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GUILDFORD
Rural Sanitary District.

Annual Health Report

FOR 1895,

BY

W. WELLINGTON LAKE,
D.P.H. (CANTAB.)


Medical Officer of Health,

*Medical Officer to the Guildford, Godalming, and Woking
Joint Hospital Board.*

Guildford :

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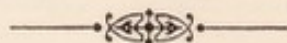
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Guildford Rural Sanitary District.



Annual Health Report for 1895



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Prepared in accordance with Section 14 of the Order of the Local Government Board, dated 23rd March, 1891, regulating the duties of Medical Officers of Health.

GUILDFORD RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Annual Health Report, 1893.

The Chairman and Members of the Guildford Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my third Annual Health Report.

I. Parishes, Acreage, Inhabited Houses, &c.

At the census of 1891 the Guildford Rural Sanitary District comprised sixteen entire Parishes and part of three Parishes grouped into five Registration Sub-Districts. The area was 65,046 statute acres. The number of inhabited houses was 6,269. (Population, *vide* Vital Statistics, Section IV. of this Report.)

In consequence of the absorption at the end of 1891 of nearly the whole of the contributory places of Farncombe, Charterhouse, and Crownpits (which are in the Godalming Sub-District) into the extended Borough of Godalming; and the constitution at the end of 1893 of the whole of the Parish of Woking into an Urban District, the total acreage of the Guildford Rural District became reduced to 56,578 statute acres, and the inhabited houses were thus reduced to 4,683.

The total Rateable Value is now £129,287.

The following are the constituent Parishes and Sub-districts, with the acreage, number of houses, &c., at the census of 1891 :

Registration Sub-Districts.	Population in 1891.	Parishes.	Acreage.	Number of Inhabited Houses at Census 1891	Population at Census 1891
ALBURY.....	5133	Albury.....	4920	254	1321
		Shere	3900	420	2090
		East Clandon	1430	57	300
		West Clandon	991	85	446
		East Horsley	1740	68	375
		West Horsley	3000	143	601
GUILDFORD.....	5205	Stoke (part)	2159	516	2956
		S. Nicholas (part)	2693	170	956
		Merrow	1640	237	1293
GODALMING	8976	Godalming (part)*	8116	1333	7703
		Puttenham	1289	97	441
		Compton	1790	115	558
		Wanborough	1560	51	274
RIPLEY	2837	Send and Ripley	5680	423	2049
		Ockham	2310	118	600
		Wisley.....	1170	40	188
WOKING	10715	Woking†.....	8889	1584	‡8006
		Pirbright.....	5050	167	889
		Worplesdon.....	7140	389	1820

* Partly absorbed by the Borough of Godalming end of 1891.

† Constituted separate Urban District end of 1893.

‡ Exclusive of Inmates of Public Institutions.

II. Topography, Geology, Water Supply, &c.

(1) The Guildford Rural Sanitary District occupies about one-seventh of the administrative County of Surrey, and is situated partly in the North-west and partly in the South-west of the County. It is irregular in shape, and embraces 57,578 acres—one of the largest Rural Districts in Surrey.

It comprises the several Parishes I have enumerated in Section I. of this Report, together with their respective areas and populations. The surface generally is undulating and diversified, presenting in parts beautiful scenery.

The Municipal Boroughs and Urban Sanitary Districts of Guildford and Godalming stand out in relief, the former nearly central, and the latter in the South-west of the District; whilst in the North of the District is the large and newly constituted Urban District of Woking till 1893 one of the Parishes of the Guildford Rural Sanitary District.

The Topography and Geology of the District are described in detail in my Annual Report for 1894, and the following is an epitome of the Geology :—

(2) To the South of the Hog's Back and Albury Downs there is a wide area of sands (lower greensands) as at Puttenham Common and Heath, Albury Heath and Heath Wood.

Immediately South of the Hog's Back and Albury Downs, North of Shere, there is a fringe of clay (gault), and North of it a narrow band of sand and sandstone (upper greensand).

A ridge of chalk extends from the Hog's Back through Merrow and Clandon Downs, with thin gravelly tracts here and there from Albury Downs to Netley Heath.

A belt of sandy and clayey ground (Reading beds) occurs North of the chalk ridge, extending from St. Bartholomew's by Merrow to East Horsley.

The area to the North comprises a broad tract of stiff clay (London clay) as at Wood Street and onwards by West Clandon to Ockham. Thin gravelly patches occur here and there in the Wey Valley and at Wood Street, West Clandon and Duncombe Farm.

Beyond is an extensive tract mainly of sands with some loamy layers (Bagshot beds) and with coverings of gravel—on the whole a very mixed area: and with the exception of the loamy areas which support water (shallow pools, &c.) the region is essentially a porous one as around Pirbright, Woking, Ripley, and Wisley.

The vale at Pease Marsh East of Compton is clay (weald clay) with coverings of gravel: the same clay occurs over the Southern portions of the area, at Great Godalming Copse, and again at Smith Wood, South of Hurt Wood.

(3) THE WATER SUPPLY is chiefly derived from (a) Mains of the Woking Water Company (b) Village Works at Shere (c) Village Works at Albury (d) Deep Wells, and (e) Shallow or Surface Wells.

The sources of supply from (a) (b) (d) and (e) were fully commented upon in my last Report.

It only now remains to add that—(a) the WOKING COMPANY have extended their mains 2,510 yards, and laid on 29 services ; and (c) to describe the new Works at Albury.

(c) VILLAGE WORKS AT ALBURY. During the year the Duke of Northumberland has constructed private Water Works for the supply of water to Albury Village and Albury Heath.

A 4-inch tube well has been bored on land near the Parish boundary to the West of Albury Village. The depth of the boring is 35 feet and the yield is 8,640 gallons per 24 hours, and it is expected that this can be considerably increased, when necessary, by enlarging the boring from 4 inches to 6 inches.

The water being obtained from the greensands is of excellent quality, and rises to the surface of the ground.

A reservoir has been constructed on the high ground near Albury Heath at an elevation of 402 feet above ordnance datum, and 222 feet above the pumping station. Into this reservoir the water is pumped for storage, the motive power being a waterwheel of 3 horse power, driven by water from the Tillingbourne stream.

The total length of mains at present in use is 3,260 yards of 3-inch and 437 yards of 2-inch mains, distributed as follows :—

1785 yards of 3-inch mains—Pumping Station to Reservoir.				
440	”	3-	”	—in Village.
240	”	2-	”	— ”
1035	”	3-	”	—Albury Heath.
197	”	2-	”	— ” ”

(4) WATER ANALYSES, 1895. During the year twenty-one samples of drinking water have been forwarded to Dr. Samuel Rideal, (D. Sc. Lond.) for analysis.

Samples were sent from altogether three wells, which were intended for the supply of water to new houses in the district, and in each case the Analyst reported the samples suitable for drinking purposes, and Water Certificates under Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, which in each case were applied for, were granted.

The total number of such certificates which were granted during the year was 34 in respect of 54 houses, 51 of which were supplied from the mains of the Public Water Works, and the others from private wells or tanks.

Samples of water were also sent from suspected wells in various parts of the District, with the result that some polluted wells were closed, and a supply obtained from the mains of one of these Companies. (See also the following table.)

TABLE, showing the number of samples of potable water, which were sent to the Public Analyst during the year, from private wells in the District, with the results :—

Situation of the Premises from which the samples were taken.	NUMBER OF SAMPLES FOUND		Total number analysed during the year 1895.	Number of Owners, who, on receipt of notice, took a supply of water from the Co.
	So polluted as to be injurious to health.	Good		
Godalming (Rural).....	...	1	1	1
Pirbright.....	5	...	5	...
Stoke	1	...	1	1
Albury .....	...	2	2	...
Worplesdon .....	...	1	1	...
Merrow .....	...	2	2	...
Puttenham .....	...	1	1	...
East Horsley .....	...	1	1	...
Artington .....	...	1	1	...
Ripley and Send.....	6	...	6	4
TOTAL IN 1895	12	9	21	6

III. Meteorology.

For this section of the Report I am indebted to Mr. J. Bartlett, of Cloverley, Bramley.

The rainfall of 1895 in the neighbourhood of Guildford, and in West Surrey generally, may be considered well below the average, as it probably was throughout England. At Horsell 7·40-in. less than in 1894 was registered. Deposit of snow was slight during the year. The rainfall seems to have been somewhat eccentrically local and partial in some instances, as witness the year's totals registered at two of the Guildford Rural stations, Guildown and Wern, which were respectively 21·81-in. and 25·56-in.; also 20·92-in. at Cobham, and 28·26-in. at Bramley, distant from each other about 12 miles in a direct line. July was by far the wettest month in the year (and one of the hottest), and February the driest and coldest; the total rainfall registered at all the nine stations in July being 43·38-in., while that of February was 1·49-in. only. The highest total fall for the year is shown by Bramley, and the lowest by Cobham. The month of September was exceptionally warm and dry, the highest shade register of the year occurring on the 27th, when the shade maximum at Horsell stood at 86 deg., and at Bramley 84 deg. The coldest day was February 7th, when a minimum of 3 deg. was registered at Horsell, and at Bramley 0·8 deg. at a height of 4-ft., and 3·5 deg. on grass, both of these last below zero.

The monthly rainfall records from ten different stations have been kindly supplied to me as below, and will be found interesting.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.	in.
Guildford Rural													
(Guildown)	2·47	0·18	1·52	1·93	0·42	0·42	5·34	2·48	0·83	3·30	4·08	2·62	25·59
Do. (Listoke) ..	2·28	0·08	1·29	1·54	0·96	0·39	4·25	3·43	1·65	2·78	4·05	2·27	24·77
Do. (Piccards) .	1·86	0·24	1·39	1·78	0·25	0·33	5·33	2·60	0·83	3·18	4·49	2·71	24·99
Do. (Wern) ..	1·75	0·16	1·32	1·44	0·41	0·31	4·69	2·01	0·72	2·84	3·91	2·31	21·87
Charterhouse.....	2·41	0·19	1·60	2·03	0·38	0·36	5·38	2·52	0·71	3·00	4·67	2·76	26·01
Cobham	1·70	0·12	1·15	1·35	0·75	0·24	4·20	2·49	0·75	2·78	3·54	1·85	20·92
Horsell	1·91	0·14	1·27	1·32	0·43	0·28	4·16	2·30	0·89	3·05	3·29	2·00	21·04
Seale	2·10	0·16	1·77	1·39	0·23	0·39	4·69	1·95	0·47	2·54	3·51	2·58	21·88
Bramley	2·86	0·22	1·95	1·97	0·31	0·31	5·34	3·16	0·75	3·09	5·33	2·97	28·26
Pyrford Vicarage ..	1·79	0·00	1·00	1·63	0·29	0·26	4·35	2·34	1·10	2·92	3·25	2·00	20·97

IV. Vital Statistics.

1. The *Population* of the District at the census of 1891 (exclusive of the Public Institutions) was 32,866. The *Population* of the District in middle of 1895 may be estimated at 20,930 persons, or less by 11,936 persons than it was at the census of 1891, in consequence of the absorption at the end of 1862 of nearly the whole of the contributory places of Crownpits, Farncombe and Charterhouse into the Borough of Godalming; and of the formation of the parish of Woking at the end of 1893 into a separate Urban District. The estimated population of each constituent registration Sub-District in the middle of the year is given in Table A at the end of this Report.

2. The number of *Births* registered in the District during the year was 559, (or 89 more than in the preceding year,) which represents an *Annual Birth-rate* of 26·7 per 1000 of the population estimated as above, and is about the average.

3. The number of *Deaths* registered in the District during the year (exclusive of those in Public Institution) was 247. Adding 32 deaths in the Workhouse and Royal Surrey County Hospital, and one in the Brookwood Asylum, of persons belonging to this District, and deducting 2 deaths in the Isolation Hospital of persons not belonging to this District, there remain 278 deaths, which represent an *Annual Death-rate* of 13·3 per 1000 of the estimated population. (See also Table A at the end of this Report.

4. The number of *Births*, and the *corrected* number of *Deaths*, registered in the whole District during each of the last fifteen years,

with the Annual Birth-rates and corrected Death-rates, were as follows :—

Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.	
	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.		No. of Births.	Birth Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.
1881	806	29·8	335	12·4	1889	927	30·0	399	12·5
1882	880	32·0	345	12·5	1890	842	26·0	460	14·2
1883	903	32·0	419	14·9	1891	904	27·4	494	15·0
1884	907	31·5	393	13·6	1892	862	25·8	483	14·4
1885	969	33·0	407	13·8	1893	834	29·0	373	13·1
1886	1008	33·6	467	15·6	1894	470	22·8	217	10·6
1887	984	32·1	421	13·8	1895	559	26·7	268	12·8
1888	882	28·3	371	11·6					

5. The deaths during the year from *Pulmonary Consumption* were 25 in number, and were at the rate of 1·1 per 1000 of the population. The deaths from *Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia* were 25 in number, and were at the rate of 1·5 per 1000 of the population, which is about the average rate in the District from these Diseases.

6. As to the *Age at Death*. The deaths during the year of *Infants under one year* were 44 in number, and were equal to 8 per cent. of the registered births, which is below the previous average rate of the District.

The deaths during the year of *persons aged sixty-five years and upwards* were 85 in number, and were about $34\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the deaths at all ages.

7. The *number* of Births and Deaths registered during the year, in each of the five Registration Sub-districts into which the constituent Parishes of the District are grouped, is given in Table A at the end of this Report.

The Annual Birth-rates and *corrected* Death-rates in each of these Sub-districts, for the last fifteen years, were as follows :—

Year.	SUB-DISTRICTS.									
	RIPLEY.		ALBURY.		GUILDFORD.		WOKING.		GODALMING.	
	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1881	28·6	9·7	36·5	13·6	29·3	9·1	26·3	13·0	30·8	13·8
1882	33·7	15·9	28·6	12·5	34·6	10·6	38·3	14·1	27·0	8·9
1883	36·5	14·2	31·0	13·0	31·0	14·0	36·0	17·2	29·5	14·5
1884	30·1	11·6	29·7	15·9	38·9	15·2	33·7	13·1	27·0	13·0
1885	28·0	15·5	25·1	13·8	42·0	13·5	36·0	15·0	31·0	12·2
1886	32·8	15·4	31·2	15·3	44·4	17·0	33·3	16·4	30·0	14·3
1887	33·2	15·0	30·0	14·0	36·0	15·7	36·1	11·9	28·0	14·4
1888	27·8	11·9	27·4	10·9	29·0	9·4	30·6	12·6	26·3	12·7
1889	31·5	18·6	27·5	12·5	25·1	10·5	29·0	13·0	26·3	11·5
1890	23·8	10·6	23·0	14·1	28·0	10·8	30·6	16·0	22·0	15·0
1891	27·1	13·0	24·0	17·5	30·9	15·1	29·0	14·3	25·8	15·4
1892	24·4	15·7	24·8	14·6	27·8	15·6	28·0	16·7	22·8	10·5
1893	29·0	11·8	24·5	11·2	22·1	10·3	32·7	13·4	31·3	17·2
1894	24·9	9·0	21·2	11·0	28·5	8·2	22·2	12·4	16·2	9·0
1895	24·1	11·7	26·9	11·8	31·0	9·8	33·8	19·0	18·4	10·5

NOTE.—In calculating these Death-rates, each Sub-district has been debited with the deaths in the Workhouse, in the Isolation Hospital, in the Royal County Hospital, and in the Brookwood Asylum, of persons belonging to it as well as with the deaths which actually occurred in each Sub-district.

V. Summary of Sickness and Mortality during the Year from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and of certain other Diseases which have to be notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1869.

1. *Small-pox.*

There was no case notified during the year.

2. *Scarlet Fever*, otherwise called *Scarlatina*.

There were 37 cases in 19 houses, and 19 of the patients went to the Isolation Hospital. In 1894 there were 39 cases in 31 houses, whilst in 1893 there were 205 cases in 118 houses.

The disease during the past year was of a mild type, and none of the cases proved fatal. Thirty-two out of the thirty-seven cases were satisfactorily traced directly or indirectly, to causes outside the District, whilst one was a doubtful case, and the origin of the remaining four could not be accounted for.

During the *first quarter* of the year there were eleven cases. The first was in the parish of St. Nicholas, and was imported from Wilts; the second was a postman's child in Stoke, and the source could not be traced; and the third was in a public-house at Pirbright, and is believed to have been contracted from a customer. The next five occurred in two adjoining cottages in Elm Terrace, Stoke, and the infection was undoubtedly imported by a relative from Hants. The remaining three were in one house at Stoughton, and the disease was contracted in London by one of the patients. With the exception of the postman's child all the patients went to the Hospital.

In the *second quarter* of the year, possibly partly owing to the strict isolation carried out in the first quarter, there was not one notification.

The *third quarter* was nearly as favourable, and there were only two notifications. One was a somewhat doubtful case at Shere,

and the other was that of a girl belonging to the Borough, whence she went for a stay at Aldershot. She was taken ill the day after arrival, and a medical practitioner expressing an opinion that she was sickening for a fever, she was brought by her father to the Isolation Hospital, placed in a separate ward, and the rash appeared a few hours afterwards.

During the *last quarter* of the year twenty-four cases were reported. (a) Seven were associated with a private school at Ripley. A little boy came from Herts after the Michaelmas holidays, and the next day the rash was discovered. Two of the school-mistresses and four day-boarders quickly contracted the affection. Four of the patients were treated in the Hospital. (b) Seven others were contracted through an imported case from Milford, where the fever had been prevalent, and all attended the Shackleford School and came from Eashing and Lydling. Altogether four houses were invaded, and three of the patients went to Hospital. A careful "house-to-house inspection" and prompt and strict isolation soon arrested the spread without closing the schools. (c) Six occurred in a private house at Frith Hill, just outside the Borough of Godalming, and except that one of the servants was often at Eashing during the outbreak just mentioned, it was difficult to account for the invasion. (d) Of the remaining four one was at Tuesley, and was contracted at Milford, and the other three were at Compton, Wanborough, and Pirbright respectively, and the origin of the attacks could not be traced. The patient from Pirbright went into Hospital.

3. *Diphtheria.*

This disease was remarkable for its absence during the year, only 12 cases occurring in 9 houses as against 40 in 28 houses in 1894, and 283 cases in 127 houses in 1893. After the District had been free from Diphtheria for over five months two cases were reported in May, one at Merrow and the other at Eashing. The next two cases were notified in July, one at Worplesdon and one at Stoughton. There were two more at Stoughton in August. The District was then free for three months, when a case was imported into Ripley from Woking, and another into

Wanborough from Godalming. These two patients went into the Hospital. Four cases were notified during the same month from a farmer's house at Pirbright.

Eight of the patients were under five years of age, one was nine, and the remaining three were adults. It was difficult to trace the cause of these sporadic outbreaks, but omitting the imported cases, serious sanitary defects were more or less invariably associated with the infected premises, with the exception of the one at Merrow Common, and that was in a new cottage.

4. *Enteric Fever*, otherwise called *Typhoid Fever*.

There were four notifications during the year. (a) The first was in May, and the patient the child of an army officer at Woolwich came on a visit to Merrow in the incubating stage, and the onset supervened shortly after its arrival. (b) The second notification was from Shere in the month of June, and the patient, a servant girl, came home ill from London, and the disease was diagnosed a day or two afterwards. (c) The next case was from East Horsley and was also imported. The patient came from Portsmouth, October 7th, and was then unwell, and on the 13th the disease was recognised as enteric fever and reported. (d) The last case was at Pirbright, and the water, on analysis, was found to be polluted.

5. *Measles*

Measles were very prevalent in the winter months of the year, and the schools at Puttenham and Stoke Hill were closed for a few weeks on this account. There was, however, no fatality.

6. *Whooping Cough*

Whooping cough was unusually prevalent during the year, and caused no less than eleven deaths, ten of which were in children under five years of age.

7. *Diarrhoea*

Diarrhoea caused six deaths, and four were in children under five years of age.

The total deaths from these Seven Zymotic Diseases were 18, namely, 11 from Whooping Cough, 6 from Diarrhoea, and 1 from Diphtheria. The *Annual Zymotic Death-rate* was therefore 0·8 against 1·2 in 1894, and 1·8 in 1893.

The following *Table* also shows the number of deaths in the District (excluding the deaths of non-parishioners in Public Institutions) from these seven diseases during the year 1895, and the eleven preceding years, and the *Zymotic death-rate* for each of those years :—

YEAR.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	CONTINUED FEVER			Diarrhoea.	TOTAL.	
						Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Other kinds		Number.	Rate per 1000 of the Population.
1884	...	3	3	4	9	...	5	...	25	49	1.7
1885	4	6	1	5	3	...	5	...	18	42	1.5
1886	1	14	1	1	23	...	1	...	16	57	1.9
1887	...	20	6	6	6	...	4	1	5	48	1.6
1888	...	3	2	1	4	...	5	1	3	19	0.7
1889	...	4	2	6	8	...	6	...	8	34	1.1
1890	...	18	1	2	13	...	3	...	9	46	1.5
1891	...	4	2	7	12	...	2	...	4	31	0.9
1892	...	2	1	9	6	...	...	...	9	27	0.8
1893	...	1	2	33	1	...	4	...	10	51	1.8
1894	...	1	...	16	...	...	1	...	3	21	1.2
1895	2	11	...	1	...	6	20	0.8

Of the other Diseases to which the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, applies, the following cases were notified, viz. :—

Puerperal Fever.

Two cases were notified, and both proved fatal. One occurred at Ripley in the month of January. There was a cesspool about 20 feet from the room where the patient died, into which all the drains emptied, and which were defective, and an overflow from the cesspool connected it with the main sewer of the village. The other case was at Witley, in the month of February. It appeared the nurse was attending a case of Erysipelas close by, and which also proved fatal, and it seemed at the time more than probable that septic poison was conveyed by the nurse from the Erysipelas to the Puerperal patient. Both these cases were accidentally notified to the Medical Officer of the Hambledon District.

VI. Action taken for Preventing the Spread of Infectious Disease.

(1) In addition to the usual isolation of the sick and their removal where possible to the Isolation Hospital; attention to the milk, water, and food supplies; inspection of premises and abatement of nuisances; the final cleansing and disinfecting of the houses; and the treatment of all clothing, bedding, carpets, &c., in the Washington Lyons Steam Disinfector at Woodbridge, I have adopted the extra precautions with regard to (2) Diphtheria and (3) Scarlet Fever I described in my last Report. The results with Diphtheria have been so far satisfactory that I venture to again briefly describe the steps I have taken during the last two or three years. Of course, other causes may have accounted for the falling off of the notifications from Diphtheria, but the diminution has been well maintained, and this year there have been fewer cases recorded, both in this District and in Woking, than in any similar period since the introduction of the Notification Act. In the Guildford Rural District there were only twelve cases in nine houses, and in the Woking Urban District only two cases in one house, and several of these were imported from without the Districts.

(2) As to *Diphtheria*.

During the year I kept a careful supervision over the throats of at least nearly all the children attending School, and printed notices were sent to every School in recently infected Districts, and School Managers and Attendance Officers were asked to exercise the greatest precaution on the re-assembly of the Scholars after holidays. During the past year, after the re-assembly of the Schools, I have, as far as possible, personally examined the throats of the children attending the principal Schools, and sometimes at the homes of the children where "*Sore Throat*" has been prevalent, but more especially at the Schools themselves. At the latter I adopt the following method:—armed with a couple of nickle-plated

tongue depressors, a few clean towels, and a laryngeal mirror, I ask for one or two basins of hot water, which I frequently change. Whilst examining the throat with one tongue depressor the other remains in the water, and in this way I systematically examine, at suitable times, every child attending School, and I rigidly exclude every child where there is the least suspicion of "*Sore Throat*," and with few exceptions I have been able to keep these cases from School till the throat has become normal. If the *Diphtheria bacillus* is available, the chances of a normal throat being attacked is nothing compared to what would occur in the presence of sore throats generally. In some cases of enlarged tonsils and elongated uvulæ I have advised removal, and this has usually been adopted where recommended. It is obvious that if the Schools are attended only by children with normal throats the risk of infection from *Diphtheria* is minimised, and given that the Medical Officer of Health only has the time, an inspection of the Schools on first assembling after holidays must be an invaluable preventive method. I can say very positively, that since I have adopted this measure I have noticed a marked absence of *Diphtheria*, or anyhow, a remarkable diminution of the disease in those Districts where it was formerly so persistently prevalent. I need scarcely say I visited all the initial cases, and absolutely excluded all members of the infected houses from Schools. Further, it should be noted, that having all the throat cases under supervision and discipline, occasion does not seem to arise for closing the Schools, and I have not closed a School for *Diphtheria* in any District during the past year. On the other hand, as I have so often reiterated, I naturally play havoc with the School Attendances in weeding out all the throat cases, however trivial; and it is high time the Educational Acts were adapted to the times, and that if the School Grants are made according to the average attendances, that those cases, in the interests of the Public Health, excluded from attendance by the Medical Officer of Health or by other Medical Certificate should count as though they were actually attending during the whole of the absence prescribed.

(3) *As to Scarlet Fever.*

I have visited (with one or two rare exceptions where quite unnecessary) every infected house and every possibly infected house. I have put myself in immediate communication with the School Authorities. I have stopped all School attendance from every infected house and every possibly infected house. I have not resorted to the closure of Schools for Scarlet Fever during the whole of the year, though I know they are sometimes the means of propagation of the disease. It seems to me that closing School, for this disease, is seldom necessary, and often mischievous, and that having every infected case under supervision, there is less risk incurred in keeping the other children together at School and under discipline and intelligent observation, than by sending them home to run loose into the villages and streets and out of sight, and beyond the reach of discipline. Anyhow, I have completely checked in the way I have described, every outbreak during the past year.

(4) *Surrey County Council Zymotic Returns.*

The Medical Officer of Health of the County organized and commenced in January the monthly collection from, and subsequent distribution to every Medical Officer of Health in Surrey, of the various monthly Notification Returns from every Sanitary District in the County, together with the returns of the other Zymotic Diseases where ascertained to be prevalent. These monthly returns were collected the first two or three days of the month, and as a rule during the first week of each month a complete printed summary of the returns from every Sanitary District in the County was in the hands of each Medical Officer of Health. These monthly summaries proved most valuable in showing the relative prevalence of all the Zymotic Diseases in the several Sanitary Districts, and so putting the Officers of the various Authorities on the alert when infection from without threatened to invade their own Districts.

Note.—A synopsis of all patients treated in the Hospital during 1895 appears under Sect. VII., *Page 21.*

VII. Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital Board.

1. *Isolation Hospital.*

In the early part of 1893, the Local Government Board issued their Provisional Order forming the Guildford Rural, Guildford Urban, and Godalming Urban Sanitary Districts into an United District, for the purpose of providing an Isolation Hospital for the joint use of persons residing in the United District, and the Order was subsequently confirmed by Parliament. The Parish of Woking was then included in the Guildford Rural District, and shortly after the formation of this Parish at the end of 1893 into a separate Urban Sanitary District the Authority made application for the admission of their District into the existing United District.

An Order was issued by the Local Government Board in 1894 under Article XXI. of the Provisional Order of 1893, and under the style of the "Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital Board," Woking was henceforth entitled to two representatives on the Board, Guildford Rural five, Guildford Urban four, and Godalming two. The representations were based on the respective populations and not on the rateable valuations.

In the same year the Joint Board purchased the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority's Hospital at Woodbridge (which was established in 1885) for the sum of £5,926, and one acre of land belonging to the Guildford Corporation and adjoining the Hospital for £315.

At present there is accommodation for 40 patients, allowing each patient 2,000 cubic feet air space and 140 square feet floor space per bed. This number of patients should never be exceeded.

During the past year a new Laundry and Mortuary were erected on the plans previously approved by the Local Government Board; and a Washington Lyons Steam Disinfector was purchased and fixed in the place of the old Hot Air Chamber which after many years service had become quite inefficient. The total cost of these alterations and additions amounted to £1,360 18s. 8d.

2. *Isolation for Small-pox Patients.*

The negotiations which were in progress at the end of 1894 between Mr. Richard Garton and other inhabitants of Worplesdon, with the view of preventing the Joint Board from using the acquired site on Whitmoor Common, came to an end at the beginning of last year, as no settlement satisfactory to the Joint Board could be arrived at.

The plaintiffs therefore served notice of motion for an injunction to restrain the Joint Board from using the site, or any existing buildings, or any buildings to be erected thereon, for the purpose of treating Small-pox patients. Before the hearing of the motion could come on the plaintiffs applied for an interim injunction. This application was heard before Mr. Justice North, in the High Court of Chancery, last March, when his lordship refused to grant this, but gave leave that further motion might be made to him should the site be used for Small-pox patients before the trial of the action. At a subsequent application of the plaintiffs he gave them leave to amend the writ by joining the Attorney General as a party.

The action was afterwards transferred to Mr. Justice Kekewich's Court, and came on for trial before him in November. The Joint Board disclaiming any intention to use the present buildings for the purpose of the reception of Small-pox patients, his lordship refused to grant the injunction they asked for.

3. *Synopsis of Cases in the Isolation Hospital, 1895.*

Sixty-eight patients were treated in the Hospital during the year 1895. At the commencement of the year there were remaining in Hospital 6 patients—namely, *Scarlet Fever*, 4; *Diphtheria*, 2; Of the 4 *Scarlet Fever* patients, 2 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, and 2 to the Woking Urban District; and the 2 *Diphtheria* patients belonged to the Woking Urban District. During the year there were 62 fresh admissions—namely, *Scarlet Fever*, 52; *Diphtheria*, 7; and *Enteric Fever*, 3. Of the 52 cases of *Scarlet Fever*—19 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 17 to

the Borough of Guildford, 9 to the Borough of Godalming, and 7 to the Woking Urban District. Of the 7 admissions of *Diphtheria*, 2 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 4 to the Borough of Guildford, and 1 to the Borough of Godalming. Of the 3 cases of *Enteric Fever*, 1 came from Woking, and 1 each from the Boroughs of Guildford and Godalming.

There were 2 deaths in the Institution, one from *Enteric Fever*, one from *Diphtheria*. Both patients came from Godalming, and the former was moribund on admission.

There was only one "return case" of *Scarlet Fever* during the year.

The number of persons who were admitted into the Hospital, and the number who died there in each year, since the Hospital was opened, with the nature of their illness is shewn in the following Table:—

From what Districts.	YEARS.	Small Pox.		Scarlatina.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Guildford (Rural)	1885	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1886	2	1	4	...	2	...	...	...
	1887	...	...	25	1	8	1	5	3
	1888	...	...	14	2	4	...	7	2
	1889	...	...	54	1	3	2	11	5
	1890	...	...	18	...	5	...	9	...
	1891	...	...	12	...	14	4	2	1
	1892	...	...	31	1	19	2	2	...
	1893	...	...	80	...	94	33	1	...
	1894	...	...	24	...	30	6	...	...
Guildford (Urban)	1895	...	...	19	...	2	...	...	...
	1893	14	4	12	...	23	12	1	...
	1894	...	...	11	...	17	5	...	...
Godalming (Urban)	1895	...	...	17	...	4	...	1	...
	1893	...	...	9	...	...	...	1	...
	1894	...	...	7	...	1	...	...	...
Woking.....	1895	...	...	9	...	1	1	1	1
	1894	...	...	33	...	4	1	...	...
*Farnham (Rural)	1895	...	...	7	...	...	...	1	...
	1893	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...
*Dorking (Rural)	1894	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...

* Admitted by accident.

VII. Sewage Disposal Systems.

1. *Scavenging.*

At no place within the District is a system of scavenging in operation under your own control. At ALBURY the voluntary system in operation continues to work satisfactorily from a sanitary point of view, but this system does not include the removal of garbage, ashes, and other house refuse. At SHERE, Mr. R. M. Bray, undertakes the scavenging of a few pail closets.

In the month of August I pointed out to the Authority that in some portions of the District a scavenging scheme is urgently required providing for—

- (a) The removal of the contents of Privy Vaults not exceeding 10 cubic feet.
- (b) The removal of the contents of Pail and Earth Closets, and
- (c) „ „ „ House Refuse.

The following places are given as suitable for immediate action in the order in which they are placed :—

- (a) That portion of the Parish of Stoke-next-Guildford, to the North of London Road.
- (b) Ripley Village. Cartbridge Village (Send and Ripley.)
- (c) Merrow.
- (d) Shere and Gomshall Villages (Shere.)
- (e) Pitch Place (Worplesdon.)

Probably the most satisfactory arrangement would be to enter into contracts for the removal of each section or group, and the work to be carried out under the supervision of one of the Council's Officers.

2. *Drainage Schemes.*

(a) **STOUGHTON DRAINAGE SCHEME.**—Plans and estimates for the Sewerage of Stoughton have been prepared by Mr. Nicholson Lailey, *M. Inst., C.E.*, and have been adopted by the Council, but no agreement has yet been come to with the Guildford Town Council as to the terms on which they will undertake to deal with the sewage, at their Sewage Disposal Works at Bellfields.

(b) **RIPLEY SEWERS.**—Early in the year a section of the 9" sewer about 50 yards long, was found to be completely choked with semi-solid filth. This was cleaned out and the sewer flushed. At a subsequent meeting of the Council it was suggested that special means of flushing should be provided. The matter was referred to the Ripley Drainage Committee, but no further action was taken.

The regulation in force prohibiting the connection of water closets with the sewers ought to be withdrawn, as it is against all sound sanitary principles to insist on cesspools being provided for water closets, and at the same time to have a system of sewers.

The Ripley Green and Homeward Farm Sewage Disposal Beds have been slightly improved during the year. The effluents, however, vary very much in purity, and will no doubt continue to do so until the ground is properly prepared and proper precipitation tanks, &c., provided.

(c) **SHERE AND GOMSHALL.**—The Local Government Board having found the Local Authority to be in default as to the provision of sufficient sewers for Shere and Gomshall, and having issued an order requiring the Authority to do its duty, instructions were given to Mr. James Dewhirst, *C.E.*, the Authority's Surveyor, for a scheme to be prepared and submitted.

(a) A special drainage district, comprising the whole of the North Ward of the Parish of Shere, was proposed, and a scheme was prepared estimated to cost £2,000. This scheme provided for sewers in Gomshall Road and Queen Street, in Gomshall; and it was proposed to purify the sewage by means of a filter in a

meadow near Netley Farm. It also provided for sewers in Middle Street, Church Street, Sandy Lane, and Lower Street. at Shere, with filters for purifying the sewage near Chantry Bridge.

In May, application was made to the Local Government Board for sanction to obtain a loan to carry out the works, but as the scheme did not include land treatment of the sewage, the application was refused.

The scheme was a gravitating one, and received the approval of the Shere Parish Council.

(β) A second scheme was prepared, in which it was proposed to include Upper Street in addition to the streets before mentioned, and so allow the whole of the sewage from Shere and Gomshall to gravitate to the old recreation ground at Shere, where it was proposed to obtain 4 acres of land, and put down the necessary pumping plant, filters, tanks, &c. The estimated cost of this scheme was £4,000.

In August, application was made to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £4,000 in order to carry out the works, and a Local Government Board Enquiry was held by W. J. Bird, Esq., *M. Inst., C.E.*, at the White Horse, Shere, on the 8th of November, as to the application. Considerable opposition was brought to bear against the scheme on account of the only available land for sewage disposal being so near the village, added to which the owner of the land absolutely refused to sell an inch of ground except under compulsion. It, however, transpired at the enquiry that the same owner would be prepared to offer certain facilities for providing land treatment for the smaller scheme.

As the result of this enquiry the Local Government Board, in December, informed the Council that they were not prepared to sanction a loan for the proposed scheme, and suggested that a scheme should be prepared so as to take advantage of the facilities offered at the enquiry.

Such a scheme is now in preparation.

(d) **STOKE NEXT GUILDFORD.**—A new 12" surface Water Drain has been laid in Stoke Road, from the bottom of Nightingale Road to the Stoke first Bridge ; this prevents any further flooding of the road as was frequently the case previously.

(3) *Bye-law with regard to Cesspools.*

At a meeting of the Council in February, it was resolved—subject to the consent of the Local Government Board—to modify and alter Bye-law No. 91, in force with respect to new Streets and Buildings, so far as the Parish of Stoke is concerned. This Bye-law provides that :—“ Every person who shall construct a cesspool in connection with a building, shall construct such cesspool of good brickwork in cement, properly rendered inside with cement, and with a backing of at least *nine inches* of puddled clay around and beneath such brickwork.”

It was now resolved that the words “in cement” and from the word “and” and to the end of the Bye-law should be erased.

The Local Government Board replied, and refused their sanction to the proposed modifications and alterations.

VIII. Summary of General Progress and other Applications of the Sanitary Acts, &c.

1. *Committees.*

The following important Committees were again appointed :—
(a) Send and Ripley Drainage Committee, (b) Stoughton Drainage Committee, (c) Pollution of Tillingbourne and Provision of Sewers Committee.

2. *Bye-Laws relating to New Streets and Buildings.*

Mr. James Dewhurst, the Council's Surveyor has been good enough to furnish the following summary :—

Plans of new buildings submitted during the year	143
New buildings completed previously in progress	45
Additions to buildings previously erected.....	17

Number of plans from each Parish where the Building Bye-laws are in operation :—

- (a) Stoke 34, representing 5 new streets and 127 new buildings and additions.
- (b) Pirbright 4, representing 14 new buildings and 1 addition.
- (c) Artington 3 buildings and 3 additions.

In those Parishes where the Bye-laws do not apply the following New Buildings are known to have been erected :—

(a) Merrow	8
(b) Godalming (Rural)	8
(c) Worplesdon	1
(d) Puttenham	2
(e) Send and Ripley	2
(f) East Horsley.....	1

3. *Nuisances.*

The Inspector's statement as to the nuisances which were dealt with during the year will be found on page 30. Among other matters which engaged attention were :—

(a) The foul state of certain ditches at Stoughton, which can only be effectually remedied by the provision of sewers for that part of the District; (b) the damp, dilapidated and otherwise insanitary condition of certain cottages at Puttenham, Wanborough and other places which were dealt with under the Public Health Act 1875, sect. 91; (c) the provision of certain drains and cesspools as required by sect. 23 of the same Act, and numbering altogether 41 in various parts of the District; (d) the offensive condition of Briton's Pond, into which flows the effluent from the Stoughton Barracks, and which was emptied and cleansed; (e) the Normal Manure Company's Premises in the Farnham Road and the deposit of cesspool and other filth close to the highway were also dealt with under sect 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

4. *The Notification Act (1889), in its relation to Sanitary Defects.*

Apart from the immense value of the steps that have been promptly taken to prevent the spread of disease, the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act has been the means of bringing about

numerous fresh inspections, as distinguished in this respect from routine inspections. The value of the Act from this aspect is apt to be lost sight of; it is particularly great because it leads to the discovery of sanitary defects at a time when people are always most willing to recognise their importance and to further our efforts to get them remedied.

5. *Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1876.*

(a) POLLUTION OF RIVER WEY BY THE GODALMING LAUNDRY EFFLUENT. The Company have now made arrangements with the Godalming Town Council to drain into the Sewers of that Authority—and as soon as the works are completed river pollution from this source will cease.

(b) THE THAMES CONSERVANCY BOARD drew the attention of the Authority in *February* to the pollution of the Tillingbourne stream from offensive matter flowing from a road-drain in Sandy Lane. In *March* the Authority was requested by the same Board to take steps for the prevention of pollutions, reported by their Inspector, of the river Wey—from Compton, West Horsley, East Horsley, Pirbright and Worplesdon. In each case remedies were suggested and subsequently carried out. In *June* the Conservancy Board wrote requesting that the Council would give them more definite information as to the steps it proposed to take to deal with the pollution of the watercourse at Stoke. The proposed Drainage Scheme for Stoughton was offered as the solution of the difficulty. In *September* the Board wrote stating that samples they had received of effluents from the Homewood and Ripley Sewage Beds were bad, and in the following month the Send and Ripley Drainage Committee reported that since the alterations had been made at the Homewood Sewage Farm the effluent had greatly improved. With regard to the Ripley Green Sewage Bed the effluent was a clear one; but after heavy rain the effluents deteriorated. It was afterwards arranged that when the Thames Conservancy took samples notice should be given to the Council's Inspector that he might also have the opportunity of taking samples at the same time.

6. *Dairies,' Cowsheds,' and Milkshops' Order.*

The Cowsheds within the District are kept in fairly good condition, though so far as the storing of manure is concerned there is considerable room for improvement. In many cases this is placed in considerable heaps just outside the cowsheds and unfortunately the regulations do not apply to the storage of manure.

The following is a return of the Inspections, &c., made during the year ending December 31st, 1895 :—

Number of Registered Cowkeepers, Dairymen, and Purveyors of Milk on the Register at commencement of year.....	73
Number since registered	6
Number struck off or discontinued.....	1
Number at present on Register	78
Number of registered Premises inspected	72
Total Number of visits to Premises	129
Number of Cowsheds, &c., at which improvements in lighting, ventilation, drainage, cleansing, or water supply have been made	6
Number of Cowsheds, &c., found in a filthy state	4
Number of Premises at which milk vessels were found in an unclean state ...	none

7. *Slaughter House Act, 1888.*

As one of the results of "House-to-House Inspections" in various parts of the District, I would again point out, as I have in previous Reports, that it is desirable the Authority should be vested with power under sec. 169 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to make Bye-laws for the regulation of Slaughter Houses in all the Parishes of the Council's District, as indeed was done in Woking before it was severed from this District and constituted an Urban Authority.

8. *New Cemetery at Eashing, Godalming.*

I inspected the site for the proposed new Cemetery at Eashing, and reported favourably to the Home Office as to its fitness for the purpose for which it is required.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report and an Appendix with certain Statistical Tables will be found at the end of this Report.

In conclusion, I have to thank the Surveyor to the Council, Mr. James Dewhirst, for his kind assistance; especially in compiling for me the section on Sewage Disposal, and the Summary as to the New Streets and Buildings Bye-laws, Public Works, &c.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. WELLINGTON LAKE.

Topcroft, Guildford,

January 28th, 1896,

X. Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1895.

Number of complaints received in writing	19
Number of nuisances reported and abated	235
Number of nuisances reported and not yet abated	8
Number of nuisances reported and adjourned	13

Particulars of work done by owners and occupiers for the abatement of Nuisances, &c., in compliance with Notice.

Number of privies, drains, cesspools, and ditches cleaned out, and accumulations of deposits removed	84
Number of new privies, pail closets, w.c.'s, or ashpits provided	12
Number of old privies re-constructed as pail-closets, E.C.'s, or otherwise repaired	44
Number of premises in which the drains were trapped or otherwise improved, or disconnected from the house drains	80
Number of premises in which new drains or cesspools were provided	41
Number of premises in which overcrowding was abated.....	3
Number of houses which were cleansed, repaired, or provided with efficient ventilation (after notice under the Public Health Act, 1875, or under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890)	25
Number of premises from which animals, improperly kept, were removed ...	4

No legal proceedings were necessary.

Water Supply.

Number of samples of potable water sent to the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Analyst for analysis	21
Number of houses to which water was supplied by owners after notice (under sections 62 and 70 of the Public Health Act, 1875, or section 3 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878).....	17

No legal proceedings were necessary.

JAMES DEWHIRST, Assoc. San. Inst.,
Sanitary Inspector.

XI. APPENDIX.

A.—TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the Guildford Rural Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities; and shewing also the Population of such Localities; and the BIRTHS therein during the Year.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics, Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	* Population at all Ages.		Registered Births.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined Ages.							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
	At Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1895.		At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Age.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Whooping Cough.	CONTINUED FEVERS.					Typhus.	Enteric Typhoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	Other Diseases.	TOTAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									

NOTE.—*The following Deaths in the Workhouse, and in the Royal Surrey County Hospital, must be added to those with which each Sub-District has been debited in the Table, viz.—
Ripley Sub-District, 9; Albury Sub-District, 8; Godalming Sub-District, 1; Woking Sub-District (Worplesdon and Pirbright), 6; Guildford Sub-District, 9.

