-11-28	9,000	" "
"	3,600	Absent from 1 c.c.

The maximum count permissible for Grade "A" (T.T) Milk is 200,000 colonies per c.c., and no B. Coli in 1/100th c.c.

From the above Table, it will be noticed that two of the samples slightly exceeded the permissible count.

Of Grade "A" Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
15-5-28	560,000	Present in 0.5 c.c.
14-6-28	44,000	Absent from 1/100 c.c.
25-7-28	520,000	Present in 1/100 c.c.
12-9-28	900,000	" "
13-11-28	8,000	Absent from 1 c.c.

The maximum count for Grade "A" Milk is total colonies per c.c. 200,000, and B. Coli absent in 1/100th.

The bacterial count in these samples were greatly exceeded in three out of the five samples. Special investigations were made by the Authority in whose district this milk is produced, after which there was a marked improvement, as shown by the last sample.

Of Pasteurised Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
9-2-28	38,000	Present in 0.05 c.c.
3-4-28	25,000	Absent from 1 c.c.
15-5-28	172,000	Present in 0.5 c.c.
14-6-28	60,000	Absent from 1/100 c.c.
25-7-28	700,000	Present in 1/100 c.c.
12-9-28	80,000	" "
13-11-28	Plates over-run with contaminating rods and moulds.	

After pasteurisation, the conditions require that a sample shall not contain more than 100,000 bacteria per c.c.

Three of the above samples exceeded the maximum, and in each case, investigations were made to discover the cause. This was, later in the year, found to be due to imperfect sterilisation of the cooling plant, and has since been remedied by the provision of a cooling plant that can be adequately sterilised and protected from atmospheric contamination, the samples taken since being most satisfactory, as will be recorded in the next Annual Report.

A milk retailer was prosecuted for two contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926; they were for carrying a live animal (calf) in a milk float, and for carrying at the same time milk in a defective churn, which was not capable of being readily cleansed.

He was fined 5/- in each case.

PUBLIC ABATTOIRS AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat Inspection throughout the City generally was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The meat supply was good and ample, and the Meat Regulations, 1924, were, in the main, observed by the butchers, although in one or two instances, traders had to be cautioned for not properly covering their meat during transit to the shop and to the consumer.

No applications were received for the official stamping of meat.

Records of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the financial year 1/4/28 to 31/3/29 show a decrease on the previous year, but figures are very greatly in excess of those which obtained a few years ago.

I am glad to be able to report that nearly all the land required for the extension, and I hope re-modelling, of these premises, has been purchased. A large shed is to be adapted temporarily as additional lairage accommodation for cattle.

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

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	4d.	3d.
For every Calf	2d.	2d.
For every Pig	2d.	2d.
For every Sow or Boar over 14 score	2d.	2d.
For every Sheep or Lamb	1d.	1d.

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

No. of Visits made to Slaughter Houses	...	403
No. of Seizures and Surrenders of Diseased Meat—		
(a) At the Abattoir	...	1477
(b) At Private Slaughter Houses, Shops, etc.		101
Magisterial Orders obtained	...	4

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.

1928.

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	28	6	16	2	20	2	5	0	6	9	1	2	26
Heifers	9	1	13	1	2		11	2	13	2	4	3	15
Steers	3		10	3	12		4	3	8		15	2	20
Calves	3		2	2	27			2	1		3	1	0
Pigs	18		17	1	19		2	2	27	1	0	0	18
Totals	61	10	0	3	24	3	4	2	27	13	5	2	23

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	*199		5	0	19	2	13	2	0	2	18	2	19
Calves	2			1	6			1	12			2	18
Pigs	63		6	1	1		6	3	15		13	0	16
Totals	264	—	11	2	26	3	0	2	27	3	12	1	25

*Included here 40 Bullocks' heads.

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR SURRENDERED.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Whole carcases including offals on account of Generalised Tuberculosis	13	5	2	23
Parts of carcases and offals, etc., on account of Localised Tuberculosis ...	3	12	1	25
Whole carcases including offals on account of diseases or conditions other than Tuberculosis ...	7	9	1	26
Parts of carcases and offals, etc., on account of Local affections ...	6	18	3	25
Imported Meat ...		10	1	7
Other Foods ...	2	15	1	8
Total weight of Meat and other Foods seized or surrendered ...	34	12	1	2

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 ...		7	3	24	5	0	2	26	5	8	2	22
Mutton and Lamb		5	0	18		14	1	14		19	2	4
Pork ...		1	3	26		7	2	17		9	2	15
Veal ...			2	10			2	2		1	0	12
Total ...		15	2	22	6	3	1	3	6	18	3	25

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

Description.	Weight.			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs..
Beef		9	3	13
Mutton			1	22
Total		10	1	7

PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR
SURRENDERED.

Particulars.	Weight.			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
27 Boxes of Fish		5	3	6
Fish				22
1 Box Kippers				10
46 Barrels Caplin	1	18	0	22
1 Barrel Hake			2	14
19 Tins Fruit				27
4 Tins Tomatoes				7
4 Tins Milk				3½
1 Tin Corned Beef				6
2 Glass Pots Spiced Beef				2
1 Tin Chicken and Ham Roll				1
3 Tins Prawns			1	1
6 Tins Fish				3½
56 Bottles Lime Juice			2	14
Ham		1	0	24
Bacon		5	2	21
Pears		2	0	0
7½ Quarts Milk				20
Totals	2	15	1	8

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

Month.				Weight.			
				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
January	...	...	...	3	3	0	6
February	...	...	...	3	5	0	2
March	...	...	...	4	19	2	26
April ...	...	...	...	2	5	3	24
May ...	...	...	...	2	17	2	23
June ...	...	...	...	2	19	0	11
July ...	...	...	...	2	8	3	0
August	...	...	...	2	12	2	17
September	...	...	...	2	6	3	20
October	...	...	...	2	12	1	27
November	...	...	...	2	19	2	13
December	...	...	...	2	1	1	1
Total ...				34	12	1	2

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Two carcasses of pork with their offals, that were slaughtered in a district outside the City, were seized while awaiting delivery to a shop. They were under the charge of a youth, and as the question of ownership raised a legal difficulty, enquiries were made of the outside Authority in question as to whether the slaughter of the animals, and their diseased condition were notified, as required by the Meat Regulations, 1924.

It was found that they had been slaughtered on a Sunday, and the Local Authority had not been notified of the slaughter.

The Local Authority took proceedings against the alleged owner, and fines amounting to £11 and costs were imposed.

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 December, 1928.
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.

BAKEHOUSES.

The bakehouses were, as usual, regularly inspected, and three notices were served requiring general cleansing and lime-washing. These were complied with.

REGISTRATION OF ICE CREAM DEALERS.

An extensive business in the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream exists ; the manufacture is not only for sale in the City but for sale in the neighbouring towns and villages. I have long felt that I have had insufficient supervision both of persons engaged in the business and in the premises used for such purposes.

Powers have recently been obtained under the Exeter Corporation Act, 1928, for the registration of Manufacturers and Vendors of Ice Cream or other similar commodity ; at the same time in addition to registration the occurrence of Infectious Disease among persons employed in this business or residing on any premises used for the manufacture of Ice Cream are under penalty to notify the same to me. Powers are also given to the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector to inspect such premises and the articles used in the manufacture. A very useful provision is that any cart, barrow or other vehicle or stand used in distribution shall have the address legibly painted on such cart, etc.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Article.	Examined.		Adulterated.	
	Formal.	Informal	Formal.	Informal
New Milk	84	...	*4	...
Scald Milk	8	...	1	...
Dried Full Cream Milk ...	...	4	...	...
Condensed Full Cream Milk	...	7	...	...
Condensed Skimmed Milk ...	...	3	...	...
Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk ...	...	2	...	...
Dried Full Cream Milk and Virol ...	...	1	...	...
Cream	1	15	...	...
Butter	1	18	...	...
Jam	...	25	...	...
Sausages	...	21	...	...
Pearl Barley	...	15	...	...
Hogs Puddings	...	6	...	...
Cheese	...	12	...	...
Lime Juice	1	5	1	1
Ginger Wine	...	6	...	..
Orange Wine	1	6	...	1
Raisin Wine	...	4	...	...
Tarragona	...	3	...	...
	96	153	6	2
Total	249		8	

Lime Juice.—Cautioned by T.C.

*New Milk.—1. Cautioned by Town Clerk.

2. Do.

3. Fined £2 and analyst's fees and witnesses expenses.

4. Proceedings taken against wholesaler No. 3.

Scald Milk.—Cautioned by Town Clerk.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, AND
THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, Etc., IN FOOD)
REGULATIONS, 1925, 6 and 7.

All of the articles in the foregoing list were examined for preservatives, and it is pleasing to record that save in the case of two samples of Lime Juice and one of Orange Wine, no preservatives were found.

In the case of the Lime Juice, the samples in question were the remains of some old stock in the possession of the Vendor, and on his surrendering the remainder (56 bottles, which were destroyed) a caution was issued.

The sample of Orange Wine was an informal one, and very probably again remains of old stock, as when it was followed up, no more of the same kind could be obtained.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

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.

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox occurred in the area during the period under review, but there have been a number of contacts in the City who have been kept under close observation until free from any possible development. The last year 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.

Daily returns of lodgers are made by the two common lodging house keepers, shewing the locality that all new arrivals come from. The houses are very frequently visited and new arrivals from an infected area are interrogated whenever possible.

The accommodation for Smallpox patients is referred to under the heading Smallpox Hospital on Page 79.

VACCINATION.

In my opinion the only safeguard against Smallpox is vaccination, and the condition of Exeter as regards vaccination still remains very unsatisfactory. In Exeter, 59'1 of the infants born during the year were vaccinated and in that part of the City which is in St. Thomas Union, 32'7 only were vaccinated.

Considering that Smallpox is now almost endemic in certain parts of the County, the unvaccinated condition of the community cannot be regarded with equanimity.

SCARLET FEVER.

The very small number of 33 cases were notified in the City during the year, one notification being cancelled. 28 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital and no death was attributable to the disease.

DIPHThERIA.

60 cases of Diphtheria were notified, one notification being cancelled, Tracheotomy was necessary in two cases both of which recovered. There were 3 deaths, all of which emphasized the necessity of early diagnosis and treatment. One case was only recognised by Post Mortem examination and therefore had no Ante Diphtheritic treatment; one case was not recognised until Tracheotomy was urgently required on admission to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital where the patient was sent from the County as suffering from Bronchitis, and the third case did not come under treatment until the disease had been in existence for 3 days.

ENTERIC FEVER.

9 cases of this disease were notified during the year; one was subsequently cancelled. Of the remaining 8, in 5 cases the probable source of infection was during residence outside the City, in one case there were insanitary conditions at home which may have been the source of infection and in 2 cases the origin could not be traced. There was one death due to this disease, the patient being nursed at home and dying almost at the time the notification was made.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Three cases of Puerperal Fever were notified—one was a doctor's case and all were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

All cases in women whose temperature, within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage, is 100.4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more and has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period are notifiable under this head.

13 of these cases were notified during the year and two proved fatal and are referred to under the heading "Maternal Mortality"; eight cases were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

44 cases were notified, and 10 ended fatally. Four cases were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. This appears a high percentage of deaths, but in this connection it must be remembered that only certain forms of Pneumonia are notifiable.

All cases are visited and enquiries made as to the circumstances and the nursing of the patients, and help afforded when necessary.

ERYSIPELAS.

20 cases were notified, three of them being treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, and four at the City Isolation Hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

No cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever were notified during the year.

DYSENTERY.

No cases of Dysentery were notified during the year.

MALARIA.

One case notified. It was induced.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Two cases of this disease were notified.

ACUTE POLIOMYLEITIS.

No cases notified during the year.

CHICKEN POX.

249 cases of Chicken Pox were notified during the year

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.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Deaths ...	79	83	72	95	108	91	99	96	85	84

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE	Cases Notified.													Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths.													
	Total														Under 1	Total												
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Under 1			1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)		3		4		18	15	7	10	2		1	60	54			2									24		
Scarlet Fever	...	1	2	1		5	10	3	6	4	1		33	28						1						14		
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...					2	1	5			1		9	5						1						1		
Puerperal Fever	...								2	1			3															
Puerperal Pyrexia	...								13				13									2				2		
Pneumonia	...			1		9		4	8	7	7	8	44															
Erysipelas	...				1		4	2	4	8	1		20	4														
Encephalitis Lethargica	...								1	1			2															
Chicken Pox	...	11	5	9	30	150	31	9	4				249	2														
Malaria	...											1	1															

† One admitted from Local General Hospital with an address in the administrative County of Devon.

‡ Death certified as Septic Laryngitis.

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

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	4	3	—	—	1	1
5	14	9	4	3	—	—	—	2
10	—	6	4	4	1	1	1	—
15	5	7	1	1	2	1	1	—
20	7	10	2	3	—	6	2	2
25	6	9	2	3	2	4	—	—
35	10	9	1	—	3	6	—	—
45	4	3	—	—	2	1	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals ...	46	53	18	17	17	22	6	5
					50			

The above Table shows the Notifications received during the year, also the deaths. The total number of Notifications received was 148. 14 of these were duplicates, and are therefore excluded from the above Table, and 11 were imported cases.

Included in the deaths are six cases of which no Notification was received prior to the death certificate. In one of these cases the disease was only discovered at *post mortem*; in two the medical attendants thought they had already been notified by other doctors; in two cases the diagnosis was made very shortly before death; and one case was an "inward" transfer.

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 :—

1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	Total.
158	186	209	144	130	133	124	128	127	134	1473

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

Disease.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	43	54	45	59	46	59	58	55	53	39	511
Other forms of Tuberculosis	17	10	12	12	5	14	14	10	12	11	117
Total ...	60	64	57	71	51	73	72	65	65	50	628

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

Year.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	43	54	45	59	46	59	58	55	53	39
Death Rate per 1000	728	879	756	988	763	9807	969	911	87	63

SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.

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

1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	Total.
12	13	40	19	20	16	23	24	18	35	220

There are, at present, 97 non-pulmonary cases on the Register, classified as follows :—

Bones and Joints	...	...	37
Abdominal	...	...	16
Other Organs	...	...	5
Glands	...	...	39

The 35 new 1928 cases, included in the above, were classified as follows :—

Bones and Joints	...	...	6
Abdominal	...	...	2
Other Organs	...	...	4
Glands	...	...	23

By arrangement with the new Orthopædic Hospital, surgical cases of Tuberculosis occurring in children under the age of 16 years are sent to that Institution and not as hitherto to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

We had altogether at the end of the year 687 cases of notified tubercular disease in the City ; 590 were Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 97 Non-Pulmonary. Of these 687 cases, 544 were attending the Tuberculosis Dispensary, either for observation or treatment, and 55 were in Institutions.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The Devon Association for Cripples Aid was formed at the instigation of the Central Council for the Care of Cripples.

It was considered that if the initial cost of the Hospital was provided entirely from voluntary sources, Public Authorities would be responsible for meeting the major part of running costs, in return for which they were offered a 50% representation on the Hospital Management Committee.

The Hospital was built, and commenced operations, together with clinics, in December, 1927. The Princess Elizabeth Devonian Orthopædic Hospital was opened on November 16th, 1927, by H.R.H. The Duchess of York, the first patients being admitted on 16-12-27.

At a Conference held between representatives of the D.A.C.A. and Local Authorities, it was decided that as a tentative arrangement, the sum of £2 8s. 0d. per week should be paid for In-patients at the Hospital, and 5/- per visit for each attendance at the Clinics, it being understood that these payments should be subject to revision according to the actual cost. It was found at the end of twelve months working that the actual cost per bed per week was £2 8s. 7d. On the Clinic account, receipts were a little in excess of the expenditure.

The Local Authority decided that the Tuberculosis cases should be treated under the Scheme for dealing with Tuberculosis, and not as school children, although they might be of school age.

During the period 1st December, 1927, to 31st December, 1928, 7 children suffering from the following conditions :—

T.B. Spine	...	...	3
T.B. Knee	...	...	3
T.B. Foot	...	...	1
			7

were sent to the Clinic and dealt with as follows :—

Six were admitted to the Hospital. The disease in two cases is improving, and in two cases is stated to be arrested, but these four cases are still in-patients ; in the other two cases cases, the patients have been discharged, disease arrested, and they are attending the Clinic for observation.

One patient attends the Clinic for treatment.

Cost of treatment :—In-patient, £456 7s. 1d. and Out-patient, £10 19s. 10d. Of these sums, £24 6s. 9d. and £1 were received from patients.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

At the Tuberculosis Dispensary extra nourishment has been granted to various patients, and the total cost of same for the Financial year 1928-9 was £98 3s. 9d.

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 1928 are appended :—

Remaining under treatment 1/1/28.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.								Remaining under treatment 31/12/28		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males.				Females.				M	F	TOTAL
						Arrested.	To R. D. and E. Hospital.	Improved.	To L. D. Hospital, Whipton.	Arrested.	Improved.	At Parent's request.	Total.			
10	10	20	12	11	23	9	1	1	1	9	3	1	25	10	8	18

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

The average stay of patients in the Institution has been 22 weeks.

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 1/1/28.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.								Remaining under treatment 31/12/28		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males.				Females.				M	F	TOTAL
						Arrested.	Improved	To Other Authorities	By Request.	Arrested.	Improved.	Same.	Total.			
6	7	13	16	8	24	8	5	1	1	7	2	2	26	7	4	11

As a Sanatorium, this Institution cannot be considered as entirely satisfactory, and it was only temporarily approved of by the Ministry of Health. There is no possibility of arrangement for graduated exercises, which is a necessary part of Sanatorium treatment.

On account of its small size, and the expense the Institution is to run, it would be better, if it were possible, for some arrangement to be made for Sanatorium patients to be treated at part of a large Institution.

Table showing details of the cases treated at the Tuberculosis Hospital, Whipton, which is for advanced cases only, during 1928 :—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1928.			Admitted during the year.			Discharged during the year.			Deaths during the Year.			Remaining under treatment 31st Dec. 1928.		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL
3	9	12	1	19	20	3	12	15	1	8	9	—	8	8

This Institution, together with the Red Cross Pavilion, is quite suitable for the treatment of advanced cases. They do very well there, and it is not unusual for cases to so far improve that they become suitable for Sanatorium treatment.

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 1928 :—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1928.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged during the Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Remaining under treatment on 31st Dec., 1928.
7	22	9	8	12

The Red Cross Pavilion was originally erected for ex-soldiers and sailors by the Ministry of Pensions and the Red Cross Society, but the number of ex-soldiers and sailors is now insufficient to fill it, and the numbers are made up by civilian patients.

In 1933 it becomes the absolute property of the Council ; at the same time it being understood that ex-service men are to receive preference in admission.

Table showing details of cases treated in other Institutions during 1928 :—

Institution.	Remaining under treatment on 1-1-28.	Admitted during Year.	Discharged during Year.	Died.	Remaining under treatment on 31-12-28
The Princess Elizabeth Devonian Orthopædic Hospital, Buckerell Bore ...	1	5	2	—	4
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital ... (cases for whom the Public Health Committee have accepted financial responsibility.)	3	18	19	—	2
Total ...	4	23	21	—	6

The following particulars are given of cases treated at the Dispensary by the Assistant Tuberculosis 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	22	27	16	12	3	4	9	6	25	31	25	18
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	4	...
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9	11	4
B.—Contacts examined during the year:												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	2	3	3	4	...	...	3	...	2	3	6	4
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	5
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	10	13
(c)—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as:												
(a) Cured	6	11	5	1	...	1	2	1	6	12	7	2
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	17	30	28
D.—Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:												
(a) Diagnosis completed	210	134	91	88	13	14	36	13	223	148	127	101
(b) Diagnosis not completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	...

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY (continued).

1. Number of persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st, 1928	542	9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary	3
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned	22	10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners (a) At Homes of Applicants (b) Otherwise	81 35
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"	13	11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes	1061
4. Died during the year	27	12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes	1048
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 (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	179 Total (352) Nil
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	2061	14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register on the 31st Dec.	246
7. Number of attendances of non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Outstations for treatment or supervision	25	15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st. Dec.	75
8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for (a) "Light" treatment (b) Other special forms of treatment	649 303	16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons : (a) Form G.P. 17 (b) Form G.P. 36	18 68

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	...	...	33
(b) Soft Chancre	...	...	—
(c) Gonorrhœa	...	...	62
(d) Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	17
			112

Total attendances of patients during the year at the out-patient clinic	...	...	1,929
--	-----	-----	-------

Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment during the year	...	...	41
---	-----	-----	----

Examination of pathological material—

For detection of Spirochetes	...	...	4
For detection of Gonococci	...	...	117
For Wassermann Re-action	...	...	195
Other examinations	...	...	1

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	7
(b) After one or more courses, but before completion of treatment	82
(c) After completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure	23

Number of persons transferred to other Treatment Centres after treatment	46
---	----

Number of persons discharged from out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation	28
---	----

Number of persons who, on 31-12-28, were under treatment or observation	220
	<u>406</u>

There has been a reduction in the number of new cases admitted to the Department during the year, but it is regrettable that so many patients appear to cease attendance before completion of treatment. This does not necessarily mean that they are infectious at the time they cease treatment, but undoubtedly might lead to the later manifestations of the disease, which are so serious to the individual in their effect.

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. Nine Medical Practitioners in the City were supplied with free supplies of arsenobenzol compounds, and the number of doses of these compounds supplied to Medical Practitioners by the Council was 46.

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

For detection of Spirochetes	...	...	1
For detection of Gonococci	...	...	38
For Wassermann Re-action	...	...	119
Other examinations	...	...	1

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

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

The Ante-Natal Work in connection with the Infant Welfare Centres continues. During the year 119 expectant mothers attended, making 968 attendances.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 763 visits to expectant mothers.

Ante-Natal work has now been undertaken by the District Nursing Association for cases attended by their nurses, and 521 mothers attended during the 12 months ended 31-3-29.

BIRTHS.

1,102 notifications of live births were received during the year. 921 of the notifications were made by Midwives and 79 by Medical Practitioners or relatives.

In 316 instances the Midwives summoned medical help, which is a large increase, not altogether accounted for by the increased number of births, and indicated the thorough manner in which the Midwives are doing their work, while 34 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 £234 8s. 0d., of which £59 12s. 0. was received back in part payment.

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

Ruptured Perineum	...	...	82
Prolonged Labour	...	...	54
Abnormal Presentation	...	...	37
Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	10
Post Partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	5
Premature Labour	...	...	23
Adherent Placenta	...	...	2
Albuminuria	...	...	10
Rise of Temperature	...	...	11
Condition of Mother	...	...	29
Condition of Baby	...	...	53
			316

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.

STILL-BIRTHS.

The number of still-births which occurred during the year was 59, of which 25 were attended by Midwives and 34 by Doctors. Of this number two appear from information obtained not to have passed the 28th week of pregnancy, and therefore were not really still-births.

Of the 57 rightly notified as still-births—

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

1 was due to Placenta Prævia.

1 was due to accident or shock to mother.

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

4 were due to Toxæmia of Pregnancy (Albuminuria).

There were six 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—

9 were abnormal presentations

6 „ due to Placenta Prævia

5 „ „ Malformation of Infant

3 „ „ Deformity of Mother

2 „ „ Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage

2 „ „ Accident to Mother

3 „ „ Health of Mother

2 „ „ Prolonged Labour

1 was „ Toxæmia of Pregnancy (Eclampsia)

1 „ „ „ „ (Albuminuria)

1 „ „ Want of attention at Birth

1 „ „ Accident at Birth

1 „ „ Prematurity

1 „ „ Difficulty at Confinement

and there were three cases in which no cause could be assigned.

HOME VISITS UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 807 first visits and 4337 subsequent visits to children under the age of 12 months, and 3,121 visits to children between the ages of 12 months and five years.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

During the year there were recorded at the Centres 14,529 attendances of children, being a decrease of 1,127 over the previous year, although there was no material decrease in the number on the books.

PROVISIONS OF MILK AND FOODSTUFFS.

The Council is responsible for the issue of fresh and dried milk. During the financial year 1928-29 the cost of milk issued either free or at half-cost was £652 2s. 4d. In respect of this sum £21 8s. 8d. was received from the mothers in part payment. Net cost, £630 13s. 8d., being a decrease of £130 0s. 2d. over the previous year.

The scale approved by the City Council for the issue of milk is as follows :—(From 1-1-28 to 31-3-28.

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/-

On 1-4-28 the scale was revised 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	8/-	9/-
3	7/-	8/-
4	6/-	7/-
5 or more.	5/-	6/-

MATERNITY HOME.

50 cases were admitted to the Home by the City Council at a cost of £252 9s. 9d., of which £21 17s. 0d. was received back in part payment. Net cost £230 12s. 9d., plus subsidy of £50, being an average of £5 12s. 3d., per case.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

The new Nursing Homes Registration Act came into force during the year, superceding the Maternity Homes Act.

10 Homes have been registered under the Act, and two Institutions have been exempted, as follows :—

Maternity Homes.

Maternity Home.
4, Belmont Road.
13, Gordon Road.
St. Olave's Home.
St. Mary's Home.
Hillside, Whipton.

Mixed Homes.

Southcroft, Heavitree Road.

Nursing Homes.

Belmont, Southernhay West.
Grendon, Polsloe Road.
Mowbray, Fore Street, Heavitree.

Exempted.

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital,
Eye Infirmary.

One application was definitely refused, and three applications are still under consideration, pending improvements generally in the homes.

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.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR 1928.

No. of Patients seen	...	..	...	49
No. of visits paid by Patients	...	...	...	251
No. of administrations of Gas	...	...	...	44

No. of teeth extracted under Gas	...	...	235
No. of teeth extracted otherwise	...	...	2
No. of Dentures fitted	...	...	37
No. of teeth replaced	...	...	313
Repairs, etc.	...	...	7

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						
	13	7	1	5	13	None	None	None	None	None

Under the Midwives Rules a Midwife has to notify any discharge from the eye however slight. 24 notifications of discharge from the eye were received, 13 of which were subsequently notified by Medical Practitioners as cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum. In the course of time this measure should lead to a consideration reduction in the number of blind persons.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The Devon Association for Cripples' Aid was formed at the instigation of the Central Council for the Care of Cripples.

It was considered that if the initial cost of the Hospital was provided entirely from voluntary sources, Public Authorities would be responsible for meeting the major part of running costs, in return for which they were offered a 50% representation on the Hospital Management Committee.

The Hospital was built, and commenced operations, together with Clinics, in December, 1927. The Princess Elizabeth

Devonian Orthopædic Hospital was opened on November 16th, 1927, by H.R.H. The Duchess of York, the first patients being admitted on December 16th.

At a Conference held between representatives of the N.A.C.A. and Local Authorities, it was decided that as a tentative arrangement, the sum of £2 8s. 0d. per week should be paid for In-patients at the Hospital, and 5/- per visit for each attendance at the Clinic, it being understood that these payments should be subject to revision according to the actual cost. It was found at the end of twelve months working that the actual cost per bed per week was £2 8s. 7d. On the Clinic Account, receipts were a little in excess of the expenditure.

The Local Authority decided that the Tuberculosis cases should be treated under the Scheme for dealing with Tuberculosis, and not as school children, although they might be of school age. During the period 1st December, 1927, to 31st December, 1928, 28 children suffering from the following conditions :—

Result of Rickets	...	...	20
Talipes equino varus	...	...	3
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	2
Various	...	...	3

were sent to the Clinic, and dealt with as follows :—

10 were recommended for Hospital treatment, and 18 for treatment at the Clinic.

Of the 10 recommended for Hospital treatment, in one case the parents refused such treatment, six cases were admitted, and five were discharged during the year, and such cases were recommended to attend at the Clinic for observation ; one has since been discharged from the Clinic, no further treatment being possible. The remaining three cases were still waiting admission at the end of the year.

Of the 18 cases treated at the Clinic, three were discharged cured, one was discharged as Improved, one was discharged no treatment being possible, and one case that was struck off for non-attendance was reported to the N.S.P.C.C.

Cost of In-patient treatment, £213 0s. 11d., and of Out-patient treatment, £66 6s. 9d.

Of these sums, £9 8s. 5d. and £1 8s. 0d. were received from patients.

EXETER ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.

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, aranged 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 other Public Bodies :—

Borough Council—

Okehampton.

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.
Holsworthy.

Town Councils—

Honiton.
South Molton.

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 18 cases remained under treatment, 11 of whom were from the County. 204 cases were admitted during the year, 86 of these coming from the County and 118 from the City ; and at the end of the year 1928, 23 cases were under treatment, of whom 11 were from the County and 12 from the City.

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

<i>Year.</i>		<i>County.</i>	<i>City.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1919	Total treated at Isolation Hospital	61	68	129
1920	" "	91	108	199
1921	" "	90	190	280
1922	" "	126	152	278
1923	" "	119	98	217
1924	" "	108	99	207
1925	" "	112	95	207
1926	" "	89	231	320
1927	" "	82	186	268
1928	" "	97	125	222

Average number of cases admitted for

the ten years	...	...	97	135	232
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The number of cases admitted has been the average for the last ten years in the case of the County, and below the average in the case of the City.

The following was the mortality amongst the 222 cases :—

	<i>County.</i>	<i>City.</i>
From Scarlet Fever...	...	0
From Diphtheria ...	...	2
From Erysipelas ...	...	1

This gives a death percentage of 1'8.

The average duration of each patient's stay in the Isolation Hospital was 38'6 days.

			<i>Days.</i>
Against in 1919	...	...	44
" 1920	...	...	35
" 1921	...	...	43
" 1922	...	...	38
" 1923	...	...	39
" 1924	...	...	42
" 1925	...	...	43
" 1926	...	...	45
" 1927	...	...	38
" 1928	...	...	38
Average stay for the 10 years	...	...	40

The average number of fever patients per day was 21'4.

DISEASE.	Cases remaining under treatment from previous year.	Cases admitted during the year.	Cases discharged cured during the year.	Deaths.	Cases remaining under treatment at the end of the year.	Remarks.
Diphtheria ...	7	96	91	3	9	This gives a mortality of 3.1 per 100 cases. In two cases tracheotomy was necessary.
Scarlet Fever ...	11	78	75	1	13	Death certified as "Septic Laryngitis."
Measles ...	—	13	13	—	—	
Mumps ...	—	2	2	—	—	
Typhoid Fever ...	—	6	5	—	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	2	1	1	—	Death certified as "Tubercular Meningitis."
Erysipelas ...	—	5	4	1	—	
Chicken Pox ...	—	2	2	—	—	

During the financial year 1928-29, a total of £1,796 12s. 5d. was received for the treatment of infectious disease, being £1,397 0s. 9d. from outside Authorities and £399 11s. 8d. from City patients.

I should like to emphasize the good work done by the Matron, Nurses, and Domestic Staff of the Hospital. All have given loyal and efficient service, and have done their utmost to make the work of the Institution the success which it has been during the past year.

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 184. Of these 32 have died, 22 left the City, and 10 have been transferred to the Mental

Hospital, leaving 120 at present on the Register. These are placed as follows :—

In Certified Institutions	...	...	43
In Non-Certified Institutions	...	...	7

The remaining 70 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 1928-9 was £1,832 2s. 1d., the bulk of which is for maintenance of patients in Institutions, the amount being £1,717 6s. 2d.

There is, at present, an insuperable difficulty in obtaining suitable accommodation for multiple defectives and certain other classes of defectives. Negotiations are proceeding between the County Council, the Local Authorities at Starcross Institution and the City Council, with a view to obtaining additional accommodation for all classes of mental defectives in the Starcross Institution, but at the present time no definite decision has been reached but the negotiations are continuing.

Apart from educable Mentally Defective children, supervision of mental defectives is in the hands of a Statutory Committee.

SUPERANNUATION.

During the year, 75 persons were medically examined under the superannuation arrangements, 41 as to their fitness for inclusion in the superannuation scheme and 34 as to their fitness to return to work.

Although the persons examined were 75, the actual examinations made were many more, as in some cases several examinations were necessary before their return to work, and in other cases, before a definite opinion could be expressed as to whether or not superannuation was desirable.