

**[Report 1914] / Medical Officer of Health, Hastings County Borough.**

**Contributors**

Hastings (England). County Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1914

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/m9e89ks2>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



THE

# ANNUAL REPORT

— ON —

## The Health, Sanitary Condition,

ETC., ETC., OF THE

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS,

FOR THE YEAR

# 1914.

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.

---

ST. LEONARDS:

PRINTED BY A. H. BUTLER & Co., 34-35 WESTERN ROAD.

---

MCMXV.

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY for 1914.

Area in Acres (including 373 acres of foreshore) ...	4,857
Population at Census, 1911 ... ..	61,145
"    Middle of 1914, estimated ... ..	59,620
Density of Population per Acre ... ..	13·3
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census, 1911 ...	11,284
Birth-rate, average 1909-1913 ... ..	15·4
"    in 1914 ... ..	14·2
Death-rate, average 1909-1913 ... ..	13·5
"    in 1914 ... ..	13·8
"    "    Corrected for age and sex ...	11·6
"    "    Zymotic (7 chief epidemic diseases) ... ..	0·23
"    Infantile, per 1,000 of Births—	
Average 1909-1913 ... ..	85
"    "    in 1914 ... ..	64
Rainfall, average ... ..	29·07 inches
"    in 1914 ... ..	30·00 inches
Bright Sunshine, average ... ..	1,783 hours
"    "    in 1914 ... ..	1,960 hours
Mean Temperature, average ... ..	49·8 degrees
"    "    in 1914 ... ..	51·4 degrees

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my 25th Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of this County Borough.

The statistics of Mortality and Births present one or two peculiar features. The birth-rate of 14·2 per thousand of estimated population was the lowest hitherto recorded in Hastings and was almost the lowest in the great towns of England.

Deaths on the other hand were more numerous than in either of the two preceding years and the death-rate of 13·8 (uncorrected for age and sex) was also higher, though it was still below the crude average for the Country. The corrected death-rate for Hastings was 11·6, compared with 13·7 for England and Wales. Among total deaths the proportion of deaths at ages over 65 years in Hastings is always high, but in 1914 of 823 total deaths no less than 432 or over 52 per cent. were of persons of 65 and upwards.

Deaths of infants were very few and yielded an infantile mortality rate of only 64 per thousand of births, the lowest yet recorded. The death-rate from the seven chief epidemic diseases was also exceedingly small, being as low as 0·2 per thousand.

As regards administrative measures, the most important step of the year was the adoption by your Council of the Notification of Births Act with the appointment of a nurse to

visit the homes where births had taken place. The beneficial results of such visitation will, I am convinced, be more and more appreciated as time goes on.

Much useful work was done during the year under the Housing and Town Planning Act, a number of unsuitable dwellings, mostly situated in the Old Town, being dealt with. The advent of several thousand soldiers to the town in December added considerably to the work of the Health Department, and resulted in the occurrence of a certain increase of sickness amongst the population.

The work of the Inspectors has been loyally and industriously carried out, and I trust that the officials of the Health Department, one and all, have carried out their duties to your satisfaction.

Finally I most gratefully acknowledge the support and assistance received from the Members of your Council, and and particularly from the Members of the Public Health Committee, in the discharge of the many and varied responsible duties which devolve upon myself and the staff under my control.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

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

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Town Hall, Hastings.

## 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 kindred 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.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

### POPULATION.

I prefaced my last Annual Report with some details of of the outstanding features of the Census of 1911 and pointed out some of the characteristics which differentiate the population of a town such as Hastings from that of the Country as a whole. Inasmuch as these peculiarities have a very

important bearing on the vital statistics of the District it may be as well to recall them to your notice.

The first point deserving of mention is the exceedingly high proportion in the population of persons who have reached advanced age. This proportion is not only greater in Hastings than in the rest of the country but is much greater now than it was in Hastings itself ten years ago. As matters now stand it appears that in point of the longevity of its inhabitants Hastings stands first amongst the large towns of England. As will be easily seen the death-rate in a population consisting largely of elderly persons is likely to be higher than in one where younger persons more greatly predominate.

A second point to be noticed is that in towns such as Hastings the proportion of unmarried women per 1000 living aged 20 years and upwards is excessively high, while that of married females at the same period is excessively low. I gave in my last Report Tables which showed that amongst the large towns Hastings stood fourth in both respects; the other towns in which things were even more abnormal being also large health resorts. In towns thus situated the birth-rate is sure to be low, and is not an index of their prosperity. A third point noticed was the large excess of females over males in the population at every age-period above 15 years. This also is a common feature in health resorts.

In point of numbers the population here is subject to considerable variation at different seasons of the year. In the winter and spring the favourable climatic conditions attract to the town great numbers of persons in delicate health, especially those who suffer from chronic disorders of the respiratory system; while the summer and autumn witness the influx of numbers of holiday-makers in search of pleasure and re-invigoration.

#### OCCUPATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS.

Among the 24,981 males in the population, as the Census returns show, 4,622 were under 10 years of age, and of the remaining 20,359, 4,641 were without specified occupation.

Of these, 1,185 were retired civilians, 469 were living on private means, the remainder (including scholars and students) numbering 2,987.

Of males following some occupation, 457 belonged to the learned professions, 205 were teachers, 364 were grouped under the heading of Art, Music and the Drama.

In domestic service or laundries, 698 males were engaged, 806 in commerce, 2,112 in conveyance of persons, goods, or messages, 768 in agriculture, 326 in fishing, 1,962 in building or works of construction, 657 in tailoring, millinery, etc., 1,781 in trades connected with food, bakers, butchers, milkmen, grocers, etc., 647 in hotels, restaurants, boarding and lodging houses; 595 were general labourers, and 231 hawkers, etc.

Among the 36,164 females in the population, 4,763 were under 10 years of age, and of the remaining 31,401, 19,292 were without specified occupation. Of these, 331 were retired, 3,260 were living on private means, the remainder (including scholars and students) numbering 15,701.

Of females engaged in some occupation, 503 were nursing, 510 teaching, 6,275 in domestic service or laundries, 1,373 in dressmaking or millinery, etc., and 1,102 in hotels, lodging houses, etc.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The Corporation is responsible for the supply of water to the District, and deep wells have been sunk both within the area of the Borough and at various points in the surrounding country. The water is derived from the Ashdown Sands, is of excellent quality, and of only a moderate hardness. It is occasionally discoloured by a rusty deposit of iron, which, though objectionable in appearance, is harmless and subsides on standing and exposure to the air. Much of it is removed by sand-filtration, the forms of filter in use being the open sand filter and also the Candy pressure filter. The interrupted



and broken nature of the geological strata in this part of the country renders it impossible to draw from any single point a very copious supply of water, and considerable expense has been incurred in sinking wells and in driving headings, with the necessary multiplication of pumping stations and machinery.

From the various sources of supply, the water is pumped to reservoirs situated on the higher levels, whence it flows by gravitation to the different areas of distribution. In the lower parts of the town the supply is constant, but intermits at the more elevated localities, and water-cisterns are everywhere in use for domestic purposes.

At the present time there are very few houses in the Borough which have other than the Public Water Supply, though in the outskirts of the town a few private wells are still in use.

Additional works in the nature of well-sinking and the driving of headings have been in progress during the year in the neighbourhood of Forewood, but no extra supply from this source is as yet available. In connection with the matter of filtration, a Local Government Board enquiry was held on the application of the Council for the Board's sanction to a proposal for a further installation of Candy filters, not on public health grounds, but rather for æsthetic purposes in improving the appearance of the water. Owing to the war this matter is in abeyance.

#### SEWERAGE AND HOUSE-DRAINAGE.

The water-carriage system is universal in the District; the condition of the town, as regards house-drainage, is good, and the number of houses where the drainage is not modern and of recent construction very small.

The district is well-sewered, almost everywhere on the combined system; but in a few small areas some attempt is made to keep rain-water from entering the sewage-system. Except in one locality at the West-end of the Borough, where the gradient is insufficient for the sewage to flow naturally and

the Shone system of pumping has been instituted, the sewage flows by gravity to the long intercepting sewers laid along the front of the town, whence, passing Eastward and Westward, it reaches extensive underground collecting tanks situated at either end of the town and is discharged into the sea. The hour of its discharge is so timed that the tidal current rapidly carries it in a direction away from the town.

Although, as has been already stated, the District in general is well sewered, there still remain along the Northern boundary of the Borough, and in one or two other small isolated areas, where the conditions are purely rural, a few localities which have not yet been linked up with the main sewerage system, and where the cesspool method of sewage disposal is still to be found in operation. This method is not suitable for this neighbourhood, in view of the character of the soil and of the geological formation, and it is very desirable that the sewerage system be extended, and that cesspools be abolished as has already been done over parts of the area which was added to the Borough in 1897. The locality which at present most urgently calls for such treatment is situated on the elevated land known as the Ridge, which forms the town's Northern Boundary. Along this Ridge are scattered houses and groups of cottages draining into cesspools, and the whole method of disposal of the sewage is unsatisfactory. To connect this district up with the general sewerage system of the Borough would necessitate the laying of a considerable length of sewer. But if the course of the small stream which flows through the St. Helen's Park district be followed, the fall would be a natural one. Such a sewer would provide an efficient means for carrying off the sewage from most of the existing houses in this locality which are now connected with cesspools, and would encourage the development of the building land in this beautiful portion of the Borough.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The forms of closet in use are the valve-closet, found chiefly in private houses of the better class, and the flush-rimmed wash-down closet. Proper means of flushing are insisted on, and hand-flushing has almost disappeared.

There are no waste water-closets, all flushing being done with fresh water.

#### SCAVENGING.

The task of road-scamenging which is carried out by a large staff of men under the direction of the Borough Surveyor has been greatly simplified in recent years by the decrease in the amount of horse-traffic and by the improvement of the road surface which have followed the introduction of motor traction. Some of the main thoroughfares are laid with hardwood blocks and other of the principal roads are rendered smooth and impervious by some form of tar-spray treatment, the result being that they are easily swept clean of dust and organic impurities. The roads are well-watered and the road gullies cleansed at frequent intervals and well flushed.

House-refuse is collected weekly from private dwellings but more frequently from some large establishments, hotels and boarding-houses. The Hospitals are visited daily for the removal of soiled dressings which are burnt at the Destructor.

The bulk of the house-refuse thus collected is disposed of at the Destructor, which is at the extreme east point of the town. A small amount gathered at Hollington is carted out of the Borough to a brick-yard, and from other parts remote from the Destructor a certain proportion is tipped in more or less isolated spots. It is however desirable that all such refuse should be burned in a destructor, other methods of disposal being objectionable in populous districts. In a few localities of rural character house-refuse is dug into garden-soil. There is no objection to this if accumulations of refuse do not occur.

It is greatly to be wished that house-holders would assist in the task of disposing of refuse by burning over their own fires all animal and vegetable waste matters so that their ash-bins should receive only dry ashes instead of the offensive putrefying remnants of meat and vegetable of which they are too often the receptacle. The handling of such stuff is disagreeable to the collectors, the carting of it through the streets is offensive to the passer-by, and the combustion of it

takes more time at the Destructor than it need do. Moreover, the retention of such decomposing garbage in close proximity to dwellings is not conducive to good health. The domestic destruction of such matters is not always possible, especially now when in so many homes gas fires for cooking are so largely employed. Nevertheless, wherever possible, I would urge householders to lend their help in this matter as far as they are able, and at all events to keep the contents of their dustbins dry by keeping them covered and by refraining from throwing in wet refuse. The type of ashbin commonly in use is the moveable bin of galvanized iron; the old brick built receptacles are rapidly disappearing.

#### HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

There is in almost all parts of the town a considerable amount of empty property, much of which is suitable for the housing of the working classes.

The existence of such unoccupied premises does not do away altogether with the nuisance of over-crowding, 16 cases of which were dealt with during the year.

This over-crowding is chiefly the result of poverty, leading to the sub-letting of tenements and to the occupation of small cottages by persons with large families.

The condition is therefore one for which the remedy lies outside the powers of the Public Health Committee.

#### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

A large amount of work was done under this Act during the year and inspections were made of 400 houses in the poorest localities for the discovery of any which were unfit for habitation.

Twenty-six houses were considered by the Medical Officer of Health to be so insanitary or generally dilapidated as to be uninhabitable.

The method of procedure in dealing with such property is as follows :—

The street or locality is first scheduled for inspection ; an Inspector then makes his examination and reports to the Medical Officer of Health all such dwellings as seem to be insanitary. The Medical Officer then visits and makes written report to the Public Health Committee.

A Sub-Committee is then summoned to inspect the property along with the Medical Officer, and report is made to the Principal Committee.

When a closing order is to be made, the owner or agent of the property is invited to attend the meeting of the Committee when the matter is to be discussed, in order that he may have the opportunity of stating his views.

In cases where the owner is prepared and undertakes to place his property in habitable repair, the making of a formal closing order is commonly dispensed with, and an informal order may be issued.

In other cases where the Committee fails to be satisfied by the owner's assurances, application is made to the Council for the issue of a formal closing order.

Informal closing orders were made last year in respect of twenty-six dwellings while eleven dwellings were formally closed.

Six houses in the old Town of Hastings in respect of which formal closing orders had been previously made were demolished during the year ; these were Nos. 5 and 20 John Street, Paragon Cottage, and 13, 14, and 15 West Street.

The demolition of the houses in West Street has effected a great improvement, and has provided much needed air space.

The demolition order made by the Council in respect of six other dwellings, Nos. 1 to 6 inclusive Meadows Cottages, was the subject of an appeal by the owner to the Local Government Board.

In due course an Inspector from the Board visited Hastings, held a Public Inquiry, and himself visited the property. The Local Government Board upheld the action of the Corporation in the matter and dismissed the appeal with costs against the owner. The demolition of this property will fall within the scope of the current year's work.

Of the dwellings inspected during the year in which the conditions did not seem to warrant application of the powers of closure, 253 were in need of more or less extensive repair, and in these the defects found were remedied under the Inspectors without closing orders either formal or informal.

The following Table shows briefly the results of inspections made under the Act :—

Houses Demolished	Houses Inspected.	Houses considered unfit for habitation.	Representations made by Medical Officer of Health.	Closing Orders made (informal).	Dwellings in which defects were remedied without Closing Order.	Dwellings repaired, etc., after Closing Order (informal).	Dwellings closed (formal).	Closing Orders Removed. Dwellings Repaired.
6	400	26	26	26	253	19	11	2

#### PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

There are within the Borough 22 Public Elementary Schools, of which 10 are Provided and 12 Non-provided.

There are in these Schools 52 departments with 249 teachers, and accommodation for 10,364 scholars. The average number of children on the registers last year was 7,848, compared with 8,052 in 1913; the average attendance was 6,965.

The following local children are maintained in special Institutions :—

Deaf and Dumb	...	...	...	...	3
Industrial and Truant	...	...	...	...	19
Mentally Defective, Epileptic and Blind	...	...	...	...	nil.

The general sanitary condition of the Schools as regards their drainage and water supply is quite satisfactory. The drainage of all is connected with the sewerage system of the Borough, and their water supply is drawn from the public mains.

In a number of the Schools minor improvements in lighting, ventilation, etc., were effected during the year.

The Medical Inspection of School children is carried out by Mr. Polhill Turner, the School Medical Officer, who devotes the whole of his time to the work of inspection of the children and to their treatment in the School Clinics which have been opened in the Borough.

He has the assistance of three School Nurses. He is independent of, but in close touch with, the Medical Officer of Health, and the two departments are mutually helpful, especially in the control of infectious sickness.

In several instances during the year children brought to the School Clinics were found to be suffering from notifiable infectious disease, while others were reported to the Medical Officer of Health as needing further observation. A number of these were afterwards visited by the Medical Officer of Health in their own homes, and dealt with as necessity required.

On receipt of a notification certificate notice is immediately sent from the Health Department to the Education Authority requiring the exclusion from School during the period stated therein of any children residing in the infected house who may be attending School. Contacts are examined either by the School Medical Officer or by the Medical Officer of Health.

#### CLEANSING STATION.

The work of providing a Cleansing Station for the employees at the Rock-a-Nore Disinfecting Station was carried out during the year, the application for a loan for this purpose having been granted by the Local Government Board.

This accommodation is now available for the treatment of verminous children sent by the Education Committee, who were without facilities for bathing them or for the cleansing of their clothing.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births registered in the Borough in 1914 showed a further decline, being only 842, compared with 865 in the preceding year, 911 in 1912, and 955 in 1911.

Births of males were 438, of females 404. Of these births, one (illegitimate) was stated to belong to another District, while three births of which two were illegitimate were transferred by the Registrar-General from other districts to Hastings. Subject to these corrections, the nett births were 844, viz. : 438 of males and 406 of females, yielding a birth-rate of 14·2 per thousand of estimated population, which is the lowest rate hitherto recorded, the previous lowest having been 14·5 in 1913. In 1912 the birth-rate was 15·1, and it was 15·7 in 1911.

There are only a few large towns in England in which the birth-rate is lower than in Hastings, and they are towns similar in character to this Borough—health resorts in which employment for young and active men is short and in which young married couples bear an exceptionally small proportion to the total population. These peculiarities in the constitution of the population of this district have in recent years become more and more marked as the result of continuous emigration of young adults.

These points I commented upon at some length in my last Annual Report and have already briefly touched upon them above.

As compared with the preceding year there was a rise in the number of births registered in the All Saints District from 393 to 405, and in Hollington Parish (St. John) from 35 to 37, but in St. Mary Magdalen District the births fell from 299 to 272, and in Ore from 138 to 128.



## ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

I am glad to be able to report a smaller percentage of illegitimate amongst total births in 1914 than had been recorded in most recent years. Of the 844 births registered last year 49 were illegitimate, against 59 in 1913, 60 in 1912, and 61 in 1911; and the percentage of such births which in 1911 was 6·3; in 1912, 6·5; in 1913, 6·8; was in 1914, 5·8, truly a large proportion but still one showing a substantial decline when compared with many past years.

## NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION.

Although, as estimated on the basis of the figures recorded at the Census of 1901 and that of 1911, it is presumed that the population of Hastings at the middle of 1914 was 475 below that of 1913, there was an excess of nett births over nett deaths in that period of 21, representing what is called the natural increase of the population. That is to say that the estimated loss of population by excess of emigrants over immigrants during the year was 496. Whether the number of inhabitants still diminishes at the same rate as it did in the last intercensal decade there is no means (short of an actual enumeration) of deciding with any accuracy. The number of children on the books of the Education Authority in 1914 was 200 less than in the preceding year, but this indication is of little value when the decline in the number of births is remembered.

## DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE.

There was a considerable increase in the number of deaths registered in 1914 as compared with the preceding year when 826 deaths were reported. Last year the number of deaths rose to 889, of which 417 were deaths of males and 472 of females. Among these are included a number of deaths of persons not belonging to Hastings which for the purposes of this Report are deducted in accordance with the regulations of the Registrar-General and have been, through him, transferred to other places. These outward transfers were as many as 88, or nearly 10 per cent. of the total number. Of

these 34 were deaths of non-residents which occurred in the Public Institutions of the Borough, viz. : 23 in the East Sussex Hospital, which serves as the General Hospital for this part of the County of Sussex and also for the adjoining part of the County of Kent ; 5 in the Eversfield Hospital for Diseases of the Chest ; 3 in the Fairlight Sanatorium for Consumptives, and one in each of the following Institutions : the Southern Sanatorium for Consumptives, the Bushby Convalescent Home and the Workhouse Infirmary.

To set against these there were 22 inward transfers, *i.e.*, 22 persons whose homes were in Hastings died outside the Borough and their deaths are to be included in the number on which the local death-rate is estimated. Of the deaths thus transferred to Hastings many occurred in Hellingly Asylum.

Subject to these corrections, the nett deaths during the year were 823 and the resulting death-rate was 13·8 per thousand of population. This rate exceeds that of 1913 by 0·7. For the statistics of six recent years reference may be made to Table I. of the Local Government Board which will be found at the end of this Report.

Owing to the already mentioned peculiarities in the distribution of the local population in the matters of age and sex the crude death-rates therein recorded call for further correction if comparison is to be made with the death-rates in other districts. For the proportion borne by persons of advanced years to the total population is exceptionally high in Hastings as compared with other large towns in England. When corrected for this factor and for others which have to be considered owing to their influence on mortality the death-rate for 1914 becomes reduced to 11·6 from 13·8.

Deaths amongst elderly persons were in 1914 unusually numerous and they formed no less than 52 per cent. of the total deaths registered, a proportion which, I believe, exceeds that in any other town of considerable size in the Country.

Table III. of the Local Government Board sets out the causes of and ages at death during the year 1914.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The rate of infantile mortality in 1914 was lower than ever before and was equal to only 64 per thousand of births registered.

Considering the small number of births which take place in this district it is fortunate that so small a proportion of infants succumb during the dangerous period of the first year of life.

The rate of infantile mortality in England and Wales was 105 ; in 97 large towns of which Hastings is one, 113, in 145 smaller towns 104.

The causes of death amongst infants under 1 year of age are shown in Table IV. at the end of this report.

It will be seen that of the 54 deaths, 23 occurred during the first four weeks of life and that 19 of these resulted from congenital defect. It is believed that a good deal of this mortality might be prevented if more care and attention were given to the expectant mothers.

In the course of time this matter will no doubt receive fuller consideration than in existing circumstances can be bestowed upon it ; but one of the chief difficulties will be to get the women themselves to realize its importance.

A valuable step in dealing with the question of infantile mortality was taken by your Council during the year when it was decided on the recommendation of the Public Health Committee to adopt the Notification of Births Act.

It was evident from the discussion on the subject that some members did not appreciate the value or the real intention of the Act, which is simply to provide for the visitation by a trained nurse of the poorer homes in which infants have been born, so that if necessary advice may be given to the mother's respecting the rearing and nurture of their babies.

The Corporation were fortunate in securing for this work the services of Miss Wynne Edwards, Assistant Matron of the District Nursing Association, who was engaged to give up part of her time to these new duties.

On the outbreak of war she was obliged to leave Hastings to take up Military nursing, and for a time Miss Stone, the Matron of the Association, and later on one of the nurses undertook to perform her work of visitation.

Their visits have been very gladly welcomed in most of the houses, and their advice has been recognised as valuable.

The way had already been paved for this work by the ministrations of the Nurses and Midwives of the Association, who for some years past have endeavoured to exercise a certain amount of supervision over the babies at whose birth they have been in attendance. The new extension of their kindly offices will doubtless prove advantageous to both mother and child and the work has had an auspicious opening seeing that it came into operation at the middle of a year in which the infantile mortality was reduced to a lower point than ever before.

In my opinion it would be an advantage in order to give full effect to the beneficent purposes of this Act that a whole time health visitor should be appointed whose duties might include also the visitation of consumptives.

The number of births notified under the Act between June 20th when it came into force and the end of the year was 325. The names and addresses of the mothers were entered on cards for the information of the nurse visitor.

On these cards the nurse records certain details concerning each infant, its progress, circumstances and the advice, if any, given to the mother.

Sanitary defects in the home are also noted. Up to the end of the year 626 visits were paid in respect of notified infants. As the months passed the number of homes to be

visited naturally increased, and eventually the District Nursing Association found that the time required for the work exceeded expectations.

The good work carried out by voluntary effort at the Schools for Mothers which have been established in two poor localities continues.

At these Institutions nursing and expectant mothers can obtain help and advice in the management of their children ; nourishing dinners are also provided at a nominal price in deserving cases.

#### INQUESTS.

Inquests were held on the bodies of 54 persons compared with only 41 in 1913. In 1912 they numbered 60, and 50 in 1911.

Death was attributed in 24 cases to Natural Causes, in 21 to Accident or Misadventure, in 8 to Suicide. An open verdict was returned in one instance.

The figures given here do not exactly correspond with those in Table III., the reason being that the Table is drawn up to exclude the deaths of persons not belonging to Hastings and to include those of persons whose homes were in Hastings but who died outside the Borough.

#### UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

Uncertified deaths, that is deaths not certified by Medical Attendant or by Coroner after Inquest, were two in number. In each instance death was attributed to disease of the heart. These deaths formed a percentage of 0.24 in all deaths registered, the proportion having been 0.46 and nil in 1913 and 1912 respectively.

#### DEATHS FROM CERTAIN CLASSES OF DISEASE.

Amongst developmental diseases premature birth, congenital malformation and atrophy were responsible for 25 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, against 35 deaths in 1913 and 29 in 1912.

Senile decay was the only assigned cause of many deaths of persons over 70 years of age.

#### DEATHS FROM DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

Deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia (all forms) numbered 135 and the death-rate from such causes was 2.25 against 1.97 in the preceding year. A large number of the deaths from respiratory diseases occurred amongst the elderly, 55 per cent. of the mortality from pneumonia and 70 per cent. of that from bronchitis occurring amongst persons aged 65 years and upwards.

Bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia were prevalent in the March quarter.

Deaths from Cancer and malignant disease showed a considerable decline, being 104, compared with 118 in 1913 and 120 in 1912.

The death-rate from Cancer thus fell from 1.98 in 1912 and 1.96 in 1913 to 1.73 in 1914. At ages over 65 years 61 Cancer deaths were recorded, representing about 60 per cent. of the mortality from this cause.

#### DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.

Organic heart-disease caused 103 deaths, of which 67 were of persons aged 65 years and upwards.

#### ALCOHOLISM AND CIRRHOSIS OF THE LIVER.

From Cirrhosis of the liver, usually the result of chronic alcoholism, the deaths, as in 1913, numbered 7, and there were 4 deaths from alcoholism against 6 in the earlier year. With one exception all these alcoholic deaths were at ages over 45 years.

#### APPENDICITIS AND TYPHLITIS.

For some years past, since 1911, these diseases have appeared under a separate heading in the Local Government Board Table. Up to last year the deaths attributed to appendicitis were 9 in 1911, 5 in 1912, and 9 in 1913.

Last year no fatal case occurred amongst persons belonging to the County Borough, but three patients from outside districts died of the disease in the Hospitals of the District.

#### DEATHS BY VIOLENCE.

Violent deaths were of more frequent occurrence than usual here numbering 31 (9 suicides) against 19 (5 suicides) in 1913 and 20 (7 suicides) in 1912.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

##### SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet Fever during the first three quarters of the year was of infrequent occurrence, only 49 cases being reported throughout this period. But in the last three months of the year it gave some trouble. On the return of the families who had gone out for the hop-picking to the neighbouring County of Kent a number of children were found to be desquamating as the result of a disease which had broken out amongst them while in the hop gardens and which in the absence of any medical opinion had been diagnosed as Measles. There can be little doubt that the disease was actually Scarlet Fever of mild and irregular type, and it occasioned some prevalence of the disease in one or two localities, where I spent a considerable amount of time in seeking out those who were or had been suffering from the fever. When these had been safely isolated the number of cases soon subsided. In this work I was greatly assisted by the Nurse-visitor of the Sanitary Aid Association who also watched over certain doubtful cases and materially aided me in subduing the threatened outbreak. Of 105 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 92, equal to 87 per cent., were removed to the Isolation Hospital. For the third year in succession no fatal case occurred.

As to causation some few cases were imported, but the undetected case is the chief agent in the spread of infection. There was nothing to suggest a milk-origin in any of the cases.

### DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup, was not at all prevalent during the year. Notifications numbering 43 in all were received of which 29 were of cases occurring in the first six months of the year. Some of the cases proved to be non-diphtheritic and others were exceedingly mild. Of the patients reported to be suffering from diphtheria none died during the year, but one death which occurred on the last night of 1913 was registered in 1914 and is included in the returns for that year. The School Clinic was useful in the detection of some cases of the disease and was the means of arresting the spread of infection in several mild cases where the attendance of the ordinary medical practitioner would probably have been deemed superfluous, while the accessibility of the gratuitous Clinic proved attractive.

Every step has been taken by the Corporation to facilitate the early diagnosis of this disease. Swabs are supplied gratuitously to doctors for use in necessitous cases, and the throat-swabbings are examined at the Borough Pathological Laboratory and reported on without charge and with the utmost expedition.

That delay in the administration of anti-toxin may be reduced to a minimum, a supply of this invaluable remedy may be obtained on personal or written application by any medical practitioner for use within the Borough at any one of five Police Stations at any hour of the day or night. The remedy is thus within the reach of all and the supply is free of expense to any poor person.

### ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

Notifications of Enteric Fever numbered only three and one of these certificates was afterwards withdrawn. The earliest case was that of a child of seven years, and here too the diagnosis was doubtful. The onset suggested the acute abdomen and the illness soon proved fatal from peritonitis. No Widal test was made as the patient was moribund when notified. The house was in good sanitary condition and no suspicion attached to any article of food. This case was the only one of local origin in the year.



The second case was that of a soldier billeted in the town who came here in poor health and took to bed four days later. In this case the infection was undoubtedly imported. The patient, who had not been inoculated, was treated in Hospital and made a good recovery.

#### MEASLES.

There was very little measles in the Borough in 1914 and not a single death was recorded. Under the Education Authority the following School Closures were required on account of Measles amongst the children attending Public Elementary Schools.

Departments.	Days Closed.		
Boys ...	...	...	4
Girls ...	...	...	14
Mixed ...	..	..	5
Infants ...	...	...	62

On the first appearance of Measles, Whooping Cough, or other infectious conditions all Schools in the infected area are visited. The children are examined, those showing any suspicious signs are sent home and the School nurses visit the homes. The nurse of the Sanitary Aid Association is also active and is able to seek out cases not coming under the cognizance of the School Authorities and to afford material help in necessitous cases by the provision of coal, milk, clothing, bedding, or grocery tickets. Altogether although no hospital provision is made by the Corporation for patients suffering from Measles, yet much is done for them in their own homes. I believe that poor parents are beginning to realize that Measles is a disease to be taken seriously, and that it is not a mere necessary and harmless incident in the life of a child.

#### WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping Cough is another of the scourges of youth which like measles has been treated amongst the poor with some contempt, although when it affects young children, during the winter months more especially, it sometimes

occasions a very heavy mortality. It spreads chiefly through attendance at Schools and in the infant departments in particular. All ages are liable to attack, but children in the Boys' and Girls' Departments of the Public Elementary Schools for the most part escape because they enjoy the immunity derived from having passed through the disease earlier in life. From the Infant Schools infection is carried to babies at home not yet of school age, and it is amongst these that Whooping Cough finds the majority of its victims.

The disease was not extensively prevalent in the year, but there were four deaths in the earlier months of 1914, all amongst young children under 5 years of age. The closure of schools on account of Whooping Cough was in 1914 limited to the following :

Departments Closed.	Days Closed.
Infants ... ..	24

For Measles and Whooping Cough 14 Departments were closed during 109 days.

#### CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

No case of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis was reported during the year, although one patient, a private in the 5th Sussex Regiment, was admitted to one of the general hospitals suffering from the disease.

A definite diagnosis was made early in the current year, but the report of the case will be presented in the returns for 1915.

#### ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

This disease, which was made notifiable in 1913, was not found to have occurred in the Borough during the year.

It is better known perhaps by the name of Infantile Paralysis.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Table shows the number of notifications of infecticus diseases received during the four quarters of 1914, and the attack-rate per 1,000 of the population :—

Disease.	Notifications.					Attack rate per 1,000 of population in 1914.
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Whole Year.	
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Scarlet Fever...	6	8	35	56	105	1.75
Diphtheria .....	15	14	7	7	43	0.71
Erysipelas .....	12	2	8	9	31	0.51
Enteric Fever...	1	...	...	1	2	0.03
Puerperal Fever	1	...	1	...	2	0.03
Total.....	35	24	51	73	183	3.05

DEATHS FROM THE PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

The following Table shows the number of deaths in the County Borough from each of the chief epidemic diseases in the past nine years :—

DISEASE.	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	6	3	3	3	1	3	...	...	...
Diphtheria .....	3	4	2	6	4	2	2	2	1
Enteric Fever .....	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1
Measles.....	7	3	7	1	25	12	...	4	...
Whooping Cough ...	2	13	11	3	34	4	...	7	4
Diarrhœa & Enteritis under 2 years .....	26	6	6	9	3	39	3	12	7
Total .....	45	29	31	22	68	60	6	25	13
Zymotic Death-rate	0.71	0.46	0.49	0.36	1.11	0.98	0.09	0.43	0.22

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The scheme for the treatment of Tuberculosis in the Borough, though not yet complete, is maturing. The proposal is to provide additional blocks of buildings in connection with the Isolation Hospital.

This will necessitate the purchase of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  acres of land adjoining the Hospital site. Here it is intended to provide in separate blocks accommodation for female "Sanatorium" or early cases, for male and female advanced or hospital cases, and for children suffering from or threatened with pulmonary tuberculosis.

Accommodation for male patients suffering from phthisis in its earlier stages will be provided as at present in other Sanatoria.

If the suggested buildings be erected the Guardians will be relieved of the responsibility of providing beds in their Infirmary for persons suffering from Consumption, a duty which up to the present time has devolved upon them.

As elsewhere stated the Dispensary for the treatment of the Tuberculous is already in operation, and it is proposed to further the work of the Dispensary by the appointment of a Tuberculosis visitor who can devote a larger share of her time than can be given under the existing arrangement, and who will form a link between the Dispensary and the patients' homes. In this way it is hoped that "contacts," that is persons associated with consumptives, may be more effectually protected.

A Dispensary for the treatment of patients suffering from Tuberculosis was established in the Out-patient Department of the East Sussex Hospital at the end of 1913, but real work was only started at the beginning of 1914. Dr. Beeley, M.D., London, who devotes the whole of his time to Tuberculosis work at this and at other similar institutions in East Sussex, attends at the Hastings Tuberculosis Dispensary every Wednesday evening and every Saturday at noon. The expenses of this Dispensary are shared between the East Sussex County Council and the Corporation of Hastings, and

tuberculous persons from either district are eligible for treatment. Treatment is practically confined to pulmonary cases (consumption of the lungs).

So far as Hastings patients are concerned, 79 persons presented themselves for examination, diagnosis or treatment during the past year.

Contacts, by which term is meant persons who in their homes or work-places are associated with Consumptives, are encouraged to apply for advice at the Dispensary, but up to the present time not many have availed themselves of the privilege. Medical practitioners also in any case of doubtful diagnosis or other difficulty occurring amongst their poorer patients are at liberty to attend with their clients at the Dispensary for consultation with the Tuberculosis Dispensary Officer and a few have done so. It is hoped that in the future these opportunities will be more readily used than heretofore.

Of the patients treated many have received much benefit, and in a fair number of cases tuberculin has been employed. This remedy has, however, been less successful than was anticipated and latterly its use has been somewhat curtailed, although in certain cases beneficial.

Owing to the character of the town as a resort of persons suffering from pulmonary diseases, it is necessary to exercise some control over the use of the Dispensary. Attendance at the Dispensary requires to be authorised by the sanction in writing of the Medical Officer of Health in uninsured cases and of the Medical Adviser to the Insurance Committee in the case of insured persons.

Gratuitous treatment at the Dispensary is limited to persons or their dependants whose income does not exceed the limit of those entitled to ordinary Insurance benefit.

The establishment of the Tuberculosis Dispensary at the East Sussex Hospital is decidedly advantageous. The Institution is easily accessible, and is known to all in the neighbourhood. There is, besides, one special feature which elsewhere would be lacking, viz. : the existence of a complete X-Ray installation which is at the disposal of the Tuberculosis

Officer at a small charge. I am most grateful to the Hospital Authorities and to Dr. W. Overend, Electrician to the Hospital, for his kind and skilful assistance in cases of difficult diagnosis. I believe that the use of X-Rays is destined to play an important part in arriving at an early diagnosis of pulmonary consumption.

The total number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified in the year was 136, or one more than in 1913; of all these notified cases 71 were of males and 65 of females.

Non-pulmonary cases were 21 against 34 in the preceding year.

These figures include notifications received in respect of visitors.

The following Table shows the phthisis death-rate in this District in each year since 1906 :—

YEAR.	Phthisis Deaths.	Phthisis death-rate.
1906	80	1·26
1907	93	1·48
1908	80	1·28
1909	76	1·23
1910	63	1·02
1911	67	1·09
1912	65	1·07
1913	55	0·91
1914	59	0·99

#### RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE TUBERCULOUS.

No provision has been made by the Corporation for the treatment of the Tuberculous other than pulmonary cases in any Residential Institution, but a number of such patients, many of whom are children, obtain admission to local Hospitals and Homes.

Of persons suffering from consumption of the lungs, insured or un-insured, 14 men belonging to the Borough received Sanatorium treatment, namely, 13 at the Eversfield Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, and 1 at Benenden Sanatorium, and 12 female patients were admitted to the Tuberculosis Block at the Borough Sanatorium. This Block, in which some structural alterations were effected before it was put to its present use, is entirely fenced off from the other buildings of the Isolation Hospital. The nurses and domestic staff here employed are distinct from those in the fever blocks, the washing is done on a separate day and such precautions are taken that there is no risk of cross-infection.

Here 16 beds are provided for the accommodation of female patients in the early stages of the disease, and for a few advanced cases in a special ward.

#### OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

Apart from Dispensary and Institutional treatment other administrative measures are taken in dealing with consumptives.

Three years ago arrangements were made for the gratuitous examination of specimens of sputum for the detection of the tubercle bacillus. This work is carried out at the Laboratory at the Borough Sanatorium, where in 1914 670 specimens of sputum were examined and reported on.

The Tuberculosis Visitor is kept informed of the names and addresses of persons in poor circumstances, who are reported to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. Their homes are visited and the patients instructed by personal advice and by leaflets as to the precautions necessary to be taken in dealing with their expectoration, and so on. The visitor is enabled from private charitable sources to assist deserving patients by gifts of milk, coals, bedding, and other material comforts. Her visits are usually most gratefully received and appreciated both by doctor and patient.

Disinfecting fluid is supplied gratuitously to the needy on application to the Health Department, as are also sputum flasks and clinical thermometers on written application by patients' doctors.

Rooms when vacated by consumptives are disinfected without charge, as are also articles of bedding and clothing when required.

The Inspectors of the Health Department carry out such supervision as is possible over the milk and meat supply of the town.

Of several samples of milk examined for tubercle bacillus during the year none yielded positive results.

Four samples of milk gathered from sources which appeared to be suspicious were submitted for examination by inoculation, but in none of these was there any evidence of tuberculosis.

Besides the Public Health Department of the Borough Council, other agencies are at work in assisting persons suffering from tuberculosis. The local Insurance Committee provides Domiciliary and Dispensary treatment on insured persons and extra nourishment in the shape of milk, eggs, etc., where needed; also treatment in Sanatoria during varying periods. The funds at their disposal are, however, inadequate.

Poor law patients receive very liberal treatment at the hands of the Guardians whether in the form of out-relief on a generous scale or as inmates of the special wards provided for their accommodation in the Infirmary. It is, however, desirable that tuberculous patients should receive treatment in special Institutions.

At the General Hospitals of the Borough tuberculous persons are admitted in emergencies or for surgical or other special treatment.

A Tuberculosis Care Committee has not as yet been established, but exceedingly valuable assistance is rendered by the Central Aid Council with its groups of visitors and other workers both in providing material comforts for the tuberculous and for obtaining suitable work for persons returning from Sanatoria. Nor must the work of the Sanitary Aid Association and of various parochial and private enterprises be forgotten.



## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

For the purposes of Sanitary Administration, the Borough is divided into four Districts: Western, Central, Eastern, and Northern, of which the last-named is formed by the extensive area added to the Borough in 1897 and is largely rural in character. The other three divisions are entirely urban. The several districts are believed to be fairly equal as regards their population.

A properly qualified and certificated Inspector is appointed for each of these districts, wherein he exercises the powers conferred on such an official under the provisions of the Public Health Acts, Housing, Factory, and Adulteration Acts, and, generally, performs the ordinary duties of an Inspector of Nuisances. His duties include also the work of inspection under the Shops Act.

In addition to their other diplomas, two of the Inspectors possess special certificates as qualified Inspectors of Meat.

For the visitation of tuberculous cases, a female part-time Health Visitor was appointed during the year 1912. She devotes the remainder of her time to visiting such cases of infectious disease as are brought to her notice, acting in great measure under the Medical Officer of Health, but receiving her salary in respect of these latter duties from a Charitable Organization—the Sanitary Aid Association.

For work under the Notification of Births Act another female Health Visitor was appointed, who gives part of her time to the execution of these duties.

For the clerical work of the Public Health Department a Senior and Junior Clerk are employed.

The following are the Adoptive Acts which were in force within the Borough in 1914:—

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. The Act in its entirety came into operation on 5th May, 1891.

The Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889. Came into operation on 7th July, 1891.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. The whole Act came into operation on 10th July, 1894.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Certain sections are in force under Orders made by the Home Secretary on 11th January, 1909, and the Local Government Board on 14th September, 1909.

The Notification of Births Act came into force on June 20th, 1914.

The following Local Acts, containing valuable sanitary provisions, are also in force :—

The Hastings Improvement Act, 1885.

The Hastings Corporation Act, 1900.

The Hastings Corporation (Water and Finance) Act, 1911.

#### BOROUGH SANATORIUM.

The Borough Sanatorium is thoroughly well equipped and excellently managed by the Matron who has under her control an efficient staff of nurses and domestic servants.

Three separate blocks are set aside for the accommodation of fever cases. The largest, a pavilion block of 16 beds, is used chiefly for scarlatina patients; the next, also a pavilion block has 10 beds for diphtheria cases; the third, an isolation block, contains four small wards which are used for various purposes as required, sometimes as private wards for paying patients, sometimes for enteric fever, or again for cases where the diagnosis is doubtful, or where one disease is complicated by the occurrence of a second infectious complaint, and a patient requires segregation from the others.

The diseases for which provision is made are usually confined to the three already mentioned, viz., scarlatina, diphtheria and enteric fever, but cases of other diseases such as cerebro-spinal meningitis would be admitted on occasion.

The great majority of persons treated at the Sanatorium belong to the Borough of Hastings, but arrangements have been entered into with some neighbouring sanitary authorities under which patients are admitted from Hastings Rural District, and from Battle Urban and Rural Districts if accommodation be available.

During the year 1914, 138 fever patients were received of whom 95 were admitted for scarlatina, 41 for diphtheria, and 2 for enteric fever.

#### SCARLATINA.

Of the 95 patients admitted for scarlatina 91 belonged to Hastings County Borough, and 4 to outside districts. Two of the cases were not scarlatina.

Most of the cases were very mild and serious complications were infrequent. There were no deaths.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

Among 41 persons admitted for diphtheria, two were not suffering from diphtheria but from scarlatina, and three others from sore throat which was not diphtheritic.

However, as all diphtheria cases are treated on admission with antitoxin as a routine measure whereby temporary protection is afforded, none contracted the disease.

Of the diphtheria cases all but three were Borough cases, the remainder belonging to Hastings Rural District; none were fatal, a very satisfactory record. In two instances tracheotomy was necessary in order to prevent asphyxiation, and several others were severe cases.

#### ENTERIC FEVER.

Of the two persons admitted for enteric fever the diagnosis in one instance was doubtful, the symptoms were pulmonary and Widal reaction negative; the other patient was a Belgian soldier sent in from outside the District. They both recovered.

Thus the year passed without a single death in the fever wards at the Sanatorium.

The following Table shows briefly the results of the year's work in the fever wards at the Borough Sanatorium:—

Disease.	Number in Hospital Jan. 1st, 1914.	Admitted during year.	Died.	Discharged	Remaining in Hospital Dec. 31st, 1914.
Scarlatina ...	9	95	—	75	29
Diphtheria ...	13	41	—	54	—
Enteric Fever ...	1	2	—	3	—
Total ...	23	138	—	132	29

#### TUBERCULOSIS BLOCK.

A most satisfactory year's work was accomplished in the Tuberculosis Block at the Sanatorium, to which 35 female patients were admitted during the year.

There were 16 patients at the beginning of the year, so that a total of 51 persons were under treatment there in 1914. Of these 40 were discharged and 11 remained to continue their term of treatment in the current year.

With one or two exceptions, the patients received considerable benefit from their stay and in a few instances were apparently restored to health.

No death occurred during the year.

Tuberculin was used in a large proportion of the cases, chiefly in the forms known as P.T.O., B.E., P.T., and T.

Such precautions are taken that there is not the slightest fear of cross-infection between patients in the fever blocks and the consumptives, still less is there any risk of infection spreading from the Sanatorium to the residents in the neighbourhood. I mention this here because the proposal of the Council to extend the Tuberculosis Buildings on this site caused considerable anxiety in the minds of some of those who dwell in the locality. Indeed a petition signed by 102 householders, some of whom reside not nearer to the Sanatorium than half-a-mile was presented to the Council in protest against the proposal.

The assurances received by the petitioners of the groundlessness of their fears will, I hope, have sufficed to remove all anxiety from their minds.

At the Sanatorium is the Pathological Laboratory, where a large amount of bacteriological and microscopic work is carried out by the Medical Attendant. The work of the year at the Laboratory includes the following examinations of specimens:—

Throat swabs for detection of diphtheria	...	526
Sputa for tuberculosis	... ..	670
Widal tests for enteric fever	... ..	12
Examinations for gonococcus	... ..	8
Blood examinations	... ..	32
Urine for bacillus tuberculosis	... ..	22
"    "    coli	... ..	16
Cerebro spinal fluid for meningo coccus	...	2
Various other examinations for cancer, etc.	...	54

The figures include examinations of swabs, sputa, and blood samples obtained from patients in the Sanatorium.

#### BREDE HOSPITAL FOR SMALLPOX.

On land belonging to Hastings Corporation at Brede a Hospital comprising several blocks was erected for the isolation of smallpox. The accommodation provided is considerable, and would suffice for 20 or 30 patients if necessary.

The Hospital buildings, which are of corrugated iron, are kept at all times in readiness for the immediate reception of any case of smallpox which may occur either in Hastings or in neighbouring parts of the county. A caretaker and his wife who have had experience in the treatment of smallpox reside on the premises.

The Hospital was not in use during 1914, no case of smallpox having been notified within the area specified.

A retaining fee for beds is paid to the Corporation yearly by several neighbouring District Councils.

#### DISINFECTION.

There are within the District two stations for the disinfection by steam of bedding, clothing, etc.

One of these stations is situated at the Isolation Hospital, and is used chiefly in connection with that establishment.

The bulk of the work is carried out by a special staff at the Rock-a-Nore station adjoining the Destructor.

The work of the staff last year included the following items:—

Rooms fumigated	...	...	...	546
Police cells fumigated	...	...	...	21
Taxi-cab fumigated	...	...	...	1
Sets of bedding disinfected	...	...	...	824

Also a large amount of clothing and furniture.

From the various local Institutions, Hospitals, etc., pillows, bedding, etc., to a large number were removed and disinfected on request.

The local Hospitals are also visited daily for the collection of soiled dressings, which are burnt at the Destructor.

Rooms to the number of 102 vacated by tuberculous persons were sprayed, and large numbers of carpets, clothes, and other articles and much bedding were disinfected or destroyed.

At the Cleansing Station recently erected at the Disinfecting Station a number of soldiers billeted in the town and who were found to be verminous or who had recovered from infectious disease were bathed, their uniforms and kit were disinfected.

#### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FISH.

As the result of inspections in slaughter houses, butchers' shops, and of fish intended for human food the following were seized by or surrendered to the District Inspectors.

##### WESTERN DISTRICT.

Beef	...	1 carcase	...	...	Tuberculous.
------	-----	-----------	-----	-----	--------------

##### NORTHERN DISTRICT.

Beef	...	3 carcasses	...	...	Tuberculous.
"	...	3 portions of carcasses			"
"	...	121 lbs.	...	...	Bruised.
Mutton	...	9 carcasses	...	...	Diseased.
Lamb	...	30 lbs.	...	...	Decomposed.
Suet	...	162 lbs.	...	...	"
Pork	...	2½ lbs.	...	...	Bruised.

## CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Beef	...	241 lbs.	...	...	Unsound.
"	...	5 heads and tongues...			Tuberculous.
"	...	1 forequarter	...		"
"	...	1 carcase	...	...	"
(Seized when exposed for sale. Owner fined £40 and costs).					
Suet	...	107 lbs.	...	...	Unsound.
Tripe	...	22 lbs.	...	...	"
Mutton	...	1 carcase	...	...	"
Fish	...	18 witches, &c.	...	...	"
(Seized on 2 hawkers' trucks when exposed for sale. Owners fined £1 and costs in each case).					

## EASTERN DISTRICT.

Fish	...	1 box of shrimps	...	...	Unsound.
"	...	1 kit witches and lemon soles			"
"	...	1 box turbot	...	...	"
"	...	1 box lemon soles	...	...	"
"	...	1 box mixed fish	...	...	"
"	...	6 tins prawns	...	...	"
"	...	5 boxes smelts	...	...	"
"	...	1 case lemon soles	...	...	"
"	...	4 large cods	...	...	"
"	...	1 case dried cods	...	...	"
"	...	1 box hake	...	...	"
"	...	2 boxes mackerel	...	...	"
"	...	1 box "	...	...	"
"	...	28 boxes "	...	...	"
"	...	6 " "	...	...	"
"	...	3 " "	...	...	"
"	..	1 case whiting	...	...	"
"	..	3 hake	...	...	"
"	...	27 boxes kippers	...	...	"
"	..	1 box dried haddock	...	...	"
"	...	6 boxes kippers	...	...	"
"	...	1 case witches	...	...	"
"	...	6 gallons shrimps	...	...	"
"	...	4 barrels sprats	...	...	"

Fish	...	8 tins whitebait	...	...	Unsound.
"	...	15 boxes dried haddocks	...	...	"
"	...	32 lbs. plaice	...	...	"
"	...	8 coal whiting (88 lbs.)	...	...	"
"	...	1 bag shrimps	...	...	"
"	...	1 box mixed fish	...	...	"

Most unfortunate were the circumstances connected with the seizure of one of the carcasses of beef in the Northern District, seeing that the action of the officials of your Corporation brought them into conflict with those of a neighbouring authority. The beast had been dealt with in the East Sussex District under the Tuberculosis Order, and certain organs having been destroyed the remainder of the carcase was sold through the County Police on the authority of the veterinary surgeon who passed it as sound and fit for food to a butcher in Hollington within the County Borough. There at this butcher's premises the meat was examined by the Inspector for the District, who, finding evidences of tuberculosis, reported the matter to me. Tuberculous deposits being present in various portions of the carcase, I ordered that all should be seized and submitted after full examination to a magistrate by whom the whole lot was condemned. Before being destroyed the portions were examined by the veterinary surgeon who had passed them, and he then admitted that they were diseased and unfit for food. The facts were reported to the Public Health Committee, to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, to the Local Government Board, and to the East Sussex County Council. No proceedings were instituted against the local butcher, because the feeling was that having purchased the carcase from the County Police, who were acting on the advice of the County veterinary surgeon he was justified in supposing that the meat was fit for food of man. In the opinion of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries it would appear to have been his duty after he purchased the carcase to ascertain that it was fit for food. It is not easy to see for what other purpose than for human consumption the County Police sold the meat to the butcher, and in my opinion it ought to have been possible to take legal proceedings against them for so doing. Unfortunately, a section which would have rendered such proceedings possible and which was embodied in the Hastings Corporation Bill of 1900 was thrown out by the Committee of the House, so that the local



butcher who had been victimized was the only person who could have been prosecuted. But the whole procedure under the Tuberculosis Order is exceedingly unsatisfactory, and when peace once more reigns it is to be hoped that the matter will be placed on a sounder basis.

The incident recorded above bears out my comments in the last annual report, which were as follows :—

“At the time when this Tuberculosis Order was under consideration, I expressed the opinion that the question was one affecting the Public Health, and that the Committee which should carry the Order into effect was the Public Health Committee rather than the Watch Committee; and I suggested that the Sanitary Inspectors, whose duties of inspection of dairies and cowsheds, brought them into frequent and close association with the dairy-farmers, and whose training required a fair knowledge of the diseases of cattle, were better fitted to carry out the Order than the Police Force. This view was endorsed both by the Public Health Committee and by the Diseases of Animal (Executive) Committee, of which the members are the same as the Watch Committee. It was, therefore, resolved that the Inspectors of Nuisances should be appointed Inspectors under the Tuberculosis Order jointly with those members of the Police who have hitherto been the Inspectors under the Diseases of Animals Acts. This arrangement was, however, practically vetoed by the Board of Agriculture, and the matter of carrying out the new Order was vested in the Police. In my opinion, this is a mistake.”

#### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There is, unfortunately, no public slaughter house in the Borough, but the slaughter houses in private hands number 21.

These are situated chiefly in the more remote parts of the Borough where rural conditions prevail, and they are so scattered that proper supervision is impracticable.

They are, however, kept in fair condition, and are visited by the Inspectors at frequent intervals and at such hours as slaughtering is likely to be in progress.

In addition to the 21 slaughter houses mentioned there is one licensed for the slaughter of horses and of other animals not intended for human food. In this building are slaughtered a large number of beasts, tuberculous or otherwise diseased, the flesh of which is, after thorough treatment, despatched to London to purveyors of cats' meat.

The existence of this establishment proves, I believe, to be a safeguard to the public, and affords a means of making use of carcasses which might otherwise possibly be offered for sale for human food.

The premises are frequently visited by the Inspector.

By the courtesy of one of the local butchers I was enabled in the autumn to arrange in one of the slaughter houses for a demonstration of humane methods of slaughtering.

The Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals kindly sent down an expert to exhibit the use of modern instruments for stunning animals prior to slaughter. Several members of the Public Health Committee attended, as did also some of the tradesmen interested.

The demonstration was entirely successful and I afterwards submitted a report on the proceedings.

In my opinion all animals, sheep, lambs, and pigs should be stunned before killing, as beasts are stunned.

This practice, which is already universal in some countries and in some parts of England presents no difficulties and might well be adopted both here and everywhere.

No action in this direction has yet been taken in this District.

#### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The Inspectors of the four Sub-Districts chiefly with the assistance of agents, procured during the year 182 samples of various articles of food which in due course were submitted to the Borough Analyst for his report.

The samples and results of analysis are shown in the sub-joined tabular statement.

Samples of :—

Milk	...	102, of which 18 were below standard.
Butter	...	42, of which 4 were adulterated.
Self-raising Flour	15	
Baking Powder	3	
Cheese	...	5
Lard	...	3
Pepper	...	4
Coffee	...	2
Jam	...	2
Sweets	...	2
Sugar	...	2

As will be seen the great bulk of the samples taken were of milk and of butter and amongst these the chief adulterations were found.

The action taken in dealing with these cases of adulteration is shown in the following table.

Date.	Sample of	Mark.	Report of Public Analyst.	Result of Proceedings taken [if any].
1914 Mar. 13	Milk ...	993	Fat 2·8% .. ..	Explanation asked for.
„ 24	Milk ...	486	Fat 2·8%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 88·5%	Inspector's portion accidentally broken. Cautioned.
„ „	Milk ...	488	Fat 2·2%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 89·1%	„ „
„ „	Milk ...	490	Fat 2·4%, Solids not fat 8·5%, Water 89·1%	Proceedings instituted and withdrawn owing to Inspector's portion in bottle having burst
„ 25	Milk ...	493	Fat 2·9%, Solids not fat 9·0%, Water 88·1%	Cautioned.
May 1	Milk ...	755	Fat 2·8%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 88·5%	Proceedings instituted and withdrawn owing to Inspector's portion in bottle having burst
„ „	Milk ...	757	Fat 2·8%, Solids not fat 9·1%, Water 88·1%	Case dismissed.
„ „	Milk ...	760	Fat 2·9%, Solids not fat 8·6%, Water 88·5%	Explanation asked for. Cautioned.
„ 3	Milk ..	766	Fat 2·9%, Solids not fat 8·8%, Water 88·3%	„ „
„ „	Milk ...	767	Fat 2·9%, Solids not fat 8·8%, Water 88·3%	„ „
„ 28	Milk ...	530	Fat 2·7%, Solids not fat 9·0%, Water 88·3%	Case dismissed.
„ „	Milk ...	535	Fat 2·7%, Solids not fat 9·0%, Water 88·3%	„ „
„ „	Milk ...	536	Fat 2·9%, Solids not fat 8·8%, Water 88·3%	„ „
June 3	Milk ...	777	Fat 2·6%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 88·7%	Summons issued. Vendor died before hearing.
„ „	Milk ...	778	Fat 2·6%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 88·3%	„ „
Dec. 10	Milk ...	555	Fat 2·8%, Solids not fat 8·9%, Water 88·3%	Vendor pleaded guilty. His explanation accepted by the Magistrate on his payment of costs. 7s.
„ „	Milk ...	556	Fat 2·7%, Solids not fat 8·7%, Water 88·6%	Fined £1 and costs. Total £1 13s. 0d.
„ 30	Milk ...	574	Fat 2·5%, Solids not fat 8·5%, Water 89%	Fined £1 and costs. Total £1 12s. 6d.
May 5	Butter	525	100% Commercial Margarine	Fined £5 and costs. Total £6 9s. 6d.
Nov. 21	Butter	1072	About 50% of Margarine	Fined £10 and cost. £10 16s. Witnesses' fees, £5 8s., allowed by Court. Proceedings taken by the Corporation as the purchasers on an informal sample.
„ 26	Butter	1071	„ „	Two summonses withdrawn on payment of costs, 3s. 6d. in each case.
„ „	Butter	1070	„ „	No proceedings taken. Informal sample.

Nos. 1070, 1071, and 1072 were taken from the same vendor at the Education Committee's Hollington Canteen, within a few days of one another, and in view of the penalty inflicted in respect of the first case, proceedings in the other cases were not actively pursued.

Of the self-raising flour and baking powder samples taken early in the year were found to contain an excessive amount of sulphate but, the vendors having received a caution from the Public Health Committee, subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

None of the milks were reported to contain preservative, nor was any found in four samples of cream which were taken under the Public Health Milk and Cream Regulations.

Under a resolution of the Public Health Committee passed several years ago, the addition of preservatives to milk was prohibited.

During the summer a report reached me that children attending one of the Public Elementary Schools had been made sick as the result of eating some sweets. I at once visit the School, and questioned some of the children who had suffered in this way.

I found that they all had partaken of sweets of a particular kind obtained from two shops in the neighbourhood. I next pursued my enquiries at the two shops where I ascertained that the suspected sweets were of a kind which had been in stock for some little while and which were made by a well-known maker. Very few of the sweets were left and these I obtained. They were afterwards analysed by the Borough Analyst who failed to discover any deleterious matter, but it seemed clear that the taking of the sweets was the cause of the sickness. The symptoms were transient and of no great severity, some abdominal pain and vomiting. These symptoms were experienced by those who had eaten the sweets, no others in the school were similarly affected so far as I could learn.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

Much of the milk supplied within the Borough is derived from outside, and samples are therefore taken at the railway station and at other places in course of delivery for analysis.

The results of sampling are shewn elsewhere in this report.

The premises occupied by dairymen and purveyors of milk are well supervised.

The condition of the cowsheds within the Borough is steadily improving and two new cowsheds, replacing old ones, were erected during the year.

#### ICE CREAMS.

The premises occupied by vendors of ice creams, now few in number and mostly of Italian nationality, received the special attention of the Inspector. The condition of their dwellings was satisfactory.

Attention was also given to the kitchens of restaurant and refreshment rooms.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In Elphinstone Road in premises distant from the nearest outside dwelling-house, the business of gut-scraping is carried on in such a manner that no cause of complaint has ever arisen, though the amount of material dealt with is very considerable. The business has now been established for several years and replaces one which was formerly carried on in a populous district.

In Winding Street in a somewhat crowded locality there still exists a fat-melting house, which has been established more than 150 years.

A year or two ago this place was the subject of a number of complaints during the summer months, but last year owing, perhaps partly, to some falling off in the trade, but chiefly I think from the extensive improvements executed under notice no complaints were received in the Health Department.

The situation of the premises for such a trade is undesirable but the method of working appears now to be satisfactory.

#### REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF COMMON LODGING HOUSES FOR THE YEAR 1914.

I beg to report that the Registered Common Lodging Houses continue to be kept in satisfactory condition, the keepers exercising due care in their management.

The whole of the interior walls and ceilings are cleansed, limewashed, etc., twice each year.

The bedding is kept in a cleanly condition, changed and renewed as required.

One of the houses, situate in Bourne Street, was closed during the early part of the year, and has not been used since.

Mr. Antonio Rea has been registered as keeper of the houses in East Hill Passage.

There were no cases of infectious disease notified during the year from any of the Registered Houses.

R. WILSON KING,  
*Inspector.*

#### MIDWIVES ACT OF 1902.

The number of Midwives on the roll as practising in Hastings in 1914 was only 12, of which number 7 were Midwives belonging to the District Nursing Association. Another Midwife placed her name on the roll temporarily.

The books, bags and equipment of the Midwives are inspected by Miss Stone, Superintendent of the District Nursing Association, who reports quarterly to the Local Midwives Committee and at other times if necessary.

No special action was called for during the year. It is probable, however, that one or two persons whose names are not on the roll have practised or are practising as Midwives, but difficulty is found in procuring definite evidence in these cases.

Two cases only of Puerperal fever were notified during the year, and it is satisfactory to record that not a single death was registered from this cause or from any other accidents or diseases of pregnancy or parturition.

#### SHOPS ACT.

The Inspectors carried out the duties required of them under the Act, and in one case it was found necessary to take legal proceedings.

The case was that of a hairdresser who was prosecuted for failing to give his assistants their half holiday (three offences).

He was fined 10s. and costs in each case.

## INSPECTORS' SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1914.

	Eastern District.	Central District.	Western District.	Northern District.	Total.
Drain tests applied ... ..	175	319	190	285	969
Houses and premises provided with new water-tight drains, properly intercepted and ventilated ...	33	33	31	41	138
Cesspools emptied and cleansed ...	4	—	—	6	10
Cesspools abolished ... ..	—	—	—	3	3
Drains cleared and amended ...	66	58	47	33	204
New iron and lead, soil, and ventilating pipes fixed ... ..	28	43	31	51	153
New closets fixed ... ..	39	45	55	43	182
Closets amended ... ..	37	38	29	33	137
New flushing boxes provided, necessary storage cisterns being fixed where necessary ... ..	29	39	29	41	138
Flushing boxes repaired ... ..	43	10	15	39	107
Houses and premises provided with a proper supply of water ... ..	3	2	—	22	27
Glazed stoneware sinks fixed, fitted with proper waste pipes, and trapped where necessary ...	25	38	19	48	130
Yards repaved ... ..	57	43	45	47	192
Sanitary ashbins provided ... ..	47	43	28	31	149
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed ... ..	43	78	19	26	166
Rooms, etc., cleansed and white-washed ... ..	380	95	147	224	846
Nuisances abated from animals improperly kept ... ..	12	8	—	6	26
Nuisance abated from chimneys sending forth black smoke ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases of infectious diseased removed to Sanatorium ... ..	63	11	14	44	132
Nuisances abated from overcrowding	9	2	—	5	16
Manure pits constructed ... ..	—	—	2	1	3
Miscellaneous repairs ... ..	101	75	33	105	314
New cowsheds built ... ..	—	—	—	2	2
Cowsheds, visits to ... ..	11	17	26	65	119
Slaughter-houses, visits to ... ..	30	298	58	284	670
New W.C.'s erected ... ..	7	2	3	9	21
Cellar dwellings closed ... ..	—	—	1	—	1
New urinals constructed ... ..	1	—	2	—	3
Wells closed for domestic use ...	—	—	—	3	3
Samples of Water (Private Wells) ...	—	—	2	3	5



## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

More than one thousand visits of inspection were made by the Inspectors in their several districts during the year, and 131 nuisances which were discovered were abated.

No prosecutions were required.

The amount of work given out was, owing to circumstances connected with the war, exceptionally small.

Seven matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory and Workshops Act were dealt with by the Sanitary Inspectors.

## BAKEHOUSES.

The Bakehouses are all visited and are kept in proper order and condition ; no fresh certificates being granted in respect of underground bakehouses, the number of these premises remains as before, viz., 41.

Inspections are made of the kitchens of hotels and restaurants so as to insure their maintenance in proper cleanly condition.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.  
INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF  
NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ... ..	35	4	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	299	6	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	697	6	
Total ... ..	1031	16	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	64	61		
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	2		
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—		
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	2	2		
Other nuisances ... ..	56	56		
Sanitary accommodation				
} insufficient ... ..	2	2		
} unsuitable or defective ... ..	7	7		
} not separate for sexes ... ..	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) ... ..	—	—		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ... ..	—	—		
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ... ..	—	—		
Total ... ..	132	131		

\* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.



Class.	Number.
4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.	
Workshops on the register (S. 131) at the end of year.	
Important classes of work- shops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enu- merated here.	355
Total number of workshops on Register...	355
5.—OTHER MATTERS.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Work- shop Acts (S. 133, 1901) ... ..	2
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (S. 5, 1901) ... ..	7
Other ... ..	4
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) in use at end of the year ... ..	4 <sup>1</sup>

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1914 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.	Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.		
								Number	Rate.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	61893	1039	1039	16.7	874	14.1	29	—	79	76	845	13.6
1910	61463	925	925	15.0	878	14.2	30	—	82	89	848	13.8
1911	61040	955	956	15.7	911	14.9	88	29	104	109	852	13.9
1912	60565	911	916	15.1	867	14.3	108	29	63	68	788	13.0
1913	60095	865	870	14.5	826	13.7	74	37	72	83	789	13.1
1914	59620	842	844	14.2	889	14.9	88	22	54	64	823	13.8

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrections as to transferable deaths probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population as stated in Col. 2, without the use of the standardising factor for the district given in the Annual Report of the Registrar-General. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a net population, obtained by deduction from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

\* In Column 6 are to be included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In Column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 9 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

TABLE II.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the District.				Total cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1 St. Mary Magdalen District.	2 All Saints District.	3 Ore (Urban) District.	4 Hollington St. John Parish.		
		Under 1.	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years						45 and under 65 years
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera, Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	43	7	36	—	—	—	4	29	8	2	36	—
Erysipelas ...	31	—	1	17	5	8	18	9	2	2	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	105	9	79	14	1	—	42	49	10	4	92	—
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	136	1	12	29	68	1	45	79	11	1	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	21	1	7	5	6	—	12	8	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	347	9	136	49	94	9	124	181	32	10	128	—

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
All Causes { Certified .....	821	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Uncertified.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough... ..	4	1	2	1	..	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza ... ..	26	...	...	...	...	1	2	6	17	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	59	1	...	1	1	11	23	19	3	16
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	10	1	2	1	3	...	2	1	...	7
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	11	1	1	...	3	2	1	2	1	7
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	104	...	...	...	...	...	7	36	61	21
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ... ..	103	...	...	...	1	2	8	25	67	7
Bronchitis ... ..	57	3	1	1	...	...	2	10	40	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	78	7	2	1	1	1	7	16	43	36
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	3	3
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...
Alcoholism... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	36	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	18	12
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ... ..	25	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ..	22	2	1	2	...	4	2	4	7	4
Suicide ... ..	9	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	237	3	2	...	6	4	16	44	162	59
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	10	3	1	...	1	...	1	...	4	3
	823	54	12	8	18	25	81	193	432	184

TABLE IV.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All causes	{ Certified	14	4	1	4	23	6	9	12	4	54
	{ Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	7
{ Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	1	7
{ Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Congenital Malformations	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	3
{ Premature Birth	...	8	1	1	...	10	...	1	...	...	11
{ Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	...	3	1	...	3	7	...	2	1	1	11
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	4
Totals	...	14	4	1	4	23	6	9	12	4	54

Nett Births in { legitimate 794.  
the year { illegitimate 50.

Nett Deaths in { legitimate infants 51.  
the year of { illegitimate infants 3.



PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.

Summary of Notifications during the period from the 4th January, 1914, to the 2nd January, 1915.

Age periods.	Number of Notifications on Form A.											Number of Notifications on Form B.			Number of Notifications on Form C.				
	Primary Notifications.											Total Notifications (i.e., including cases previously notified by other doctors).	Primary Notifications.			Total Notifications (i.e., including cases previously notified by other doctors).	Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.	
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards.		Total	Under 5	5 to 10				10 to 15
Pulmonary Males ...	1	2	2	2	7	8	14	19	8	7	1	69	78	...	2	2	2	3	10
" Females ...	1	2	2	2	3	11	20	15	6	1	...	63	69	...	1	2	2	6	12
Non-Pulmonary Males	1	...	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	8	...	...	1	1	...	...
" Females ...	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	...	1	...	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	...

	Annual Rate per thousand living.										Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Births.	
	Births.	Total Deaths.		Deaths from							Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 1 year.	Total under 1 year.
		Crude.	Standardized.	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Violence.		
England and Wales ...	23·8	14·0	13·7	0·05	0·00	0·24	0·08	0·21	0·15	0·58	20·41	105
97 Great Towns ...	25·0	14·7	15·0	0·04	0·00	0·35	0·09	0·25	0·16	0·54	26·09	114
145 Smaller Towns ...	23·9	12·9	13·1	0·05	0·00	0·21	0·07	0·18	0·16	0·55	19·84	104
England and Wales, less the 242 Towns ...	22·2	13·4	12·4	0·05	0·00	0·12	0·06	0·17	0·14	0·65	12·64	93
Hastings ...	14·2	13·8	11·6	0·016	...	..	..	0·07	0·016	0·51	8·29	64

Date	Description	Amount	Balance	Total
1880	Jan 1			
	Feb 1			
	Mar 1			
	Apr 1			
	May 1			
	Jun 1			
	Jul 1			
	Aug 1			
	Sep 1			
	Oct 1			
	Nov 1			
	Dec 1			
	Total			