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# Annual Report

— ON —

## The Health, Sanitary Condition,

ETC., ETC., OF THE

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS,

FOR THE YEAR

1908,

BY

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OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

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HASTINGS:

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MDCCCIX,

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

### STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area in Acres—4,857 (including 373 acres of foreshore).

Population at Census, 1901	...	...	...	...	65,528
„ estimated middle of 1908	...	...	...	...	67,817
Inhabited houses at Census	...	...	...	...	11,428
Average of persons to a house	...	...	...	...	5·734
Density of population per acre	...	...	...	...	15
Birth-rate, Average 1898-1907...	...	...	...	...	18·5
„ in 1908	...	...	...	...	15·6
Death-rate, average	...	...	...	...	13·99
„ in 1908	...	...	...	...	11·56
„ Zymotic, in 1908...	...	...	...	...	0·46
„ Infantile, per 1,000 of births, average	...	...	...	...	116
„ „ „ „ in 1908	...	...	...	...	81
Rainfall, average annual	...	...	...	...	29·07 inches
„ in 1908	...	...	...	...	22·01 inches
Bright Sunshine, average annual (Campbell-Stokes Recorder)	...	...	...	...	1783 hours
Bright Sunshine in 1908	...	...	...	...	1886 hours
Mean Temperature, average annual	...	...	...	...	49·8 degrees
„ in 1908	...	...	...	...	49·9 degrees



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

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Nineteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of this County Borough.

The statistics of disease and mortality in the year 1908 will bear comparison with those of any of its predecessors, but the birth-rate was less satisfactory. The number of births registered was less than in any preceding year, and the birth-rate (15·6) was one per thousand lower than in 1907. The general death-rate, 11·56 per thousand of estimated population, was by far the lowest on record, showing a decline of more than one per thousand from the previous record in 1907. The rate of infantile mortality, only 81 per thousand of births, though slightly exceeding the record in 1907, was greatly below that of earlier years.

Among the seven chief epidemic diseases, whooping cough and measles showed some local prevalence, but the death-rate due to this class of disease—the zymotic death-rate—was once more remarkably low, being only 0·46 per thousand, and was considerably less than in any other of the great towns of England and Wales.

At the end of this Report will be found a number of statistical tables as required by the Local Government Board; also the usual summary of work carried out in the Sanitary Department in the abatement of nuisances, in disinfection and other action in regard to infectious disease, in dealing with the condition of factories and workshops; and also the results of inspection and analysis of food, and other matters.



I have, in conclusion, to offer my thanks to you, and particularly to the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee, for the assistance and support extended to your officials of the Health Department in their endeavour to carry out satisfactorily their responsible duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.

Town Hall,

Hastings,

February, 1909.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

#### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The County Borough of Hastings lies on the southern slope of a range of hills, the highest point of which attains an elevation of nearly 600 feet. The crest or ridge of this hilly range forms the northern boundary of the borough, and is distant from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the shore, which is the southern boundary. Towards the east also are hills protecting the town on this quarter. Minor hills, with intervening valleys running mainly N. and S., intersect the area of the borough, which has an acreage of 4,857 acres.

The geological formation consists of sandstone, sand, and ferruginous clay. Chalk is not found in the neighbourhood.

#### THE CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS.

The district is largely residential. The letting of lodgings to visitors in search of health or pleasure forms the main industry of the place. There is no harbour; but at the east end of the Borough, which is the oldest part of the town, there is still a considerable fishing community. The industry has, however, of late years lost some of its former importance.

There are no large factories or works in the district or neighbourhood except those for the supply of electricity and gas, nor is there much demand for male labour outside the numerous shops and the building and such-like trades concerned with the ordinary upkeep of a residential town. There is in consequence, except at ages under 15 years, a vast preponderance of females in the population.

## POPULATION.

The population of the County Borough of Hastings was estimated to be 67,817 in the middle of the year 1908. This figure is taken from the return of the Registrar General and is that used as the basis of the statistics presented in this Report. It is probable that the estimated population exceeds the actual, as it is very doubtful whether the rate of increase of the inhabitants observed in the decade 1891-1901 has since continued. There is, however, no accurate means at the present time available to check the correctness of this estimate.

The following table gives the number of inhabited houses and the population of each of the 12 Civil Parishes constituting the County Borough of Hastings at the date of the Census of 1901:—

Civil Parishes.	Inhabited Houses.	Population.	Persons per House.
All Saints ... ..	1353	6799	5·02
St. Clement ... ..	922	4656	5·05
St. Mary-in-the-Castle ...	2291	12,498	5·05
St. Andrew ... ..	264	1447	5·48
Holy Trinity ... ..	771	4825	6·26
St. Michael ... ..	57	323	5·67
St. Mary Magdalen ... ..	1944	13,123	6·75
St. Leonard ... ..	1155	7693	6·66
St. Mary Bulverhythe ...	43	273	6·35
St. Matthew ... ..	1093	5783	5·29
St. Helens ... ..	1151	6184	5·37
Hollington St. John ... ..	384	1924	5·01
Total ... ..	11,428	65,528	5·734



For the purposes of the tables issued by the Local Government Board which will be found at the end of this Report, the Borough has been sub-divided into four localities, which are constituted as follows:—

1. The Registration Sub District of All Saints, comprising the Civil Parishes of All Saints, St. Clement, St. Mary-in-the-Castle, St. Andrew, Holy Trinity, and St. Michael. Of this locality the population is estimated to be at the present time 31,450.

2. The Registration Sub District of St. Mary Magdalen, comprising the Parishes of St. Mary Magdalen, St. Leonard, St. Mary Bulverhythe, and St. Matthew, of which the population is estimated to be 27,600.

3. The Parish of St. Helen's, semi-rural in character, having a population of about 6,670, and containing within its area the Hastings Union Workhouse, and the Borough Isolation Hospital.

4. The Parish of Hollington St. John, also partly rural in character, and containing a population estimated at 2,097.

Of these four localities the three first named are in the Hastings Registration District, while the Parish of Hollington St. John is in the Battle Registration District.

For purposes of Sanitary Administration the Borough is divided into four districts, Western, Central, Eastern, and Northern; the last-named is the extensive area added to the Borough under the Provisional Order of the Local Government Board in 1897. The Northern District is largely rural in character; the other three divisions being entirely urban.

Each of these districts is under the supervision of a properly qualified and certificated Sanitary Inspector exercising therein the powers conferred on such an official under the Public Health Acts, the Factory Acts, the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, the Hastings Improvement Act, 1885, the Hastings Corporation Act, 1900, and other kindred enactments.

The several districts are believed to be fairly equal as regards their population, each having about 17,000 inhabitants.



### BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE.

The number of births registered during the year again showed a decrease, and was indeed lower than in any year since the extension of the Borough.

Births of males were 540, of females 518, making a total of only 1,058, against 1,125 in 1907, and 1,096 in 1906, which latter figure was previously the lowest recorded. The birth-rate likewise declined from 16·7 in 1907 and 16·3 in 1906 to only 15·6 in 1908, the average in the ten years 1898-1907 being 18·5 per thousand of estimated population.

In England and Wales the birth-rate in 1908 was 26·5 having been 26·3 in the preceding year, which was the lowest ever recorded.

As regards the separate localities into which the district is divided, the number of births in 1908 as compared with 1907 fell in the Registration Sub-District of St. Mary Magdalen from 370 to 346, in the Registration Sub-District of All Saints from 516 to 495, in the Parish of St. Helen's from 205 to 179, though it increased in the Parish of Hollington St. John from 34 to 38. The decrease in the whole Borough was 67.

The birth-rates in the localities named showed as usual considerable inequality, ranging from only 12·5 in St. Mary Magdalen to 26·8 in St. Helen's. In All Saints the birth-rate was 15·7; in Hollington St. John 18·1.

*Illegitimate Births.*—Although the number of births registered in 1908 fell below that in any earlier year, yet the percentage of illegitimate births declined in even greater proportion. Such births numbered 55 in 1908, having been 74 in 1907 and 80 in 1906. The proportion of illegitimate to total births in 1902 was 8·1; in 1903, 5·4; in 1904, 7·2; in 1905, 7·8; in 1906, 7·3; in 1907, 6·6; in 1908, 5·2 per cent.

### NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION.

The natural increase of the population, that is, the number by which the births exceeded the deaths, was 274, compared with 273 in 1907.

The following table shows the natural increase of the population in each quarter of 1908:—



Period.		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
First Quarter ...	...	274	250	24
Second Quarter	...	292	220	72
Third Quarter...	...	270	147	123
Fourth Quarter	...	222	167	55
Whole Year ...	...	1058	784	274

#### DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE.

The gross number of deaths registered in 1908 was 819, compared with 884 in the preceding year, and an average in the ten years 1898-1907 of 966. The smallest number prior to 1908 was 876 in 1905, and the greatest 1,143 in 1899.

Included in the year's total were the deaths of 35 strangers in the Public Institutions of the Borough, and these are to be deducted for the purposes of this report. In the East Sussex Hospital, which is the General Hospital for this end of the County and for part of the adjoining County of Kent, and which therefore receives a large number of cases of accidents and serious illness from outside the Borough, there were 19 deaths of non-residents; in the Eversfield Hospital, 10 such deaths; 2 each in the Workhouse and the Herts. Convalescent Home; and one each in the Fairlight Convalescent Home and the Beau Site Convalescent Home. These being deducted, the nett deaths were 784, and the recorded death-rate only 11·56, compared with 12·62 in 1907, 13·59 in 1906, and an average in the decade 1898-1907 of 13·99.

To make this figure strictly comparable with the death-rate of other towns a further correction is needed owing to differences in the age and sex-distribution of the populations in the various towns. This correction being applied, the "corrected death-rate" in Hastings in 1908 was only 11·13, the lowest rate hitherto recorded. The corrected death-rate in 1907 was 12·15.

The following table shows the number of deaths in each parish and each locality in each quarter of the year, and the General Death-rate in each quarter.

Population (Estimated) Middle of 1908.	Parish.	Population, Census 1901.	Deaths.					
			First Quarter.	Second Quarter	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.	From Zymotic Diseases.
Registration Sub-District of St. Mary Magdalen 27600	St. Mary B'lverh'the	273	—	1	—	2	3	—
	St. Leonard ...	7693	37	37	25	20	119	2
	St. Matthew ...	5783	16	19	10	20	65	3
	St. Mary Magdalen	13123	42	43	14	31	130	4
	Registration Dis- trict of St. Mary Magdalen ... }	26872	95	100	49	73	317	9
Registration Sub-District of All Saints 31450	St. Michael ...	323	—	—	1	—	1	—
	Holy Trinity ...	4825	18	9	16	8	51	—
	St. Andrew ...	1447	3	5	7	7	22	—
	St. Mary-in-the Castle	12498	35	37	27	27	126	6
	St. Clement ...	4656	30	18	11	12	71	6
	All Saints ...	6799	25	32	17	18	92	5
	Registration Dis- trict of All Saints }	30548	111	101	79	72	363	17
6670	St. Helens ...	6184	34	15	13	18	80	2
2097	Hollington St. John	1924	10	4	6	4	24	3
67817	Total ...	65528	250	220	147	167	784	31
	Death-rate per thousand		14.8	13.0	8.6	9.8	11.6	0.46



The rates of mortality, general and zymotic, in the different localities were as follows:—

In the Registration Sub-District of St. Mary Magdalen, 11·5 and 0·32; in the Sub-District of All Saints, 11·5 and 0·54; in the Parish of St. Helens, 11·9 and 0·45; and in the Parish of Hollington St. John, 11·4 and 1·45.

In the above table all deaths of persons belonging to the Borough are accounted for, and are referred when occurring in Public Institutions to the several parishes whence the persons were removed.

The deaths of 59 visitors are also included for which no correction is made.

The general death-rate was, as is usually the case, highest in the first quarter of the year when acute pulmonary diseases are most prevalent and in delicate or elderly persons are especially liable to terminate fatally. In the third quarter the number of deaths was by far the lowest yet recorded.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The rate of Infantile Mortality was exceptionally low, being only 81 per thousand of births, and only one per thousand in excess of that in the record year, 1907. In England and Wales the rate was 121, half as much again as that in Hastings; in the 76 great Towns (including Hastings) it was 128; in 141 smaller towns 124; in England and Wales, less the 217 towns, it was 110.

A low rate of infantile mortality is a cause of satisfaction to the sanitarian, because owing to their sensibility to environment the rate of mortality among young infants is to be regarded as in some degree an index of the sanitary condition of a district. Moreover the rate of infantile mortality, which is the proportion between the number of births registered and of deaths of infants under one year of age occurring in a given period, is independent of the estimate of population which is oftentimes incorrect and thus becomes the source of statistical error.

The infantile deaths, which in 1907 numbered 90, were only 86 in 1908, the numbers registered in the four quarters of the year being 38, 21, 13 and 14 respectively. The high rate of mortality (138 per thousand births) in the first three months, when whooping cough and acute pulmonary diseases were rife, was compensated for by the low rate observed during the



remainder of the year. Diarrhoeal diseases were not at all prevalent, and the chief contributory causes of infantile deaths, in addition to the diseases mentioned above, were premature birth and congenital debility. The disparity in the rate of mortality amongst illegitimate infants as compared with those born in wedlock was much less noticeable than usual, being only 91 per thousand in the former against 81 in the latter class.

#### INQUESTS.

Inquests were held on the bodies of 40 persons, compared with 38 in 1907, and 56 in 1906.

The cause of death was returned as natural in 15 cases, accidental injury in 17 cases, and suicide in 6 cases. Two persons were found drowned, but there was no evidence to show whether accidentally or otherwise.

#### UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

Six deaths were uncertified either by medical attendant or by coroner after inquest, equivalent to 0·76 per cent. Death was attributed to heart disease in 4 cases, to premature birth in one case, and to pulmonary hæmorrhage in one case.

#### DEATHS FROM CERTAIN CLASSES OF DISEASE.

Amongst developmental diseases, premature birth was accountable for 20 deaths; while 56 deaths were attributed to old age.

These were at the following ages:—

Between 70 and 80 years,	11 deaths.
"    80    "    90    "	33    "
"    90    "    100    "	11    "
Over 100 years -	1 death.

Of all deaths registered during the year, 391, or almost exactly 50 per cent, were at ages above 60 years.

Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 102 deaths; of the digestive system, 41; of the urinary system, 49; of the nervous system, 69; and of the circulatory system, 85.

Deaths from cancer or malignant disease numbered 92, compared with 98 in 1907, and 94 in 1906. The cancer death-rate was 1·35 per 1,000 of population, compared with 1·4 in the preceding year. Thus the deaths from this cause formed more than one-ninth of all deaths registered, but included those of many persons who entered the town already suffering from the disease.

From alcoholism and hepatic cirrhosis, 9 deaths occurred against 19 in the preceding year, and 16 in 1906.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The diseases which are notifiable in the Borough are those scheduled under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, which has been in force since 1891.

The number of Certificates received during the year 1908 showed a marked decline as compared with the previous year's return, being only 196 against 292 in 1907; while the attack-rate per 1,000 of population fell from 4.33 to 2.89. The diminution was accounted for mainly by a decrease in the number of scarlatina cases notified; certificates relating to puerperal fever being also fewer, viz., 2 instead of 8 in the earlier year.

The procedure adopted in dealing with infectious cases varies according to the nature of the illness. On receipt of notification of occurrence of scarlatina or diphtheria, the house named is visited, and arrangements are made for the removal of the patient to the Sanatorium, unless satisfactory means of isolation can be provided at home. However, as the Sanatorium fortunately bears an excellent reputation, removal thereto is usually readily acquiesced in.

Where there are children in the house attending school, notice is forthwith sent from the Health Department to the Head Teacher advising their exclusion during a stated period of quarantine. Close enquiry is made as to the suspected source of infection, and a printed form is filled up by the Inspector showing the sanitary condition of the premises; water and milk supply; nuisances in near neighbourhood; nature and place of employment of occupants of infected house, and particularly whether washing is taken in; if not, where washing is done; recent occurrence of illness in house or amongst neighbours, friends, lodgers, work—or school fellows. On these details of information action is taken as indicated.

In cases of enteric fever investigation is also made as to consumption of tinned foods or of uncooked articles of diet, such as shellfish or salads, watercress, or other raw vegetables.

After removal of the patient to the Sanatorium, or, if no removal takes place, when the case is at an end, the infected rooms are fumigated or sprayed with formalin, and the bedding, clothing, etc., are disinfected by steam at the Corporation Disinfecting Station.



Similar methods of disinfection are employed in other infectious diseases when desired or indicated, such as measles and whooping-cough in schools and lodging-houses, erysipelas and puerperal fever, and in many cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. As regards the last named the amount of disinfection of premises will in the future be greatly increased, partly as the result of notification of pauper cases, and partly from the wider recognition by the public of the infectivity of phthisis.

The following table shows the notifications of infectious diseases received during the four quarters of 1908 and the attack-rate per 1,000 of the population.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.	Notifications.					Attack-rate per 1,000 of population in 1907.
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Whole Year.	
Smallpox ....	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever.....	22	17	20	45	104	1·53
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup }	24	10	3	11	48	0·71
Erysipelas .....	7	5	9	17	38	0·56
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	3	—	4	0·06
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	2	0·03
Total .....	56	32	35	73	196	2·89

The following table shows the number of deaths from each of the chief zymotic or epidemic diseases during the four quarters of 1908 with death-rates from each of these diseases.

DEATHS FROM THE PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

Disease.		DEATHS.					Death rate per 1000 of population.
		1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Whole Year	
Notifiable.	Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
	Scarlet Fever	—	3	—	—	3	0·044
	Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	—	2	0·029
	Enteric Fever	2	—	—	—	2	0·029
	Total ...	4	3	—	—	7	0·103
Non-notifiable.	Measles ...	3	2	2	—	7	0·103
	Whooping Cough	10	1	—	—	11	0·162
	Diarrhœa ...	1	—	3	2	6	0·088
	Total ...	14	3	5	2	24	0·354
Total ...		18	6	5	2	31	0·457

DEATHS FROM THE PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

The number of deaths registered as attributable to the seven chief epidemic diseases was again very small, though slightly in excess of the previous year's total. Thirty-one deaths were thus classified as against 29 in 1907, seven deaths being caused by notifiable and 24 by non-notifiable diseases.

The zymotic death-rate was once more a very low one, being only 0·46, which was considerably lower than in any other of the large towns of England and Wales.

Of the 31 deaths from diseases of this class, 18 (including 10 from whooping cough), occurred during the first three months of the year.



The following table shows the number of deaths in the County Borough from each of the seven chief epidemic diseases in the past eight years:—

DISEASE.	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Smallpox ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	1	4	1	—	—	6	3	3
Diphtheria ...	6	9	5	2	1	3	4	2
Enteric Fever ...	4	1	1	1	1	1	—	2
Measles ...	1	14	12	1	10	7	3	7
Whooping Cough ...	17	7	12	2	32	2	13	11
Diarrhoea ...	26	14	11	19	10	26	6	6
Totals ...	55	49	42	25	54	45	29	31
Zymotic Death-rate	0.84	0.74	0.64	0.37	0.81	0.67	0.43	0.46

*Diphtheria.*—Notifications of diphtheria numbered 48, being one less than in the preceding year.

A considerable percentage of the cases proved on further examination to be sore throats, non-diphtheritic in character, but nevertheless requiring observation and isolation pending the revelation of their true nature.

Half of the cases notified occurred during the first quarter of the year, when a serious outbreak was reported in a large private school, as the result of the return of a pupil, who during the Christmas holidays had suffered from an unrecognised attack of diphtheria. It is only fair to say that bacteriological examination of swabbings from the patient's throat had failed to disclose the presence of the



bacillus, and the disease was not known to be at the time existent in the town whence the pupil came. The cases arising from it were comparatively mild and caused no fatality.

The theory formerly in vogue that diphtheria is usually the direct outcome of sanitary defect has now been largely abandoned, and it has come to be recognised that the disease in the majority of cases is communicated by personal infection. It is, unfortunately, the fact that a person may harbour the germ of diphtheria during protracted periods after apparently complete recovery from the disease, and may even be a source of infection to others without himself experiencing anything suggesting an attack of what is so frequently a virulent malady,

To these sources are traceable many of the outbreaks of diphtheria which occur.

*Scarlatina.*—The notifications of Scarlatina showed a marked decline upon the returns of the previous two years, 104 certificates being received against 193 in 1907 and 214 in 1906.

The disease proved troublesome to deal with, chiefly from the mildness of the symptoms displayed in many cases which masked the real nature of the complaint; thus isolation was not effected, and, in many instances, medical advice was not sought, until the development of further cases aroused the suspicion of the parents.

During the fourth quarter of the year the attendance of several children in an infectious condition at the West St. Leonards School caused some anxiety; though, as a fact, the resulting outbreak was limited to members of only a few families. It was deemed advisable to close the School for a few days to allow of its thorough disinfection and cleansing. A number of houses wherein it was ascertained that sickness of some kind had existed among the pupils of the School were visited by the Medical Officer of Health, and the outbreak was shortly at an end.

The disease was several times imported into the Borough from other districts. There was in no instance any evidence casting suspicion upon the milk-supply as a source of infection.



Of all cases notified, 90, or 86 per cent., were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and there were three deaths, giving a case-mortality of 2.9 per cent. All the deaths occurred within the week ended on April 11th, and of the fatal cases one was imported.

*Measles.*—In the first quarter of the year measles was very prevalent at the west end of the Borough; where, in order to arrest the spread of infection, as well as to avoid the risk of serious complications run by children just recovering from, or just sickening with, the disease, which might result from exposure to cold, it was decided to close several of the Public Elementary Schools for a limited period. The Schools thus dealt with were:—St. Leonards Church of England Infants', Girls', and Boys' Departments; Christ Church Infants', Girls', and Boys'; and Silverhill Infants' Department.

Deaths from measles numbered seven, of which three occurred in the first quarter, two in the second, and two in the third. The fatal cases were all amongst young children under five years of age, to whom the infection was brought by older children who contracted the disease most probably at School.

*Smallpox.*—No case of smallpox has occurred in the Borough for five years.

The infant population is fairly well protected by vaccination against this disease.

*Enteric Fever.*—The Borough once again enjoyed a remarkable immunity from enteric (typhoid) fever, four cases only occurring, one of which was imported and another doubtful. Of the only two cases which were reported during 1907, one—an imported case, being that of a nurse from a fever hospital in Kent—proved fatal early in 1908. Thus, one of the 1908 cases also terminating fatally, there were two deaths from enteric fever during the past year against none in 1907.

*Whooping Cough.*—Whooping cough again, as in the preceding year, contributed most largely among the seven chief epidemic diseases to the zymotic mortality. The deaths from this disease numbered 11, compared with 13 in the year 1907. It was prevalent in the Old Town at the end of that year, and during the early months of 1908 the infection spread through the eastern half of the Borough,



where nine deaths resulted in the first quarter. When whooping cough becomes epidemic during the winter months it invariably occasions a considerable mortality among the infant population of the poorer neighbourhoods; especially if at the same time lack of employment is causing distress among the working classes, as was unfortunately the case in this instance. During the height of the epidemic it became necessary to close the Infants' Department of Priory Road School for about a fortnight.

*Diarrhœa.*—Only six deaths were attributed to this disease during the year, the number being the same as in 1907, but less than in any other year.

The diarrhœa death-rate in Hastings was lower than in any other of the great towns, in which it averaged 0·65 per 1,000, that of this Borough being only 0·09.

*Puerperal Fever.*—Two cases only were notified, of which one proved fatal.

*Tuberculosis*—Hitherto no system of notification of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, compulsory or voluntary, has been in operation in this Borough; but now, by Order of the Local Government Board, all cases of phthisis coming under the notice of the Poor Law Officials must be notified to the Sanitary Authority. This marks a distinct step forward in the campaign against this widespread disease. Now for the first time does pulmonary tuberculosis figure as an infectious disease, for the control of which regulations can be framed under the Public Health Acts. Although the Order bears only on cases in which Parish Relief is sought, yet the principle must be accepted as applicable to all classes; a point which in a resort of this description, to which consumptives are sent in some numbers, assumes considerable importance.

Thus, for example, rooms and apartments which are likely to have been infected by consumptives must be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before any one else occupies them. In many instances this has already been done in the past, but in future it should be universally practised.

On account of the danger to other inmates, phthisical patients are excluded from many public institutions, the principal ones in this Borough receiving such cases are the



Eversfield Hospital with 53 beds; the Fairlight Convalescent Home, with 22 beds (for men only); and the Workhouse Infirmary. Some cases are treated also in private Nursing Homes, of which there are many.

The deaths registered in 1908 from phthisis were 80 in number against 93 in the preceding year. These figures include the deaths of many visitors and residents who had contracted the disease before coming to Hastings. In recent years the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis has greatly diminished, as will be seen from the following table.

The following table sets forth the phthisis death-rate in each year since the extension of the Borough:—

YEAR.	Phthisis Deaths.	Phthisis death-rate.
1898	121	1·86
1899	125	1·91
1900	102	1·56
1901	103	1·57
1902	108	1·64
1903	95	1·43
1904	95	1·43
1905	90	1·35
1906	80	1·19
1907	93	1·38
1908	80	1·18

#### BOROUGH SANATORIUM.

The isolation of persons suffering from scarlet fever or diphtheria, and in some instances from enteric fever, is effected in the Borough Sanatorium situate in the Parish of St. Helen's. In addition to the administrative block, laundry, etc., it comprises four blocks of buildings for the reception of patients. Some of the wards are of small size, designed for the isolation of doubtful cases, or of private paying patients.



The hospital is of modern construction, and is admirably appointed. It has accommodation for 46 patients.

*Scarlet Fever.*—Including 21 cases of scarlatina which were in the Sanatorium at the beginning of the year, 112 cases were treated in the Institution in 1908, compared with 208 in 1907, and 229 in 1906. There were three deaths, yielding a case-mortality of 2·7 per cent.

*Diphtheria.*—Eight patients suffering from diphtheria were in the Hospital on January 1st, 1908, and 43 were admitted during the year for throat-illness suggestive of diphtheria. Several of these proved to be non-diphtheritic. There was only one death, a case-mortality of less than 2 per cent.

*Other Diseases.*—Two cases were admitted with a provisional diagnosis of Enteric Fever, but further observation showed the disease to be of a milder nature, and the patients were discharged after a brief stay.

For treatment of cases of smallpox, there is accommodation provided on land belonging to the Corporation at Brede.

The following table shows briefly the results of the year's work at the Sanatorium :—

Disease.		Number in Hospital on Jan. 1st, 1907.	Admitted during year.	Died in Hospital.	Discharge from Hospital.	Remaining Dec. 31st, 1907.
Scarlatina	...	21	91	3	87	22
Diphtheria	...	8	43	1	46	4
Other Diseases	...	—	2	—	2	—
TOTAL	...	29	136	4	135	26

The nursing and domestic arrangements at the Sanatorium are excellent.

By arrangement, patients from the Hastings Rural District are received into the Borough Sanatorium. Among the cases tabulated above two were from the Rural District, viz., one of scarlatina, and one of diphtheria.



## DISINFECTION.

Disinfection by steam of articles of clothing, bedding, etc., is effected after occurrence of scarlatina, diphtheria, or smallpox as a matter of routine, and in other infectious diseases, such as phthisis, septicæmia, erysipelas, as occasion offers or circumstances require.

For this purpose the Corporation possesses two apparatus, one at Rock-a-Nore and the other at the Sanatorium.

The work of the disinfecting staff comprised during the year the fumigation of 314 rooms, and of 9 Police Cells; the disinfection of 518 sets of bedding, and of a large amount of clothing, etc., from infected houses.

## HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

For the needs of the present population the existing accommodation is adequate; indeed there are few, if any, parts of the district where unoccupied dwellings may not readily be met with. The question of the housing of the working-classes formed the subject of detailed enquiry by a special Committee of the Town Council about two years ago whose conclusions were summed up in the last Annual Report of your Medical Officer. No change has since occurred which calls for further comment.

Of three dwellings which had been condemned as unfit for habitation in the previous year and where no action had been taken up to the end of December in that year, two have since been put into good repair and one has been demolished.

Five other dwellings were demolished in 1908, nine were closed and twelve put into thoroughly good sanitary state by their owners on informal notice.

The condition of dwelling houses receives the constant attention of the health officials and a large amount of work is annually carried out through their instrumentality in improvement of the house-drainage and the general sanitation of the District.

New houses, while in course of erection, are under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor.

By-laws regulating the conditions under which vans, sheds, and tents may be occupied for human habitation within the Borough are now under consideration. Their adoption is rendered necessary by the insanitary conditions caused by van dwellers who frequent certain spots in the district, particularly in the Parish of Hollington St. John.



By-laws, however, have their limitations, and may be framed only along definite lines; and there are points concerning dwellers in caravans which call for attention, but which are quite beyond the range of local by-laws.

There are, for example, some cases in which caravans have been located for months at a time on the same spot. Where this occurs it ought to be possible to make them assessable for rating purposes. Again, a difficulty arises in the case of van-dwellers from time to time, in abating nuisance from overcrowding; the service of notice calling on the occupier to remedy such condition having no other effect than to cause the removal of the van to some other district, the nuisance continuing unabated. This difficulty could be better met if vans were licensed as sleeping places for a certain number of persons only, taking into account sex and age, which number, if exceeded, would render the occupier liable to penalty. If intending to make more than a very brief stay (within an urban district at all events) the occupier should be compelled to give notice to the Sanitary Authority, and, if accompanied by children of school age, to the Education Authority also.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supplied to the Borough is of excellent quality and is derived from deep wells and headings, chiefly in the Ashdown Sands. The wells which form the chief sources of supply are at Brede, Filsham, and Fore Wood all of which are outside the district. A large supply is yielded by the wells at Buckshole also, which, though within the Borough, give a very pure water, as will be seen by the appended report of analysis, made on January 5th 1909.

The analyst states that "the samples are of the highest quality, both chemically and bacteriologically even the unfiltered sample being practically perfect in both respects."

#### ANALYTICAL DETAILS.

		Buckshole Filtered.	Buckshole Unfiltered.
Appearance...	..	Clear	Slightly turbid
Colour	... ..	Pale bluish	Greenish brown
Smell	... ..	None	None
Deposit	... ..	None	Slight
Poisonous Metals	... ..	None	None
Hardness	... ..	7½ deg. Clark	9½ deg. Clark



## GRAINS PER GALLON.

Oxygen absorbed from permanganate ...	0.009	0.014
Chlorine ... ..	4.06	4.27
Nitric Acid ... ..	trace	trace
Ammonia ... ..	0.0000	0.0000
Alb. Ammonia ... ..	0.0000	0.0000

## MICRO ORGANISMS PER CUBIC CENTIMETRE.

Total ... ..	15	18
Liquifying ... ..	2	2
Coli ... ..	0	0

The analyses are made at frequent intervals by an independent and experienced Analyst.

Prior to distribution the water is filtered through sand for the removal of suspended and soluble inorganic matter.

At Brede and on the West Hill, St. Leonards, are installations of pressure-filters; ordinary sand-filters being in operation elsewhere.

A very small proportion of dwelling-houses obtain water from sources other than the Corporation mains, extensions of which are needed now chiefly in some outlying parts of St. Helen's Parish.

The private wells still in use are being one by one closed.

The waters of this district appear to have no appreciable plumbo-solvent action.

## MILK SUPPLY

The bulk of the milk consumed within the Borough is brought in from other districts, sometimes from considerable distances, and of the conditions under which it is produced nothing is known here.

Samples are taken at frequent intervals at the station, the dairy, or in course of delivery with results which are shown below in the summary submitted by the analyst. The addition of chemical preservatives is not permitted in the Borough.

The condition of dairies cowsheds and milk-shops receives due attention and several new cowsheds, replacing old ones, have been erected during the year.

More stringent powers are needed to deal effectively with the methods of milking; and for this purpose the regulations now in force in the district require to be amplified, so that due provision shall be made for securing the cleanliness both of milkers and of cows; which points are not specifically dealt with under the existing code.



This matter is one which should receive the early attention of your Council, in view of the important bearing which it may have on the health of young children and of the many invalids who frequent this town.

The scope of regulations for cowsheds ought to be extended so as to embrace not only the cowsheds themselves, to which they are now limited, but also the yards and immediate surroundings of the cowsheds, the cleanliness of which is only less important than that of the cowsheds themselves.

#### FOOD SUPPLY.

The Inspectors of Nuisances are all empowered to take action under the Adulteration Acts and are assisted in their duties by agents as occasion requires. It would, of course, be futile for these officials, who are well known in their districts, to attempt to carry out any useful work in the detection of fraud in connection with the sale of food and drugs unaided. Apart from milk, 127 samples of food and drugs were submitted to, and examined by, the Borough Analyst during the year. The chief interest attaches to the results of analysis of articles of food sold as butter, among 39 samples of which 11 were declared to be margarine. Upon tradesmen who were convicted of such fraudulent dealing five fines of £5 and costs were imposed by the Magistrates. Proceedings in these cases were taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Action of a different kind was, however, instituted against two other offenders, who were proved guilty of obtaining money by false pretences, namely, by representing themselves to be agents of a Devonshire Dairy Company, and by selling in that capacity margarine as "Country Butter" which they hawked about the streets, calling from house to house in likely neighbourhoods. It was felt that in such circumstances, where the hawkers were strangers to the district in which they had no regular place of business, to proceed under the Adulteration Acts would have no other effect than to cause the offenders to leave the neighbourhood before the necessary summonses could be served. Accordingly, working in conjunction with the Police, the officials of the Health Department obtained the necessary evidence, and the two hawkers were promptly arrested before they were aware that they were even under suspicion. When the prisoners came before the Bench it was shown that, in the manner described, they had disposed of nearly 650lbs. of margarine in the three weeks they had spent in the Borough; and, pleading guilty to the charge, they were sentenced to three months imprisonment each.



The work of the Inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is commendably executed, and the supervision exercised by them over premises where foods are prepared, stored or exposed for sale is satisfactory. It is, however, impossible, owing to their number and position, to keep under proper surveillance the slaughterhouses of the District. Both on sanitary and humanitarian grounds it is desirable that public abattoirs under a proper system of official supervision should become the only legal places of slaughter. The Committee which was appointed by the Admiralty to consider the humane slaughtering of animals suggested in their Report (which was published in 1904), the following clauses which they would like to see universally adopted and strictly enforced:—

(a) All animals, without exception, must be stunned, or otherwise rendered unconscious, before blood is drawn.

(b) Animals awaiting slaughter must be so placed that they cannot see into the slaughterhouse, and the doors of the latter must be kept closed whilst slaughtering is going on.

(c) The drainage of the slaughterhouse must be so arranged that no blood or other refuse can flow out within sight or smell of animals awaiting slaughter, and no such refuse shall be deposited in proximity to waiting pens.

(d) If more animals than one are being slaughtered in one slaughterhouse at the same time, they must not be within view of each other.

(e) None but licensed men shall be employed in or about slaughterhouses.

Although kept for the most part in tolerably good condition, many of the slaughterhouses in the Borough are unsatisfactory in design, and are placed in such remote positions within the district as to render proper official supervision impracticable. Nevertheless, so far as the Inspectors are enabled to observe, there is little fault to find with the quality or condition of the meat offered for sale in the Borough.

Under Section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875, no action was taken during the year; but a number of articles of food were condemned and destroyed by the Inspectors, whose assistance and advice were sought in these cases by the dealers.



## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The Borough Analyst reported on the results of his examination of samples submitted to him by the Inspectors during the year.

The samples were of :—

Milk	...	...	64, of which 2 were adulterated.
Butter	..	...	39, " 11 " "
Spirits	...	...	29, " 3 " "
Wine	...	...	1, adulterated.
Margarine	...	...	11, genuine.
Lard	...	...	5, "
Sugar	...	...	8, "
Sweets	...	..	8, "
Vinegar	...	...	7, "
Jam	...	...	6, "
Pepper	...	...	4, "
Coffee	...	...	3, "
Drugs	...	...	3, "
Tea	...	...	2, "
Cheese	...	...	1, "
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	191, of which 17 were adulterated.

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The district is well sewered except in some out-lying and sparsely-populated localities where the cess-pool still survives. These localities are, however, being gradually brought into line with the rest of the Borough in the matter of sewerage, and two such were dealt with during the past year by the completion of the system of sewers in Hollington Park, Avondale Road and Hollington Lane, and by the extension of the sewer in Fairlight Road, St. Helen's.

Other important works of sewerage which were carried out during the year were, firstly, the relaying of the main sewer in Hollington Valley, which became necessary owing to the insufficient capacity and deficient fall of the original sewer; secondly, the construction of a new main sewer in Cornwallis Street, St. Andrew's Square, and Waldegrave Street, thus diverting the course of the main sewer which formerly lay beneath some of the houses in this neighbourhood and which had become defective.



During the height of a gale which sprang up at the end of August and was renewed early in September, a portion of the line of large ironpipes forming the eastern sewage outfall was carried away. This will have to be made good in the current year.

There are no surface ventilators on the sewers which are well ventilated by upcast shafts chiefly on the higher levels. A number of additional shafts were erected during the year. The road-gullies are cleansed and flushed at frequent intervals, especially during the summer season.

The water-carriage system is universal in the district, and the sewage is discharged untreated into the sea at either end of the town from capacious collecting tanks. The hour of its discharge is so arranged that the tide shall carry the sewage away from the town.

The house-drainage is remarkably good and is under constant supervision. Works of re-drainage are executed (practically always) under the direction of the Sanitary Inspectors, and Sanitary Certificates are granted where a certain standard is attained. Details of works done in this connection will be found in the Inspectors' Annual Summary at the end of this Report.

#### REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The removal and destruction by fire of house refuse are undertaken by the Corporation, the general rule being for a weekly collection. In some cases, however, removal is effected more frequently, and in a few instances even daily. This proceeding is very necessary where, as is sometimes the case, dwelling houses abut, back and front, on the street, and are without yard space.

The Destructor is situated under the East Cliff at the extreme end of the town, to which point the refuse from all parts of the district has to be conveyed. The cost of cartage amounts annually to a considerable sum; and some saving would be effected under this heading, and the work of collection and of burning rendered less offensive, if householders would consume on their own hearths much, especially of damp vegetable refuse, which is now thrown straight into the dustbin. If care were exercised in this matter, there need be little beyond dry ashes to collect, and the bulk and weight of the refuse would be greatly reduced.



Complaints are made from time to time concerning the dust which blows from the uncovered carts while the refuse is being collected and thrown in, and it is very desirable that carts of more modern type should displace those now in use, so as to obviate as far as possible this objectionable, but at present unavoidable accident.

#### SCHOOLS.

The drainage and general sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools within the Borough are good. In all of them the drains are connected with the sewerage system of the district and the water supply is drawn from the Corporation mains.

Several schools were wholly or in part closed during the year for short periods on account of outbreaks of infectious illness, as already reported under the heading of Infectious Diseases above.

Many of the schools were visited by the Medical Officer of Health and advice was given as to the course to be adopted to prevent the spread of infection.

At the request of the Education Committee your Medical Officer of Health submitted to them a report on the Memorandum on Medical Inspection of children in Elementary Schools issued by the Board of Education in November 1907. His suggestion, made after careful study of the Memorandum (Circular 576) and of Circular 582, that the duty of making the inspection should be entrusted to one person, who should be required to devote his (or her) whole time to the work, was not at first favourably received by the Committee. Eventually, however, after some correspondence with the Board and a conference with some of the Board's Officials, the Committee reconsidered the question and adopted the suggestion. A School Medical Officer was thereupon appointed, who, however, entered upon his duties only at the end of the year so that no account of his proceedings can be included in this report.

#### NUISANCES.

Nuisances, when discovered, are dealt with in the first place by the service of informal notice, and it is seldom necessary to go beyond this. If, however, the nuisance is not promptly abated, the facts are reported to the Sanitary Committee by whom formal action is taken. By these steps.



satisfactory results are practically always achieved, action being taken almost invariably (in the case of drainage default) under Section 41 Public Health Act, 1875, or its extended powers as set forth in the Amending Act, 1891, and the Local Act, 1885.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The offensive trades carried on in this Borough are insignificant. At the rear of premises in High Street is a small candle-house, in connection with which complaints are now and then received. Many years ago it was of some importance, but now only one or two men are employed there for part of the day. The boiling of the fat is done only in the early morning hours, and the place is kept in good order.

Of the gut-scraping business in Calvert Road no complaint has been received, and these premises, when visited, have been found clean and properly kept.

The bone and rabbit-skin store at Silverhill is so situated, and the business carried on in such a manner as to give no cause for complaint.

#### REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF COMMON LODGING HOUSES FOR 1908.

Gentlemen,

During the year the Registered Houses have been maintained in a cleanly condition, the limewashing and cleansing being regularly carried out. The bedding, etc., is cleaned and renewed at intervals as required.

No infectious cases have been notified during the year from any of the houses.

In May last Mr. Sante Ferrari was registered as the keeper of the houses in East Hill Passage, and has kept them in excellent condition.

The whole of the notice boards in the houses have been renewed during the year.

No defects have been found during the year of a serious nature

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. WILSON KING,

*Inspector of Common Lodging Houses.*



## INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES' REPORT FOR YEAR 1908.

	Eastern District.	Central District.	Western District.	Northern District.	Total.
Drains tested ... ..	545	550	498	461	2054
Houses and premises provided with new water-tight drains, properly intercepted and ventilated ...	53	38	61	63	215
Water-tight cesspools constructed ...	1	—	1	2	4
Cesspools emptied and cleansed ...	7	—	—	9	16
Cesspools abolished ... ..	—	—	—	2	2
Drains cleared and amended ...	42	76	45	42	205
New iron and lead, soil, and ventilating pipes fixed ... ..	55	61	60	58	234
New closets fixed ... ..	54	49	93	74	270
Closets amended ... ..	37	29	32	47	145
New flushing boxes provided, necessary storage cisterns being fixed where needed ... ..	41	44	46	66	197
Flushing boxes repaired ... ..	34	15	55	56	160
Houses and premises provided with a proper supply of water ... ..	11	2	1	31	45
Glazed stoneware sinks fixed, fitted with proper waste pipes, and trapped where necessary ... ..	30	28	33	27	118
Yards repaved ... ..	48	97	56	81	282
Sanitary dustbins provided ... ..	53	39	29	42	163
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed ... ..	76	89	26	31	222
Rooms, etc., cleansed and white-washed ... ..	245	117	99	263	724
Nuisances abated from animals improperly kept ... ..	32	7	5	7	51
Nuisance abated from chimneys sending forth black smoke ...	2	1	2	4	9
Samples of water taken from private wells and filters and submitted for analysis ... ..	—	—	1	—	1
Wells closed, the water being found unfit for dietetic purposes ...	—	—	1	—	1
Cases of infectious diseases removed to Sanatorium ... ..	17	32	46	37	132
Nuisances abated from overcrowding	2	—	—	7	9
Manure pits constructed ... ..	1	—	—	1	2
Miscellaneous repairs ... ..	62	17	9	91	179
New cowsheds built ... ..	—	—	1	1	2
Dwellings closed ... ..	—	—	—	9	9
„ demolished ... ..	—	—	—	6	6
„ put in proper repair ... ..	—	—	—	12	12

Inspection and re-inspection of Premises ...	8413
Complaints investigated ... ..	476
Notices issued for the abatement of Nuisances	247
Reports laid before the Sanitary Committee	265
Houses and premises inspected ... ..	2574
Letters sent ... ..	372
Other communications dealt with..	632

## FOOD INSPECTION.

## UN SOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

## Eastern District :—

Shrimps...	...	...	2½ bags.
Kippers ...	...	...	20 boxes.
Whiting	...	...	3 cases.
Mackerel	...	...	3 „
Beef ...	...	...	12 lbs.

## Central District :—

Beef ...	...	...	44 lbs.
Tripe ...	...	...	1 keg.
Ox kidneys	...	...	16 lbs.
Preserved peas	...	...	105 tins.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Many inspections have been made of the workshops in the district, the results of which are summarized in the special tables at the end of this Report.

The amount of work given out locally is very small.

An endeavour is made so far as time and circumstances will allow to visit the various work places in the year, and to enforce the provisions of the Acts. Each Sanitary Inspector in his own district exercises the necessary supervision.

No fresh Certificates in respect of Underground Bakehouses were issued during the year; and one of the largest of these (which was also one of the least satisfactory) ceased to be occupied as a bakehouse, so that the number of underground bakehouses has now dropped to 46.

ANNUAL REPORT ON FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS,  
LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

## 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.) ... ..	76	4	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.) ... ..	475	24	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Out-workers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	408	5	
Total ... ..	959	81	Nil.



## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.		
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.			
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i> <sup>o</sup>						
Want of cleanliness ... ..	243	217	Nil.	Nil.		
Want of Ventilation... ..	3	3				
Overcrowding ... ..	4	4				
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	5	5				
Other Nuisances ... ..	53	53				
†Sanitary accommo-	{insufficient ... Nil.	{unsuitable or defective 15			{not separate for sexes 2	
dation						
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>						
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) ... ..	Nil.	Nil.				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ... ..	1	1				
Other offences— (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report.) ... ..	Nil.	Nil.				
TOTAL ... ..	326	299	Nil.	Nil.		

<sup>\*</sup> Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8, of the Factory and Workshops Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

† Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the Council. No standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been adopted, each case is considered on its own merits.



### 3.—HOME WORK.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.																			OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108				OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES SECTIONS 109, 110.			
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.										Addresses of Outworkers.		Prosecutions.			Inspections of Outworkers premises.	Instances	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances	Orders made. (S. 110).	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).				
	Sending twice in the year.					Sending once in the year.					Received from other Councils.	For-warded to other Councils.	Notices served on Occu-piers as to keep-ing or sending lists.	Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.											
	Outworkers		Outworkers.		Outworkers.			Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.																		
	Iists.	Con-tractors.	Work-men.	Lists.	Con-tractors.	Work-men.																				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)								
Wearing apparel-- (1) making, &c. ... (2) cleaning and washing ... Lace, lace curtains, nets	18	13	20	13	13	17	4	13	31	Nil.	Nil.	17	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.								

Class.	Number.
<b>4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.—</b>	
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of year,	
<div>Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.</div>	363
Total number of workshops on Register	363
<b>5.—OTHER MATTERS.</b>	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133) ... ..	4
<div> <div>Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 5)</div> <div> <div>Notified by H.M. Inspector ...</div> <div>Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ..</div> </div> </div>	3
Other ... ..	3
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—	Nil.
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	Nil.
In use at the end of the year ... ..	46



TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.					Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate *	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.						Number	Rate.*
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births reg ter'd	Number	Rate.*						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1898	65000	1338	20.58	186	139	1083	16.66	135	43	—	1040	16.00	
1899	65250	1337	20.49	204	153	1143	17.52	145	33	—	1110	17.01	
1900	65500	1285	19.61	148	115	1019	15.55	128	38	—	981	14.07	
1901	65600	1289	19.65	148	115	929	14.16	146	37	—	892	13.59	
1902	65900	1201	18.22	131	109	983	14.96	127	40	—	946	14.35	
1903	66200	1209	18.26	130	107	891	13.46	132	39	—	852	12.87	
1904	66500	1170	17.69	126	107	906	13.62	147	32	—	874	13.14	
1905	66820	1183	17.70	133	112	876	13.11	132	29	—	847	12.67	
1906	67144	1096	16.32	137	125	944	14.06	173	31	—	913	13.59	
1907	67477	1125	16.67	90	80	884	13.10	146	32	—	852	12.62	
Averages for years 1898-1907.	66139	1223	18.51	143	116	966	14.62	141	35	—	931	13.99	
1908	67817	1058	15.60	86	81	819	12.07	137	35	—	784	11.56	

\* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District whose deaths are included in the statistics.
<p>East Sussex Hospital.  Buchanan Hospital.  Eversfield Hospital for Consumption.  Herts Convalescent Home.  Herts Convalescent Home for Children.  Beau Site Convalescent Home.  Railway Mission Men's Convalescent Home.  Chelsea Women's Convalescent Home.  Workhouse.  Borough Sanatorium.  Fairlight Convalescent Home.</p>	<p>All Saints' Convalescent Home.  Tilbury House Convalescent Home.  Bushby Convalescent Home.  Alexandra Home for Chronic Invalids.  Catherine House, Ladies' Home.  Cripples' Home for Girls.  Seaside Convalescent Home for the Blind.  Also many private Nursing Homes.</p>
<p>N.B.—Deaths of Strangers occurring in the above are excluded for statistical purposes.</p>	

The only Institution outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District is the Farm belonging to the Corporation where cases of Small-pox are isolated.



TABLE II.

## VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	Hastings County Borough.				Registration Sub-District of St. Mary Magdalen.				Registration Sub-District of All Saints.				Parish of St. Helens.				Parish of Hollington St. John.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1898 ...	65000	1338	1040	186	26660	467	387	51	30300	630	530	98	6140	193	97	27	1900	48	26	10
1899 ...	65250	1337	1110	204	26760	450	450	69	30420	652	550	107	6160	178	85	22	1910	57	25	6
1900 ...	65500	1285	981	148	26860	416	389	47	30540	624	492	73	6180	200	81	23	1920	45	19	5
1901 ...	65600	1289	892	148	26900	423	352	53	30580	618	427	73	6190	189	90	17	1930	61	23	5
1902 ...	65900	1201	946	131	27000	403	418	51	30700	571	427	56	6250	182	79	15	1950	45	22	9
1903 ...	66200	1209	852	130	27100	409	341	43	30850	562	423	74	6290	194	71	9	1960	44	17	4
1904 ...	66500	1170	872	126	27200	332	355	34	31000	562	428	75	6320	219	77	13	1980	57	14	4
1905 ...	66820	1183	847	133	27300	406	322	38	31120	570	412	69	6400	169	86	19	2000	38	27	7
1906 ...	67144	1096	913	137	27400	325	341	34	31220	528	450	74	6500	208	86	23	2024	35	36	6
1907 ...	67477	1125	852	90	27500	370	382	28	31350	516	379	47	6570	205	72	14	2057	34	19	1
Averages of years 1898 to 1907.	66139	1223	931	143	27068	400	374	45	30808	583	452	75	6300	194	82	18	1963	46	23	6
1908 ..	67817	1058	784	86	27600	346	317	21	31450	495	363	40	6670	179	80	18	2097	38	24	7



TABLE III.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.				NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.				Total cases removed to Hospital	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.										65 and upwards
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)...	48	—	10	26	7	5	21	19	6	2	20	17	4	1	42	—
Erysipelas ...	38	—	2	1	4	23	20	11	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	104	1	36	54	7	6	53	36	13	2	49	27	12	2	90	—
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	4	—	—	1	—	3	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	196	1	48	82	20	37	94	69	27	6	69	44	16	3	132	—

(H) The Infectious Diseases Hospital is situate in this Parish.

(W) The Hastings Workhouse is situate in this Parish.



TABLE IV.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District				Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	St. Mary Magdalen District.	All Saints District.	St. Helens Parish.	Hollington St. John Parish.	
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Whooping Cough .....	11	6	4	1	—	—	—	1	8	2	—	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Croup .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever { Typhus .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Enteric ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
{ Other continued .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic influenza .....	20	3	—	—	1	1	15	10	5	2	3	—
Cholera .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea .....	6	2	2	—	—	—	2	2	3	—	1	—
Enteritis .....	7	—	4	—	1	1	1	2	4	1	—	1
Puerperal Fever .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas .....	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) .....	80	—	—	2	13	63	2	33	36	8	3	25
Other tuberculous diseases .....	33	3	9	9	3	8	1	7	21	3	2	5
Cancer, malignant disease .....	92	—	—	—	—	46	46	40	45	7	—	11
Bronchitis .....	53	5	4	—	—	6	38	17	23	11	2	2
Pneumonia .....	46	6	6	1	—	9	24	16	22	7	1	10
Pleurisy .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of Respiratory organs...	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
Alcoholism .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver } .....	9	—	—	—	—	6	3	1	8	—	—	3
Venereal diseases .....	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	2
Premature birth .....	20	20	—	—	—	—	—	3	10	5	2	—
Diseases and accidents of parturition .....	4	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	2	2	—	1
Heart diseases .....	85	—	—	1	1	40	43	37	41	3	4	11
Accidents .....	12	3	2	—	—	1	6	4	7	1	—	4
Suicides .....	6	—	—	—	1	4	1	2	3	1	—	—
All other causes .....	277	35	4	4	6	78	150	136	115	22	4	56
All causes .....	784	86	45	21	28	272	332	317	363	80	24	137

TABLE V.  
HASTINGS COUNTY BOROUGH.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	{ Certified ..... Uncertified .....	29 1	5	1	3	38 1	8	8	3	6	4	7	5	1	2	1	2	85 1
i. Common Infectious Diseases	{ Small-pox..... Chicken-pox ... Measles..... Scarlet Fever ... Diphtheria:Mem- branous Croup Whooping Cough									2	1	1	1			1	6	
ii. Diarrhoeal Disease.	{ Diarrhoea, all forms Enteritis Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis Gastritis, Gas- tro-intestinal Catarrh						1		1								1	
iii. Wasting Diseases.	{ Premature Birth Congenital Defects Injury at Birth Want of Breast- milk, Starvation Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	19 4 1				19 4 1		1				1					20 6 1	
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	{ Tuberculous Meningitis Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica Other Tuberculous Diseases								2			1				1	2	
v Other Causes	{ Erysipelas ..... Syphilis Rickets ..... Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions .. Bronchitis ..... Laryngitis ..... Pneumonia ... Suffocation, overlying Other Causes ...		2		1	2 1 1 1 2		1 1 1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	2 5 6 6 3 3	
Total		30	5	1	3	39	8	8	3	6	4	7	5	1	2	1	2	86

District of Hastings County Borough :—

Births in the Year { legitimate 1003.

{ illegitimate 55.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 784

Population, 67,817.

(Estimated to middle of 1908.)

Deaths in the } legitimate infants 81.

year of } illegitimate infants 5.



TABLE V

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.—ST. MARY MAGDALEN DISTRICT.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All causes	Certified ...	8	2			10	2	1		1	1	2			1	1	1	20
	Uncertified ...	1				1												1
i. Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox .....																	
	Chicken-pox ...																	
	Measles .....																	
	Scarlet Fever ...																	
	Diphtheria: Membranous Croup																	
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																1	1
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis,																	
	Muco-enteritis,																	
	Gastro-enteritis																	
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal																	
	Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	3				3												3
	Congenital Defects	2				2												2
	Injury at Birth																	
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation																	
	Atrophy, Debility Marasmus	3				3	1	1		1								6
	Tuberculous Meningitis											1						1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis:																	
	Tabes Mesenterica																	
Other Causes.	Other Tuberculous Diseases															1		1
	Erysipelas .....																	
	Syphilis .....																	
	Rickets .....																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions ...		2			2				1	1				1			5
	Bronchitis .....																	
	Laryngitis .....																	
	Pneumonia .....																	
	Suffocation, overlying ...	1				1												1
Other Causes ...							1											1
		9	2			11	2	1		1	1	2			1	1	1	21

District (or sub-division) of St. Mary Magdalen:—

Births in the year { legitimate 335.

illegitimate 11.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 317.

Population, 27,600.

(Estimated to middle of 1908.)

Deaths in the { legitimate infants 20.

year of { illegitimate infants 1.

TABLE V.

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS—ALL SAINTS DISTRICT.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	{ Certified ..... Uncertified .....	11	3	1	3	18	4	5	1	4	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	40
i. Common Infectious Diseases	{ Small-pox ..... Chicken-pox ... Measles ..... Scarle Fever... Diphtheria: Mem- branous Croup Whooping Cough									2		1	1					4
ii. Diarrhœal Diseases	{ Diarrhœa, all forms Enteritis, Muco enteritis, Gastro-enteritis Gastritis, Gas- tro-intestinal Catarrh						1											1
iii. Wasting Diseases	{ Premature Birth Congenital Defects Injury at Birth Want of Breast Milk, Starvation. Atrophy, Debil- ity, Marasmus	9 1 1				9 1 1		1					1					10 3 1
iv. Tuberculous Diseases	{ Tuberculous Meningitis Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesen- terica Other Tubercu- lous Diseases									1								
v. Other Causes.	{ Erysipelas ..... Syphilis ..... Rickets ..... Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions ... Bronchitis ..... Laryngitis ..... Pneumonia ..... Suffocation, overlying ... Other Causes ...						1					1	1					1 2 2 4 2
		11	3	1	3	18	4	5	1	4	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	40

District (or sub-division) of All Saints:—

Population, 31,450.

(Estimated to middle of 1908.)

 Births in the year { legitimate 477.  
                               illegitimate 18.

 Deaths in the { legitimate infants 38.  
                               illegitimate infants 2.



TABLE V.

## HASTINGS COUNTY BOROUGH.—PARISH OF ST. HELENS.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified ..... Uncertified.....	7				7	2	2	1	1	2	2			1			18
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	{ Small-pox ..... Chicken-pox ... Measles ..... Scarlet Fever ... Diphtheria: Mem- branous Croup Whooping Cough										1							1
ii. Diarrhœal Diseases.	{ Diarrhœa, all forms Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis Gastritis, Gas- tro-intestinal Catarrh																	
iii. Wasting Diseases.	{ Premature Birth Congenital Defects Injury at Birth Want of Breast- milk, Starvation Atrophy, Debil- ity, Marasmus	5				5												5
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	{ Tuberculous Meningitis Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica Other Tuberculous Diseases	2				2	1	1										4
v. Other causes	{ Erysipelas ..... Syphilis ..... Rickets ..... Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions ... Bronchitis ..... Laryngitis ..... Pneumonia ..... Suffocation, overlying Other Causes ...						1		1			1			1			1 1 1 2 2 1
		7				7	2	2	1	1	2	2			1			18

## TABLE V.

PARISH OF HOLLINGTON ST. JOHN.

### Infantile Mortality during the year 1908

The deaths of seven infants under one year of age were registered in the Parish, all duly certified. The age at death and cause were as under:—

Under one week, 2 deaths from Prematurity, and one from Congenital Defect.

At 3-4 months, one death from gastritis

At 5-6 " " " other natural causes.

At 8-9        "        "        "        bronchitis.

At 11-12      "      "      "      "

Births in the year were { legitimate 36.  
illegitimate 2

Deaths of infants were { legitimate 7.  
illegitimate nil

Deaths from all causes at all ages were 24 among a population estimated at 2,097 persons.