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BOROUGH OF ILKESTON.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

On the Sanitary Condition and Vital
Statistics of the Borough of Ilkeston,
for the Year 1906.



BY JOHN J. TOBIN, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.



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Borough of Ilkeston.

HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Chairman :

MR. ALDERMAN HUNT.

Ex-officio Member :

MR. ALDERMAN MITCHELL.

Elected Members :

MR. ALDERMAN HUNT, CHAIRMAN.

MR. COUNCILLOR WOOLLEY, VICE-CHAIRMAN.

MR. ALDERMAN MITCHELL.

MR. COUNCILLOR HENSHAW.

” ” MOSS.

” ” ORMOND.

” ” SINFIELD.

” ” C. F. SUDBURY.

SANITARY INSPECTOR :

JOSEPH B. DURO, C.S.I.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

JOHN J. TOBIN, M.D.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BOROUGH OF ILKESTON,

FEBRUARY, 1906.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and People of the
Borough of Ilkeston.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1906. With a few important exceptions, the statistics for the two years 1905 and 1906 vary only a little. The principal exception is the higher Infant Mortality for 1906. In the year 1906 there were 185 deaths under the age of one year, as against 161 in the year 1905. This increase in 1906 is made up mainly of an increase in the deaths (1st) from Diarrhoea, (2nd) from premature births, and (3rd) from respiratory diseases. That all these deaths take place is mainly due to the want of stamina in the infants, amidst the environment of industrial towns.

The importance and urgency of all that I have been saying in my other Annual Reports and elsewhere on the subject of Infant Mortality ought now to be evident to all.

This year's statistics also show the importance and urgency of the efforts which your Council are making towards remedying this cruel, preventable, and growing evil. Not in Ilkeston alone, but in all manufacturing towns, local authorities are concentrating all their energies on the subject, and are adopting preventive measures against the many causes that lead up to this high infant death rate. Not only so, but the daily press—not to mention the medical press—is full of the subject, written from every conceivable point of view. All sorts and conditions of people have become enthusiasts on it. That all these good people, scientific and otherwise, have become quite learned authorities on Infantile Mortality is, indeed, a happy omen, and the rising generations of the great future will not fail to receive the benefit of their efforts. For them, at all events, life's handicap will not become an item from the very start.

Closely associated with the above is the Birth-rate, which this year again shows a slight decline, viz., 34.1, as against

34.8 for 1905 ; our average Birth-rate for the past ten years being 37.9. I may point out that the Birth-rate for all England for 1906 also shows a slight decline, viz., 27.0, as against 27.2 for 1905. I may also again mention that the Birth-rate of all England in 1891 was 31.4, and that there has been a steady decline year by year since 1891 to the present year. From this declining Birth-rate, as I emphasised in a former report, it still more behoves us that as many infants as possible should be reared, and that they be reared and developed to the best possible advantage. The seriousness of a declining Birth-rate, together with an increasing Infant Death-rate, is now too well recognised to need further comment.

As a set-off against the above sinister happenings, I am pleased to be able to record a very low Death-rate for this year, viz., 14.5. The average death-rate for the past ten years is 17.1, in comparison with which we may congratulate ourselves. If only our Infant Death-rate could be reduced to about 100, which ought certainly to be possible by preventive treatment in the course of the next ten years, then indeed we could boast of a low general Death-rate, and Ilkerton would become a more desirable place to reside in.

It will be seen that the Death-rate for all England is 15.4, and that the Death-rate of the 76 great towns is 16.0 ; so that, in spite of all our disadvantages, we keep at present well within the average.

On examining Table IV., it will be observed that, with the exception of Summer Diarrhœa, we have been practically free from Epidemic Disease. During the year, however, Summer Diarrhœa amongst children has been more than serious here, and the mortality from this cause reached in 1906 the highest that has ever been recorded. There were 58 deaths from this cause in the year, as against an average of 26 per year during the past ten years—that is, more than double the average number of deaths. No doubt the tropical heat of August and September, and more especially the great shortage of rain in these months, was primarily responsible in the matter.

The free watering of the streets and flushing of the sewers is the great remedy, and this ought to be done with no niggard hand in these months. In the interest of our public health also, there is no reason why the water cart should not shower

its blessings in the back streets and in the streets that have not yet been taken over by the Corporation, especially as these areas furnish the highest mortality from Summer Diarrhoea. Now, at all events, with a plentiful supply of water at our disposal, it could and *should be used as free as rain during these months*. All observers are agreed that the greater the rainfall in August and September, the less is the incidence of Summer Diarrhoea and the less the Infant Mortality. It will be well remembered that last September, immediately the rain came, the terrible epidemic which was then raging came to an end. In this connection I would again condemn the use of disinfectants as so-called preventatives of this disease, because of their expense, and especially because of the false security they confer. Hence it is that amongst preventive measures I would give the first place to the best and most complete system of watering and flushing the streets and sewers, and I would again advise what I suggested in my report some years ago, that the *Continental system of flushing the gutters be adopted, especially as the hilly character of the town* would easily and cheaply lend itself to this system.

Another very active cause towards promoting Summer Diarrhoea comes from manure heaps, ash heaps, with decaying vegetable matter, and more especially from pigs and pigsties and pig manure. Apart from air-borne contagion and offences against the sense of smell, it is a matter of common observation that myriads of flies spring from these filthy sources, and that *these flies carry the filth and contagion from the pigsties and manure heaps to the food and milk of the children*.

The remedy, of course, lies in preventing the *causans*, so to speak, of the contagion, viz., the accumulation of filth in every shape and form. The *quickest possible removal during these months of manure and of everything capable of undergoing quick putrefactive changes should be insisted upon*. When it is remembered that flies are only found in the presence of filth and putrefaction, the importance of this treatment will be at once recognised. No doubt also, the Typhoid incidence of these months is accounted for in this way. It can be easily demonstrated that a culture of house flies at this season of the year will show the presence of the Typhoid bacillus. The epidemic in Ilkeston last September

of 25 cases of Typhoid was beyond doubt caused in this way. It is an *axiom of State medicine that, given an absolutely pure and abundant water supply, which Ilkeston can now boast of, the presence of Epidemic Diarrhœa and of Epidemic Typhoid should be no longer possible.*

Diphtheria is the only other item of importance in the statistics of the year, and more especially the fact that there have been 6 deaths from this disease out of the 29 cases reported. This nowadays shows a very high mortality. I find in my notes that Antitoxin has only been applied for in 14 of the cases. It may be forgotten that a gratuitous supply of Antitoxin, with the necessary syringe, is always available.

THE SCHOOLS.

During the year I visited the Elementary Schools in the Borough on different occasions, especially in connection with *Epidemic Ophthalmia*, or contagious Eye Disease, which first appeared at the South end of the district about June and July. I also frequently visited the infected houses, warning the parents against sending any children to school from infected areas, as well as advising them as to treatment and preventive measures. The teachers and school attendance officers were also made aware as to the seriousness and contagiousness of the disease. A close watch was kept, and all children from infected houses and districts were sent home. Fortunately, the disease was mild in type, and the closing of the Schools for the Summer holidays had the effect of bringing the Epidemic to an end in that part of the Borough. It was not till December that a fresh outbreak appeared in the centre of the Borough, in and about Chaucer-street Schools. This fresh outbreak was also treated on the same lines, and, if found necessary later on, the Schools will be temporarily closed, in order to stop the spread of the disease.

The summary in the following pages sets forth the general statistics of the Borough, and the Local Government tables show at a glance the Health Statistics for the year 1906.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN J. TOBIN, M.D.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

AND

GENERAL & VITAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH OF ILKESTON FOR THE YEAR 1906.

Area of Borough, 2526 acres.

Rateable value, £82,542.

Gross estimated rental, £105,880.

Altitudes vary from 150 to 332 feet above sea level.

Industries of district are lace, hosiery, needles, iron, and coal.

Water supply is excellent in quality and quantity, and comes directly from the solid rock in the Peak of Derbyshire. No possible pollution can take place.

Compulsory notification of Infectious Diseases is in force.

Fever Hospital of 20 beds is situated on the west side of the Borough at Little Hallam.

A new Sewage Disposal system is being inaugurated, with which will be a refuse destructor and disinfecting apparatus.

Electric Trams run from end to end of the Borough, a distance of about 3 miles.

Railway facilities by the Great Northern and the Midland are very good indeed.

Number of houses in the Borough, 6334; in 1891, 3776; 1901, 5005; 1902, 5650; 1903, 5824; 1904, 6042; 1905, 6302; 1906, 6334.

Number of persons per house last census, 5.07.

Very few houses with less than four rooms.

Housing accommodation good, except in the case of cottage property, in which the living room is generally much too small for the family.

The Borough is well provided with open spaces, though very congested in parts.

Population in 1891 (census), 19,744; 1901 (census), 25,383;
1906 (estimated), 30,550.

Birth Rate for 1906, 34.1.

Death Rate for 1906, 14.5.

Infantile Mortality for 1906, 177.3.

Zymotic Death Rate for 1906, 2.4.

Phthisis Death Rate for 1906, 0.55 (per 1000).

Total number of Births for 1906, 1043.

Total number of Deaths for 1906, 444.

Number of Deaths under "one year," 185.

Natural Increase of Population, 599.

Of the Births 543 were males and 500 females.

Of the total 444 Deaths, 185 occurred under one year, 61 from
1 to 5 years, 17 from 5 to 15 years, 19 from 15 to 25 years,
103 from 25 to 65 years, and 59 from 65 upwards.

The following Tables, I., II., III., IV., V., and M. form
the pith of all annual reports, and from them mainly the
health statistics of the whole kingdom are made out. Tables
IV. and V. are of vast interest and importance.

Table I.

**Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906
and Previous Years.**

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			
		No.	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age. Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.		At all Ages	
		No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
1896	22,634	835	36.8	163	195.2	367	16.1
1897	23,312	891	38.3	132	148.1	377	16.1
1898	23,790	954	40.1	186	194.9	452	18.9
1899	24,368	922	37.8	190	206	473	19.3
1900	24,946	936	37.5	173	184.8	436	17.5
1901	25,524	1012	39.6	184	181.8	430	16.8
1902	26,100	958	36.7	169	176.4	456	17.4
1903	26,900	1080	40.2	214	198.1	492	18.2
1904	28,500	1079	37.8	198	183.5	469	16.4
1905	29,250	1018	34.8	161	158.1	417	14.2
<i>Averages for Years 1896-1905.</i>							
	25,532	968	37.9	177	182.5	436	17.1
1906	30,550	1043	34.1	185	177.3	444	14.5

Table II.

Vital Statistics of Ilkeston in 1906 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1896	22,634	835	367	163
1897	23,212	891	377	132
1898	23,790	954	452	186
1899	24,368	922	473	190
1900	24,946	936	436	173
1901	25,524	1012	430	184
1902	26,100	958	456	169
1903	26,900	1080	492	214
1904	28,500	1079	469	198
1905	29,250	1018	417	161
<i>[Averages of Years 1896-1905.]</i>				
	25,522	968	436	177
1906	30,550	1043	444	185

Table III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.				
		At Ages—Years.				
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65 and upwards.
Diphtheria	29		6	18	3	2
Erysipelas	5					5
Scarlet fever	18		9	8	1	
Enteric fever	35		1	9	15	10
Puerperal fever	2				1	1
Chicken pox	7		6	1		
Totals	96	0	22	36	20	18

Table IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the Subjoined Age of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
Measles	2	1	1				
Whooping cough	4	4					
Diphtheria and membranous croup	6		4	2			
Enteric fever	4				1	3	
Epidemic influenza	2					1	1
Diarrhœa	58	49	4	1		2	2
Enteritis	7	4	2	1			
Puerperal fever	1					1	
Other septic diseases	1					1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	17			1	2	12	2
Other tubercular dis.	9	3	1	3	2		
Cancer, malignant dis.	14					13	1
Bronchitis	33	15	7			4	7
Pneumonia	50	17	23	1	1	6	2
Other diseases of respiratory organs	11	2	4	1		4	
Alcoholism (cirrhosis of liver)	2					2	
Venereal diseases	1	1					
Premature birth	15	15					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	7	4			1	2	
Heart diseases	23		1	2	2	12	6
Accidents	12	1	1	1	3	4	2
Suicides	1					1	
All other causes	164	69	13	4	7	35	36
	444	185	61	17	19	103	59

Table V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

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

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
<i>All causes—</i>																	
Uncertified ..	1				1			1	1								4
<i>Common Infectious Diseases—</i>																	
Measles													1				1
Whooping Cough						1	1		1				1				4
<i>Diarrhæal Diseases—</i>																	
Diarrhœa, all for.		1	2		3	8	11	5	7	5	2	1	1	2	3	1	49
Enteritis						2	3										5
Gastritis									1								1
<i>Wasting Diseases—</i>																	
Prem. Birth	13	2		1	16	1											17
Congen. Defects ..	1	1			2												2
Injury at Birth ..	2				2												2
Want of Breast-m.			1	1	2	2	3		2				1	1			11
Atrophy, &c.	10	3	1	3	17	11	7		2								37
<i>Tuberculous Diseases—</i>																	
Tub. Meningitis..						1											1
Tub. Peritonitis..						1				1							2
Syphilis				1	1												1
Rickets												1					1
Convulsions							2	1	3								6
Bronchitis				1	1	4	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1		19
Pneumonia		1			1	2		1		2	3	2			1		12
Suff., overlying ..	1				1												1
Other causes	4		1		5	1				1	1	1					9
	32	8	5	7	52	34	28	11	18	11	9	6	4	5	5	1	185

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 444.

Table M.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease reported to the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1906, and of deaths from the diseases notified :—

	Cases notified in 1906.	Deaths Registered in 1906.
Scarlet Fever	18	
Diphtheria	29	6
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	35	4
Puerperal Fever	2	1
Erysipelas	5	
Chicken Pox	7	

Zymotic Deaths and Death Rate.

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Small Pox	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	6	0	5	3	6	2	0
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	2	0	1	0	16	9	4	1	6
Enteric Fever	32	19	22	5	10	4	6	4	4
Measles	2	32	2	7	3	21	6	14	2
Whooping Cough	1	8	13	4	0	19	25	3	4
Diarrhœa	18	21	23	17	15	29	27	52	58
Rate	2.2	3.2	2.6	1.3	1.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4

BIRTHS.

The Birth-rate of 34.1 is the lowest that has ever been recorded in Ilkeston. It is also an ominous coincidence that the Birth-rate of all England (27.0) is the lowest ever recorded. The Birth-rate and Infantile Mortality have an important bearing on each other, as I have already mentioned. This may be more clearly understood when I give the following data from the Registrar General's Annual Report for 1906. In mining districts, the annual yield of 1000 mothers is 152 children. Of these only about 100 live to the age of 5 years. In other words, 33 per cent. die before this age. In agricultural districts, on the other hand, according to the same authority, only 13 per cent. die before this age. This clearly means a loss of 20 per cent. per year of the children in mining districts; or, in other words, that one-fifth of the children of Ilkeston are lost solely because of the surroundings with which their young lives are hampered. This is a problem which calls for the best endeavours of our Borough Council, and which deserves the serious consideration of everyone living in our district.

DEATHS.

The Death-rate for the year is only 14.5. This low rate is due to the absence of epidemic disease other than Diarrhœa. I may point out that, only for the 58 deaths from Diarrhœa, the Death-rate would have been 12.5. I may also mention that the Death-rate of Long Eaton, a non-mining town, is only 10.9.

There is no other particular item on the Death Returns calling for special attention. Table V., as you will observe, has to do entirely with Infant Mortality. It will be seen by it that of the 185 deaths under one year, 32 took place in the first week of life, 52 in the first month, 86 in the first two months, and 114 in the first three months of life. From this it is obvious that, in order to aid our efforts to reduce Infant Mortality, earlier notification of births must be made to the Local Health Authority. A compulsory notification of births within 24 hours would be for the public good, and will no doubt soon be enacted.

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACT.

Another subject having an important bearing on Infant Mortality is the employment of females in our factories. As you know, the Evolution of the factory girl commences as soon as she leaves school at 13 years of age. This process goes on as a rule till she is 20. At 20 the process of Evolution is completed, and she is what everyone expected her to be, viz., a typical factory girl. *Pari Passu* with the above Evolution, some attempts at constructive womanhood have been wrought upon her. This is an everyday romance in real life in factory towns, and this is another of the difficult problems coming under the heading of preventive medicine. The question at once arises as to the capacity of the factory girl for motherhood, both from the point of view of physical development as well as from the point of view of motherly instincts and domesticity. Between the ages of 13 and 20 it is that the essential stages of puberty, girlhood, and womanhood take place—not to mention the building up of the physical body and the preparing of the mind for the great career of motherhood, which is her inevitable lot in life. In the golden age of Greece, the future mothers of the race were very early set apart to learn the arts of motherhood. It was enacted by *Lycurgus, the Spartan law-giver*, that “*the maidens should harden their bodies with exercises of running, wrestling, throwing the bar, and casting the dart, to the end that the fruit wherewith they might afterwards be conceived, taking nourishment of a strong and lusty body, should shoot out and spread the better; and that they, by gathering strength thus by exercises, should more easily withstand the pains of child-bearing.*” The contrast between this classic ideal and the real life which

exists in Ilkeston and other factory districts to-day is only too painfully evident. No doubt the question of industrial supremacy is all important in the land, but it must not be forgotten that this is maintained at the expense of the physique of the race. This situation we must frankly admit and accept. Our plain duty is to make the best of it. To this end the compulsory duties of the Workshops and Factories Act have been devoluted to the Local Authority. *The old order of things in factory life must be done away with.* Just as legislation improved the old order of things in coal mines, so also *must factory life become productive of the most possible physical good, and the least possible physical harm to the future mothers of the race.*

The detailed returns required by the Factories and Workshops Act are also subjoined.

Yours obediently,

JOHN J. TOBIN, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health for Ilkeston.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES, AND
HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or In-
spectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	20	3
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	115	26
Total	135	29

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Number of Defects Found Remedied.	
Nuisance under the Public Health Acts :—		
Sanitary accommodation, insufficient	3	3
„ „ „ unsuitable or defective..	3	3
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake- houses (ss. 97 to 100)	17	17
Total	23	23

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.										Outwork in unwhole- Premises, Sc. 108		Outwork in in- some fected Premises, Sc. 109, 110	
	Lists.	Lists received from Employers. Twice y'r. Once y'r.		Lists.	No. Address Outwks. r'd. f'm. other Councils		No. Address Outwks. fd to other Councils.		Pros- ctns.	No. of Inspections of Outworkers' premises.	Instances.	Notices served.	Instances.	Orders made (S. 110).
Lace, lace curtains and nets ..	3	256	8	145	7	22	5	302	5	5	13	13		

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

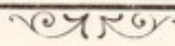
Workshops on the register (s. 131) at the end of the year.. 125

Annual Report

OF

Sanitary Inspector

FOR 1906.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
TOWN HALL, ILKESTON,

February 25th, 1907.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
Borough of Ilkeston.*

GENTLEMEN,

Annual Report for 1906.

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Fifth Annual Report for the year ending 1906.

During the year 43 Complaints were received and investigated. In some cases the said Complaints were entertained and the grievances remedied. Others of a very minor character were too vague to be considered, being nothing more than mere neighbours' troubles.

There have been 132 Preliminary Notices served, as compared with 155 for the previous year; 19 Statutory Notices were ordered to be served by your Committee, as against 32 the previous year, and I am very pleased to record the fact that in each instance the same have received attention, and all defects remedied, in accordance with the terms of the respective notices.

Tabulated hereunder are the records of Notices issued during the past 5 years:—

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Preliminary Notices	78	130	96	155	132
Statutory Notices	270	216	144	32	19

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

The sanitary improvement of the Borough is progressing in a very satisfactory manner; and the work of discovering nuisances is becoming less apparent and more difficult. The work of systematic house-to-house visitations has been continued throughout the year, and no less than 405 houses have been visited and inspected, resulting in 98 defects being found.

The number of complaints made in connection with dwellings is fairly equal to the previous year. It is a great advantage and assistance to me to receive any complaints, because it enables me to visit premises at once, and take immediate steps to abate any nuisances found to exist.

The scavenging of premises has been more efficiently done, and complaints have, in consequence, been fewer than previously.

The Water Supply is one of the best in England, both in quantity and quality, and to this, as much as anything, I venture to attribute the improved health of the Borough.

The following are the details of the Sanitary Work carried out during 1906:—

DRAINAGE—	1904	1905	1906
Number of disconnections of waste pipes ..	9	10	7
Defective traps, inlets, &c., to drains	66	102	87
Drains obstructed	79	200	81
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—			
Insanitary privies and ashpits	116	294	138
Insufficient closet accommodation	0	6	7
Conversion of privies into w.c.'s	3	60	18
Defective water closets	38	95	38
Surface of yards paved, &c.	45	36	27
Eaves and spouts	5	29	16
Urinals repaired, &c.	7	10	3
Water supply furnished to premises	9	34	—
Offensive accumulations	10	36	74
Animals improperly kept	8	10	10
Pigstyes	8	12	18
Smoke nuisances	—	23	12
Overcrowding	24	5	4
Foul condition of houses	75	26	18
New closet tins provided	—	—	101

DWELLING-HOUSES—

Number inspected	90	281	405
Informal notices served	30	72	96
Number of houses repaired	30	83	71
Reported unfit for habitation	2	—	—
Legal notices to close	2	—	—
Number closed or demolished	2	—	2
Number of infected premises	364	176	96
Houses disinfected	370	192	115
Inspections of works in progress	335	451	389
Infectious diseases re-visits	407	205	143

DAIRIES AND COW-SHEDS—

Number on register	27	27	22
Number of inspections	15	29	10
Number of notices served	—	—	—

BAKEHOUSES—

Number on register	35	35	37
Number of inspections	64	62	70
Number of notices served	27	5	17

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES—

Number on register	20	20	20
Number of inspections	72	43	62
Number of notices served	5	3	3

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

Number on register	2	2	2
Number of inspections	12	14	9
Number of notices served	—	—	—

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES—

Number of lodging-houses on register	2	2	2
Number of inspections	35	32	40
Number of notices served	4	—	1

WORKSHOPS—

Number on register	111	126	130	125
Number of inspections made	150	140	97	115
Number of notices issued	39	32	12	26
Smoke tests applied	17	22	22	17

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are only 2 registered houses, and frequent visits have been made. On the whole they have been well conducted.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 20 registered or licensed premises within the Borough, and 62 visits have been made. Very few complaints have been made, and the premises have been satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

ACCUMULATIONS AND ANIMALS KEPT.

The most common of recurring nuisances with which I have to deal is that of accumulations of manure and keeping of animals. The nuisances caused by offensive accumulations vary in degree according to the character of the receptacles in which the refuse is stored. The evils are intensified in a high degree when the receptacle for storage is entirely on the open ground, usually undrained, and uncovered; or even when let into the open ground. The rain enters the pit, and confinement of the organic matters causes heat with rapid putrefaction, the result being that, after a short detention, serious consequences arise, to the great discomfort of persons residing in the near vicinity. Everyone who has observed the "steam" arising when the contents are disturbed, must have been annoyed by its horrible offensiveness.

PRIVIES INTO WATER-CLOSETS.

Upon reference to the County Medical Officer's Report one observes his commendable views of abolishing privies and substituting water-closets—a very essential and healthy requisition. Within the last year I have been able to have 20 privies abolished and 50 new water-closets fixed in lieu thereof.

It is a fact that very few privies indeed are anything approaching watertight, so that both ground water gets into such privies and foul liquids percolate out. There is a prevalent custom of throwing slops into the midden—a custom which has not as yet been able to be stopped, notwithstanding the fact that frequent attempts have been made.

There is also a very serious objection to privies when they require emptying, *i.e.*, the fouling of the yards and streets which necessarily occurs when the contents are removed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Herewith I append table showing the number of Infectious Reports to hand for the years below quoted :—

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Small-pox	20	4	20	—	—
Diphtheria	40	31	8	21	29
Membraneous Croup	—	2	1	—	—
Erysipelas	12	5	7	5	5
Scarlet Fever	77	55	78	85	18
Enteric Fever	16	29	36	31	35
Puerperal Fever	3	5	2	2	2
Chicken Pox	—	—	30	32	7

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACTS, 1901.

Below I herewith append details of work in connection with the above. It will be observed that during the year there have been several additional notices issued for contraventions of the above. In each case the works have been carried out forthwith. At three of the principal factories the old privies have been swept out and a splendid arrangement of water closets erected.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Number of Workshops	111	126	130	125
Notices served under P.H. Acts, '75	17	32	12	26
OUTWORKERS—				
Number on register	296	396	276	386
Notices prohibiting work to be done in Infected Premises	12	10	12	13
BAKEHOUSES—				
Number of Retail Bakehouses	35	35	33	37
Number of Factory Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Notices served for—				
Drains inside	5	9	0	1
Limewashing	15	14	12	17
Ventilation	—	2	—	1
Lighting	—	3	—	1
General Repairs	—	4	2	—
Reports received from Factory Inspec.		8	3	2

In conclusion, I have again to record the fact that it is most encouraging to look at the results of the sanitary improvements in the environments of the masses as indicated in past reports, and that any success which has attended my efforts is due to your loyal work in Committee. Again thanking you for your valuable support in enabling me to carry out my duties,

I have the honour to remain.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH B. DURO,

Inspector of Nuisances, Assoc. R. San. Inst.

APPENDIX.

Summary of Work done by Inspector of Nuisances during the Year 1906.

Informal Notices served by Inspector	132
Legal Notices served by Authority	19
Nuisances abated	151

DRAINAGE :—

No disconnection of Waste Pipe	7
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains	87
Drains obstructed	81

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS :—

Insanitary Privies and Ashpits	138
Insufficient Closet accommodation	19
Conversion of Privies into w.c.'s	18
Defective Water Closets	38
Surface of Courts and Yards	27
Eaves Spouts and Down Spouts	16
Urinals defective	3
Water Supply	—
Offensive Accumulations	74
Animals improperly kept	10
Pigsties	18
Smoke Nuisance	12
Overcrowding	4
Foul Condition of Houses	18

Total..... 558

Precautions taken by Inspector against Infectious Disease, the Sale of Adulterated Food and Drugs and Unsound Meat.

One keg Tripe, 199½ lbs. Beef, unfit for human food, and destroyed by fire.

DWELLING HOUSES :—

Number Inspected	405
Informal Notices to Repair Houses	98
Number of Houses Repaired	71
Number of Houses Closed	2
Number of Infected Houses	96
Number Disinfected	115
Inspections of Work in Progress	389

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS :—

Number on Register	22
Number of Inspections	10

BAKEHOUSES :—

Number on Register	37
Number of Inspections	70
Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws	17

SLAUGHTER HOUSES :—

Number on Register	20
Number of Inspections	62
Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws	3

OFFENSIVE TRADES :—

Number on Register	2
Number of Inspections	9

COMMON LODGING HOUSES :—

Number on Register	2
Number of Inspections	40
Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws	1

WORKSHOPS :—

Number on Register	125
Number of Inspections	115
Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws	26

JOS. B. DURO.