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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Sanitary Condition

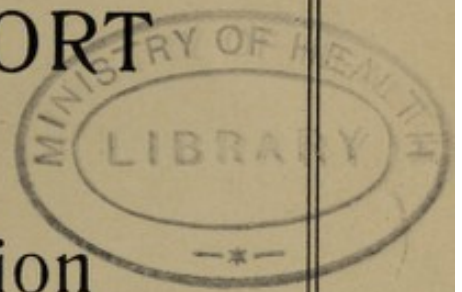
OF THE

Hartismere Rural District

Year ending DECEMBER 31st, 1925.

EYE :

A. G. ROPER, PRINTER, CHURCH STREET.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF

MANAGEMENT

OF THE

AMERICAN

SAVINGS

BANK

OF NEW YORK

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING

DECEMBER

THIRTY-ONE

ONE THOUSAND

NINE HUNDRED

AND SEVEN

TEEN

AND SEVEN

AND SEVEN

AND SEVEN

AND SEVEN

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Rural District

NEW YORK: G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, 1878.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE

Hartismere Rural District

For the Year ending December 31st, 1925.



To the HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary condition of your District and the Vital Statistics for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

The District covers an area of 49,199 acres, and has a population estimated at 10,790.

The whole District is Agricultural, there being no large factories within the area.

The District extends to the River Waveney on the North, which separates it from the County of Norfolk, to the boundaries of the County of West Suffolk on the West, and to the Rural Areas of Bosmere, Claydon and Hoxne on the South and East.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

This is by means of public and private wells and ponds. These are mostly shallow and run the risk of pollution from surface water.

There are two deep wells at Mendlesham and at Palgrave under the control of the Council ; in all there are 37 wells so constituted. The pond supplying drinking water at Wetheringsett is under direct control.

Ten Public wells have been repaired and cleansed. The careless use of Public pumps continues to give trouble.

I have analysed 27 samples of water, 22 were satisfactory, and five unfit for drinking. Of these five in four cases the wells were cleansed and one further sample analysed showed improvement, but in the other three no definite improvement.

Certificates were granted as to the Water being fit for drinking purposes in one case.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No case of pollution has been reported to me.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There is no proper or complete system of Public Sewerage in the District.

The drains of several houses at Palgrave and also at Mendlesham are connected with sewers and cesspools under the direct control of the Council. The cesspools are cleansed at regular intervals, but the systems are not good, and I am of the opinion that the question of a more modern system of sewage disposal should be considered at an early date.

The outfalls of private drains generally empty into the nearest ditch without any previous treatment. Nuisance is thereby caused, and much difficulty is experienced in getting the ditches cleansed when they are owned differently to the drains. During the year six such ditches were cleansed.

My Inspector is preparing Ordnance sheets showing the positions of all Public sewers in the District, at the completion of which it will be possible to make a more comprehensive report.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Large privies are still the usual system, and these are frequently very old, ill-constructed, and sources of danger to the houses and water supplies near them.

I am endeavouring as far as possible to get the privies converted into Earth closets, which, if properly constructed and their contents dug into the ground frequently need cause no nuisance. During the year three privies were repaired, 21 were converted into pail closets, 2 privy vaults were emptied, and 7 pail closets were repaired.

SCAVENGING.

The disposal of house refuse in the District is not good. This is left entirely to householders, and my Inspector is constantly dealing with cases where much refuse is deposited on heaps in the gardens which should have been burnt in the House fires. It cannot be too strongly urged that all house refuse which can be burnt should be so treated, so that only dry ashes are deposited for final disposal.

I cannot see why in each village a system of Incinerators similar to those used in camps during the war should not be provided.

The Pig-styes in the District generally speaking are not of a high standard, and many are constructed close to dwellings. During the year four cases were dealt with where Pigs were being kept too close to dwellings.

MILK SUPPLY.

128 Inspections were made under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Acts. Of these six were classed as good, twenty-one as fairly good, fifty-three as poor, twenty-nine

as bad, and nineteen as very bad. In no case was a Cowshed found to be excellent in all respects. The Dairies, however, were as a rule found to be satisfactory and of a much better construction correspondingly than the Cowsheds, being clean and well lighted and ventilated. Three Dairies were found to be unsuitable; one was reconstructed during the year and work is in progress on the remainder. During the year one new cowshed was built, and two old cowsheds reconditioned on the Inspector's recommendation.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The Milk supply is entirely from Farms. These Farms also send Milk regularly to the large Towns. All Dairies and Cowsheds are now required to be registered. During the year three new premises were registered, making a total of 57. Many Dairies and Cowsheds in the District are not registered, and these are being dealt with so that the necessary Registration can be accomplished. During the inspections it was found that :—

- (1) No satisfactory means for washing the Cows' Udders were in existence.
- (2) The Milkers did not wear clean overalls specially for wear whilst milking.
- (3) Properly shaped hooded milking pails were not provided.
- (4) The washing of the Milkers' hands and the milking stool was very neglected.
- (5) The Cowyards through which the Cows pass to the Milking shed were generally found to be used as a dump for the manure, and were usually adjoining the milking sheds. Special attention has been paid to this condition of affairs during the year, and in the three Cowsheds rebuilt proper catchpits were provided for all drainage from the Cowsheds, and the periodical cleaning of the same impressed upon the Farmers in question.

I find that there is a continued improvement in the conditions under which Milk is produced in this District. Much of my Inspector's work under this heading must of a necessity be in the nature of propaganda, and it is a pleasing feature to be able to note that in most cases the Farmers willingly agree to carry out any suggestions which are placed before them. I am hoping to be able to note a more marked improvement under the above items during the next year.

None of the Milk suppliers in this District have apparently taken part in the competitions conducted by the Joint Committee of the Suffolk Milk Recording Society, the Agricultural Education Authorities of East and West Suffolk, and the Suffolk Agricultural Association.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools in this district are all Elementary Schools, and are inspected by the School Medical Officers appointed by the East Suffolk County Council, with the exception of one small private school at Botesdale.

No schools were closed for infectious disease during the year, but Wortham was closed for two days for purpose of disinfection during the Scarlet Fever epidemic in that district.

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS.

The Sanitary Inspector has made periodical and systematic inspection throughout the District during the year, and in cases of difficulty personal visits have been made by myself.

The whole of the work is tabulated as follows, viz. :—

Total number of visits and revisits and inspections	...	...	1,991
Number of complaints	...	...	19

SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTIONS.

Letters issued and preliminary notices	...	343
Statutory Notices served	...	76
By interview	...	52
Drains reconstructed or new drains laid	...	6
Drains repaired and cleansed	...	6
Drains inspected and tested	...	13
Dead wells and Cesspools cleansed	...	6
Ditches cleansed	...	6
Privies converted into earth closets	...	21
Privies repaired	...	3
Pail closets repaired and new pails fixed	...	7
Privy vaults emptied	...	2
Filter beds repaired and cleansed	...	1
Foul accumulations removed	...	11
Houses cleansed	...	2
Dangerous place made secure	...	1
Overcrowding abated	...	2
Animals removed	...	4
Wells inspected	...	87
Samples of water taken for analysis, Public	...	3
Samples of water taken for analysis, Private	...	24
Number of unsatisfactory samples	...	5
Public wells repaired and cleansed	...	10
Private wells repaired and cleansed	...	4
New pumps fixed, Public	...	1
Inspections under the Factory and Workshop Act	...	84
Slaughterhouses inspections	...	89
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops inspections	...	128
Bakehouses inspected	...	45
Knackers yards	...	11

Complaints investigated	...	...	19
Inspections and visits to Petrol stores	...	...	37
Storing Petrol without Licences	...	...	4
Infectious Diseases enquiries	...	...	35
Infectious Diseases removed	...	...	22
Infectious Diseases disinfections	...	...	34
Tuberculosis enquiries	...	...	13
Tuberculosis disinfections	...	...	9
Cowsheds limewashed	...	...	15
Bakehouses limewashed	...	...	7
Workshops repaired and cleansed	...	...	5
New Cowsheds	...	...	1
Old Cowsheds rebuilt	...	...	2

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Under the Rural District Councils (Slaughterhouses) Order, 1924, eighteen slaughterhouses were registered in this District. Under the provisions of this Order the Council were bound to accept these Registrations.

Many of the slaughterhouses were, however, found to be badly constructed, and with no provision made for dealing with the blood. During the year ten slaughterhouses were repaired under informal action of my Inspector, and the slaughterhouse floors concreted and blood pits constructed. In two other cases this work is in hand, whilst the remaining six already had concrete floors.

Eighteen Statutory Notices were served during the year under Sec. 170 requiring the necessary notice to be affixed on the outside of the slaughterhouses.

Eighty-nine visits of inspection were paid during the year to the slaughterhouses as far as possible when slaughtering was in progress.

Generally speaking the meat was of the highest quality, a condition to be expected in a Rural area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no diminution of the cases of Scarlet Fever which was a marked feature last year, and 31 cases were notified. Of these 19 were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Isolated cases occurred in the Parishes of Yaxley, Palgrave, Mendlesham, and Wetheringsett.

A slight epidemic occurred in Botesdale and Rickinghall the source of infection being traced to an adjoining Parish outside the District ; this was followed by an epidemic at Wortham, which was traced to the Rickinghall cases.

During the year legal proceedings were instituted under the Public Health Act in respect of the refusal to comply with

a Magistrate's order for the removal of two cases of Scarlet Fever which were being treated at home and in my opinion isolation was inadequate. A bakehouse and confectioner's shop were on the same premises. Fines and costs amounting to £3 17s. 6d. were inflicted.

Four cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, all of which were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Of these, two cases were from the Thorndon Reformatory School, and I am pleased to note that no further cases have occurred in that Institution.

One case of Typhoid Fever was notified during the year, and this was removed to and successfully treated in the Ipswich Isolation Hospital.

Six cases of Erysipelas and three of Puerperal Fever were notified.

Twenty-one cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

It is noteworthy that the percentage of cases removed to the Isolation Hospital continues to improve.

DISINFECTION.

Forty-three premises were disinfected during the year, 34 after Infectious Diseases, and 9 after Phthisis.

One bedroom was disinfected after Cancer, and one School was disinfected.

CASE RATE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puer- peral Fever.	Erysipelas
England & Wales ...	0·14	2·36	1·23	0·07	0·06	0·39
Hartismere Rural District Council ...	0·	2·87	·37	0·09	0·27	0·55

HOUSING ACTS 1890-1925.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	104
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	48
Number of Letters and preliminary notices	...	...	56
Number of Houses rendered fit as the result of action	...	...	35
Number of Notices outstanding at the end of the year	...	...	21

Summary of work done under the Housing Acts :—

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	21
Lighting improved	...	...	...	9
Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	7
Extra accommodation built	...	...	...	1
Rainwater conductors repaired	...	...	...	1
General repairs executed	...	...	...	40
Number of houses closed	...	...	...	3
Number of houses demolished	...	...	...	2

Much important work has been done under the Housing Acts during the year. Many houses which have been repaired were found on inspection to be in a very bad state, and had they become empty would probably have been allowed to remain so and get into a worse state, thereby losing a house to the District.

Of the three houses closed two were empty, and in a dilapidated condition, whilst the other was closed on the owner's declaration owing to its dangerous condition.

In no case has it been necessary for the Council to execute work in default.

Two houses were demolished during the year, these formed part of a block of property repaired under informal action by my Inspector and were pulled down on his recommendation as being obstructive buildings.

With regard to the steps which are being taken to improve the housing conditions in this District, the Council are proceeding first by constructing 27 new houses.

Secondly by taking definite action to obtain the improvement of existing houses under the Housing Acts.

This year all the improvements have been carried out by the owners to the satisfaction of the Council ; in some cases after pressure had been brought to bear.

Four houses, to be built by private enterprise during 1926, have been sanctioned for the Subsidy.

One house was constructed for which no subsidy was granted as it did not comply with the conditions laid down.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

129 visits were made.

15 Preliminary notices were served.

12 workshops were repaired or cleansed.

One new builder's shop was opened, 1 carpenter's, 1 dressmaker's, 4 bootmakers, 1 tailor, and one motor garage.

At the end of the year 123 factories and workshops remained on the Register, as follows, viz.:—

Factories:

- 16 steam and windmills.
- 1 sewage farm.

Workshops:

- 1 metal plate worker.
- 15 motor-car or motor or cycle repairers.
- 24 blacksmiths.
- 6 carpenters.
- 6 wheelwrights.
- 4 wheelwrights and carpenters.
- 12 builders.
- 3 plumbers.
- 2 coachbuilders.
- 4 harnessmakers.
- 5 dressmakers.
- 6 bootmakers.
- 3 tailors.
- 1 basket maker.
- 14 retail bakehouses.

Systematic inspections have been made and matters dealt with as required.

BIRTHS.

The corrected number of births in the district was 185, being at a rate of 16.2 per 1,000 population, the corresponding rate for England and Wales being 18.3 per 1,000.

DEATHS.

The corrected number of deaths was 137, a rate of 12.6 per 1,000, the corresponding rate for England and Wales being 12.2 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year of age was 11, being a rate of 50.9 per 1,000 births, the rate for England and Wales being 75 per 1,000 births.

Legal proceedings were taken in two cases, the Council being successful in each.

I have to thank the Council and especially the members of the Public Health Committee for their support, and the Sanitary Inspector for the great assistance he has rendered me during the year.

I am, your obedient servant,

HENRY E. BARNES.

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1925. Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified	...	5	1	1	1	8	...	...	1	...	9
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)			...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3
Diarrhoea			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlaying			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis			...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth...			1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus			...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	2
Other causes			...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals			1	3	...	1	5	3	...	2	...	5

Nett Births in the Year: legitimate, 184; illegitimate, 12.

HARTSMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Small-pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cholera ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous croup) ..	4	—	1	3	—	—	4	
Erysipelas ..	6	1	—	—	5	—	—	
Scarlet fever ..	31	1	20	1	1	—	19	
Typhus fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric fever ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal fever ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	1	
Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	13	—	3	2	8	—	8	
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	9	1	2	2	3	1	5	
Chicken Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Polionmyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals ..	67	2	26	8	21	1	38	

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death during the Year 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH. (Civilians only).				MALES.	FEMALES.
	All Causes	...	...	63	74
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	—	—
2	Small Pox	...	...	—	—
3	Measles	...	...	—	—
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
6	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
7	Influenza	...	...	2	6
8	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	—	—
9	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	—	—
10	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	6	3
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	1	2
12	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	7	8
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	—	1
14	Diabetes	...	...	2	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	10	4
16	Heart Disease	...	...	8	14
17	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	3	2
18	Bronchitis	...	...	2	4
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	2	2
20	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	1	2
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	—	—
22	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	—	—
23	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	—	1
24	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	—	—
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	1	2
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	—	1
27	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	—	—
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	2	4
29	Suicide	...	...	—	—
30	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	4	2
31	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	12	14
32	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	...	...	—	1
	Special Causes (included above)—				
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—
	Deaths of Infants under 1 year—				
	Total	...	...	5	6
	Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
	Total Births	...	...	97	88
	Legitimate	...	...	89	81
	Illegitimate	...	...	8	7
	Population	...	...	...	10,790

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. 1925.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	18	1	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	111	14	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises) ..			
Total ..	129	15	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—

Want of Cleanliness 15 found, 12 remedied.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS. Year ended 31st December, 1925.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,790
(2) Total number of deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-	137*
(3) Total deaths from tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	12§
(4) Total number of infantile deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-	11†
(5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,441
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,141
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	-	-	-	-	-	-	—

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.**I.—Inspection.**

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	-	-	-	-	-	-	325
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	-	-	-	-	-	-	104

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers.**A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing Town Planning etc., Act, 1919, and Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
(a) by owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
(a) by owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	0

C.—Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—

(1) Name of area	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
(2) Acreage	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
(3) Number of working-class houses in area	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	-	-	-	-	-	-	—

4—Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919

5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer

*12.2 per 1,000. †50.9 per 1,000 births.

‡Sanitary Inspector, Medical Officer of Health.

§1.1 per 1,000.

TABULATION OF THE NOTIFICATIONS OF, AND DEATHS FROM, TUBERCULOSIS, PUERPERAL FEVER AND CANCER DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS TOGETHER WITH THE QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES THEREOF.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Average.
Cases of Tuberculosis—						
Pulmonary ..	7	15	3	5	13	8·6
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	3	4	5	3	9	4·8
Deaths from Tuberculosis—						
Pulmonary ..	12	10	5	7	9	8·6
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	5	1	2	1	3	2·4
Cases of Puerperal Fever ..	0	0	1	0	3	·8
Deaths from Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	1	·2
Deaths from Child-Birth, etc.	0	0	2	1	0	·6
Deaths from Cancer ..	20	23	9	14	15	16·2

Referring to the Deaths from Child-Birth, the total Deaths for a five year period average 2·887 per 1,000 Births, and the Deaths from Puerperal Fever alone average ·961 per 1,000 Births.



