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THE
ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH,
SANITARY CONDITION,
ETC., ETC., OF THE
Borough of Hastings,
FOR THE YEAR
1894,

BY
A. SCARLYN WILSON, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.,
Cantab., M.R.C.S., Eng.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH; FELLOW OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY
OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

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County Borough of Hastings.

SITUATION :—Latitude, $50^{\circ} 54'$ N., Longitude $0^{\circ} 33'$ E.

ELEVATION :—Varies from 485 feet above sea level at Down Lodge, Fairlight, to about 16 feet in Middle Street, near the Memorial.

ASPECT :—Southerly.

AREA :—2194 acres (including 373 acres of foreshore).
1822 acres (excluding foreshore).

DENSITY OF POPULATION :—30·7 persons per acre.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES :—At Census, 1891, 8165.

POPULATION :—At Census, 1891, 52,223.
Estimated, middle of 1894, 55,943.

BIRTH RATE :—1894, 18·94 per 1000 persons.

DEATH RATES :—1894, From All Causes, 13·74 per 1000 persons.
Infantile, 119 per 1000 births.
Zymotic, 0·93 per 1000 persons.

MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE :—1894, $50^{\circ} 8'$.
(Average, $48^{\circ} 6'$.)

HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE :—1894, 1693·8 hours.
(Average, 1746·2 hours.)

TOTAL RAINFALL :—1894, 35·98 inches.
(Average, 29·9 inches.)

TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES
OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

GENTLEMEN,

The population of the Borough in the middle of the year 1894 was estimated to be 55,943. This calculation is based upon the rate of increase that was observed in the District between the census of 1881 and that of 1891. This population is distributed amongst the several parishes in approximately the following numbers :

Parishes.	Census, 1891.			Estimated population middle of 1894.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	
St. Leonard	2410	4179	6589	7055
St. Mary Magdalen	5196	9219	14415	15100
Holy Trinity	1861	3311	5172	5600
St. Andrew	708	958	1666	1676
St. Mary-in-the-Castle...	4894	6975	11869	13000
St. Michael	148	186	334	334
St. Mary Bulverhythe .	91	100	191	240
St. Clement	2300	2556	4856	4950
All Saints	2833	3204	6037	6588
Blacklands	504	590	1094	1400
Total..	20945	31278	52223	55943

Birth-Rate. During 1894 the number of births registered was 1060 559 males and 501 females). The birth-rate, which during the previous decade had steadily fallen from 24·28 in 1884 to 19·33 in 1893, further decreased to 18·94 per thousand in 1894—a rate which is lower than has hitherto been recorded in this town.

The explanation of this low and diminishing birth-rate is to be sought for partly in the peculiar elements of which the population of the district is constituted, partly also in conditions common to the country at large.

From various causes, the birth-rate in England has shown a decrease during recent years, and doubtless Hastings is affected in some degree along with the rest of the country ; but the chief cause of the specially low birth-rate here is a local one.

It will be observed from a glance at the accompanying table that between different parts of the Borough there are striking differences in the birth-rate. Thus in the parishes of All Saints, St. Clement, and St. Mary Bulverhythe the rate is comparatively high, whereas in some of the others, such as Holy Trinity, St. Leonard, and St. Mary Magdalen, it is abnormally low. Now the parishes of All Saints, St. Clement, and St. Mary Bulverhythe are populated mainly by the working classes—persons living under natural conditions of home life, with an average proportion of young married people, and in these parishes the birth-rate reaches 28·3 per thousand. Moreover, the sexes being fairly evenly balanced, every female has a reasonable prospect of being married.

When we come to consider the conditions prevailing in the other three parishes I have mentioned, and in which the birth-rate (13·7 per 1000) is so unusually low, we find a very different state of affairs. The property is largely of the private residential and lodging-house class, with but a relatively small proportion of artisans' dwellings.

Among the private residents there is an extremely small proportion of young married couples, the population consisting in great part of persons in middle life who have retired from business and from active pursuits, and who have come here for the educational and other advantages the place affords for their families, or of delicate or elderly persons seeking the benefits of the climate.

The lodging-house property is chiefly in the hands of unmarried women, or of widows, or of married persons of mature age. The visitors staying in the apartments are commonly invalids, convalescents, elderly persons or children; and these are waited on by a large number of female domestics, almost all of whom are unmarried. Under these circumstances a very low birth-rate would be expected in such parts of the town as are much given up to the lodging-house industry, and as a matter of fact I am informed by the Registrar of the St. Mary-in-the-Castle Sub-registration District that the births in the whole line of houses fronting the sea from West Marina to the Old Town—a distance of two miles, and a continuous line of houses—rarely number more than two or three in a year. In this part the birth-rate can therefore scarcely exceed 1 per 1000. Almost the same may be said of the Maze Hill neighbourhood, or Warrior Square or Church Road, and in some degree the same applies to many other parts of the town, so that in this way the inequalities in the birth-rates of the different parishes, and the smallness of the birth-rate of the district in general can be readily understood.

Further, seeing that the growth of the town has taken place chiefly in the progressive building and occupation of private and lodging-house property, the explanation of the steady diminution in the birth-rate will be easily found.

Of the total number of births registered during the year 37 or 3·49 per cent. were illegitimate. As no return of illegitimate births is made by the Registrar of the Ore Sub-registration District, while of the births in the Workhouse—some of which presumably really belong to the

Urban District—the return is made to the Rural Medical Officer of Health, the proportion of illegitimate births given above cannot be considered reliable.

Parish.	Estimated population. 1894.	Births.	Birth-rate.	Females to 1000 males. Census, 1891.
St. Leonard.....	7055	106	15·02	1730
St. Mary Magdalen ...	15100	215	14·23	1774
Holy Trinity	5600	61	10·89	1779
St. Andrew..... .	1676	34	20·28	1353
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	13000	267	20·54	1425
St. Michael.....	334	10	29·94	1256
St. Mary Bulverhythe	240	7	29·16	1098
St. Clement.....	4950	130	26·26	1111
All Saints	6588	197	29·90	1130
Blacklands.....	1400	33	23·57	1160
Total.....	55943	1060	18·94	1493

The natural increase of births over deaths was 304.

There were registered in the Borough 756 deaths during the year 1894.

Three hundred and sixty-nine of these were of males, three hundred and eighty-seven of females.

The number in 1893 was 778, or 22 more than in 1894.

Twenty-two non-residents died in the Public Institutions of the Borough, viz., 12 in the East Sussex Hospital, 9 in the Eversfield Hospital, and 1 in the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home. These may be deducted from the total number of deaths.

The deaths of 35 parishioners are to be added, however. These occurred in Public Institutions outside the District, viz., 30 in the Workhouse Infirmary, 3 in the Borough Sanatorium, and 2 in Ore Villa Sanatorium.

The total thus arrived at is 769, yielding a death-rate for the year of only 13·74 compared with 14·29 in the previous year. This is the lowest annual death-rate yet recorded here. The average of the 10 years 1885—1894 is 15·21 per thousand.

The deaths among visitors, for which no deduction beyond that stated above has been made, were again numerous, amounting to 147, or more than 19 per cent. of the total deaths registered.

The deaths of children under 1 year were 127, equal to 119 per 1000 of the total births, and 165 per 1000 of the total deaths.

Inclusive of the above there were 188 deaths of children under 5 years of age, being 244 per 1000 of the total deaths.

Among persons above 60 years of age the deaths numbered 269, being more than a third of the total registered.

The following table shows the deaths, estimated population, and death-rates at different age-periods.

Age.	Population at age period.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 of the population at age period.
Under 1 year	1027	127	123·6
One and under 5..	4117	61	14·5
Total under 5 years	5144	188	36·5
Five to 15	10988	33	3·0
Fifteen to 25	11813	36	3·0
Twenty-five to 65...	24898	284	11·4
Sixty-five & upwards	3100	228	73·5
Total	55943	769	13·74

In the Appendix to this Report will be found the table of deaths and of new cases of sickness required by the Local Government Board, with other tables.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases during the year numbered 52, yielding a Zymotic death-rate of only 0·93 per 1000 of the population—rather more than 25 per cent. below the average Zymotic death-rate of the past ten years.

The particular Zymotic diseases will be severally referred to in detail later on, but speaking of them collectively, I am glad to report that during the last six months of the year the Borough was enjoying unusual freedom from such diseases, which satisfactory state of things is still (February 27th, 1895) being maintained.

The following table shews the number of deaths from each of the seven principal Zymotic diseases during the year 1894 and the preceding 10 years.

Disease.	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	Annual Average of 10 years, 1884-1893.	Total deaths in 1894.
Small-pox	2	6	1	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	0.9	3
Measles	15	25	16	16	...	6	18	...	25	8	12.9	5
Scarlet Fever .....	...	1	1	4	3	...	2	...	...	12	2.3	3
Diphtheria.....	5	11	3	3	4	6	6	23	32	32	12.5	12
Whooping Cough ...	28	2	11	27	5	5	14	26	5	6	12.9	20
Fever { Typhus..... Enteric..... Simple contnd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
	3	4	3	8	2	3	4	4	4	4	3.9	3
	—	—
Diarrhœa.....	31	14	40	21	11	16	7	7	15	11	17.3	6
Totals	84	63	75	79	25	36	51	60	81	73	62.7	52
Zymotic Death-rate	1.85	1.36	1.58	1.63	0.50	0.71	0.99	1.14	1.51	1.33	1.26	0.93

Scarlet Fever. This disease, which had been very prevalent during 1893, continued during the opening months of 1894 to be brought to our notice with undue frequency—99 cases being notified in the first quarter. After that time, however, the numbers rapidly decreased, and during the last six months of the year the cases reported, in spite of several fresh importations from London, were below the average.

Of the 23 cases in the latter half of the year, 8 were traced to fresh importation of infection from other places. The difficulty in dealing with the outbreak of 1893, which thus terminated in the Spring of 1894, was due partly to the mild form of the disease, and consequent lack of medical attendance and recognition, and partly to renewed introductions of infection from outside. In addition to many known cases where the infection could be traced to other places, I found after almost each Bank Holiday a fresh crop of scarlet fever notifications. These cases occurred within a week of the Bank Holidays, and were distributed irregularly through the district, and my enquiries led me to conclude that among the many visitors who resort to the town for a few days at such seasons it was probable that some one or more may have carried and distributed the germs of the disease. In no other way was I able to account for the simultaneous outbreak of the disease in previously healthy neighbourhoods. That there is a sad lack of consideration for others in some members of the community is shown by such an instance as the following which came to my notice.

In the middle of November, when for 5 consecutive weeks no case of this nature had occurred anywhere in the whole Sanitary District, I received a notification of scarlet fever from a house on the West Hill, Hastings. Enquiry elicited the information that the patient was a little girl who had come here a few days previously with her mother and two sisters, scarlet fever having broken out in the flat where they resided in London. The mother refused to allow the child to be removed to the Sanatorium, preferring to nurse her herself, and during the next week the two others sickened and were notified, suffering from the same disease. At the end of five weeks from the time when the first child fell ill, it came to my knowledge that the whole party had returned to London. I found that their clothing had not been properly disinfected, and that they had travelled without the sanction of their medical attendant. I accordingly acquainted the Medical Officer of Health in the Metropolitan district to which they had gone with the facts, and he, on calling, found at least one of them still desquamating, and in acknowledging my letter informed me that

legal proceedings would be taken against the parents. I could not ascertain that any precautions had been taken on the journey to prevent infection, so that it is not unlikely that their fellow-passengers may have fallen ill from the infection to which they were exposed.

Of the 165 cases notified, 75, equivalent to 43 per cent., were removed to the Sanatorium. There were only 3 deaths of persons belonging to the District from this disease, all of which occurred during the first quarter, and among patients nursed at their own homes.

Though most of the sufferers were, as usual, children, systematic enquiry failed to show any special incidence of the disease on the children attending any particular elementary school. Nine cases, however, occurred among the scholars at one private school, the outbreak following closely on the re-assembling of the boys after the Christmas Holidays. In no instance was there any evidence of infected milk supply.

Smallpox. The most unfortunate occurrence of the year was the introduction of this disease into Hastings from Lancashire in January, 1894. On the 5th of the month I received the notification of a case in a crowded part of St. Andrew's Parish. On visiting the spot I ascertained that the patient was a man who had only been in the town a few days. He informed me that cases had recently occurred in the street in Oldham where he resided. ~~He was at once removed to the Iron Hospital at the Sanatorium.~~ This block of buildings was erected in 1886 for the isolation of small-pox cases, but had not hitherto been used for the purpose. Here he was placed in charge of two male attendants, and strict orders were given that there should be no communication with the Scarlet Fever Hospital. The two blocks are 83 yards apart, and the grounds are separated by a high brick wall in which is a door which was kept locked. In spite of the precautions enjoined, the disease appeared in the Scarlet Fever block about January 22nd, and subsequently in the Workhouse (nearly 300 yards away), and in other houses in the neighbourhood. As these are in the Rural District I did not have the opportunity of investigating the outbreak, but I understand that after close enquiry by the Rural Medical Officer of Health, and subsequently by Dr. Bruce Low of the Local Government Board, who was here at the time on the "Cholera Survey" of the district, the probable solution of the spread was believed to lie in aërial convection. This power of infecting persons at a distance ~~through the open air is attributed to small-pox alone amongst infectious diseases except possibly influenza.~~

As soon as the neighbourhood surrounding the Sanatorium began to be infected, I reported the fact to the Sanitary Committee, and recommended the establishment of a temporary hospital on a secluded farm belonging to the Corporation, and the removal thither of the small-pox patients. The matter was immediately taken in hand, and at considerable expense the tenant of the farm was induced to give up his holding forthwith, and two large hospital tents of double canvas which were in the possession of the Corporation were erected for the accommodation of the patients, the farm house serving as the administrative block. The tents were warm, weather-proof, and airy. The heating apparatus—a double line of hot-water pipes round the inside of each tent—kept the temperature at an equable and comfortable elevation, and the patients did extremely well. The removal from the old Sanatorium was followed by an immediate decline of the outbreak, but in the meanwhile the Borough had become re-infected from the Rural District; in spite of this, however, the neighbourhood became free of the disease early in May; by this time 30 cases in all had been notified in the Borough, of which 4 (inclusive of the stranger from Oldham, who introduced the disease) proved fatal. (I have not included this man's death in calculating the Zymotic death-rate of the Borough, seeing that he both received the infection and died beyond the boundaries of the District, but the deaths of all persons belonging to the District, or who receive infection in the District, and die in the Sanatorium, are, of course, included in this calculation.)

In addition to these my enquiries led me to believe that 7 other mild and unrecognised cases had occurred. In June a solitary case was notified, probably from fresh importation of infection, and in August one more—distinctly imported. Both were treated at the farm, and in neither instance was there any spread of infection. Since then the whole neighbourhood has remained free of the disease. During the height of the outbreak, the temporary hospital was in charge of a resident medical attendant, whose services I had been instructed to obtain, with the object of minimising the communication between the hospital and the outside world. I was fortunate in finding Mr. Hutley, M.R.C.S., to fill this responsible post, for his management of the hospital and treatment of the patients gave the greatest satisfaction to all concerned.

It is unnecessary for me to add more on this subject, full details of the outbreak as it affected both the Urban and Rural Districts being before you in the able report of Dr. Bruce Low, of the Local Government Board.

I here append the Vaccination Returns for 1893. The statistics refer to the whole Union, not merely to the Borough of Hastings. There is some improvement on the figures of the preceding year.

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR 1893.

FROM THE SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

Registration Sub-District.	Number of Births registered.	Successfully vaccinated.	Insusceptible of vaccination	Had small-pox.	Dead unvaccinated.	Postponed by Medical Officer of Certificate.	Removal to district: the Vaccination Officer of which has been duly apprized.	Removal to Places unknown or which cannot be reached, and cases not having been found.	Unaccounted for.
Ore, Fairlight ...	233	179	0	0	16	5	4	12	17
St. Clement	305	223	1	0	29	7	2	24	19
St. Mary-in-the-Castle.....	880	583	9	0	92	34	6	70	86
Total.....	1418	985	10	0	137	46	12	106	122

For several months during the summer special facilities were given to all persons so desirous of protecting themselves against small-pox by undergoing re-vaccination. For this purpose a second vaccination station was opened, with evening attendances to suit the convenience of the classes for whom the benefit was intended, and the choice of calf lymph or of humanised lymph was gratuitously offered. I regret to say there was absolutely no response on the part of the public to this advance, although duly advertised. Amongst the more educated, however, considerable numbers of persons were re-vaccinated by their medical attendants, and in invaded households I personally performed the operation on many of the inmates (unless their own doctor preferred doing it himself) in order that there might be no delay.

Measles. Remarkably few cases of this have come to my knowledge, and the deaths in all number only 5 for the year—less than half the average.

Whooping Cough. During the year 20 deaths, all of children under 5 years of age, were reported; 16 of these were in the first half of the year. The disease tends to recur at intervals of two or three years—as soon as an unprotected infant population has sprung up. Most persons look on it as one of the inevitable accidents of childhood, and little or no attempt is made amongst the poor to isolate the disease—which is besides a matter of great difficulty owing to the insidious onset and the protracted infectiousness of the malady. There is, however, no excuse for the culpable exposure of infectious persons in public places—omnibuses, railway carriages, and places of worship or entertainment—which is so common amongst all classes of society. Although the probability is great that every person who lives to adult life will have passed through an attack of the disease, yet looking at the heavy mortality that it occasions amongst the infant population, it is surely a public duty to use all precautions in our means to minimise the risk of spreading infection.

Amongst children under 5 years of age the deaths from Whooping Cough during the past year exceeded in number the deaths from all other Zymotic diseases put together.

Diphtheria. From the autumn of 1891 to the spring of 1894 the number of cases and of fatal cases of this disease had been much above the average.

At no time assuming epidemic proportions, the malady yet simmered in our midst, being sustained apparently both by fresh importation of infection and by a series of atypical and mild cases whose

existence could be only suspected and not proved, but which yet served to prevent the disease from dying out, in spite of our efforts to control its spread. Following upon an unusual prevalence in the Rural District in 1890, the disease in the following year invaded the town, and one of the most satisfactory features of the past year has been the gradual but complete subsidence of this visitation. After causing 8 deaths in the first quarter of the year, the notifications became steadily fewer during the ensuing quarter with only two deaths; and thereafter for the rest of the year, a few sporadic and chiefly mild cases only occurred, several of which were admittedly doubtfully diphtheritic.

Before the close of the year, however, 4 cases, with 2 deaths, occurred in one of the elementary schools, but on the re-assembling of the children after the Christmas holiday no further cases broke out, and the whole district has been now for six weeks entirely free of this distressing disease.

Typhoid Fever. Inclusive of 8 imported cases and of two in which the diagnosis was considered doubtful, 22 cases of this disease were notified. Of the 14 cases of local origin, 11 were attributed to insanitary conditions of houses, one to polluted water supply (from a private well), and two could not be accounted for. Of the 8 imported cases, 4 were brought from London, 2 from the Continent, and 2 from other parts.

In no instance was there any spread of the disease beyond the primary cases. There was no autumnal increase, and the local cases were below the average.

Diarrhœa. Only 6 deaths were recorded during the year from this cause; 4 of these were deaths of infants in the third quarter. For several years past the deaths from this disease have been remarkably few, indicating, I believe, an improved sanitary condition of the dwellings of the poor. The death-rates for the last seven years from diarrhœal diseases have been:—

1888	.....	0·22	per thousand
1889	.....	0·31	„ „
1890	.....	0·13	„ „
1891	.....	0·11	„ „
1892	.....	0·28	„ „
1893	.....	0·20	„ „
1894	.....	0·10	„ „

Table shewing Notifications received of Infectious Diseases during 4 Quarters of 1894, and during whole year 1894, with attack-rates per 1000 of population.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Whole Year.	Attack-rate per 1000.
Smallpox.....	17	14	1	0	32	0·57
Scarlet Fever.....	99	45	11	12	167	2·98
Diphtheria.....	26	14	6	12	58	1·03
Erysipelas	10	9	3	8	30	0·53
Typhoid Fever....	3	7	5	7	22	0·39
Membranous Croup ...	0	1	0	0	1	Practically Nil
Puerperal Fever...	0	1	0	0	1	Practically Nil
Total	155	91	26	39	311	5·55

The above table shows very well the remarkable improvement in the Public Health that took place during the year; 80 per cent. of the cases of notifiable disease were reported during the first half-year, and 50 per cent. in the first quarter. (In this table are included all cases of imported disease; excluding these, the notifications of Typhoid Fever would be:—3, 5, 3, 3, in the four quarters instead of those which appear above, while a few cases of other diseases would be eliminated as well.)

Table of deaths from Seven Chief Zymotic Diseases during the 4 Quarters of 1894, and during the whole year, with death-rates per 1000 of the population.

Disease.	DEATHS.					Death-rate per 1000.
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Whole Year.	
Smallpox.....	1	2	0	0	3	0·05
Measles.....	2	2	0	1	5	0·08
Scarlatina	3	0	0	0	3	0·05
Whooping Cough	7	9	2	2	20	0·35
Diphtheria	8	2	0	2	12	0·22
Typhoid Fever ...	0	1	1	1	3	0·05
Diarrhœa.....	0	2	4	0	6	0·10
Total.....	21	18	7	6	52	
Death-rate	1·53	1·29	0·49	0·42	0·93	

Other Zymotic Diseases caused 22 deaths, of which 14 (chiefly at the beginning of the year) were from Influenza ; 3 from Syphilis ; 3 from Pyœmia ; and 2 from Erysipelas.

To Alcoholism only 1 death was directly attributed.

Of deaths caused by Constitutional Diseases, 110 (47 visitors included) were from Phthisis ; 24 from other Tubercular Diseases ; 47 from Cancer or Malignant Disease ; 9 from Diabetes ; and 3 from Acute Rheumatism.

Of Developmental Diseases which caused 79 deaths, 56 were referred to Old Age; 21 to Premature Birth; and 2 to Congenital Malformation.

Amongst Local Diseases, 114 deaths were from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, or Pleurisy, 4 from Croup and Diseases of the Larynx. There were 82 deaths from Diseases of the Nervous System—chiefly Apoplexy; 71 from Heart Disease, Embolism, or Aneurism; 55 from Diseases of the Digestive System; 29 from Diseases of the Urinary System; and 5 from Diseases of the Reproductive System.

Sixteen infants under 1 year died from Atrophy, Congenital Debility, or Marasmus.

Particulars of Suicidal and Violent Deaths will be found in the following list of cases in which an inquest was held.

INQUESTS.

Thirty-seven inquests were held on the bodies of 21 males and 16 females.

The causes of death were returned as follows :

Apoplexy	...	...	...	1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	2
Congestion of Lungs	...	...	...	3
Disease of Liver	...	...	...	1
Aneurism	..	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	3
Syncope (Cold)	...	...	...	1
Inanition	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhage (at birth)	...	...	...	1
Overlaid	...	..	...	1
Result of Accidental Fractures	...	...	...	4
Accidental Drowning	...	...	...	3
Accidental Poisoning	...	...	...	1
Perforation of Stomach from a fall	...	...	...	1
Found Dead...	...	...	...	4
Found Drowned	...	...	...	1
Poisoning, no evidence as to intention	...	...	...	3
Poisoning (Suicidal)	...	...	...	3
Cut Throat (Suicidal)	...	...	...	1
Fracture (Suicidal)	...	...	...	1
TOTAL.....				37

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

Deaths not medically certified numbered 10, or 1·3 per cent. of total deaths.

In these the cause of death was said to be as follows :

Disease of Kidney	1
Pulmonary Hæmorrhage	2
Spasm of Glottis	1
Heart Disease	2
Phthisis	1
Asthma	1
Bronchitis	1
Convulsions	1
TOTAL	10

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Included in the list of Public Institutions are the following : East Sussex Hospital, Eversfield Hospital, Hertfordshire Convalescent Home, Convalescent Home for Poor Children, within the Borough, and the Workhouse Infirmary, Borough Sanatorium, and Ore Villa Sanatorium, outside the District.

The deaths in these Institutions were from the following causes :

	Under 5 Years.	5 and under 60.	60 and upwards.
Phthisis	0	8	0
Diseases of Nervous System ...	0	3	1
„ Respiratory „	0	4	1
„ Circulatory „	0	7	4
„ Digestive „	0	5	3
„ Urinary „	0	1	2
„ Reproductive „	0	3	0
Malignant Disease (Cancer, &c.)	0	2	1
Tubercular Disease	0	4	1
Constitutional Disease	0	3	0
Accident	0	2	2
Old Age	0	0	11
Convulsions	1	0	0
Pyæmia	0	2	0
Small-pox	0	3	0
Diphtheria	1	2	0
Measles	0	1	0
TOTAL	2	50	26

The Borough Sanatorium. The admissions to the Borough Sanatorium during the year were 136. Of this number 93 were removed from the Urban and 43 from the Rural District.

Ninety-seven patients were admitted with Scarlet Fever (75 Urban 22 Rural cases), with 5 deaths in all, inclusive of a death from Small-pox and one from Diphtheria developed in the Sanatorium. Excluding these there were three deaths from Scarlatina, none of which occurred among persons belonging to the Borough.

One case of Measles was sent in as Scarlatina, but was at once successfully isolated, and there was no spread.

Three Scarlatina patients developed Small-pox between January 20th and January 23rd, 1894, and were immediately removed to the Iron Hospital, where one died.

The remaining Scarlatina patients above 12 years of age and the hospital staff were immediately re-vaccinated, and no further cases occurred,

Ten patients were admitted with Diphtheria, 9 from the Urban and one from the Rural District. Only one of these died.

Twenty-eight cases of Small-pox were admitted to the Iron Hospital, 8 from the Urban and 20 from the Rural District, making, with three patients transferred from the Scarlatina block, a total of 31 cases. Among these there were 4 deaths,—a case mortality of about 13 per cent.

Ore Villa Sanatorium. In addition to the cases mentioned above, a certain number of Small-pox patients were admitted direct to a temporary Isolation Hospital at Ore Villa, viz., 26 Urban and 20 Rural cases, making, with 19 patients transferred from the Iron Hospital, a total of 65 persons suffering from this disease. There were only two deaths among the patients in the Camp Hospital—a case mortality of 3 per cent., against 13 per cent. in the Iron Hospital.

In October, 1893, I prepared and presented to the Sanitary Committee a Report dealing with the defects and short-comings of the Sanatorium, and pointing out that though it had served a very useful purpose in isolating cases of infectious disease, yet that from its construction—it was previously a private school for young gentlemen—it was unsuited in many ways for a Public Sanatorium. Acting on this Report, I am glad to state that the Town Council have determined on the erection of a properly constructed Isolation Hospital, to which

end application has now been made to the Local Government Board for a loan to secure two additional acres of land adjoining the site occupied by the existing Sanatorium. Here it is proposed to build isolation blocks for patients suffering from Scarlatina, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever, for which purpose the site is admirably adapted. The present year will, I trust, see the building of the Hospital well in hand.

Common Lodging-Houses. The supervision of the Common Lodging-Houses which had been hitherto in the hands of the Chief Constable of Police, was, on the resignation of this office by the latter, entrusted to the Sub-Inspector of Nuisances. Since his appointment early in the year he has paid frequent visits to the houses, and reports a steady improvement in their condition, both as regards cleanliness and in structural repair. Improvements have been carried out in one in the way of ventilation. Towards the close of the year a new house was registered in addition to the two already in occupation. It is situated in Wellington Court, is well lighted and ventilated, and the sanitary arrangements are good. It is a great improvement on the older ones, and will compare favourably with those in other towns. There is now accommodation in the three registered houses for 98 persons.

Slaughter-houses. The five slaughter houses in the District have all been inspected from time to time, and when required limewashed. In one slaughter-house better storage of water has been provided. The new bye-laws, which came into force at the latter end of 1893, would appear to have worked well, and I have received no complaint of nuisance from the slaughter-houses during the year.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops. At the request of the Sanitary Committee, and with the assistance of the Town Clerk, I drew up a series of Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of the Privy Council, 1885, (*a*) for the inspection of cattle in dairies, (*b*) for prescribing and regulating the lighting, ventilation, cleansing, draining, and water supply of dairies and cowsheds, (*c*) for securing the cleanliness of milk stores, milk shops, and of milk vessels used for containing milk for sale, (*d*) for prescribing precautions to be taken by purveyors of milk and persons selling milk by retail against infection or contamination.

The above regulations came into force at the end of the year. Additional means of protecting the milk supply were obtained by the adoption of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act during the year.

The premises occupied by purveyors of milk were visited during the year, and the owners of unregistered premises compelled to register as required by the Order. Great care is taken to see that the premises of purveyors of milk are cleanly, and in good sanitary condition. The Cowsheds have also been inspected during the year.

The following account summarises some part of the Sanitary work of the year 1894, by the Inspectors of Nuisances :

229 Notices were served or reports laid before the Sanitary Committee on account of sanitary defects.

1987 Houses and premises inspected.

179 Houses provided with new stoneware pipe drains.

25 Drains cleansed, cleared and amended.

173 Stoneware intercepting traps and 268 gully or surface traps fixed.

126 Four-inch iron or lead soil-pipes fixed outside houses and ventilation provided.

11 Samples of water taken from private wells.

5 Wells closed.

40 Accumulations of manure, &c., ordered to be removed.

62 Houses and rooms cleansed and lime-washed.

9 Bakehouses lime-washed, under the Bakehouse Regulations.

130 Animals ordered to be kept in more cleanly state.

2 Nuisances from chimneys sending forth black smoke abated.

3 Urinals provided with good flush of water, &c., drained, ventilated and cleansed.

2 Nuisances from overcrowding abated.

279 Closets cleansed or renewed.

165 Drains tested.

377 Houses and rooms fumigated.

505 Sets of bedding and clothing disinfected.

Many work-rooms inspected under the Factory and Workshops Act, overcrowding discontinued, and ventilation enforced where necessary, also cleansing and lime-washing in some instances. Inspection has also been made under the Shop Hours Regulation Act.

Inspection of food. Articles found in a state unfit for human consumption were condemned and destroyed—chiefly fish and fruit.

The Inspector has also taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 24 samples of milk, 5 samples of spirits, and 2 samples of lard ; also 5 samples of butter under the Margarine Act, and submitted them to the Public Analyst. Thirty-four of these samples were reported genuine ; but in the case of one sample of milk and one of whisky, which were reported adulterated, successful prosecutions were instituted.

The following Meteorological Report was kindly supplied to me by the Borough Meteorologist :

The *Mean Temperature* of the past year (1894) at the elevation of 170 feet above the sea was 50·8. This is considered to be as much as 2·2° above the mean temperature of this locality. The coldest month was January, with a mean of 38·8, the extreme temperature of 11·8 registered during the early morning hours of the 5th being the lowest shade temperature recorded in Hastings from a properly mounted and verified instrument. The warmest month was July, with a mean of 61·6. The entire range of shade temperature from 11·8 to 82·2 on July 1st was almost 11 degrees in excess of the mean amount. The daily range of shade temperature was 11·7 degrees, and was nearly one degree more than the yearly mean.

The *Rainfall* during the year was very heavy. I can find no other record during the past twenty-one years of so large an amount. The total fall of 35·98 inches was somewhat over 6 inches more than the mean. The month of October was as usual the wettest month of all, and March was the driest. The number of days on which rain fell was 16 above the mean.

Bright Sunshine.—The amount recorded was 1693·8 hours, and was 52·4 hours less than the mean of the previous eleven years. May was the brightest month with 227·2 hours, and December the dullest with 62·3 hours. The number of sunless days was, however, again very few, amounting to only 62 in all. I am sorry that owing to the lateness of published returns from other places it is impossible to make any useful comparisons.

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Taken at St. Leonards, Sussex, during the year 1894.

TEMPERATURE.

	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Absolute Max.	Absolute Min.
January	43·6	34·1	49·9	11·8
February	46·5	36·2	51·6	27·4
March	51·4	39·7	61·1	32·4
April	57·6	45·6	66·8	38·9
May	57·3	43·2	72·8	35·7
June	63·0	50·6	79·2	43·0
July	67·7	55·6	82·2	51·3
August	65·4	54·8	70·1	47·0
September.....	61·6	50·4	69·2	42·0
October	57·1	47·3	64·2	38·1
November.....	54·0	44·4	60·4	37·4
December	47·5	37·3	53·0	28·6
Means.....	56·6	44·9	82·2 (Max.)	11·8 (Min.)

RAINFALL.

	Inches.	Greatest amount on one day.	Date.	No. of days of '005 or more.
January... ..	2·96	0·35	15th & 25th	20
February	2·69	0·34	25th	16
March	1·47	0·21	9th & 12th	13
April	2·20	0·70	24th	13
May	1·91	0·40	26th	15
June	1·80	0·53	6th	16
July	5·79	1·33	6th	19
August	2·01	0·39	8th	21
September.....	3·66	0·94	24th	16
October	5·87	1·32	19th	18
November.....	3·29	0·82	11th	15
December	2·33	0·49	7th	14
Total.....	35·98			196

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

	Hours.	Greatest amount on one day.	Date.	No. of Days on which no sunshine was registered.
January.....	75·3	7·2	24th	9
February	102·3	9·5	19th	10
March	201·3	11·6	28th	2
April	179·9	11·5	10th	2
May	227·2	14·5	30th	1
June	194·2	14·9	28th	2
July	192·1	14·0	1st	1
August	151·2	10·9	26th	2
September.....	127·6	9·5	10th & 11th	7
October	78·4	9·4	2nd	8
November.....	102·0	8·5	6th	8
December	62·3	5·7	3rd & 15th	10
Total.....	1693·8			62

H. COLBORNE, *Borough Meteorologist.*

In conclusion, I must thank all those who have contributed material for the preparation of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

St. Leonards-on-Sea,
February, 1895.



APPENDIX.

TABLE I.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the Hastings Urban Sanitary

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Public Institutions be- ing shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY.					
	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.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	1	2	3	4
PARISHES.													
St. Leonard	...	83	13	7	4	5	21	33	{ Under 5	...	...	..	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
St. Mary Mag lalen	...	174	25	15	6	8	65	55	{ Under 5	...	...	1	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
Holy Trinity	...	84	11	7	4	4	35	23	{ Under 5	...	1	1	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
St. Andrew	...	28	4	4	1	1	7	11	{ Under 5	...	...	1	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	1	...	...
St. Mary - in - the - Castle	...	165	24	11	5	9	66	50	{ Under 5	...	1	1	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Michael	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Mary Bulverhythe	...	3	2	...	..	...	1	...	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Clement	...	67	19	5	2	1	23	17	{ Under 5	...	...	1	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
All Saints	...	96	22	10	7	2	33	22	{ Under 5	...	...	...	1
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
Blacklands	...	11	5	1	1	...	4	...	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.													
East Sussex Hospital	..	33	...	...	3	8	20	2	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
Eversfield Hospital	..	9	...	...	...	2	7	...	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
Hertfordshire Con. Home		1	..	...	...	...	1	...	{ Under 5	...	...	...	...
									{ 5 upwds.	...	..	...	...
TOTALS	...	756	126	60	33	40	284	213	Under 5	...	2	5	...
									5 upwds	...	1	5	1

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto	35	1	1	1	1	16	15	Under 5	...	...	1	...
								5 upwds.	3	...	1	...
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto	147	9	5	6	17	85	25	Under 5	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds	...	...	1	...

TABLE I.

Sanitary District classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																	
FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Pneu- monia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.
Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.													
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
...	1	...	...	...	7	...	1	11	20
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	11	1	34	63
...	4	1	...	...	...	11	...	1	22	40
...	1	...	...	30	25	17	3	57	134
...	2	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	8	18
...	2	...	12	5	7	4	35	66
...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	8
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	6	20
...	1	1	6	1	...	...	...	4	...	1	19	35
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	13	17	4	63	130
...	1	1
...	1	1
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
...	1	...	...	...	...	1
...	1	1	...	...	...	9	...	1	11	24
...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	...	3	23	43
...	1	8	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	17	32
...	1	...	...	...	1	...	10	5	3	2	41	64
...	2	...	...	4	6
...	1	1	...	...	3	5
...
...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	4	22	33
...	3	...	3	...	3	9
...	1	1
...	1	4	20	5	...	...	...	46	...	4	99	186
...	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3	...	109	65	69	22	289	570
account in judging of the above records of mortality.																	
...	1	2
...	4	3	5	...	17	33
...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	10	14
...	2	...	51	7	14	5	53	133

TABLE II.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming in the Hastings Urban Sanitary District, Classified

NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Pub- lic Institutions being shewn as separate local- ities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.	Estimated to middle of 1894.	Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS, IN EACH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL							
	Census, 1891.				Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.			
									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PARISH OF												
St. Leonard	6,589	7,055	106	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 2	3 9	... 8	... ...	... ...	... 2	......	......
St. Mary Magdalen	14,415	15,100	215	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 5	3 41	3 14	... ...	... ...	... 8	......	......
Holy Trinity	5,172	5,600	61	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 1	4 10	3 8	... ..	... ...	... 2	......	......
St. Andrew	1,666	1,676	34	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 2	1 8	... ...	... ...	... ...	... 3	......	......
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	11,869	13,000	267	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 7	11 28	1 6	... ...	... ...	... 5	......	......
St. Michael	334	334	10	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ...	... 1	......	.....	......	......	......	......
St. Mary Bulverhythe	191	240	7	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	.. ...	... ...	... ...	... ...
St. Clement	4,856	4,950	130	Under 5 5 upwards.	... 7	2 9	2 4	......	......	......	......	......
All Saints	6,037	6,588	197	Under 5 5 upwards.	2 6	3 23	2 6	... 1	... ...	... 2	......	......
Blacklands	1,094	1,400	33	Under 5 5 upwards.	... ...	1 6	......	.....	......	.....	......	......
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.												
East Sussex Hospital	(62)	...	...	Under 5 5 upwards.	... ...	... 2	... 1	......	......	......	......	......
Convalescent Home for Poor Children	(71)	...	...	Under 5 5 upwards.	... ...	... 2	......	......	......	......	......	......
TOTALS	52,223	55,943	1,060	Under 5 5 upwards.	2 30	28 139	11 47	... 1	.. ...	... 22	......	......

TABLE III.

Years.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1000 of the inhabitants.	Deaths from all causes.	Death-rate per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate from the 7 chief Infectious Diseases per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate under 1 year of age per 1000 births.
1885	1100	23·78	703	15·20	1·36	99
1886	1098	23·25	718	15·20	1·58	131
1887	1097	22·78	771	15·98	1·63	128
1888	1077	21·85	726	14·73	0·50	101
1889	1117	22·19	711	14·12	0·71	114
1890	1003	19·53	743	14·45	0·99	104
1891	1089	20·74	892	*16·99	1·14	115
1892	1070	19·95	937	*17·47	1·51	145
1893	1059	19·33	783	14·29	1·33	110
1894	1060	18·94	769	13·74	0·93	118

* Effect of Influenza epidemics.

TABLE IV.

HASTINGS URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Showing the number of Deaths at all ages in 1894, from certain groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 of Population, and to 1000 Deaths from all causes; also the number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age from other groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 Births and to 1000 Deaths from all causes under one year.

Division 1. (Adults).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population, at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths, at all ages.
1. Principal Zymotic Diseases	52	0·93	67
2. Pulmonary Diseases	114	2·03	148
3. Principal Tubercular Diseases	133	2·37	172
Division II. (Infants under One year).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4. Wasting Diseases .	37	34·9	291
5. Convulsive Diseases	23	21·7	181

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric (or Typhoid), and simple continued Fevers, and Diarrhœa.
3. Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets, and Tabes.
4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions and Teething.









