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Ilkley Urban District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER,

J. NOWELL RICHARDSON, M.D.,

*Licentiate in Sanitary Science ;*

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

FOR THE YEAR

1910.

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1911



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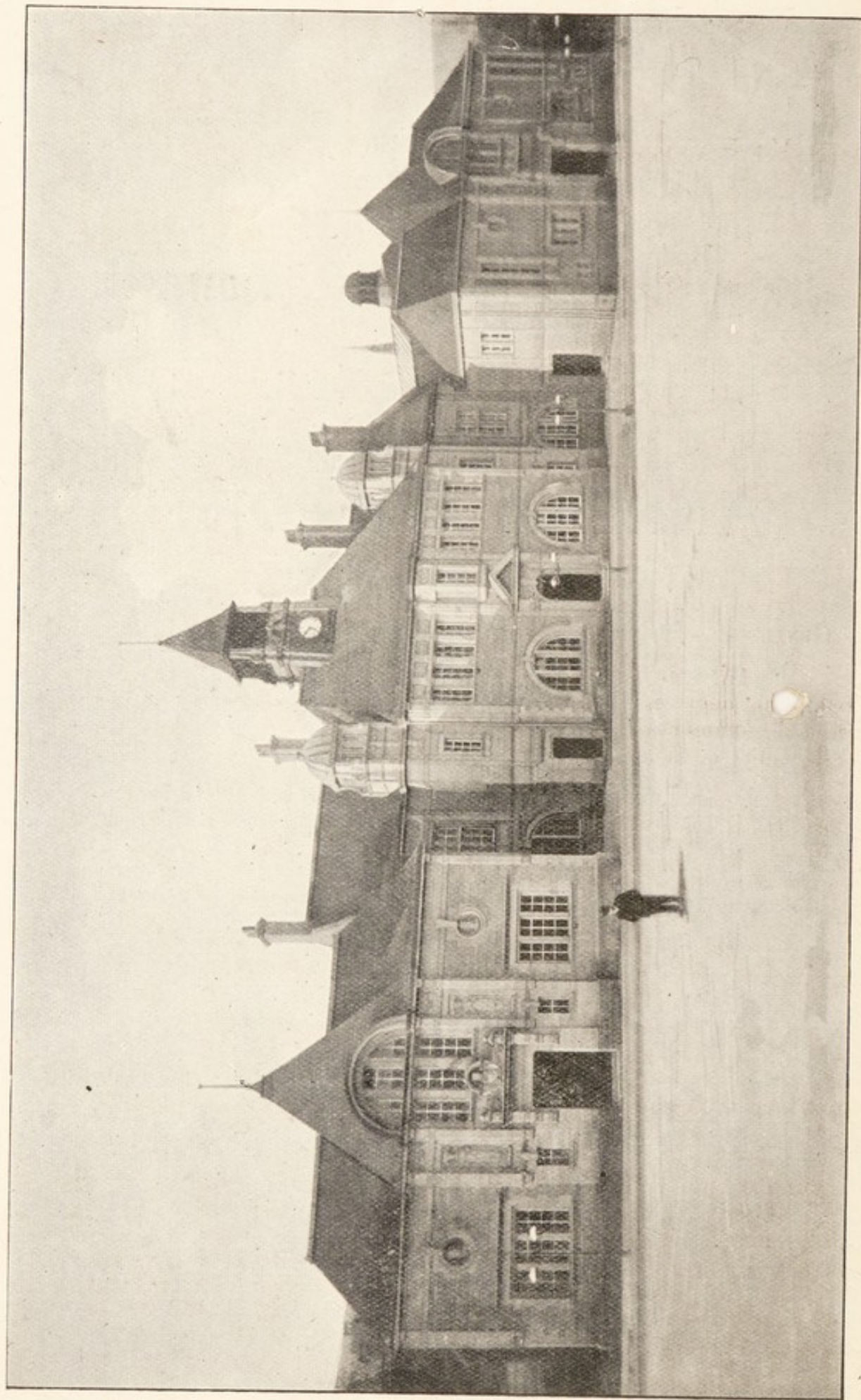
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TOWN HALL, ILKLEY.

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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,

The untimely death of your Medical Officer, the late Dr. Bamford, deprives the present report of much of its value. The valuable comments and suggestions it was his custom to make in the past cannot be included in the present report.

The statistics and tables are principally compiled from material left by your late Medical Officer. The principal feature in the Vital Statistics is lowest death-rate on record in Ilkley, viz.:—7·9 per 1000; this compares with 13·4 per 1000, the general death-rate of England and Wales.

Such excellent results are convincing proofs of the healthiness of the district, and the success which attends the efforts of the Sanitary Authority.

### **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 population of the district is mainly residential, and those engaged in such callings as appertain to providing for the wants of visitors in this the home and nursery of Hydropathy.

(Many of 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 Sewage Disposal** 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. No complaints have been made of any nuisance arising therefrom.

**5. Excrement Disposal** is by means of water closets and slop water closets. The latter, I am persuaded, are a danger to health, and closely associated with outbreaks of Diphtheria, and possibly Scarlet Fever.



**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.

**7. The Water Supply** of the District is derived from the moorlands, and is excellent in quality. 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 average daily supply is 350,000 gallons.

**8. Places over which the Council has supervision.** We have our own Slaughter House, which is visited by the Sanitary Inspector every day. He reports that the work is carried out in a satisfactory manner. Four carcasses were seized and condemned during the year.

**DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.** With the view of complying with the Council's regulations many milk vendors have erected suitable buildings for the sanitary storage of milk. 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 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. Also 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. There are 14 cowsheds within the district and 20 purveyors of milk.

**SCHOOLS.** The accommodation of the schools is fully adequate and satisfactory.

The Grammar School is rapidly increasing in popularity and is in every way conducted in a manner to conduce to the health of the boys.

The National Schools fully maintain the high standard of former years. The robust and sturdy appearance of the scholars is sufficient evidence of the sanitary state of the schools.

The New Provided School at Ben Rhydding is increasing in numbers and is in a most healthy position; the sanitary arrangements are perfectly satisfactory.

**10. Method of dealing with Infectious Disease** is prompt removal to Isolation Hospital whenever rendered necessary by the surroundings of the patient. There were two fatal cases of Influenza and one of Diphtheria.



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, where there is accommodation for fifty-two patients. Four different diseases can be received and treated concurrently.

**Vital Statistics.** As in former years the figures are based upon an estimated population of 8,500 inhabitants. Our Death-rate is 7.9 per 1000. Infantile mortality 36 per 1000 births.

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 1910 as compiled from the recently issued Report of the Registrar General.

1910.	Vital Statistics Township of Ilkley.	ENGLAND AND WALES.	Great Towns (77).	Smaller Towns (136).	England and Wales <i>less</i> the 213 Towns.
BIRTH-RATE ..	16.3	24.8*	25.0	23.7	25.0
DEATH-RATE ..	7.9	13.4*	13.4	12.4	12.6
Zymotic Death-rate..	0.11	0.99	1.23	0.88	0.74
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 births)	36	106	115	104	96

\* Lowest ever recorded.

**Births.** The number of Births registered during the year was 139, of these 59 were boys and 80 girls. Birth-rate 16.3 per 1000. There were three illegitimate children born.

**Deaths.** The number of deaths registered in the district was 67. There were no deaths of residents reported from Institutions outside the district. Nine deaths occurred in public institutions in the district, seven of the deaths were those of visitors. The corrected death-rate is therefore a small fraction over 7 per 1000.

Of the persons dying two reached the age of 90, 10 were 80 and upwards, 10 were over 70, 5 were between 65 and 70, 31 died between 25 and 65; 9 died under the age of 25, of whom 5 were infants under one year. Heart disease caused 13 deaths, Cancer 9, Tubercle 7, Apoplexy 8, other causes 30.

The Infantile Mortality of 36 per 1000 births is much below the average of the last ten years, and is most encouraging.

The adoption of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, would enable still greater care to be taken of infant life, and minimise the effect of the decreasing birth rate so general in these days.

The fact that only five infants succumbed during the fatal first year of life, out of 139 births, is satisfactory evidence of vigour of constitution no less than of increased maternal care and knowledge.

**Zymotic or Infectious Disease.** There were 58 cases of Infectious Disease reported during the year. Scarlet Fever accounted for 20 of these cases, Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas 3, Measles 9, Whooping Cough 21, and one case of Enteric Fever. One fatal result only occurred, that being from Diphtheria. The Zymotic Death-rate was 0.11 per 1000.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.** There were six deaths from Phthisis and one from another form of Tuberculous disease.

**Bacteriological Diagnosis of Disease.** The Public Health Laboratory of the West Riding County Council continues to render most valuable assistance in confirming the diagnosis of several infectious diseases. It is now a common experience to find evidence of these diseases in persons who are apparently quite healthy, but who at the same time are a source of danger to others.

Mr. A. Wilson has again placed his valuable meteorological observations at the disposal of the Sanitary Authority. Mr. G. W. Worfolk, of Brook Street, and Mr. T. C. Gill, of Silverwell Cottage, have as in former years furnished records of the rainfall. I wish to tender to each my appreciation and thanks.

To Mr. West (Sanitary Inspector) I beg to acknowledge my indebtedness for his valuable assistance in the work of the Sanitary Department.



# METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1910.

1910.	Average Max. Temp. Degrees.		Average Min. Temp. Degrees.	
January	..	41.4	..	30.6
February	..	44.3	..	33.9
March	..	49.6	..	35.4
April	..	50.8	..	36.2
May	..	59.5	..	43.0
June	..	65.2	..	49.1
July	..	64.1	..	49.2
August	..	65.2	..	51.8
September	..	60.5	..	45.9
October	..	55.3	..	44.6
November	..	41.4	..	30.2
December	..	46.3	..	38.0
Annual Average		53.6		40.7

Mean Average Temperature : 47.2°

Highest Temperature during the year, 77° on June 19th.

Lowest Temperature during the year, 8.3° on January 27th.

Number of days with a temperature of 70° or over, 22.

Number of frosty nights registered in Stevenson Screen, four feet above ground, 62.

## RAINFALL IN 1910,

	BROOK STREET, 298 feet.		SILVERWELL COTTAGE, 904 feet	
	Inches.	Wet days.	Inches.	Wet days.
January	.. 4.70	.. 19	.. 4.98	.. 20
February	.. 4.26	.. 24	.. 4.40	.. 24
March	.. 0.56	.. 11	.. 0.71	.. 12
April	.. 2.89	.. 15	.. 3.08	.. 19
May	.. 1.98	.. 16	.. 2.29	.. 18
June	.. 2.50	.. 10	.. 2.56	.. 13
July	.. 2.68	.. 13	.. 3.83	.. 14
August	.. 4.86	.. 19	.. 5.93	.. 22
September	.. 0.22	.. 4	.. 0.28	.. 4
October	.. 2.54	.. 8	.. 4.30	.. 16
November	.. 5.56	.. 16	.. 4.46	.. 19
December	.. 4.30	.. 22	.. 4.96	.. 25
Totals	37.05	177	41.78	206

Attention is called to the circular issued by the Association of Master House Painters to householders, warning them of the danger of not stripping and washing walls before re-papering and colouring. Many obscure cases of outbreaks of infectious disease may be traced to neglect of this sanitary proceeding.

The binding material of most distempers is derived from animal or fish glue, and is a most fruitful medium for the growth of pathogenic germs.

In conclusion I wish to congratulate the Sanitary Authority on the high state of efficiency of their department. The low general Death-rate of 7·9 per 1000, the Zymotic Death-rate, which has almost reached the vanishing point of 0·11 per 1000, the low rate of Infant Mortality, viz. :—36 per 1000 Births, are convincing evidences of the wisdom and foresight of those who have been responsible for the health and well-being of the inhabitants of Ilkley.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. NOWELL RICHARDSON, M.D.,

*Licentiate in Sanitary Science,*

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



## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

### ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall, Ilkley,

Dec. 31st, 1910.

TO THE ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year, showing the work done under the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshop Acts, etc., the Council's Bye-laws and Regulations relating to Cowsheds, Drainage, etc.

There have been 512 nuisances attended to. 382 have received the attention of the owners, and 130 minor defects, affecting the drainage of private houses, mostly partial stoppages to drains and gullies of a temporary character, when the cost was likely to be small, have been attended to by the Council's workmen.

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

Drains stopped or otherwise defective	..	..	87
Gullies blocked	..	..	67
Automatic or other water closets blocked	..	..	55
Water closets refixed	..	..	47
Sewers blocked	..	..	3
Sink and bath waste pipes renewed	..	..	37
Defective gullies replaced	..	..	31
Delapidated ashpits repaired or dust-bins provided	..	..	36
Visits paid to and inspections of cowsheds	..	..	26
Premises re-drained	..	..	27
Defective drains found by testing	..	..	20
Letters calling attention to defects	..	..	
Accumulations of manure	..	..	33
Defective rain water conductors and eaves spouting	..	..	46
Visits and inspections of burial grounds	..	..	8
Swill tubs so kept as to be a nuisance	..	..	1
Privies converted into water closet	..	..	1
House drainage systems tested	..	..	43
Yards drained	..	..	7
Visits paid to houses where infectious diseases had occurred			45

Water in cellars .. .. .	7
Filthy condition of window areas .. .. .	2
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance .. .. .	2
Water running to waste .. .. .	24
Filthy condition of water closets and urinals .. .. .	3
Filthy condition of cellars .. .. .	1
Sink waste pipes disconnected .. .. .	1
Back yards paved .. .. .	2
Unnecessary deposit of liquid filth into ashpits .. .. .	5
Defective condition of manure pit .. .. .	1

There have been tested the drainage and sanitary fittings of 43 houses, 20 of which I found defective and 23 satisfactory.

**COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.** There are 14 cowsheds within the district and 20 purveyors of milk, and the former have been inspected during the year and were kept in a cleanly condition and well lime-washed. Three cowsheds have been reconstructed and made to conform to the regulations.

Twenty-two samples of new milk have been submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified each as "genuine new milk."

**FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.** The whole of the workshops have been inspected at various times in accordance with the above Act. These all comply with the regulations, and have been kept in a cleanly and satisfactory condition. Two notices were served upon the owners of factories and these have been complied with.

**PUBLIC ABATTOIR.** Daily inspections have been made at the Public Abattoir, and all slaughtering was found to be carried out in a satisfactory manner. In four cases only have I had occasion to seize or condemn carcasses of animals.

**REMOVAL OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.** The sum of £516 5s. 9d. has been expended in the collection and disposal of 4046 loads of household refuse, all of which has been destroyed at the Destructor Works.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HENRY WEST, Assoc. R.S. Inst.,

*Sanitary Inspector.*



TABLE 1—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 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
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
1908	8500	153	18	7	45.7	72	8.4	13	5	5	72	8.4
1909	8500	138	16.2	14	101	86	10.1	12	7	8	87	10.2
Aver- ages for years 1900- 1909	8100	136	16.9	12	94.8	81	10.1	6	8	3	76	9.4
1910	8500	139	16.3	5	36	67	7.9	9	3	0	64	7.5

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

Area of District in acres (exclusive  
of area covered by water) .. 3,822Total population of all ages  
Number of inhabited houses  
Average number of persons per house7,500 } At Census of  
1,659 } 1901  
4.4 }

TABLE II.  
Vital Statistics in 1910 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	b.	c.	d.
1900 ..	8000	163	80	13
1901 ..	7500	121	75	15
1902 ..	7500	151	92	11
1903 ..	8000	150	85	17
1904 ..	8000	128	93	17
1905 ..	8000	130	74	10
1906 ..	8500	122	84	14
1907 ..	8500	113	78	10
1908 ..	8500	153	72	7
1909 ..	8500	138	86	14
Averages of Years 1900 to 1909.	8100	137	82	13
1910 ..	8500	139	67	5

TABLE III.  
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- wards	
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	4		1	1	1	1		1
Erysipelas ..	3			1	2			
Scarlet fever ..	20		2	16	2			12
Enteric fever ..	1					1		
Measles ..	9		1	6	2			
Pertussis ..	21		13	6	1	1		
Totals ..	58		17	30	8	3		13



TABLE IV.

## Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1910

## 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	
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ..	1		1					
Epidemic influenza ..	2						2	
Enteritis ..	1	1						
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	6					6		
Other tuberculous diseases	1		1					
Cancer, malignant disease	9					5	4	1
Bronchitis ..	3					2	1	
Pneumonia ..	1					1		
Premature birth ..	2	2						
Diseases and accidents of parturition ..	1					1		
Heart diseases ..	13	1				7	5	1
Accidents ..	1	1						
Suicides ..	2				1	1		
Apoplexy ..	8					4	4	1
Senile Decay ..	5						5	
Aspendicitis ..	3					3		3
Diabetes ..	1						1	
All other causes ..	7			1		1	5	3
All causes ..	67	5	2	1	1	31	27	9

TABLE V.

## Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.

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 One Year
All Causes	Certified	3	1				1											5
	Uncertified																	
ii. Larvæal Diseases— Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis							1											1
iii. Wasting Diseases—																		
Premature Birth		2																2
Congenital Defects			1															1
Injury at birth		1																1
		3	1			4	1											5

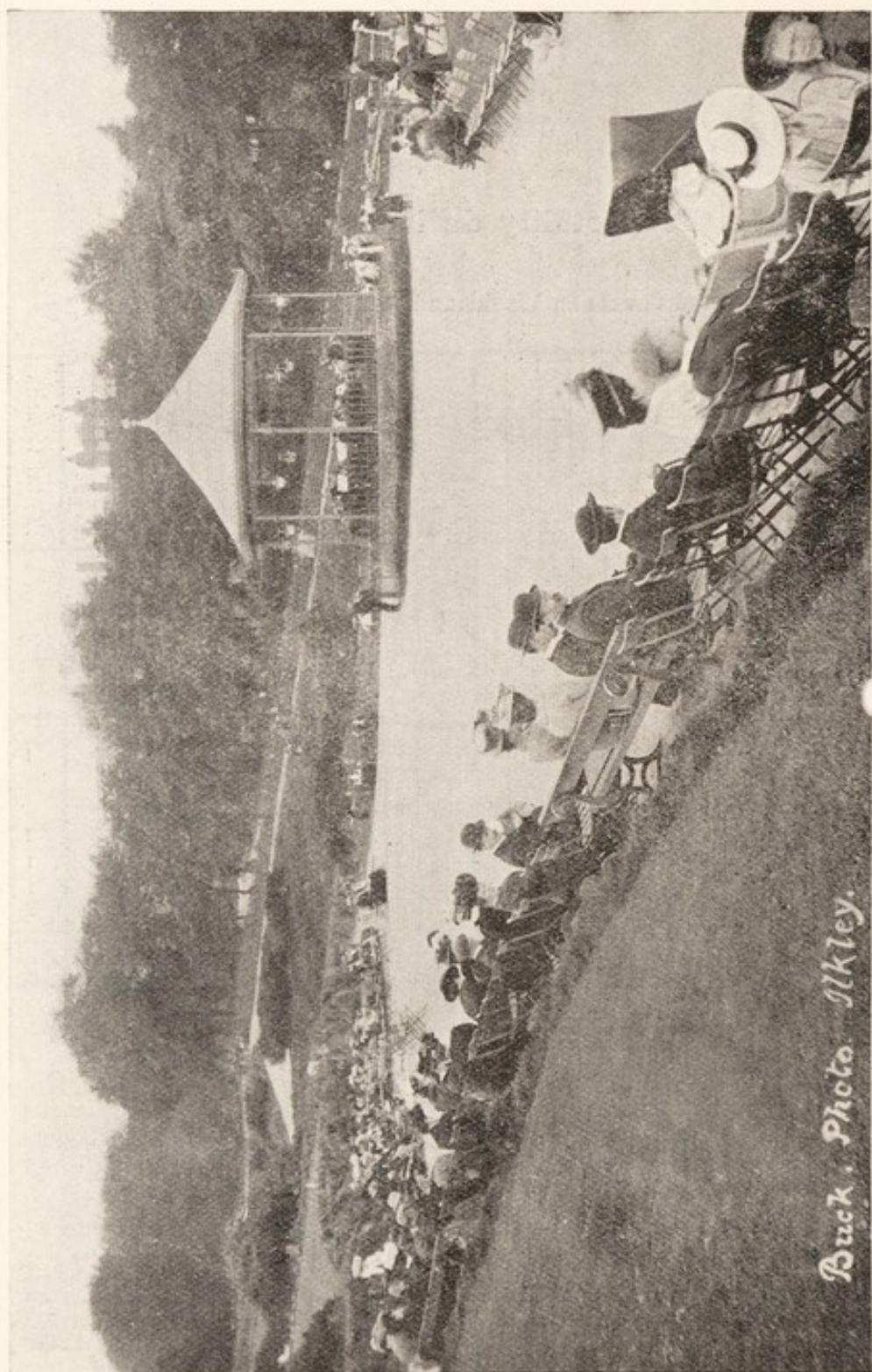
Population, estimated to middle of 1910 : 8,500

Births in the year : legitimate, 134 ; illegitimate, 5.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 5 ; illegitimate infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages : 67.





*Buck. Photo. Ilkley.*

THE BAND KIOSK, West View Park, Ilkley

