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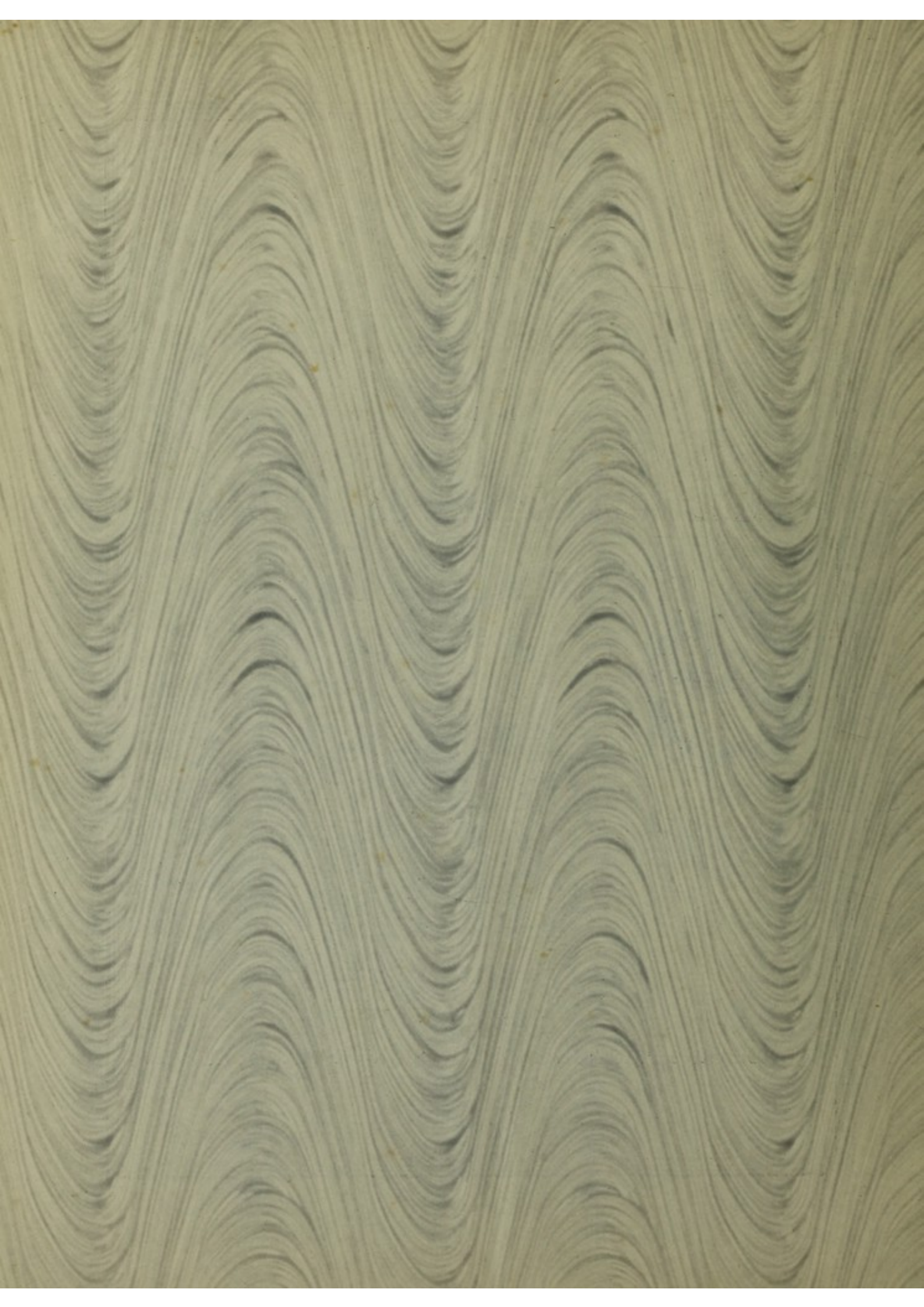
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**NINTH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1907.**



**GUERNSEY:**  
BICHARD'S PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, LTD.,  
BORDAGE STREET.

1908.



**REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR 1907.

REPORT

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# RAPPORT DE L'OFFICIER DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE.

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## Letter from the President of the Board.

States Office, Guernsey, May 26th, 1908.

SIR,

I have the honour to present the Ninth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1907.

This report was approved by the Board of Health at its meeting held on the 22nd inst., when it was resolved that, with your permission, it should be printed as an Appendix to the "Billet d'État," and that a certain number of copies (say 100) be struck off for distribution in the usual way.

I am, &c., &c.,

JOHN N. BROUARD,  
President of the Board of Health.

John de Garis, Esq.,  
Judge Delegate.



# REPORT.

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## SUNSHINE.

Sunshine in Guernsey for year, 1,860 hours. Average amount of sunshine for past 14 years, 1,916.2 hours.

## POPULATION.

The increase of births over deaths for the year was 462, and the population at the middle of 1907 may be estimated at 43,150.

Emigration seems to have been greatly checked compared with 1906, when the destination of most persons leaving the island was Canada.

Many of these emigrants have returned to Guernsey, which is not surprising, as in a country where employment must be limited in many occupations during the long and rigorous winter, it is difficult for men without capital to fall back upon, or skilled artisans to maintain themselves during this time, even if they have not families to support.

For statistical purposes it is better to under, rather than to over estimate the population of any area, and I think that in the case of Guernsey this has been done. The census returns of 1901 state that in Guernsey and the adjacent islands 1,898 persons of foreign birth were then resident, of whom 1,792 were of French nationality. Since then the coming of numbers of French religious orders has greatly added to the alien population, and if the proportion of Alderney and Sark be deducted, an estimate of 2,000 French people resident in Guernsey would be a fairly correct one.

The law of registration applies only to labourers, workmen, and servants, but this law must be more honoured in the breach than in the observance, as during the years 1906-7, only 126 such persons were registered.

It is evident that a large percentage of the French population are law-abiding and of a desirable class, but unfortunately the remainder are the very opposite.

The Police Court has to deal not only with the resident population, but with the floating population of two ports, and although no statistics of convictions are obtainable from the Greffe Office, anyone reading the newspapers cannot fail to notice how large is the proportion of French people convicted compared with the number resident in Guernsey.

The criminal and the diseased can land here freely and without hindrance, and although for a period of twelve months they can be repatriated at the expense of the vessel which brought them, but only if they are unable to maintain themselves, after which time they must be sent back at the public expense.

Whilst here they can compete in the labour market without the liability to Militia Service which attaches to the native of the soil, who is thus unfairly handicapped in his efforts to earn his living. I have nothing to add to my statements in the report of 1905, with the exception that I hear upon the best authority a particularly despicable class of crime, which in England and British Colonies is punished with long terms of imprisonment, is very prevalent locally, namely, that of men who do no work, but live upon the earnings of women of the unfortunate class.

For serious crimes imprisonment might well be followed by banishment from the island for life, photography and the finger-print system being used for purposes of future identification.

The way to diminish this influx of undesirables would be to inspect the passengers of vessels arriving from the Continent, before they were allowed to land, to reject the diseased or those known to have previously been banished and to compel immediate registration of the remainder.

Having dealt with the undesirables we may now consider how best to attract desirable residents and visitors to our shores.

The majority of seaside places and health resorts in England advertise their attractions extensively, and it follows that they find such a course beneficial to the interests of their inhabitants or they would not continue to do so. From its position Guernsey is protected from the visits of the cheap tripper, but with its climatic advantages, beautiful and varied scenery, a well organised scheme of advertising would attract a far larger number of well-to-do people than now visit it, and every effort should be made to encourage them as visitors or permanent residents.

Not only would tradesmen and the working classes profit by their presence, but the owners of house property and land as well as the general public would benefit by the rates being more evenly distributed and by increased support being given to local institutions, such as the Colleges.



**Table I.** (INCORP. SOC. OF M. O. H., 1900), FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.	
		Number.	Rate per 1,000.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 registered.	Number.	Rate per 1,000.
Column ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1897.....	37,801	1,157	30·60	193	166·8	708	18·73
1898.....	38,415	1,161	30·22	194	167·0	705	18·35
1899.....	39,072	1,121	28·69	151	134·7	666	17·04
1900.....	39,703	1,011	25·46	145	143·4	624	15·72
1901.....	40,300	1,096	27·20	190	171·3	699	17·34
1902.....	40,550	1,128	27·80	161	142·7	657	16·20
1903.....	41,050	1,120	27·28	112	100·0	597	14·54
1904.....	41,710	1,144	27·42	181	158·2	690	16·54
1905.....	42,220	1,129	27·1	155	135·0	644	15·2
1906.. ..	42,730	1,112	26·0	154	138·4	588	13·7
Averages for ten years, 1897-1906.	40,355	1,117	27·77	163	145·7	657	16·33
1907.....	43,150	1,068	24·75	123	115·1	606	13·83

## BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during 1907 was 1,068, of which number 543 were males and 525 females, a rate of 24·75 per 1,000. The average for the preceding ten years was 27·7, and this is the lowest figure on record, a statement which will be probably repeated in every succeeding annual report.

Unfortunately the birth rate is lowest amongst the classes most able to successfully rear children, and highest among the poorer classes who are unable to give their children the same advantages as the more well-to-do of the population.

In the future therefore more and more attention will have to be given towards ensuring that children be safeguarded from sickness and injurious influences as far as possible, and that a knowledge of the natural laws of health should take the place of ignorance and prejudice. The illegitimate birth rate is 2·5, and the number recorded at the Greffe Office 27.

My attention has been called by a local medical man to the previous figures of illegitimacy given, which he produced evidence to shew were considerably

below the actual amount and that illegitimate births were registered as legitimate ones.

The Board of Health having considered the matter called the attention of the Crown Officers and the Greffier to this statement which seemed a well-authenticated one.

In England an important alteration in the law relating to the notification of births was introduced in 1907, the time allowed for notification being altered from 42 days to 36 hours after the birth of a child, it being allowable to send a prepaid letter or postcard during this period if more convenient than the personal attendance of the person certifying.

As the M.O.H. is the person to be notified he will be able, by means of health visitors (where they exist) or other agencies to take steps when necessary to see that information of service to the mother in the rearing of her child be supplied her.

Hitherto a small portion of the births have escaped registration, the mother being able (if desirous of doing so) to leave the neighbourhood before the time allowed by the law for the registration of a birth has elapsed; the new law will however go far to prevent such occurrences in the future.

Such a law would be equally valuable in Guernsey where the time allowed for registration is 30 days and I trust that it will be soon adopted here.

Since the 1st April, the registration of Still Births has been made compulsory in Guernsey and a medical certificate of this fact must be forthcoming or an inquest held in every instance.

There were certain obvious difficulties to be encountered, but the law has worked well and is a most beneficial one.

There is no statute to this effect in England, or so far as I am aware in any other country, so Guernsey has in introducing such a measure shewn a good example for other communities to follow.

#### DEATHS.

The deaths numbered 606 and the corrected death rate is 13·83, the average for the preceding ten years being 16·33. The rate for the Town of St. Peter-Port is 14·1, and for the rest of the island 13·8.

The earlier months of the year were particularly fatal, Influenza and its complications caused many deaths; indeed in the month of January the deaths outnumbered the births by 11, a circumstance so unusual that nothing but the raging of a serious epidemic could account for it. The type of influenza

prevalent was one which mainly affected the heart, and as a result 80 cases of death from Heart Disease were recorded as against an average number of five previous years of 52·6. Of the 606 deaths 207 were those of persons of 66 years and upwards, a high percentage compared with the past five years' average of 188.

The deaths occurring in the public institutions were:—

Town Hospital .. .. .	43
Town Asylum ... .. .	1
Country Hospital ... .. .	18
Country Asylum ... .. .	4
Victoria Cottage Hospital .. .	9
King Edward Sanatorium .. .	6

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 123, a rate of 115 per 1,000 births registered against 145·7 the preceding ten years' average.

The rates for the different districts are as follows:—St. Peter-Port, 112; St. Sampson's, 162; Vale, 95; Country Parishes, 100. As usual St. Sampson's has the highest death rate. The number of deaths from Zymotic Diarrhœa was 13.

The cordial co-operation of Ministers of religion in response to a circular letter from the Board enabled a larger number of pamphlets relating to feeding of infants to be circulated amongst the poorer classes; these pamphlets being now printed in both English and French their sphere of usefulness ought to be greatly increased.

The great achievement of the year was the passing of the law dealing with the registration of deaths which came into force at the beginning of April. Under this law the Greffe Office became the only place of registration for the whole island, and no death can be registered unless a medical certificate of the cause of death be produced.

The old system with all its possibilities of grave abuses was thus ended by the passing of this new law.

**Table A.**

**RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31st, 1907.**

		BIRTHS.										
PARISH LETTER:		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Males	.....	184	84	79	41	16	29	11	18	51	30	543
Females	.....	208	76	67	36	14	31	9	14	46	24	525
Total	.....	392	160	146	77	30	60	20	32	97	54	1,068

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PARISH LETTER: A B C D E F G H I K TL.

DEATHS.

GENERAL DISEASES AND INJURIES.

*Diseases of the Blood.*

Anæmia .....	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Diabetes .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Exfoliative Dermatitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Myxœdema.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rachitis .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rheumatoid Anthritis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rheumatism .....	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5

*Epidemic.*

Diphtheria .....	2	1	2	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	10
Enteric Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Enteritis .....	10	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	17
Influenza.....	4	5	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	14
Mumps .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever .....	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Whooping Cough .....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

*Ill-defined.*

Bed Sores .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brain Disease.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diarrhœa .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dropsy .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Natural Causes .....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

*Infancy and Old Age.*

Asthenia .....	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7
Convulsions .....	11	2	5	1	-	1	-	1	3	-	-	24
Debility at Birth .....	2	6	1	1	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	15
Improper Food .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Marasmus .....	10	6	4	3	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	28
Malformation .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Premature Birth .....	8	3	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	16
Senile Decay .....	21	7	6	8	3	4	1	4	9	3	-	66

Carried forward ..... 82 ... 38 ... 29 ... 24 .. 5 ... 11 .. 2 ... 8 ... 17 ... 9 ... 225

PARISH LETTER:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Brought forward	82	38	29	24	5	11	2	8	17	9	225
<i>Infective.</i>											
Phthisis	31	4	4	5	-	-	1	-	2	-	47
Tubercular Undefined.	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other Tubercular	5	1	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	11
<i>Intemperance.</i>											
Alcoholism	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cirrhosis	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<i>Parturition.</i>											
Eclampsia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hæmorrhage	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ill-defined	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Septic.</i>											
Septicæmia	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ulcerative Endocarditis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Tumour.</i>											
Malignant	29	5	4	11	4	1	-	2	1	1	58
<i>Violence.</i>											
Accident	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Drowning	5	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Fall	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Hanging	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Suicide	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.											
<i>Alimentary.</i>											
Intestines	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	9
Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Liver	4	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
Stomach	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Carried forward	170	59	42	51	9	14	5	10	24	13	397

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PARISH LETTER:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Brought forward	170	59	42	51	9	14	5	10	24	13	397

*Circulatory.*

Apoplexy	10	2	3	6	1	-	-	2	2	2	28
Aneurysm	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Angina Pectoris	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Atheroma	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Heart Disease	42	9	9	7	3	1	1	2	3	3	80
Thrombosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

*Nervous.*

Brain Abscess	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Disseminated Sclerosis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Epilepsy	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	5
Hemiplegia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Landry's Paralysis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningitis	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	7
Neuritis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Paralysis	9	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Spinal Disease	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Spina Bifida	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

*Respiratory.*

Asthma	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bronchitis	9	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	5	1	25
Broncho-Pneumonia	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
Laryngitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Laryngismus Stridulus	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	6	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	3	-	14
Pleuro-Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

*Urinary.*

Nephritis	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	7
Cystitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Totals	274	75	68	74	15	17	6	17	39	21	606
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**Table**  
(INCORP. SOC.)

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-PORT.				ST. SAMPSON'S.				THE VALE.				CASTEL.				ST. SAVIOUR'S.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1897.....	17637	481	353	81	5042	179	79	38	4496	172	80	29	2627	69	47	11	988	33	15	2
1898.....	17770	467	335	78	5177	185	78	36	4626	161	78	25	2670	87	75	14	1007	24	15	4
1899.....	17914	469	298	47	5317	177	90	30	4768	166	72	28	2717	71	62	11	1027	24	19	6
1900.....	18044	436	302	65	5452	178	62	19	4921	170	82	25	2761	79	64	11	1045	30	17	4
1901.....	18162	440	303	66	5573	166	95	31	5082	167	101	45	2802	69	64	11	1062	27	14	3
1902.....	18240	459	302	60	5622	175	83	25	5133	168	77	28	2812	65	60	10	1067	27	16	2
1903.....	18464	421	264	38	5681	200	85	26	5196	173	72	25	2846	87	55	6	1080	26	15	1
1904.....	18760	461	321	77	5773	165	87	37	5280	164	71	26	2890	104	46	9	1097	29	30	4
1905.....	18996	461	302	59	5844	180	77	17	5344	173	72	21	2914	90	62	16	1109	29	12	1
1906.....	19232	427	268	54	5915	174	64	29	5408	145	69	21	2938	93	64	12	1121	32	18	7
Average of 10 years to 1906.	18321	452	304	62	5539	177	80	28	5025	165	77	27	2797	80	59	11	1060	28	17	3
1907.....	19364	392	275	44	5995	160	75	26	5481	146	68	14	2960	77	74	12	1133	30	15	1

II.  
OF M. O. H., 1900.)

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-IN-THE-WOOD.				TORTEVAL.				FOREST.				ST. MARTIN'S.				ST. ANDREW'S.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths registered.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1897.....	1449	57	27	6	446	15	9	1	751	25	14	8	2935	106	56	16	1430	40	12	1
1898.....	1481	57	29	16	446	13	5	0	775	29	12	3	3002	101	48	13	1461	37	30	5
1899.....	1516	50	32	10	446	6	9	1	800	22	19	6	3073	89	45	6	1494	47	20	6
1900.....	1548	57	25	9	446	19	8	2	822	23	19	4	3140	100	39	6	1524	38	17	2
1901.....	1577	57	23	8	446	6	6	2	842	27	20	7	3201	88	46	10	1552	49	27	6
1902.....	1587	53	31	11	447	14	12	4	851	30	13	4	3226	93	43	14	1564	44	20	3
1903.....	1619	56	16	4	453	8	12	1	862	22	13	3	3265	90	38	4	1584	37	27	4
1904.....	1646	52	35	8	461	10	6	0	877	27	20	5	3317	91	51	10	1609	41	23	5
1905.....	1672	56	29	4	467	22	10	0	889	19	15	0	3351	86	43	10	1634	40	22	7
1906.....	1698	60	25	9	473	6	9	2	901	26	15	6	3385	107	45	13	1659	42	11	1
Average of 10 years to 1906.	1579	55	27	8	453	11	8	1	837	25	16	4	3189	95	45	10	1551	41	20	4
1907.....	1741	60	16	8	481	20	6	1	917	32	17	5	3445	97	39	8	1689	54	21	4



Table III.

CAUSE OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH OF THE DEATHS REGISTERED  
DURING THE YEAR 1907.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	WHOLE ISLAND.				66 and upw'ds.
			1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65.	
<b>GENERAL DISEASES AND INJURIES.</b>							
<i>Diseases of the Blood.</i>							
Anæmia .....	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diabetes .....	2	—	—	1	—	—	1
Exfoliative Dermatitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Myxœdema .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rachitis .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Rheumatoid Arthritis .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Rheumatism .....	5	—	1	2	—	1	1
<i>Epidemic.</i>							
Diphtheria .....	10	—	4	6	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteritis .....	17	13	3	—	—	1	—
Influenza .....	14	1	1	1	1	5	5
Mumps ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
<i>Ill-defined.</i>							
Bed Stores .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Brain Disease .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhœa .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dropsy .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Natural Causes .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
<i>Infancy and Old Age.</i>							
Asthenia .....	7	7	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .....	24	17	7	—	—	—	—
Debility at Birth .....	15	15	—	—	—	—	—
Improper Food .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carried forward .....	114	55	22	11	2	11	13

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	WHOLE ISLAND.					66 and upw'ds
			1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65.		
Brought forward.....	114	55	22	11	2	11	13	
Malformation .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Marasmus .....	28	28	—	—	—	—	—	
Premature Birth.....	16	16	—	—	—	—	—	
Senile Decay .....	66	—	—	—	—	1	65	
<i>Infective.</i>								
Phthisis .....	47	—	—	2	8	35	2	
Tubercular Undefined .....	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	
Other Tubercular .....	11	2	3	3	1	2	—	
<i>Intemperance.</i>								
Alcoholism .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Cirrhosis .....	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
<i>Parturition.</i>								
Eclampsia .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Hæmorrhage .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Ill-defined .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
<i>Septic.</i>								
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Septicæmia .....	4	1	—	—	—	3	—	
Ulcerative Endocarditis.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
<i>Tumour.</i>								
Malignant .....	58	—	—	—	—	35	23	
<i>Violence.</i>								
Accident .....	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	
Drowning .....	10	—	—	1	1	6	2	
Fall .....	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Hanging .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Suicide.....	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	
DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.								
<i>Alimentary.</i>								
Appendicitis .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Intestines .....	9	3	1	—	—	1	4	
Carried forward .....	385	106	26	20	15	109	109	

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	WHOLE ISLAND.					66 and upw'ds.
			1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65.		
Brought forward.....	385	106	26	20	15	109	109	
Liver .....	8	—	—	—	1	6	1	
Stomach .....	4	2	—	—	—	1	1	
<i>Circulatory.</i>								
Apoplexy.....	28	—	—	—	—	11	17	
Aneurysm .....	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Angina Pectoris .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Atheroma .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Heart Disease.....	80	1	—	2	2	28	47	
Thrombosis.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
<i>Nervous.</i>								
Brain Abscess.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Disseminated Sclerosis .....	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Epilepsy .....	5	—	—	—	1	3	1	
Hemiplegia .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Landry's Paralysis .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Meningitis .....	7	—	2	2	1	2	—	
Neuritis .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Paralysis .....	14	—	—	—	1	6	7	
Spinal Disease .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Spina Bifida .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
<i>Respiratory.</i>								
Asthma .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Bronchitis .....	25	8	5	—	—	4	8	
Broncho-Pneumonia .....	8	4	3	—	—	—	1	
Laryngitis .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Laryngismus Stridulus .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Pleuro-Pneumonia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Pneumonia .....	14	—	4	1	1	5	3	
<i>Urinary.</i>								
Nephritis.....	7	—	—	—	1	2	4	
Cystitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Totals .....	606	123	41	25	24	186	207	

SENILE DECAY.—Under 66, 1; between 66-80, 24; 81-90, 35; 91-100, 6.

## MARRIAGES.

The marriage rate for the year was 13·8 per 1,000 persons living. The number of marriages was 298, of which 186 were celebrated in Church of England Churches, 26 in Roman Catholic and 86 in Nonconformist Churches and the Greffe Office.

The marriage rate varies greatly. In 1905 only 249 marriages took place, whilst in the preceding year 326 were registered.

## THE KING EDWARD SANATORIUM.

At the end of 1906 there were 63 patients in the Sanatorium and Mont Crevelt Hospital, and 272 were admitted during the year.

Towards the end of February the numbers dropped and on that account Mont Crevelt was then closed. Of the 304 cases notified in 1907, 32 were treated at home. Of this number 9 died, or 28 $\frac{0}{100}$ ; of the 272 treated at the Sanatorium, only 6 died, or 2·2 $\frac{0}{100}$ .

As there is but little opposition to the removal of bad cases to the Sanatorium these figures are very satisfactory.

The year 1907 was the busiest yet experienced in the operations of the Board of Health and the number of severe cases of Scarlet Fever, and an outbreak of Influenza in the early months prolonging the period of treatment, made the daily average of patients and staff, 50, a very high one.

In times of pressure in the past it has been customary to engage nurses from Nursing Institutions, who, although expensive, work well, but in order to minimise expense a number of nurses were engaged directly by the Board for periods of two or three months.

Although carefully chosen from a large number of applicants, with few exceptions they were inferior in every respect to the regular nurses of the Board, whose loyal services and untiring devotion to their work during the past two busy years deserve the greatest praise.

I have no hesitation in saying that the occurrence of so large a number of cases of Infectious Disease is in great measure due to wilful concealment of such sickness on the part of patients or their relatives.

In several of the most flagrant cases the Board endeavoured to prosecute the offenders, but the wording of the law is such that the Crown Officers could not see their way to institute proceedings against them; they therefore escaped any penalty, and the fact that the law was powerless in such instances appeared to be widely known.

During the five years the Sanatorium has been opened it has on several occasions been full and for months together greatly overcrowded, and unless some means be found of bringing persons who wilfully conceal cases of infectious disease to book, an enlargement of its accommodation and consequently a large increase in expenditure will in the future become necessary.

The receipts from paying patients and the sale of Anti-toxin and Vaccine were respectively :—£65 15s. 7d. and £8 12s. 9d.



Table V.

## CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGES.

DIPHTHERIA.											
0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-60	Total.				
0	20	42	13	8	6	5	94				
SCARLET FEVER.											
3	66	79	27	8	4	12	199				
ENTERIC FEVER.											
0	0	0	0	1	2	7	10				
DOUBTFUL.											
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1				
							<u>304</u>				

## DIPHTHERIA.

Ninety-four cases were notified during the year, the parishes shewing the largest number of cases being the Vale, 32; St. Martin's, 20; and St. Sampson's, 17. That Diphtheria is a disease chiefly affecting country districts is shewn by the figures for the past six years: of 599 cases, 391 were in the Country and 208 in the Town parish, but at least 20 of these were due to infection from the country. Against the overcrowding and greater poverty in towns must be reckoned the benefits of drainage, both as regards houses and the soil, and the collection of household refuse. In the country, houses and the surrounding soil are more often damp, the lack of drainage with the almost inevitable heaps of sewage and filth which render foul the ground surrounding the houses, and the water supply often polluted from the same source account for the increased frequency of the disease.

The Vale epidemic started in the early part of May, a child on l'Ancrese Common having died from Diphtheria with was thought to be Mumps, so no doctor was called in. Three other children of the same family fell ill the next day. The weather was cold and wet, so a large number of children were absent from school for various causes, and although I advised the closing of the school, this course was not, I regret to say, adopted.

The epidemic gradually died down, but started again in the autumn.

In December a similar train of circumstances started an outbreak in St. Sampson's, an unrecognised fatal case giving rise to six cases in four days.

It is no wonder that this disease is spread in the country districts here, as the inhabitants so often declare that they are not afraid of "The Diphthery."

In the interval between the diagnoses of the disease by the medical man and the removal of the patient to the Sanatorium, it is quite usual for the whole neighbourhood to be called in so that they may assure themselves that there is nothing the matter with the patient. Not only adults, but children also are allowed to enjoy this dangerous, but apparently exhilarating experience, and when the latter become tired they have been put to bed with the sick child for a rest. Had I not been able to trace relationship unknown to me in so many cases seemingly unconnected with each other where this was admitted, I should not have realised how very prevalent is the practice which I mention.

Table VI.

## DIPHTHERIA CASES FOR 1907.

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
St. Peter-Port .....	2	1	-	1	3	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	14
St. Sampson's .....	-	1	-	-	1	4	2	-	-	1	2	6	17
Vale .....	1	-	-	3	10	3	3	-	1	7	1	3	32
Castel .....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Saviour's .....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
St. Peter-in-the-Wood.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Torteval .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Forest .....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Martin's .....	1	-	1	1	4	2	7	1	1	2	-	-	20
St. Andrew's .....	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	5
Total .....	5	3	5	5	20	10	13	3	2	12	6	10	94

## SCARLET FEVER.

One hundred and ninety-nine cases were notified during the year, of which 180 were isolated at the Sanatorium.

As was the case in the latter months of the preceding year the Town Parish was chiefly affected in the first two months, but in March cases were noted in five of the country parishes. From then until the end of the year there continued to be cases in St. Sampson's, the Capelles Schools being chiefly affected.

Closing and disinfecting these schools effected some improvement, and the members of the school staff rendered invaluable aid in the wearisome process of tracing the many concealed cases.

Children were often kept at home when feverish and suffering from sore throat and rash, but sent back to school when the rash had subsided, thus tending to spread the disease among other scholars. Another commonly practised plan was to keep back bedding and clothes from being disinfected.

The French population played an active part in keeping the epidemic alive, as on account of the fear of being sent back to their native country they would not apply to the Constables for the purpose of obtaining the services of the parish doctor.

It would therefore be greatly to the advantage of the community generally if they were able to secure his services in the same way as the native-born pauper is able to do.

Table VII.

## SCARLET FEVER CASES FOR 1907.

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port.....	22	12	19	7	1	2	1	2	-	2	1	2	71
St. Sampson's.....	-	-	3	16	5	6	2	2	6	11	4	4	59
Vale .. .. .	-	-	3	1	6	7	-	-	2	5	5	2	31
Castel .. . . .	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
St. Saviour's .. . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
St. Peter-in-the-Wood .. . . .	-	-	4	4	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Torteval .. . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Forest .. . . .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Martin's .. . . .	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
St. Andrew's .. . . .	3	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	16
Total .. . . .	28	15	34	29	16	18	3	5	8	18	12	13	199

## ENTERIC FEVER.

Ten cases of this disease were notified during the year, two of which were imported directly from France. The cases were fairly evenly distributed during the year, the usual autumn incidence not being observed.

Two cases were removed from the Town Hospital, a male and a female inmate being attacked, one in March and one in August; both contracted their sickness during their day out, but the most careful enquiry failed to trace the cause of their illness.

Two cases were certainly due to having eaten infected molluscs both from the same source. In another case the drainage of the house concerned was in a most defective condition.



Two isolated cases occurred in the country parishes and one in Cornet Street, but there was no clue to their causation.

The danger of infection from cheap fried fish shops is now well recognised; in them, small flat fish fried in oil are often cooked imperfectly, and the heat they are subjected to is not sufficient to destroy the Typhoid Bacillus. As each such fish would be a portion for a person only, the origin of sporadic cases may sometimes be traced to these shops.

**Table VIII.**

ENTERIC FEVER FOR 1907.

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port.....	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	1	-	7
St. Sampson's.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Vale.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Castel.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Saviour's.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
St. Peter-in-the-Wood.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Torteval.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Forest.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
St. Martin's.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
St. Andrew's.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	10

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The necessity for examining children attending schools during epidemic periods has been further emphasised during the year, but fortunately arrangements for such examination have now been made. In England, Section 13 of the Education Act of 1907 which came in force at the beginning of 1908 has added to the responsibilities of the Public Health Department, the duty of providing a complete and thorough medical examination of all children attending public elementary schools, such examination to take place as soon as possible after admission to the school and on such other occasions as the Board of Education may direct.

The beneficial results of this Act will be shewn in the future by a physical and mental improvement of the coming generations, so great, that I believe only medical men are in a position to grasp how far-reaching will be its effects in combating the increasing degeneration of the poorer classes which modern methods of life have undoubtedly caused.

It will be only a matter of time before Guernsey adopts this measure also, and the necessity for it should be kept constantly before the public until such a law be made.

It may not be out of place here to call attention to a matter which affects the health of children attending schools other than the primary ones, namely, the abuse of bicycles. There can be no objection to the use of bicycles in moderation, by strong and healthy children, but moderation must be insisted upon.

In the case of children living at a distance from these schools who daily use a bicycle, in the summer months there is not much strain, but in the winter months it is otherwise. Children do not get up so early, less time is given to their breakfast, and whatever the conditions of the weather the usual time for the journey to school is not lengthened, but if anything rendered shorter.

The child with the dread of being late for school has to face perhaps a head wind and driving rain, and arrives at its destination after a strenuous ride exhausted and breathless.

A constant repetition of such conditions causes an insidious and dangerous dilatation of the heart, and if the hearts of all these children were examined, I think a considerable percentage, particularly amongst girls, would be found to be thus affected.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

Sixty deaths were recorded in the year as due to Tuberculosis, 47 of which being due to Pulmonary Phthisis.

This is practically one death in every ten registered, equal to a death rate of 1.36 per 1,000 from Tuberculosis, and lower than the preceding 6 years' average, which is 1.76.

But little progress has been made in the disinfection of houses for this disease in spite of the efforts of the Board to carry out this work, only 17 rooms having been thus treated during the year.

The publication of the second interim report of the Royal Commission upon Tuberculosis in 1907 has only confirmed previous knowledge and brought no few facts to light.

Although there are slight differences between human and bovine tubercle bacilli, these are relatively unimportant, and the broad facts remain that human beings develop Tuberculosis from bovine bacilli, and cattle from human bacilli.

We must now consider a question of more than ordinary interest to our community, the relation of Tuberculosis to Guernsey cattle.

The Guernsey cow is well known, not only for the abundance and rich quality of its milk, but for its freedom from Tuberculosis. It has always been kept pure in breed, no intermixture with any other strain having been allowed.

No animal which had left the Island was ever allowed to return unless conveyed at once to the States Abattoir and there slaughtered, the only exception to this rule being in the case of cattle sent away for exhibition purposes. It is difficult to imagine the reasons which led to this exception being allowed, but the recent Ordinance is a wise reversion to former practice and entirely forbids it.

The chief export trade of Guernsey cattle has been to the United States and Canada where the breed was highly esteemed, and the Veterinary experts of these countries, after testing large numbers of them with a negative result, came to the conclusion that they were immune from Tuberculosis, and so allowed them to be shipped without being tested. This was the position until the autumn of 1906, when like a bolt from the blue came the news that some animals which had been shipped to the United States had been found to be Tuberculous shortly after being landed there.

The United States Inspector then stated that he had received instructions from his Government to test all animals before shipment, and added that in his opinion the disease had been introduced into the Island by means of cattle sent to English shows, afterwards returning to Guernsey.

Enquiries shewed that although other animals of the suspected herd had been affected with Tuberculosis no other herd in the Island had been effected.

The Royal Court promptly passed a drastic Ordinance dealing with Bovine Tuberculosis and forbade the importation of cattle which had been sent away for exhibition purposes.

In spite of the wholesale testing of cattle by the United States and Canadian Governments' Inspectors since this date, no animal has been found to re-act to the Tuberculin test.

A comparison with the results of similar testing amongst cattle in England is most significant. During the hearing of a recent case in the English Law Courts, Professor MacFadyen stated that there was abundant evidence to prove that in England not less than 20% of the adult cattle were affected with Tuberculosis to some extent, and Mr. Wm. Owen Williams, F.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Surgeon to H.M. the King, stated that he knew that 36 out of 40 cows belonging to the late Queen Victoria were Tuberculous. No animal out of the last 1,000 cattle bred and reared in Guernsey which has been killed in the States Abattoir

has been condemned on account of Tuberculosis, and every carcase has been examined by the States Veterinary Inspector, Major G. D. Whitfield. These statements show how remarkable is the immunity from Tuberculosis of Guernsey cattle, and even if they had no other good qualities to recommend them, the breed should be even more highly prized than it is at present.

The cattle breeders of Guernsey should not hide their light under a bushel but should make every endeavour to give these facts the utmost publicity.

I may say that Major Whitfield has had this statement submitted to him, and he entirely agrees with and approves of it.

#### DISINFECTION.

The following are the details of the work undertaken by the Sanitary Staff during the year. In spite of the large number of articles dealt with the States have only had to pay the small sum of £1 1s. 6d. as compensation for articles damaged or lost during disinfection, which proves how carefully and well the work is carried out by the States' employees, even in times of the greatest pressure.

**Table IX.**

#### DISINFECTING FOR 1907.

Blankets, Counterpanes and Sheets .....	1,736
Bolsters and Pillows.....	786
Floor Coverings .....	240
Feather Beds .....	95
Mattresses.....	452
Sundry Articles .....	5,832
Notifiable Rooms .....	307
Non-notifiable Rooms .....	17
Wards and Rooms at the Sanatorium .....	18
Houses visited and revisited .....	465
The Boys, Girls, and Infant Schools of the Vale and Les Capelles. Cabin on board the <i>St. Joseph</i> , of Granville.	

The length of this report prevents my touching upon several matters I should wish to deal with, but one other question must be here considered.

At present if any house drainage or sanitary work be undertaken, there is no system of inspection by a competent authority and the work either passed as satisfactory or condemned as unsatisfactory, although the proposed Building Laws will, I hope, fully meet the difficulty.

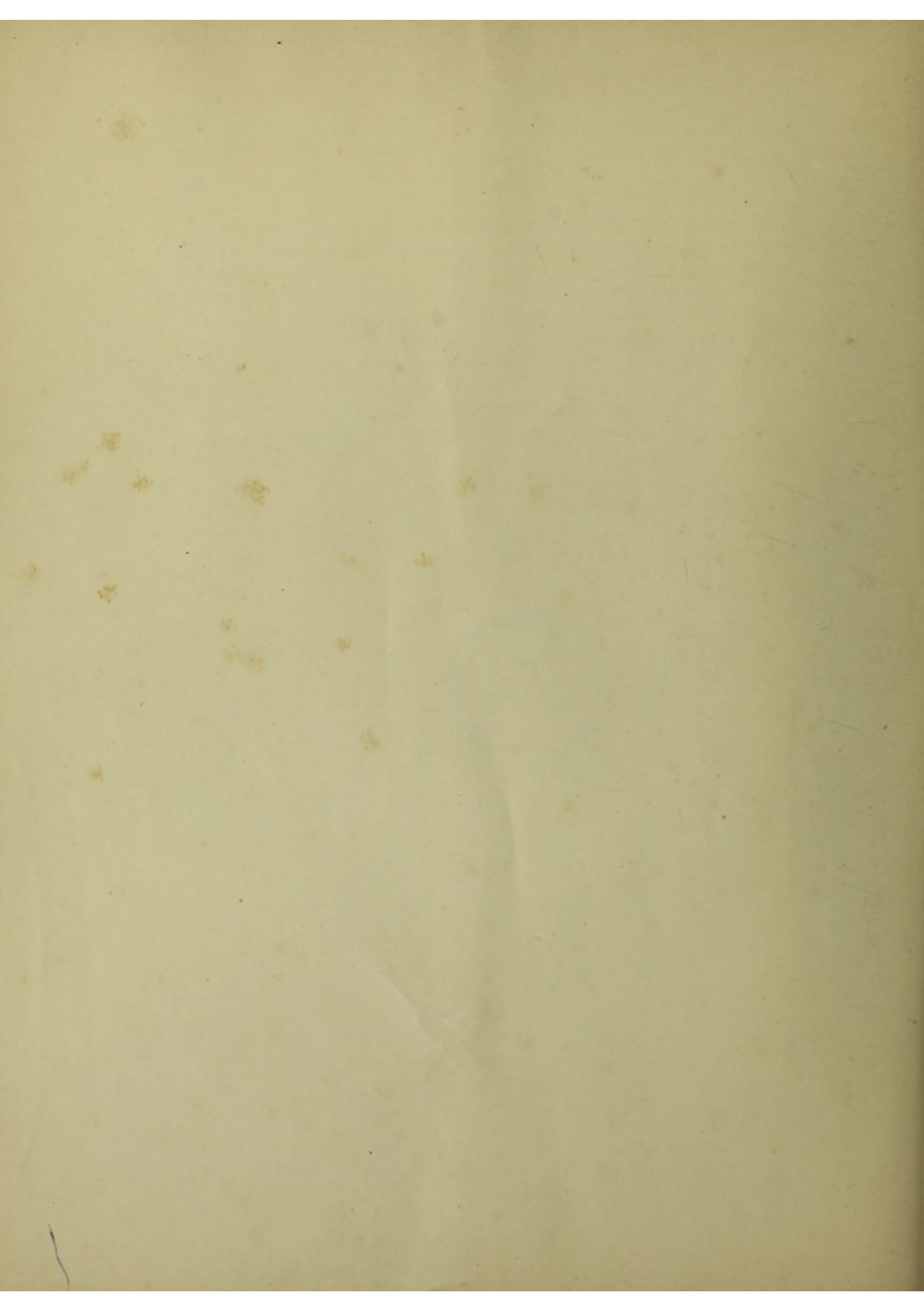
The Bailiff has often deplored the existence of the small employer here who is only fitted to be a workman under skilled supervision, and this man is a veritable curse to the community, when he undertakes the work of a plumber or master builder. Instead of carefully planned and well executed work with good materials, and I may add fair charges, such as the competent contractor can and is willing to tender for, the ignorant and incompetent man secure, in the knowledge that his indifferent work can be covered up and hidden from view, underbids the capable and honest contractor.

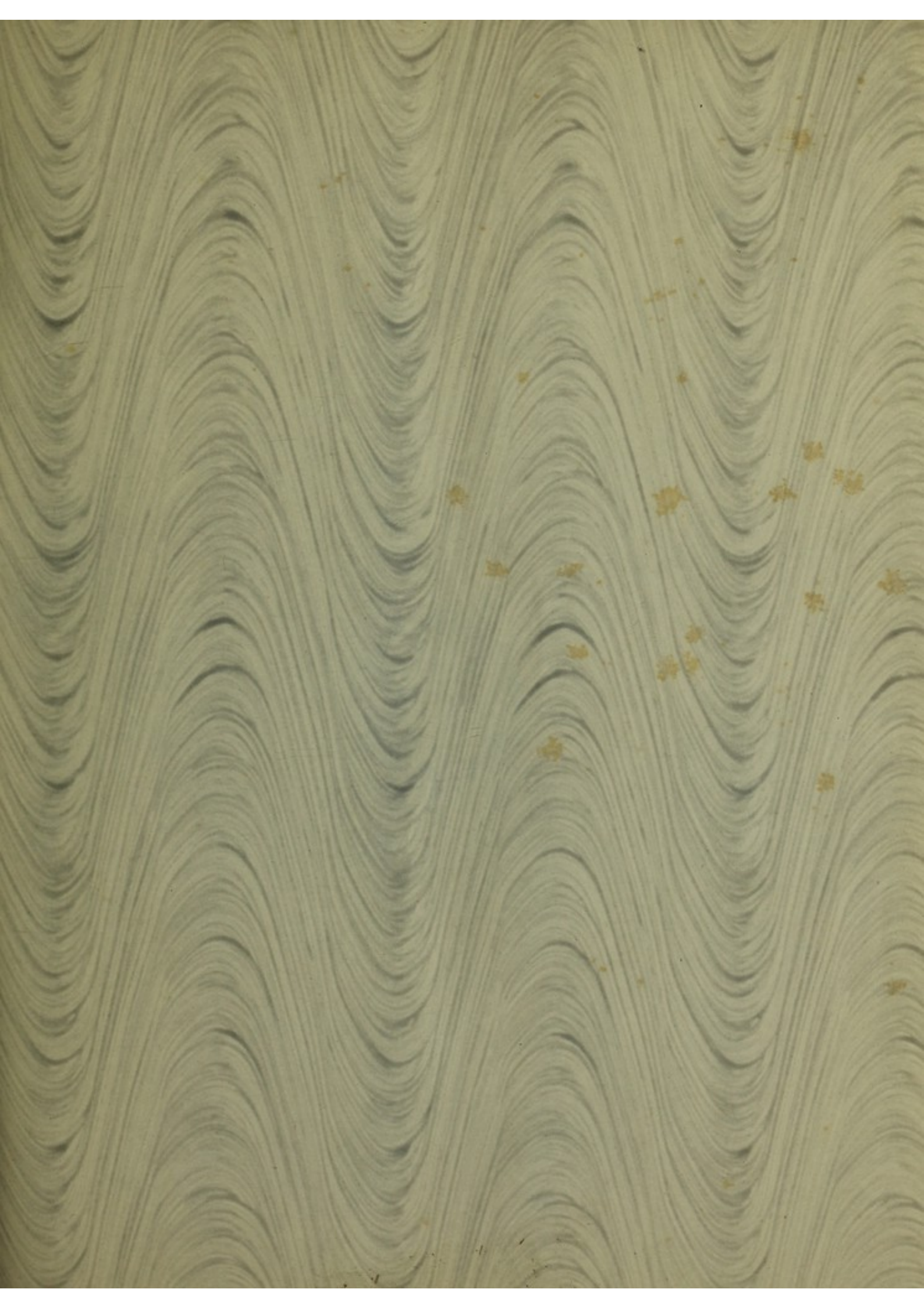
Both he and the public should be protected from such frauds and a guarantee supplied that all work of this description should be efficient in every respect.

HY. DRAPER BISHOP,  
Medical Officer of Health.



1874







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