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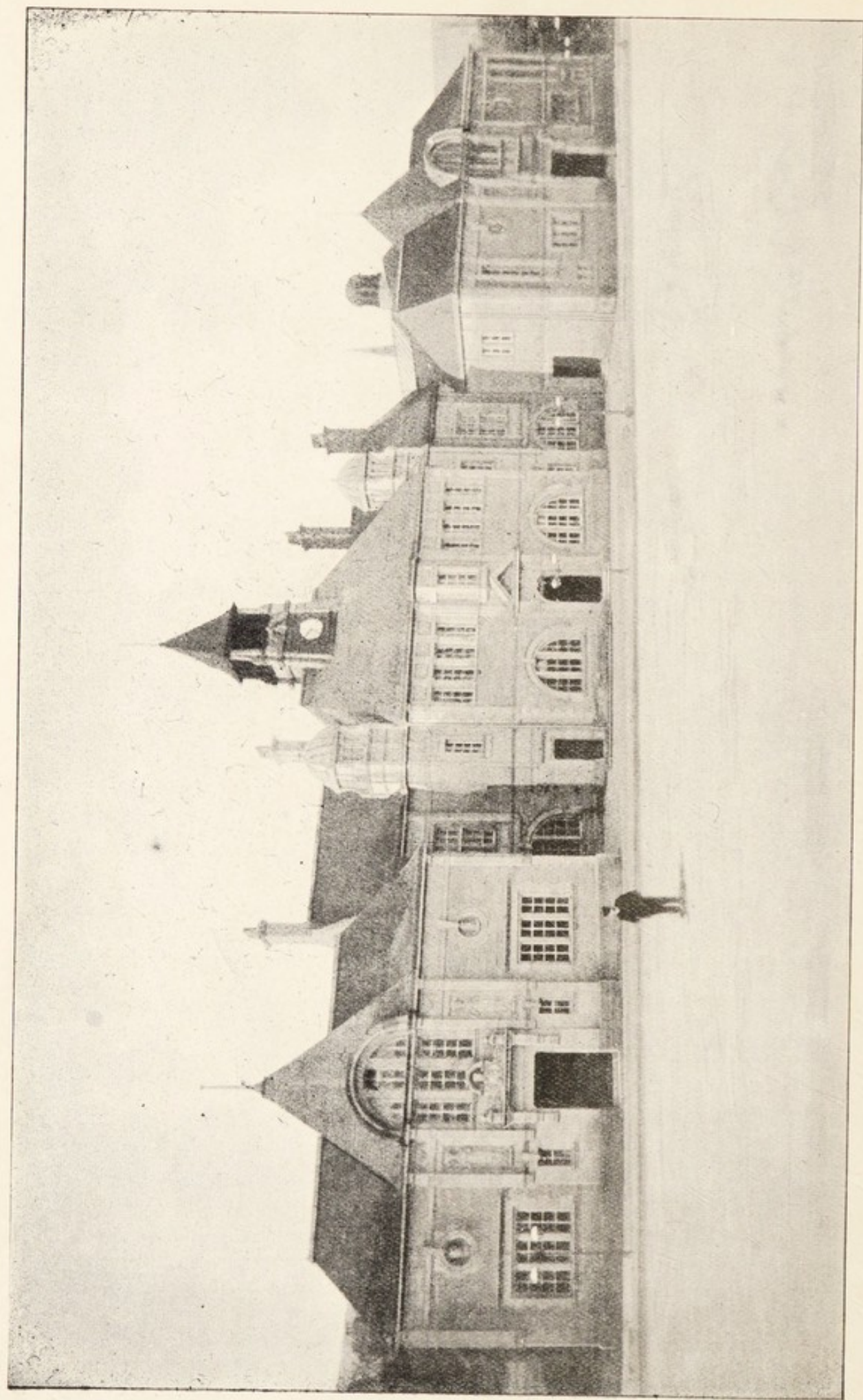
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Ilkley Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER,
AUGUSTUS H. BAMPTON, M.D.,
Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health,
FOR THE YEAR
1908.

ILKLEY
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1909



TOWN HALL, ILKLEY

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ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF ILKLEY.

GENTLEMEN,

This year Ilkley more than sustains its reputation as a Health Resort, its death rate from all causes being the lowest on record.

The principal events this year associated with the development and improvement of Ilkley have been the widening and levelling of Brook Street, and the completion of the Coronation Cottage Hospital. The Cottage Hospital is now as well equipped and up-to-date as any similar institution in the kingdom, and should be sufficient to cope with any medical or surgical emergencies that may arise for some years to come.

A public Lavatory in a central position for the convenience of visitors has been a long felt want. Such a structure exists in every well appointed town, and need not be an eyesore nor nuisance to the most fastidious. It is not conducive to perfect sanitation to be without such necessary accommodation when visitors arrive in large numbers.

1. Physical Features and General Character of the District.

“ Ilkley is situated on the banks of the River Wharfe. The valley in the immediate vicinity of Ilkley is closed in on three sides by hills. On the North and Westwards, they are gently undulating and park-like ; on the South, their rough and rocky slopes are crowned with precipitous escarpments, which form their summit. The slopes of the hills on either side of the valley descend to a level portion rarely more

than half a mile in width, along which flows the beautiful river Wharfe. The slopes bounding the valley on either side are deeply cut by streams descending from the hills above. The sides of the streams are in most cases thickly grown with trees. South of the Wharfe, the hillside beneath the great escarpment of grit-rock, is in great part covered with masses of stones, which have fallen from the super-incumbent rocks. From the summit of the Ilkley grit escarpment, which is 1000 to 1100 feet above the sea level, there extends successive plateaux of moorland, the surface of which is composed of sandstones with intermediate beds of shale rising in tiers to a height of 1323 feet.

The surface of Rombald Moor, where not absolutely bare rock, is covered with heather, grass, or bog-moss, the decay of which produces peat. The moors serve for the pasturage of sheep, and the breeding and rearing of grouse and other game, and constitutes an ideal rambling ground for those in quest of the renewal of health. Ilkley has always been famous for its delightful situation, the picturesque beauty of its surroundings, its health-restoring springs of pure and mineral waters, and the cheerful invigorating effects of its atmosphere. From early British times to the present there has been no period when the town was not."

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are mainly residential, and such callings as appertain to providing to the wants of visitors in the home and nursery of Hydropathy.

These paragraphs are supplied according to the requirements of, and for the information of the Local Government Board, and others, who unacquainted with the district, are thus able to appreciate more vividly the health statistics supplied, and are therefore repeated.

2. The House Accommodation, especially for the working classes, is both adequate and good. The supervision over erection of new houses is strict, both with regard to sanitary requirements and accommodation.

3. All Plans of Proposed New Buildings or alterations of existing buildings, have to be submitted to the Sanitary and Building Committee and are critically examined by the Surveyor and Inspector before being passed, as to their compliance with our bye-laws.

4. The System of Drainage is by means of filter beds, the sewage being chemically treated by Alumino-Ferric, before reaching the river; and after many years of experience has proved quite satisfactory. The water supply being abundant there is no difficulty in flushing the sewers.

The expediency of ventilating the sewers by means of open gratings in the streets is much questioned, as it is believed that the sewer gas emanating from the same may account for many of the sporadic cases of Fever and Diphtheria that so mysteriously crop up from time to time. Such cases have occurred in our own district, in conjunction with complaints from passers by of offensive odours arising from certain gratings. I recommend that such gratings be covered over.

Many towns of importance have already done without grids, and other towns are gradually adopting this plan.

Bath, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Hastings, Eastbourne and Scarborough have no surface ventilators; whilst Brighton, Leicester, Norwich, Birkenhead and Portsmouth have very few unclosed.

There is no unanimity of opinion as to the value of ventilating shafts, and great variety in practice. Bristol does without any, and relies upon interceptors to the houses. Experiments have shown that shafts do not always act as outlets, the movement of sewer gas depending upon barometric pressure, temperature, force and direction of wind.

It seems illogical to do our best to exclude sewer gas from our houses, and then allow it to escape into our streets where children play about and hover over it. It has been observed that horses object to stand over gratings. We may take a lesson from such an instance of instinct. By closing the surface of the sewers we but imitate and reproduce nature's methods of dealing with sewage in its passage through our own bodies, through the intestinal canal.

5. Excrement Disposal is by means of water closets and slop water closets. Having condemned the latter method last year, as a danger to health, many of them have been converted into cistern W.C.'s.

Flies as a carrier of Disease. With the object of testing the truth of a suggestion that flies might be the carriers of the Diphtheria germ from the privies to milk or other articles of diet, I had many specimens of flies caught in the closets of houses where cases of Diphtheria occurred, and sent the flies to be bacteriologically examined at Wakefield. Very interesting results were obtained and many varieties of bacilla found as parasites on the flies, but the true Diphtheria Bacillus was not found. Sewer gas may not contain the specific germ, but acts as a provocative and predisposing agent, producing a soil suitable to the development of the specific germ, which was already in the throat of the patient.

6. The Removal and Disposal of House Refuse is carried out systematically by the Council's servants, and taken to the Destructor, a satisfactory solution of a problem that was increasing in

difficulty. It would give greater satisfaction to the householders if an additional horse and wagon was provided, enabling a more frequent emptying of dust bins practicable.

7. The Water Supply of the District is derived from the moorlands and is excellent in quality, and has no action upon lead. There are five reservoirs situated from 1000 to 500 feet above the sea level, having a storage capacity of 8,562,000 gallons, fed from 24 springs of exceptional purity. The water at the east end of the town supplied from the reservoir recently erected at Ghyll Head in Backstone Beck, at times of flood is occasionally colored from the peat, but is quite wholesome. If possible this will be remedied.

8. Places over which the Council has supervision. We have our own Slaughter House, which I have inspected, and which is visited by the Sanitary Inspector every day. With the Sanitary Inspector I have visited the Bakehouses and Workshops and found them generally satisfactory. No new feature to report.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops. The Council issued regulations which came into force 1st January, 1908, for the better control of the milk supply. With the view of complying with the Council's regulations many milk vendors have erected suitable buildings for the sanitary storage of milk. There are nine Dairy Farms and ten Milk Vendors spread over the district at considerable distances apart. So far, I have found the milk vendors anxious to co-operate with the Council in their endeavours to maintain a pure milk supply. As some of our milk supply comes from outside our jurisdiction, we rely upon our neighbouring Sanitary Authorities exercising the same vigilant supervision over the dairies as we do ourselves, otherwise the chain of control is incomplete. If consumers are not fastidiously particular as to cleanliness of vessels in which the milk is received, and where it is kept, free from dust and flies, our labour to provide sweet milk will be in vain.

9. Schools. An epidemic of Measles and Mumps broke out in the Infants' School, rendering it necessary to close the schools for a time. The source of the infection, a case of measles imported from outside the district, and finding a virgin soil amongst the younger members of the community, no epidemic having occurred for some years, spread rapidly, but happily the parents, impressed with the importance of the disease owing to the necessity of notifying its occurrence, took good care of the children, with the result that only one death occurred, and that in an infant of tender years.

During the epidemic, I paid many visits to all the schools, and inspected the scholars, and by that means was able to detect and send

home early cases of Diphtheria, Mumps and Measles. Had I not done so there might have been a more serious outbreak of Diphtheria.

All the schools were thoroughly disinfected and cleansed before re-opening. The district is now quite clear of the disease.

A new elementary school is erected in the Bolling Road for the use of Ben Rhydding children.

10. Method of dealing with Infectious Disease is prompt removal to Isolation Hospital whenever rendered necessary by the surroundings of the patient. Out of 27 cases of Scarlet Fever, 22 were promptly removed to the Hospital, and 11 out of 21 cases of Diphtheria were so treated without fatality. 111 cases of Measles were notified, 16 of Whooping Cough.

The houses were all thoroughly disinfected, and contacts warned and watched. My medical confreres loyally co-operate with the sanitary authorities in preventing the spread of infectious disease. Isolation Hospital accommodation is provided by the "Wharfedale Union Joint Isolation Hospital" at Menston.

Vital Statistics. As in former years the figures are based upon an estimated population of 8,500 inhabitants. Our Death-rate is 8 per 1000 (excluding all deaths of visitors). Infantile mortality 39·2 per 1000 births; lowest ever recorded.

Vital Statistics of England and Wales compared with Ilkley.

From Dr. J. R. KAYE, County Hall, Wakefield. The following are the chief Vital Statistics for the year 1908, as compiled from the recently issued Report of the Registrar General.

1908.	Vital Statistics, Township of Ilkley.	ENGLAND AND WALES	Great Towns (76)	Smaller Towns (142)	England and Wales less the 218 Towns
BIRTH-RATE ..	18·0	26·5	27·0	26·0	26·2
DEATH-RATE ..	8·4*	14·7*	14·9	14·0	14·7
Zymotic Death-Rate ..	·23	1·29	1·59	1·26	0·99
Infantile Mortality .. (per 1000 births)	45·7*	121	128	124	110

*Lowest ever recorded.

Births. The number of Births registered during the year was 153, of these 83 were girls and 70 boys. There were three illegitimate girls born.

Deaths. The number of deaths registered in this district was 72, nine of them visitors, five of them in public institutions, and four in

lodgings, brought here in a dying condition. Five deaths of residents occurred in Institutions outside the district. Our official corrected death-rate is therefore 8·4, but excluding all visitors only 8 per 1000, lowest on record. There were 37 males and 35 females. Of these 7 were under one year of age, and 10 under five years of age. There were 4 deaths from accident and one suicide. Of the remainder there were 10 who died over 70 years of age, and six who were in the eighties or nonagenarians. Over the age of 60, thirty-one died at the average age of 73 years. The main causes of death being Apoplexy, Heart and Kidney Disease, Senile Decay, whilst Influenza, Cancer and Tuberculosis were only half as deadly in their effects as the aforementioned, although dreaded the most.

The Infantile Mortality is 45·7 per 1000 births, but corrected for visitors, only 39·2 per 1000, contrasted with a rate of 122 in other small towns. Of the seven deaths, congenital delicacy, premature birth, or convulsions were certified as cause of death, and in our present state of knowledge were not preventible. Congenital defects can only be controlled by controlling parentage.

Zymotic or Infectious Disease. Although 179 cases of Infectious Disease were notified in the district, only 2 deaths occurred, and one of these, a case of Enteric Fever, was probably of outside origin. The only other death was that of an infant from Measles, complicated by Broncho-pneumonia.

Of the 179 cases notified, 111 were Measles, 16 Whooping Cough, 3 Erysipelas, 27 Scarlet Fever and 21 cases of Diphtheria. The Zymotic death-rate, being only ·23 per 1000, compared with 1·26 in similar small towns; just one-sixth the rate.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Our death-rate from Consumption was equally satisfactory, being only ·47 per 1000.

Bacteriological Diagnosis of Disease. We are much indebted to the medical staff at Wakefield for much valuable help rendered to us in this important department of Diagnosis. Frequent swabs were taken from the throats of all Diphtheria cases treated at home, to ensure that patients were free from infective germs before being allowed to mix with rest of family. This entails much extra work, and tries the patience of all concerned. 63 specimens were sent in all, 17 Sputum, 42 Diphtheria, 1 Urine, 3 Flies.

Rainfall. The following records were taken at Brook Street by

Mr. G. W. Worfolk, at Eaton Road by Mr. A. Wilson, and at Silverwell Cottage by Mr. T. C. Gill, to each of whom I tender grateful thanks.

	Brook Street. 290 ft. Inches.	Eaton Road. 395 ft. Inches.	Silverwell Cot. 900 ft. Inches.
January ..	2 08	2 25	2 37
February ..	2 93	2 86	2 62
March ..	3 83	4 06	4 44
April ..	2 14	2 36	2 53
May ..	2 62	2 81	3 45
June ..	·99	1 03	1 25
July ..	3 21	3 40	3 76
August ..	2 47	2 74	3 02
September ..	4 44	4 39	4 77
October ..	1 68	1 99	2 29
November ..	2 68	2 71	2 91
December ..	2 26	2 81	2 86
	<hr/> 31 33	<hr/> 33 41	<hr/> 36 27

Average for 8 years, 32·5 inches.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

	Average Max. Temp. Degrees.	Average Min. Temp. Degrees.
January ..	40 4	29 3
February ..	44 8	35 5
March ..	43 3	31 6
April ..	47 7	35 1
May ..	59 9	45 1
June ..	64 1	47 3
July ..	65 7	51 1
August ..	62 5	49 6
September ..	60 9	46 3
October ..	56 8	45 5
November ..	48 4	37 3
December ..	42 1	31 4
Annual Average	<hr/> 53 1	<hr/> 40 4

Mean Average, 46·7.

Highest Temperature, 81·6° on July 2nd.

Lowest Temperature, 10·5° on December 30th.

Mean daily range, 12·5°.

Days with frost, 79.

Days with Maximum Temperature, 70° or over, 19.

The most remarkable feature of the year was the warm Autumn.

I wish to express my thanks to Mr. West (Sanitary Inspector), and his assistant for zealous work done, *con amore*, in the Sanitary Department.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

AUGUSTUS H. BAMPTON, M.D.,

*Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical
Officers of Health.*

Feb. 20, 1909.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Ilkley Urban District Council.

Town Hall, Ilkley,

December 31st, 1908.

To Dr. A. H. Bampton, Medical Officer of Health for the Urban
Sanitary District of Ilkley.

Dear Sir,

I beg to forward to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1908, showing the work done under the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshops' Acts, etc., the Council's Bye-laws and Regulations relating to cowsheds, drainage, etc.

There have been 612 nuisances attended to, 408 have received the attention of the owners, and 204 minor defects affecting the drainage of private houses, mostly partial stoppages to drains and gullies of a temporary character, where the cost was likely to be small, have been attended to by the Council's gulley men.

The following is a summary of sanitary defects remedied during the year :—

Drains stopped or otherwise defective	85
Gullies blocked	69
Automatic or other water closets stopped ..	116
Water closets re-fixed	51
Sewers stopped	2
Sink and bath waste pipes renewed	33
Defective gullies replaced	20
Dilapidated ashpits repaired or dust bins provided	52
Visits paid to and inspections of cowsheds ..	20
Premises re-drained	26
Defective drains found by testing	34
Letters calling attention to defects	172
Accumulations of manure	29
Defective rain water conductors and eaves gutters	42
Visits and inspections of burial grounds ..	14
Swill tubs, etc., so kept as to be a nuisance ..	2
Privies converted into water closets	4
House drainage systems tested	70
Yards drained	4
Visits paid to houses where infectious diseases had occurred	90

Water in cellars	7
Filthy condition of window areas	1
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	2
Water running to waste	23
Filthy condition of water closets, urinals, etc ..	9
Filthy condition of cellars	2
Sink waste pipes disconnected	5
Manure pits required	1
Back yards paved	18
Unnecessary deposit of liquid filth into ashpits ..	7

I have tested the drainage and sanitary fittings of 70 houses ; 34 of which I found defective and 36 satisfactory.

I have visited and inspected the whole of the cowsheds within the district, and have found them to be kept in a cleanly condition and well limewashed.

I have made inspections of the various dairies within the district and these have been kept in a clean condition and in compliance with the new bye-laws which came into force on January 1st, 1908.

I have submitted 32 samples of new milk and one sample of cream to the Public Analyst, who certified each to be genuine and of superior quality.

I have inspected the whole of the workshops registered within the district at various times in accordance with the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. These all comply with the regulations and have been kept in a satisfactory condition.

I have made a daily inspection of the Public Abattoir, and have found all slaughtering carried out in a satisfactory manner. In four cases only have I had occasion to seize or condemn carcasses of meat.

The sum of £444 10s. 0d. has been expended in the collection and disposal of 3574 loads of household refuse, all of which have been destroyed at the Destructor Works.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

H. Y. WEST, Assoc. R. S. Inst.,

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and previous Years.

Year	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					Number	Rate*
				Number	Rate per 1000 births registered	Number	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	7500	141	19	14	100	92	12.2		17		75	10.
1899	8000	130	16.2	14	108	80	10		8	1	75	9.3
1900	8000	163	20	13	80	80	10		11	1	70	8.7
1901	7500	121	16	15	124	75	10	5	10		65	8.6
1902	7500	151	20	11	73	92	12.2	2	12		80	10.6
1903	8000	150	19	17	113	85	10.5	5	12		73	9.1
1904	8000	128	16	17	133	93	11.6	6	7	1	86	10.8
1905	8000	130	16.2	10	77	74	9.2	9	4	2	72	9
1906	8500	122	14.3	14	114	84	9.9	5	9	7	82	9.6
1907	8500	113	13.3	10	88.5	78	9.2	5	5	5	78	9.2
Aver- ages for years 1898- 1907	7950	134.9	17.0	13.5	101	83.3	10.5	5.3	9.5	1.7	75.6	9.6
1908	8500	153	18	7	45.7	72	8.4	13	5	5	72	8.4

* Rates in Column 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive
of area covered by water) .. 3,822

Total population at all ages
Number of inhabited houses
Average number of persons per house
7,500 } At Census of
1,659 } 1901
44 }

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1908.

ILKLEY DISTRICT.

Causes of Death	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Measles	1	1						
Fever, Enteric	1					1		1
Epidemic influenza	5	1			1	1	2	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	4				1	3		1
Other tuberculous diseases	1		1					
Cancer (malignant disease)	4					4		
Bronchitis	3						3	
Pneumonia	3					3		
Pleurisy	2		1			1		
Premature Birth	1	1						
Heart Diseases	8			1		3	4	1
Accidents	4		1			2	1	3
Suicides	1					1		1
Senile Decay	7						7	1
Apoplexy	7					4	3	1
Infantile Convulsions	3	3						
Kidney Disease	8					4	4	1
Appendicitis	3				1	2		3
Rheumatic Fever	1						1	1
All other causes	5	1	1			1	2	
All Causes	72	7	4	1	3	39	27	14

To avoid vain repetition Tables ii. and v. are omitted.



THE TARN, ILKLEY