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1933

Borough of Gravesend.



1933

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1933.



Borough of Gravesend.



1933

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1933.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (Councillor G. E. Morris, J.P.)

Alderman J. A. AXCELL (*Chairman*)

Alderman HUGGINS, J.P., C.C.	Councillor AUSTIN
„ BERREY	„ ALDRIDGE,
„ HARRINGTON, J.P.	„ CLUNN, J.P.
Councillor HINKLEY	„ MCKENZIE, J.P.
„ MCGREGOR	„ RAMSAY
„ SOLOMON	„ EVERDEN
„ SIMMONDS	„ HODGE

STAFF

Clerks :

Mr. S. V. TONGE

Mr. C. G. RAYFIELD

Health Visitors :

Mrs. F. BALLARD, C.M.B.

Miss S. CROSS, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :

Mr. J. F. CREIGHTON, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Mr. H. D. PERRIN, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Mr. G. H. ELLIOTT, C.S.I.B.

Mr. A. H. BAKER

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector under Food and Drugs Act :

Mr. J. E. BAKER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. D. OUTRED, D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.(ENG.)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,

12th May, 1934.

**To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Gravesend.**

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith for your consideration my 23rd Annual Report on the Health of the Borough during the year 1933.

The Report has been compiled under the various sections as in previous years. It will be particularly noticed that great advance has been made in dealing with the Slum Clearance Areas and the re-housing of the displaced tenants. This has been speeded up by the appointment of a temporary Sanitary Inspector whose work is confined principally to the inspections in these Areas certified and approved by the Ministry of Health as Improvement Areas.

As regards infectious diseases there has been a marked increase in the number of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever cases but this has also been noticed in many other districts of England and may have been due, possibly, to the long drought.

For reasons of economy the usual charts have not been included in this report.

In conclusion, I desire to record my thanks to the Chairman (Alderman Axccl) and Members of the Health Committee for their careful and courteous consideration of my reports during the year and the whole staff of the Health Department for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. D. OUTRED.

ANNUAL REPORT.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1933.

Population: Census 1921, 31,137; 1931, 35,400.

Population estimated to mid-year 1933 (by Registrar General) 35,180.

Area of the Borough in acres (land and inland water), 1,260.

	1931	1932	1933
Density of Population, persons per acre...	27.4	28.4	27.9
Marriages, No. 310; Marriage rate per 1,000 population ...	8.6	7.9	8.8
Births, (net) No. 589; Birth rate per 1,000 population ...	18.6	16.8	16.7
Deaths (net), No. 398; Death rate per 1,000 population ...	11.2	10.5	11.3
Infantile Death rate (deaths under 1 year) No. 34 per 1,000 births ...	33.0	67.8	57.7
Death Rate from:—			
Tuberculosis (all forms) per 1,000 population ...	.6	.58	.67
Cancer per 1,000 population ...	1.4	1.4	1.7
Heart Disease (including Aneurysm and other circulatory diseases) per 1,000 population ...	2.2	1.7	2.5
Violence (including suicide), per 1,000 population ...	.7	.4	.6
Respiratory Diseases (including Pneumonia) per 1,000 population ...	1.6	1.4	1.4
Infantile Diarrhoea (under 2 years) per 1,000 population ...	3.0	18.0	6.7

RATEABLE AND ASSESSABLE VALUE.

Gross Value (October, 1932)	...	...	£321,730
Rateable Value "	...	...	£273,115
Yield of 1d. Rate	...	...	£1,069
Rates (to March, 1934)	...	...	10/8d. in the £

POPULATION.

The Registrar General estimated the population of the Borough for the mid-year 1933 as 35,180 and the Birth and Death rates have been calculated on this figure.

This estimate is below that given for the previous year, the reduction being made on account of the displaced families from the Clearance Areas in Gravesend who have been re-housed on the Denton Estate which is situated outside the Borough boundary.

The figures shown by the Census of 1921 and 1931 were as follows:—

	1931	1921
Total persons ...	35,495	31,171
Males ...	17,475	15,170
Females ...	18,020	16,001
Separate Inhabited Houses ...	7,654	6,174
Separate Private Families ...	9,034	7,831

MARRIAGES.

Three hundred and ten marriages were registered in the Borough during the year; 203 were solemnised in Churches and Chapels and 107 at the Register Office, giving a marriage rate of 8.8 per 1,000 of the population.

For the three years previous the numbers and rate were as follows :—

	1930	1931	1932	1933
Number ...	341	300	283	310
Rate per 1,000 population ...	9.7	8.6	7.9	8.8

BIRTHS.

Five hundred and eighty-nine (Males 298, Females 291) net live births were certified during the year, giving a Birth Rate of 16.9 per 1,000 population. Twenty-one of these infants were illegitimate. The excess of Births over Deaths was 191 as against 228 the previous year. Fifteen still births were recorded. Births notified during the year, live and still births, 593. The number attended by Medical Practitioners 251, by Midwives 342. The number of births not notified was 31.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Twenty-one births were so registered, 10 males and 11 females; a rate of 3.5 of the total births.

Four deaths of illegitimate children were registered during the year.

DEATHS.

Three hundred and ninety-eight net deaths (204 males and 194 females) were registered during the year, giving a Death Rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of the population.

The rate for England and Wales was 12.3 and for the 132 smaller towns (populations 25,000 to 50,000) was 11.0 per 1,000 population. Of the total deaths 32.5 per cent. were persons who died at the age of 70 or over, and 42 per cent. of 65 years and over.

Deaths occurring over the age of 70 : (given in 5 year groups) :

70 to 75 years		75 to 80 years		80 to 85 years		85 to 90 years		90 to 95 years		95 to 100 years	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
22	22	14	19	18	19	7	9		1		1
44		33		37		16		1		1	

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1933.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.		All Causes	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
	Live Births	Still- births		Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2)	Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	14.4	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.57	0.54	7.1	64
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.55	0.49	9.4	67
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ...	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	—	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.53	0.44	4.9	56
London	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.51	0.58	11.6	59
GRAVESEND	16.7	0.42	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.14	0.36	0.62	6.7	34

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :

		Puerperal Sepsis		Others.		Total.	
		per 1,000 Live Births ...	1.79	2.63	4.42		
		“ Total Births ...	1.71	2.52	4.23		
		“ Live Births ...	3.39	5.09	8.48		
		“ Total Births ...	3.3	4.9	8.2		

Gravesend

The chief causes of death were registered as follows:—

Heart Disease, Aneurysm and other Circulatory diseases, 89 ; Cancer, 60 ; Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory diseases, 50 ; Senile Decay, 26 ; Tuberculosis, 24 ; Violence, including suicide, 22 ; Digestive diseases, 11 ; Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc., 20.

Seventy-one residents died in hospitals and 41 in Public Assistance Institutions.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 34 deaths (17 males and 17 females), of infants under 1 year of age, giving an infantile death rate of 57.7 per 1,000 births. The chief causes of death were as follows:—Premature Birth, 10 ; Debility and Marasmus, etc., 5 ; Pneumonia (all forms), 4 ; Congenital Malformations, 3 ; Enteritis, 3.

Four deaths were of illegitimate infants.

VACCINATION.

The number of successful vaccinations recorded by the Registrar during the year 1933 was 294, of this number 8 children came from other districts. The number of Declarations of Objection were 200.

The freedom of the Borough from small-pox during the past few years, especially considering that it is a great shipping centre, a large number of the inhabitants obtaining employment on the water, is undoubtedly due to the system of compulsory vaccination now insisted upon by shipping companies when signing on the crews unless there is proof of recent successful vaccination. During the year quite a large number of contacts with small-pox have been reported to me from other towns.

The Medical Officer of the Port of London has also notified me of a large number of contacts to cases of the disease occurring on ships homeward bound. These are chiefly members of the crew. In no instance did infection take place.

I would emphasise once again the great risk the residents of the Borough run, considering the proximity to the shipping, and that there should be no hesitation by parents in having their children vaccinated at the earliest possible opportunity, not postponing it until infection has taken place.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of persons notified as suffering with Infectious Diseases were as follows :—

Small-pox, 1 ; Scarlet Fever, 88 ; Diphtheria, 84 ; Pneumonia, 13 ; Puerperal Fever, 3 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 4 ; Erysipelas, 8 ; Poliomyelitis, 1 ; Encephalitis Lethargica, 1 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 4 ; Tuberculosis, 42 ; a Total of 249. Of this number 194 were admitted to hospitals.

At the Gravesend Isolation Hospital 174 patients were admitted during the year :—Diphtheria, 81 (Swabs positive but with no clinical signs 22) ; Scarlet Fever, 65 (observation cases 2) ; Pneumonia, 1 ; Small-pox, 1 ; Tubercular Peritonitis, 1 ; Septicaemia, 1 ; Measles, 3 ; a Total of 174.

Six deaths occurred at the Isolation Hospital and the particulars of the cases were as follows :—

Age.	Sex.	Disease.	Time in Hospital between admission and occurrence of death.
5	F.	Diphtheria	24 hours
5	F.	"	5 hours
5	F.	"	1½ hours
5	F.	"	6 days
5	F.	"	7 days
2	F.	Septicaemia	13 days

Patients admitted to the Gravesend Isolation Hospital during the year 1933 numbered 174.

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Diphtheria...	19	9	25	84
Small-Pox	4	—	—	1
Cholera and Plague	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	108	51	52	88
Erysipelas	16	3	10	8
Enteric Fever	8	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1
Encephalitis lethargica	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	4
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	38	30	33	37
" " Other Forms "	15	10	5	5
Pneumonia	9	18	14	13
Total	220	125	139	249

	Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria ...	1	7	66	5	5			84
Small-pox ...				1				1
Scarlet Fever ...		13	52	19	4			88
Erysipelas ...				1	3	4		8
Puerperal Fever...				1	2			3
Puerperal Pyrexia				1	3			4
Poliomyelitis ...				1				1
Encephalitis								
Lethargica ...			1					
Tuberculosis ...								
Pulmonary ...				10	17	10		37
"Other Forms"		1	2	2				5
Pneumonia ...	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	13
Ophthalmia ...								
Neonatorum ...	4							4
Total ...	6	23	123	42	36	17	2	249

SMALL POX.

One case of small-pox was notified and fortunately of a very mild type. Thirty-five contacts were vaccinated and no further cases occurred.

Although very careful investigation was made as to the movements of the patient about the town it was not possible to trace the source of infection.

DIPHTHERIA.

Eighty-four persons were notified as suffering from this disease as against 25, 9, 19 and 41 for the previous years, 1932, 1931, 1930, 1929, respectively. Eighty-one persons were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Five deaths occurred giving a case mortality rate of 5.9 per cent.

The age periods affected were as follows :—

Under 1 year of age.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.
1	7	66	5	5

Antitoxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners on application to the Health Department, Town Hall, or if closed, can be obtained at the Police Office. A circular letter was sent to all the Practitioners in the District recommending that antitoxin should be given

at the earliest opportunity and that suspicious cases would be accepted at the Isolation Hospital at once if reported to the Medical Officer of Health and isolated there until the diagnosis was confirmed or otherwise. The reason for this being that a large number of cases reported were of a very virulent type, the General Practitioner not being sent for in the early stages of the illness. It will be seen by the returns from the Isolation Hospital the deaths from this disease occurred within a short time after their admission to Hospital.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighty-eight persons were notified with this disease, 72 were removed to the Isolation Hospitals. No deaths occurred. Eight persons were admitted on the certification of the General Practitioners in which the diagnosis was not confirmed.

The age periods affected were as follows :—

1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.
13	52	19	4

The majority of the Scarlet Fever cases were of a mild type and recovered without any complications. Three cases were reported as suffering with otorrhoea some weeks after being discharged and four cases developed adenoids three months after.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 42 Primary notifications were received, 37 Pulmonary (19 males, 18 females) and 5 (3 males, 2 females) from the disease in "Other Forms."

In addition five notifications were received from other areas of persons coming to reside within the Borough.

The following table shows the age periods affected :—

1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.
1	2	12	17	10

During the year 24 deaths were registered from all forms of Tuberculosis, giving a death rate of .67 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of the year 1933 was as follows :—

Pulmonary.			Other Forms.			
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
68	43	111	20	17	37	148

I am indebted to Dr. Martin, the Tuberculosis Specialist at the Gravesend Dispensary, Cobham Street, which is under the administration of the County Council, for the following particulars relating to patients dealt with at the Dispensary under the scheme during the year.

Total Number of Attendances (old and new)	723
Number of patients attending who received Sanatorium Treatment	56
Number of New Cases	125

	New Cases. Diagnosis.			
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls.
Pulmonary ...	30	18	—	2
Non-Pulmonary ...	—	6	3	1
Negative ...	16	19	12	14

Number on Observation at the end of the year ...	4
--	---

CANCER.

Sixty deaths were registered from Cancer as against 51 the previous year, giving a death rate of 1.7 per 1,000 population. Males were more affected than females in the digestive organs, but females were more common in the generative organs.

The number of cases and the rate for the past 10 years :—

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
No. of cases	46	42	69	46	52	64	49	52	51	60
Rate	1.4	1.2	2.08	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.7

The following table gives the organs affected and the age at death :—

Organs Affected.	Males. Ages at Death.	Females. Ages at Death.	Total.
Digestive Organs	39, 48, 54, 54, 57 59, 63, 65, 66, 67 69, 72, 81, 86, 87	48, 53, 53, 59, 60 67, 71, 72, 73	24
Breast ...		50, 58, 61, 63, 63 67, 70, 70	8
Generative Organs ...	43	48, 53, 54, 59, 62 63, 65, 71, 77	10
Peritoneum ...	62, 72, 74, 80	66, 73, 77, 77	8
Tongue ...	66, 67, 67, 69		4
Mouth ...	56, 60		2
Aesophagus ...	50, 51		2
Bladder ...	56		1
Gland ...	67		1
Total ...	Males 30	Females 30	60

CHILD WELFARE.

There are now two Child Welfare Centres in Gravesend, one in Windmill Street and the other at 20 Jellicoe Avenue, King's Farm Estate. Both Centres are well attended by the mothers and children. At these Centres Anti-natal and post-natal conditions are dealt with. The Windmill Street is open on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays in the afternoon and the Jellicoe Avenue Centre is open on Tuesday afternoons. In both instances the stores are supervised by the Ladies' Voluntary Committee who are to be congratulated on their excellent work.

The Health Visitors make the following report on the supervision of the mothers and babies in the District.

Number of visits paid to Expectant Mothers	...	507
To infants under 1 year of age, first visits	...	439
To infants under 1 year of age, total visits	...	2,473
To children between the age of 1 and 5 years	...	2,284

The number of attendances at the Welfare Centres :—

By children under 1 year of age	...	1,800
By children between the age of 1 and 5 years	...	2,640

The number of children who attended the Centres for the *first time* and who were on the date of their visit :—

Under 1 year of age	...	351
Between the age of 1 and 5 years	...	98
		449

The number of children who attended the Centres during the year and who *at the end of the year* :—

Were under 1 year of age	...	216
Were between the age of 1 and 5 years	...	453
		669

At the Welfare Centres 462 mothers and children received various forms of treatment and 16 were recommended to hospital for operations. Eleven persons were admitted to the Hospital as difficult maternity cases under the agreement between the Town Council and the Hospital Authorities.

Three hundred and ten necessitous families were supplied with Dried Milks either for a nursing mother or infant after full enquiries had been made as to the circumstances, income, dependents etc. The amount of Dried Milk supplied was 5,573 lbs. or an equivalent of 27,865 pints of fresh milk.

The amount of dried milk sold at the Welfare Centres and other medical preparations at cost price was as follows:—

Ostermilk	489 lbs.	Virol	660 lbs.
Ambrosia	88 lbs.	Virolax	60 tins
Cow & Gate	3204 lbs.	Patent Groats	108 lbs.
Lactogen	108	Ovaltine	1476 tins
Almata	144	Malt & Oil	864 lbs.
Trufood	730	Robolein	148 lbs.
Humanised	612 lbs.	Maltoline	423 tins
		Marmite	322 lbs.

The following gives the number of ailments met with at the Centres during the year:—

Teething complications	...	...	...	57
Dental treatment	...	...	...	20
Feeding complications	...	...	...	190
Bronchitis	...	...	...	6
Debility Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	15
Circumcision	...	...	...	36
Naevi	...	...	...	9
Enlarged Glands	...	...	...	3
Skin Diseases	...	...	...	40
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	4
Inguinal Hernia	...	...	...	4
Umbilical Hernia	...	...	...	15
External Eye diseases	...	...	...	12
Constipation	...	...	...	5
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	5
Other defects and diseases	...	...	...	15

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are five Common Lodging Houses in the Borough which are under the supervision of the Police.

During the year 34,681 lodgers have been accommodated, of whom 32,722 were males and 1,716 female adults, while 66 males and 94 females were between the ages of 8 and 12, and 8 males and 75 females were under 8 years of age.

INQUESTS.

Thirty-six inquests were held during the year by G. Evans Penman, Esq., Borough Coroner (after investigation by the Police) and the verdicts were returned as follows:—

28 Accidental death	6 Suicide.
1 Open Verdict.	1 Poisoning.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

The County Council Laboratory is placed at the disposal of the General Practitioners and Public Authorities for the examination of infected material in determining the presence of disease.

Considerable use is made of these facilities both by the Practitioners and the Public Health Services as will be seen by the following list of specimens submitted for examination and the results returned.

Specimens for Disease Suspected.	By General Practitioners.			By Public Health Services.		
	Pos.	Neg.	Total.	Pos.	Neg.	Total.
Diphtheria	189	58	247	43I	167	598
Tuberculosis	64	15	79	I	—	I
Typhoid	1	—	I	I	—	I
Ring Worm	4	2	6	19	12	31
Streptococci				I		I

	Gravesend and North Kent Hospital.			Tuberculosis Dispensary.		
	Neg.	Pos.	Total	Neg.	Pos.	Total
Diphtheria	20	2	22	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	4	2	6	4I	20	6I
Typhoid	9	—	9			

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT.

No applications were received for Registration of Maternity or Nursing Homes during the year.

There are three registered nursing homes in the Borough and two Institutions which are exempt from the requirements of the Act as regards registration.

CHILDREN ACT, PART I., 1908.

Foster children are under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health and periodical inspections are made to ensure that the home conditions and the health of the children are satisfactory.

At the end of the year two Foster Mothers were registered having charge of 3 boarded out children.

WATER SUPPLY.

The reports on samples of water taken from the wells at Meopham and Gravesend pumping station are herewith included. It will be seen that the Analyst's certificate shows a very excellent water and apart from hardness which leads to furring up of pipes and boiling utensils, has no disadvantages with regard to health.

I am informed by the Water Company that in spite of the recent drought there is no necessity for the Town to be anxious as there is a plentiful supply.

Copy.

London, June 27th, 1933.

Report of a sample of water from the Meopham Works received
June 24th, 1933.

Sample contained in a bottle supplied from here.

The water is of the usual excellent quality.

Analytical Details.

Appearance ...	...	Clear
Colour ...	...	Pale bluish
Smell ...	...	None
Deposit ...	...	None
Phosphoric acid ...	...	Very minute trace
Colour of residue ...	...	White
Behaviour of residue on		
ignition ...	...	Does not darken
preceptibly		
Hardness before boiling ...	...	21 $\frac{1}{4}$ degrees Clark
Hardness after boiling ...	...	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ degrees Clark
		Grains per gallon.
Total dry residue ...	...	24.36
Oxygen absorbed from		
permanganate ...	...	0.002
Chlorine ...	...	1.19
Nitric acid ...	...	1.47
Ammonia ...	...	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia ...	...	0.0000

(Signed) F. H. & P. V. Dupre.

Copy.

London, June 29th, 1933.

Report on a sample of water from the Gravesend Works of the
Gravesend & Milton Waterworks Co., received on June 26th, 1933.

Sample contained in a bottle supplied from here.

The water is of its usual excellent quality.

Analytical Details.

Appearance ...	...	Clear
Colour ...	...	Pale bluish
Smell ...	...	None
Deposit ...	...	None
Phosphoric Acid ...	...	Very minute trace
Hardness before boiling ...	...	23 degree Clark
Hardness after boiling ...	...	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees Clark
Colour of residue ...	...	White
Behaviour of residue on		
ignition ...	...	Darkens very slightly burns
off readily		
		Grains per gallon.
Total dry residue ...	...	29.40
Oxygen absorbed ...	...	0.004
Chlorine ...	...	1.75
Nitric Acid ...	...	3.01
Ammonia ...	...	0.0000
Alouminoid ammonia ...	...	0.0000

(Signed) F. H. & P. V. Dupre.

GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL.

I am indebted to the Secretary-Superintendent, Mr. C. E. Chapman, for his kindness in supplying me with the following report dealing with the work of the Hospital during the year 1933 :—

It is to be regretted that our work in the In-patient Department (and other specialist departments) continues to increase as you will observe by a comparison with this year's table of work done against the table of 1932 :—

	New		Subsequent Attendance	
	1933	1932	1933	1932
In-patients ...	1645	1315		
Medical and Surgical Out-patients ...	940	987	4235	4297
Accident Patients ...	6118	6302	23173	23137
Dental Patients ...	1505	1291	—	—
X-Ray Patients ...	2352	1964	—	102
Massage and Electro-Medical Patients ...	485	458	14726	13973
Ophthalmic Patients ...	530	554	1456	1409
Sun-Ray Patients ...	61	59	1265	1159
Varicose Vein Patients ...	21	20	42	72
Orthopaedic Patients ...	198	185	403	435
C.O. 2 Clinic Patients ...	33	42	128	260
Ear, Nose and Throat Patients ...	206	—	117	—
Gynaecological Clinic Patients ...	77	—	111	—
Ante and Post-Natal Clinic Patients ...	85	—	317	—
	14256	13177	45973	44844

In the X-Ray Department there were 4,281 Exposures, 3,424 Films were taken and 324 Screen Examinations were carried out.

TOTAL ATTENDANCES ... 59,200

Major Operations ... 695 Minor Operations ... 615

Pathological Examinations ... 304

The Gravesend District Nurse made 3,693 visits.

I use the word "regretted," because any increase in accidents and sickness is to be deplored, and yet these figures are essential in proving to the public that your Hospital is ministering to the needs of the district as a centre of specialised treatment. During 1933 we have added Maternity Wards, Clinics for Ante-natal, Gynaecology, Throat, Nose and Ear, and Medical Out-patients have been separated from General Out-patients.

GRAVESEND V.D. CLINIC.

Dr. Nicol, the Surgeon in charge of the Gravesend Clinic, has very kindly sent me the following particulars of the work carried out during the year 1933.

It will be noticed that the number of new infections is practically stationary, although the number of new female patients show an increase. We have been more successful in getting the women "contacts" up for treatment.

The number of attendances show a decrease for men. This is due to the large number discharged and to the curtailment of the morning irrigation session. The women's times have been extended and their attendances increased accordingly.

Only 28 per cent. were infected in Gravesend, but the number infected in surrounding districts and London bring the total to 75 per cent. The fact that 25 per cent. were infected abroad emphasises the difficulty in reducing the incidence of V.D. in this Country.

Total Received Treatment during Year :—

			<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Syphilis	...	...	217	96	313
Soft Chancre	...	...	14	—	14
Gonorrhoea	...	...	249	77	326
Non-Venereal	...	...	35	29	64
		Total	515	202	717

New Patients.

Syphilis	...	...	58	21	79
Soft Chancre	...	...	12	—	12
Gonorrhoea	...	...	111	37	148
Non-Venereal	...	...	28	27	55
		Total	209	85	294
Re-admissions	...	...	47	20	67
		Grand Total	256	105	361

New Patients by Areas.

	Gravesend.	Rest of Kent.	Essex.	Other Areas.	Total
Syphilis	24	7	26	22	79
Soft Chancre	5	—	6	1	12
Gonorrhoea	67	26	34	21	148
Non-Venereal	19	15	19	2	55
Total	115	48	85	46	264

Attendances.

	Male	Female	Total
For Medical Officer ...	3,261	2,019	5,280
For Intermediate Treatment...	4,202	2,174	6,376
Total ...	7,463	4,193	11,656

Injections (Syphilis Cases).

Neo-Arsphenamines ...	...	...	1125
Tryparsamide ...	...	...	102
Total ...	Arsenic	1,227	
	Bismuth	1,277	
	Mercury	472	
		2,976	

Total

Attendances by Areas.

Kent ...	8,380†
Essex ...	3,079
Other Areas ...	197
	11,656

Laboratory (Specimens sent to).

For Syphilis ...	339
For Gonorrhoea ...	567
	906

Discharges, etc.

DISCHARGED CURED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Syphilis ...	23	9	32
Soft Chancre ...	10	—	10
Gonorrhoea ...	62	27	89
Non-Venereal ...	34	24	59
Total ...	129	61	190

Defaulted before final test of cure.

Syphilis ...	3	2	5
Gonorrhoea ...	10	1	11

Defaulted before completion of treatment.

Syphilis	32	12	44
Soft Chancre	1	—	1
Gonorrhoea	11	21	32
Total	57	36	93

Transferred after treatment ... 71 13 84

Of the last 100 **recently infected** cases :— (Males).

27 were married. 63 were infected by Prostitutes.
 73 „ single 25 „ „ „ Clandestines.
 12 „ „ „ their Wives.

35 had a history of one or more previous infections.
 (The above figures also give the percentages).

History of Infection (The above 100 males).

INFECTED IN GRAVESEND	14 by prostitutes† 6 „ clandestines. 8 „ their wives.	Total 28 (&%)†
INFECTED ELSE-WHERE IN KENT.	6 by prostitutes. 8 „ clandestines. 1 „ wife.	Total 15
INFECTED IN ESSEX.	2 by prostitutes 7 „ clandestines. 3 „ wives.	Total 12
INFECTED IN LONDON.	10 by prostitutes. 4 „ clandestines.	Total 14
†INFECTED IN PROVINCES.	6 by prostitutes.	Total 6
‡INFECTED ABROAD.	25 by— prostitutes.	Total 25

†Bristol, Blythe, Cardiff, Newport, Mon., North Shield, Leeds.

‡France 4, Trinidad 2, Aden 1, Roumania 1, Port Said 2, Naples 3, Burma 1, India 2, Spain 3, Brest 1, Denmark 1, South America 3, Australia 1.

IMPROVEMENT AREARS.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Summary of work carried out in connection with unhealthy areas and insanitary houses under the above Act from the time the act was first administered to the end of 1933.

Clearance Areas.

In 1931 four areas in the West Street district were approved as Clearance Areas. There were 38 houses in the areas and these have now all been demolished and the sites cleared. 143 persons were displaced.

Improvement Areas.

After careful consideration it was decided to schedule nine areas to be dealt with as improvement areas under the five-year programme of the Ministry of Health.

AREA NO. 1. This area was approved and Bye-laws were made and confirmed by the Ministry of Health. Number of houses in the area, 403.

Eight houses have been demolished, displacing 92 persons. The number of persons displaced to abate overcrowding was 114.

AREA NO. 2. This area was approved and Bye-laws were made and confirmed by the Ministry of Health. Number of houses in the area 438.

There are no houses for demolition. The areas has been inspected for overcrowding and reconditioning is now being dealt with.

AREA NO. 3. This area was also approved and Bye-laws made and confirmed. Number of houses in the area 397.

The area has been inspected for overcrowding and reconditioning is now in progress.

Notices under Section 17 of the Act have been served in respect of 27 houses.

AREAS NO. 4 TO 9. The preliminary survey of these areas has not yet been completed.

Individual Houses.

150 houses have been demolished, displacing 569 persons.

32 houses have been made fit as a result of the service of notices under Section 17.

NEW HOUSES.

The number of houses erected during the year :

By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	128
The Council (at Denton Estate)	...	...	...	188
Assisted Scheme under the Small Dwellings Act				40

The total number of houses erected by the Town Council up to the 31st December, 1933, at King's Farm and Denton Housing Estates, was 1,062.

HOUSING.

1 Inspection of Dwelling-houses.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	2553
Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	...	...	4238
2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under the preceding heading) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations,					
1925	...	...	...	...	1760
Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	...	...	2121

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	22
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	301

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	225
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By Owners	...	...	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By Owners	...	14
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	—

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	—

4. Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority

Including 386 houses built in the Strood Rural District.

- **Number of new houses built during 1933 :**
 - (a) By the Local Authority. 188 built in Strood Rural District.
 - (b) By other bodies or persons 116

6. Shortage of housing accommodation for working classes :—

Houses required :

- (a) To replace unsatisfactory property ... 10
- (b) To provide additional accommodation ... 190

7. Any observations as to shortage, or overcrowding, or any other aspect of housing.

A scheme for the erection of a further number of houses for the relief of overcrowding is now under consideration.

Summary of action taken under all headings :

Number of houses demolished	...	...	197
" " persons displaced	...	...	918
" " houses made fit	...	...	32

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

	Number in District.	Number of visits in 1932	Number of faults and defects found.	Number of faults and defects remedied.
Bakehouses ...	24	34	---	---
Dairies ...	55	55	---	---
Slaughterhouses---				
Registered ...	6	1751	---	---
Licenced ...	1			
Other food-preparing places which are, as such, subject to inspection	1	3		
Offensive Trades ...	20	30	---	---
Common Lodging houses ...	5	260	---	---
Houses-let-in lodgings ...	—	---	---	---
Factories ...	44	108	14	14
Workshops ...	58			
Workplaces (other than outworkers' homes ...	2			

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR (other than those enumerated in the above tabulation).

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	30
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sanitary Accommodation :—						
(i) Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	25
(ii) Defective	...	...	...	...	...	112
Drainage :—						
(i) Re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	37
(ii) Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
(iii) Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cesspools :—						
(i) Abolished	...	...	...	...	...	25
(ii) Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	—
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	11
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	203
Refuse Receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	176
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	—
Yard Paving	...	...	...	...	...	54
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	32
Roofs and rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	118
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	77
Walls and Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	695
Windows and Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	114
Baths, Lavatory basins and sinks	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	13
Total number of visits of all kinds paid by Inspectors during year	...	...	...	...	...	6,182
Approximate number of separate premises in area	...	...	...	...	...	9,278
Approximate number of such premises at the end of the year, containing each type of sanitary convenience as under :—						
W.C's into drainage system	...	...	...	...	...	9,251
W.C's into cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	20
Earth closets or privy middens	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of premises not connected to public water-supplies	...	...	...	...	...	—
Notices served—Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	62
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	261
Number of houses, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	423
Batches of clothing	...	...	...	...	...	431

Legal proceedings and results :—

Two cases, contravention of Slaughterhouse bye-laws by failure to use humane killer. Fined £1 in each case.

Two cases—Housing Act, 1930, failure to vacate premises on which demolition orders had become operative.—Order for possession in 28 days granted in first case and 14 days in second case.

One case—3 samples of milk containing 2.8%, 3.2% and 3.2% added water. Fined £3 for each offence.

Amount of food condemned during year (including approximate weight of items which had not been weighed :—

3 tons 8 cwts. 0 qrs. 13 lbs.

REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT for the year 1933.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Under Housing Acts ...	...	...	1760
Under Public Health Acts	...	...	793
Bakehouses ...	...	...	34
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	55
Slaughterhouses	...	...	1751
Factories and Workshops	...	...	104
			<hr/> 4497
Re-inspections	...	...	1685
			<hr/>
Total visits of all kinds	...	...	6182
			<hr/>
Premises where defects existed	...	...	610
Premises where defects were remedied	...	...	453

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

Under Housing Acts (Statutory)	...	...	45
Under Housing Acts (Informal)	...	...	28
Under Public Health Acts (Statutory)	...	...	17
Under Public Health Acts (Informal)	...	...	233
			<hr/> 323

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Five Shelvoke & Drewry freighters and one Eagle-Thornycroft vehicle are employed in the collection of refuse.

The refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping and it is pleasing to report that no complaints of any kind were received regarding the tip during the year.

During the year 4,890 loads of refuse weighing approximately 9,957 tons (including 269 loads of trade refuse weighing 536 tons) were collected and tipped.

The following particulars show the comparison with the previous years :—

1931	4842	9922
1932	4810	9450
1933 ...	4890	9957

SALVAGE FROM REFUSE.

Waste Paper.

Waste paper and cardboard is collected in sacks provided by the Corporation and then pressed into bales ready for collection by the Thames Board Mills, Ltd., who have contracted to purchase the material.

The total weight of paper, etc., collected and sold during the year was 221 tons 18 cwts. 2 qrs. 20 lbs.

Bottles and Jars.

Commencing on the 1st April, 1933, arrangements were made for the sale of bottles and jars salvaged from house refuse. These are sold to a glass bottle manufacturers' agent, who collects them periodically. 161 gross were sold up to the end of the year.

PAIL SYSTEM.

There are now 7 privy pails in use in the Borough and these have been emptied and cleansed twice weekly. The following table shows the number dealt with during the past ten years :—

Year.	Number in use.	Number emptied.	Number abolished
1924	39	4207	0
1925	37	3684	2
1926 ...	34	3461	3
1927 ...	19	2628	15
1928	10	1253	9
1929	10	1050	0
1930	10	1040	0
1931	7	706	3
1932	7	735	0
1933	7	714	0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disinfection of Premises.

Four hundred and twenty-three rooms were disinfected and 431 batches of bedding and clothing were removed to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected and returned or, in some cases, destroyed.

Forty-four library books found on infected premises were withdrawn and destroyed, the libraries being compensated.

DRAIN TESTING.

Forty-five sets of drains were tested during the year, of these 28 were found to be sound and in order and 17, or 37.7 per cent. were found to be defective.

In cases where drains were defective they were repaired or relaid, as necessary.

SHOPS ACT.

The shops in the Borough have been kept under strict supervision and it was found necessary in two cases to caution shopkeepers for remaining open after hours. On the instructions of the Committee, advertisements were inserted in the local paper setting out the provision of the Acts and circulars were issued to all shopkeepers.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

One hundred and four inspections were made during the year. In 14 instances it was found necessary to give notice to remedy faults or defects.

The Bakehouses, 24 in number, were also inspected and were found to be generally in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Description	No. of Inspections.	No. of Defects.	Remedied.
Bakehouses	34	—	—
Factories	44	9	9
Workshops	58	5	5
Workplaces	2	—	—
	138	14	14

MILKSHOPS AND DAIRIES.

There are 55 Milkshops and Dairies registered in the Borough. These have been inspected and found to have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923 :—

To sell milk as " Certificated "	1
To sell milk as " Pasteurised "	5
To sell milk as " Grade A (T.T.) "	2

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 7 private Slaughter Houses in the Borough and 1,751 visits were made to these during the year.

In several instances it was found necessary to call the attention of occupiers to the necessity for cleansing the premises, and in each case the work was carried out.

The provisions of the Public Health Meat Regulations 1924 have been enforced, notice of slaughter is required in all cases and the inspection of meat carried out as far as possible during the time of slaughter.

Strict observation has also been kept to enforce the Bye-laws relating to humane killing. Two cases of failure to comply with the Bye-laws were reported and, on the instructions of the Committee, proceedings were instituted. The Defendants were, in each case, fined £1.

CONDEMNED FOOD.

The following food, weighing approximately 3 tons 8 cwts. 0 qrs. 13 lbs., was surrendered and condemned as being unfit for human consumption :—

		Tons.	Cwts	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef ...	...	2	5	3	20
Pork ...	...		11	3	20
Mutton ...	...		3	2	17
Rabbits ...	...			2	27
Fish ...	...		3	2	12
Winkles			1	3	24
Miscellaneous ...	...			1	5

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND SCHOOLS.

The public conveniences and sanitary arrangements of the schools under the control of the Education Committee have been cleansed and flushed every day by the Health Department during the past year.

The conveniences attached to licensed premises have been inspected periodically and requests made for cleansing where necessary were complied with.

RATS ORDER.

Twenty-eight premises were reported as being infested with rats during the year. Inspections were made in each case and the occupiers advised as to the best procedure.

The total number of visits made was 62. The premises were cleared in 22 cases and 4 premises were still under observation at the end of the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Ninety-nine samples, as shewn below, were taken under the Food and Drugs Acts and submitted to the Public Analyst.

Samples	Formal	Informal.	Result of Analysis.	
			Genuine.	Adulterated.
Baking Powder ...	—	3	—	—
Butter ...	—	3	3	—
Cheese ...	—	3	3	—
Cocoa ...	—	3	3	—
Cornflower ...	—	2	2	—
Custard Powder ...	—	3	3	—
Egg Substitute ...	—	3	3	—
Fish Paste ...	—	2	2	—
Flour ...	—	6	6	—
Ground Ginger ...	—	2	2	—
Lard ...	—	3	3	—
Meat Paste ...	—	1	1	—
Milk ...	45	—	40	5
Olive Oil ...	—	3	3	—
Pepper ...	—	3	3	—
Prescribed Medicine	—	5	4	1
Sardines ...	—	3	2	1
Tea ...	—	3	3	—
Tinned Cream ...	—	2	2	—
Tinned Milk ...	—	1	1	—
	45	54	92	7

Table I. Vital Statistics of whole District during 1933 and previous Years.

Year.	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Regis- tered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 nett Births.		
												Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1924	32590	596	596	18.2	390	11.9	33	38	41	68.7	395	12.1
1925	33110	700	700	20.9	425	12.9	49	47	35	50.0	433	12.9
1926	33500	639	637	18.08	404	12.04	60	55	36	56.5	399	12.04
1927	33770	621	617	18.08	427	12.8	48	41	35	56	420	12.5
1928	34126	632	628	18.3	398	11.6	62	48	30	47.7	384	11.2
1929	33780	651	647	18.8	463	13.6	68	46	27	41.7	441	13.0
1930	35000	694	692	19.7	384	10.9	53	47	27	39.0	375	10.7
1931	35490	669	661	18.6	407	11.6	42	28	22	33.0	393	11.2
1932	35800	612	604	16.8	410	11.4	34	24	41	67.8	376	10.5
1933	35180	598	589	16.7	418	11.8	76	56	34	57.7	398	11.3

Table II. Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1933. Showing the age periods and cases removed to Hospital.

Diseases.	Total at all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
		Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over	
Diphtheria ...	84	1	7	66	5	5	...	—	77
Small Pox ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	—	1
Cholera and Plague ...	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	88	...	13	52	19	4	...	—	72
Erysipelas ...	8	...	...	...	1	3	4	—	5
Typhus Fever ...	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Relapsing Fever ...	—	...	...	...	1	2	...	—	3
Puerperal Fever ...	3	...	...	...	1	3	...	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	—	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polionmyelitis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ...	37	...	...	...	10	17	10	—	24
Tuberculosis Other Forms ...	5	...	1	2	2	...	...	—	2
Pneumonia ...	13	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	5
Total ...	249	6	23	123	42	36	17	2	194

Table III.

Infant Mortality.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age, for the year 1933.

Cause of Death.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	{	Certified ...	14	4			18	6	5	2	3	34
		Uncertified										
Small Pox	...	...								
Chicken Pox	...	...								
Measles	...	...								
Scarlet Fever	...	...								
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...								
Whooping Cough	...	...								
Diarrhoea	...	...							1			1
Enteritis	...	...							1	1	1	3
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...								
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...								
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...								
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	1			2	1				3
Premature Birth	...	...	9				9	1				10
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	3	1			4		1			5
Atelectasis	...	...								
Injury at Birth	...	...								
Erysipelas	...	...								
Syphilis	...	...								
Rickets	...	...								
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...								
Convulsions	...	...	1				1	1				2
Gastritis	...	...								
Laryngitis	...	...								
Bronchitis	...	...						2				2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...		1			1	1			2	4
Suffocation, overlying	...	...								
Other causes	...	...		1			1		2	1		4
Totals ...			14	4			18	6	5	2	3	34
Nett Births in the Year	{	legitimate	568									
		illegitimate	21									
							Nett Deaths in the year under 1 year of age of	{				
								legitimate Infants 30				
								illegitimate Infants 4				

Table IV. Causes of, and ages at, Death during the year 1933.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District	
											Hospital	Public Institution
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards			
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Certified ...	398	34	5	5	9	19	41	107	178			
Uncertified ...												
All Causes												
Typhoid and paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...	5	—	—	1	4	—	1	4	8	1	—	—
Influenza ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetis ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—
Heart Disease ...	66	2	—	—	—	2	5	24	33	5	11	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	16	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	10	1	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	22	—	—	1	1	7	7	5	1	6	—	—
Other Tuberculosis Diseases	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer ...	60	—	—	—	—	1	2	25	32	13	—	4
Aneurysm ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Other circulatory diseases	19	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	14	3	—	—



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