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COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

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# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1930.

ISLE OF WIGHT:

J. W. JACOBS, PRINTER AND BOOKBINDER,  
CROSS STREET, NEWPORT.





# REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT FOR THE YEAR 1930.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee of the Isle of Wight  
County Council.*

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, this report for 1930 contains information on certain matters in more detail than has been given in the reports for the last four years although it is not of the same comprehensive character generally as the full survey report for 1925. The changes effected by the Local Government Act, 1929, have necessitated surveys of our hospital and other medical services and some of the information obtained in this connection is included here.

1930 was a healthy year. The death rate in England and Wales fell to 11.4 per 1000 population from 13.4 in 1929 and on the Island to 12 from 14.3, the main cause of this being the freedom from influenza compared with the previous year. The infant mortality rate on the Island was 30 per 1000 births; this is lower than that of any previous year and is only half the rate for the country as a whole.

It was suggested in last year's report that a natural decrease of the population of the Island for some years at any rate was to be expected rather than an increase because of our large proportion of persons of mature years: but this surmise has not proved correct for 1930 as the live births have exceeded the deaths by 62 although the birth rate was as low as any previously recorded.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES FAIRLEY.

County Hall,  
Newport, I.W.,  
June, 1931.

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Throughout this Report figures in brackets refer to the previous year.

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

## (a) Medical. (1) Whole time.

Medical Officer of Health, Tuberculosis Officer and School Medical Officer : ... ..	James Fairley, M.D., D.P.H.
Assistant County Medical Officers (including tuberculosis and school medical services) and Medical Officers of Health to various districts }	W. Semple Wallace, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
	Hayward Carpenter, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Dental Surgeon. (Schools and maternity and child welfare services) ... ..	Leslie M. Cartwright, L.D.S.

## (2) Part time.

Medical Officer, Parkhurst Institution and Infirmary	George Raymond, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
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The following are District Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts and Public Vaccinators :—

Brading District ...	Dr. Alec. Barber.	South Shorwell Dist.	Dr. Walter J. Jolliffe.
Carisbrooke „ ...	Dr. Arthur A. Straton.	Newport, South	
Cowes „ ...	Dr. Arthur E. Hay.	Arreton and Whippingham Districts	Dr. Stanley Foster.
Godshill „ ...	Dr. Reginald T. Cooke.	Yarmouth District...	Dr. Harold Y. Mansfield.
Ryde „ ...	Dr. T. Sim.		
North Shorwell Dist.	Dr. A. C. Goodwin.		

## (b) Others. (1) Whole time.

County Nursing Superintendent. (Joint appointment by County Council and County Nursing Association)	Miss S. J. Lambert, R.R.C., S.R.N., C.M.B.Cert.
Health Visitor and School Nurse ... ..	Miss E. M. Blades, C.M.B.Cert.
Dental Attendant (new appointment, January, 1931) ...	Miss M. Kippen.

## (2) Part time.

Public Analyst ... ..	S. Emsley, Esq., B.Sc., F.I.C. (Public Analyst to Southampton County Borough).
Health Visitors and School Nurses ... ..	The Nurses of 19 various District Nursing Associations, and Miss G. N. Jones, S.R.N., C.M.B.Cert.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief occupation on the Isle of Wight is agriculture. Catering for visitors provides work for many especially in the coast towns and here also there is some fishing, and in Cowes and East Cowes there is yacht building and equipping, and ship building. These are all healthy occupations. The Island has many natural advantages and altogether is a very healthy place. It is most favourably situated at a distance of one to four miles off the south coast of England and with a geological formation conforming generally to that of the mainland opposite to it: its chalky downs and undulating character facilitate drainage so that even after the heaviest rain its surface quickly dries: its proximity to the sea ensures an equable climate, warmer in winter than the mainland and cooler in summer: its sunshine records are among the highest in the country and the atmosphere is uncontaminated by the smoke of cities or of factories. There is a good service of steamers running to and from Portsmouth, Southampton and Lymington, and the rail and road travelling facilities on the Island are very good. These are some of the reasons for the great popularity it enjoys as a health and holiday resort.

TABLE I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Sanitary Authority.	Medical Officer of Health.†	Area in Acres (1921 Census)	Population at 1921 Census.‡	Registrar General's Estimate of Population for 1929.	Structurally Separate Dwellings occupied at 1921 Census.	Number of Families or Separate Occupiers 1921 Census.	Rateable Value, 1st April, 1931.	Estimated Product of Id. Rate, 1930-31.
I.W. Rural Dist. *	Dr. W. S. Wallace ...	86925	30910	29640† 29020‡	6785	6878	163620	604
Cowes U.D.* ...	Dr. W. S. Wallace ...	586	9995	10220	2390	2571	57965	222
East Cowes U.D.	Dr. W. S. Wallace ...	604	4642	4588	1143	1168	23222	84
Newport M.B. ...	Dr. W. S. Wallace ...	504	11031	11220	2653	2762	65271	252
Ryde M.B. ...	Dr. L. Firman-Edwards	820	11294	10550	2735	2901	80562	312
St. Helens U.D. ...	Dr. Hayward Carpenter	1941	5706	5315	1269	1371	37488	145
Sandown U.D. ...	Dr. Hayward Carpenter	1223	7661	5724	1290	1290	54023	211
Shanklin U.D. ...	Dr. J. Cowper ...	798	7368	4441	1006	1085	53704	212
Ventnor U.D. ...	Dr. R. T. Cooke ...	745	6059	4982	1238	1282	46085	180
Whole County ...	...	94146	94666	86680† 86060‡	20509	21308	581940	2222

\* Since the publication of the 1921 Census figures a portion of the Rural District (approximately 675 acres with a population of 893) has been transferred to the Urban District of Cowes.

‡ The figures of the 1931 Census are not available at the time of going to press.

† Estimated population for the purpose of calculating the birth rate.

§ " " " " " death rate.



## VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS OF ALL DISTRICTS.

Area.	Rural District.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	Whole County.	England & Wales: Rate per 1,000.
Live birth-rate per 1,000 ...	11'9	11'9	16'8	15'5	12'2	14'4	10'5	10.1	12'2	12'6	16'3
No. of Live Births ...	353	122	77	174	129	77	60	45	61	1098	
Males ...	176	69	34	101	67	38	33	25	28	571	
Females ...	177	53	43	73	62	39	27	20	33	527	
Legitimate: Males ...	168	63	34	94	60	36	29	22	26	532	
Females ...	171	51	41	68	57	36	22	19	31	496	
Illegitimate: Males ...	8	6	—	7	7	2	4	3	2	39	
Females ...	6	2	2	5	5	3	5	1	2	31	
No. of Stillbirths ...	12	6	1	4	4	2	4	2	—	35	
Males ...	7	4	1	3	3	1	2	2	—	23	
Females ...	5	2	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	12	
Legitimate: Males ...	7	3	1	2	3	1	1	1	—	19	
Females ...	4	2	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	11	
Illegitimate: Males ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	4	
Females ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Total No. of Deaths ...	284	114	48	152	168	67	69	60	74	1036	
Males ...	158	61	21	69	76	38	24	24	33	504	
Females ...	126	53	27	83	92	29	45	36	41	532	
Death-rate per 1,000 ...	9'8	11'2	10'5	13'6	15'9	12'6	12'1	13'5	14'9	12'0	11'4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Births ...	22'7	32'8	64'9	46'0	23'3	13'0	66'7	—	—	30'0	60'0
Total Infant Deaths ...	8	4	5	8	3	1	4	—	—	33	
No. of Deaths of Legitimate: Males ...	2	3	2	5	—	—	2	—	—	14	
Females ...	3	1	3	2	3	1	1	—	—	14	
No. of Deaths of Illegitimate: Males ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of child birth—											
(a) From Sepsis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
(b) From other causes ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	5	0'10
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	6	0'05
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6'0
Population—											
Registrar-General's estimate	29640†	10220	4588	11220	10550	5315	5724	4441	4982	86680†	
	29020‡									86060‡	

† Estimated population for the purpose of calculating the birth rate.

‡ „ „ „ „ „ „ death rate,

The total births numbered 1133 representing a birth rate per thousand population of 13.1, (13.6). Only in two previous years 1926 and 1927 was as low a birth rate recorded. There were 35 stillbirths, i.e., at the rate of 0.4 per thousand population, the rate for England and Wales being 0.69, and the live births numbered 1098 which is at the rate of 12.6 per thousand (13.1) the figure for the whole country being 16.3. It has been pointed out in previous reports that the larger proportion of elderly retired persons among the Island population results in a smaller apparent birth rate and if this was calculated on the number of young married persons instead of on the gross population there would probably be little difference between the figure for the Island and that for the country as a whole. Again, the difference in the age distribution of the population makes the crude death rate on the Island appear higher than in the country generally, and the figures are therefore not strictly comparable unless the death rates are corrected to show the proportion of persons dying at the various age periods. There were 44 more boys born than girls and 3 more infant boys' deaths. Compared with 1929 there were 33 infant deaths as against 51. No infant deaths took place from Diarrhoea (7) and 15 deaths were ascribed to congenital debility and premature birth (23). The infant mortality rate per thousand births was 30 (45) and this is exactly half the infant mortality rate in the country generally. (See chart later in this report.)

During the year 1036 persons died giving a death rate of 12 (14.3); there were 195 fewer deaths than in 1929 (1929 had shown an increase over 1928 of 149 deaths). The decrease in the number of deaths was common to all districts and to all ages except among children of 2 to 4 years of age when 19 deaths occurred as against 15 the previous year. Four of these deaths were due to measles (0) which was epidemic at the beginning of the year and 2 to whooping cough (1). At all other ages the number of deaths during 1930 was less than in 1929. In 1930, 15 deaths were caused by measles, whooping cough and diphtheria against 4 in 1929 (9 of the 15 deaths were in Newport) and cancer







TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICTS DURING THE YEAR 1930, RELATING TO CIVILIANS ONLY, AT ALL AGES.

Causes of Death.	Isle of Wight Rural.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	TOTALS.
All Causes ... ..	284	114	48	152	168	67	69	60	74	1036
1 Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
2 Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Measles ... ..	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	5
4 Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough ... ..	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	6
6 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	4
7 Influenza ... ..	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	12
8 Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
9 Meningococcal Meningitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Tuberculosis of Respiratory system ... ..	12	11	3	5	8	4	—	5	6	54
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	4	3	1	—	3	—	1	—	3	15
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	50	21	10	20	35	12	9	7	9	173
13 Rheumatic Fever ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
14 Diabetes ... ..	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	11
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ...	25	10	2	15	12	9	9	6	6	94
16 Heart Disease ... ..	62	13	6	30	41	14	15	14	22	217
17 Arterio-sclerosis ... ..	5	6	3	4	6	2	1	3	3	33
18 Bronchitis ... ..	3	8	1	11	4	4	2	2	3	38
19 Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	9	1	1	8	8	3	4	2	1	37
20 Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	1	8
21 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	1	—	1	3	1	—	—	1	—	7
22 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 yrs.) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	6
24 Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	6
25 Acute & Chronic Nephritis ...	7	3	5	3	6	3	2	3	5	37
26 Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
27 Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ... ..	4	3	1	2	—	1	4	—	—	15
29 Suicide ... ..	4	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	10
30 Other Deaths from Violence ...	9	2	2	4	3	—	1	1	—	22
31 Other Defined Diseases ... ..	67	26	8	30	34	10	17	15	10	217
32 Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## GENERAL PROVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1.—Public Health Officers of the Authority.—These are shown on Page 2 at the beginning of the report.

2.—Nursing in the Home.—(a).—General.—There are 20 District Nursing Associations in the County Area and the one Maternity and Infant Welfare Association which employs a nurse doing district nursing work. These employ one nurse each, except where indicated in the following list:— (1) Bembridge District Nursing Association; (2) Brading, Yaverland and Adgestone; (3) Brighstone, Brooke, Mottistone and part Calbourne; (4) Carisbrooke and Parkhurst; (5) Chale, Shorwell and Kingston; (6) Cowes; (7) East Cowes; (8) Freshwater and Totland (2 nurses); (9) Newport (4 nurses); (10) Niton Whitwell and St. Lawrence; (11) Northwood and Gurnard; (12) Ryde (6 nurses); (13) St. Helens; (14) Sandown Infant Welfare and Maternity Association; (15) Sandown and Lake District Nursing Society; (16) Seaview and Nettlestone District Nursing Association; (17) Shanklin; (18) South Arreton, Chillerton and Gatcombe; (19) Ventnor, Bonchurch, Wroxall and Godshill (3 nurses and 1 part time); (20) Wootton, Havenstreet and Whippingham; and (21) Yarmouth, Thorley, Wellow and part Shalfleet.

NOTE. Numbers 7, 15, and 17 in this list are not affiliated to the County Nursing Association. Numbers 7 and 15 do not practise midwifery.

These Associations employ 32 nurses whose activities cover the whole Island except a small area round Ningwood, Newtown and Locks Green. They all receive grants through the Public Assistance Committee for nursing the sick poor; and all except four receive grants from the Council for infant health visiting, tuberculosis health visiting and school nursing work; the exceptions being (1) the Cowes and (2) the East Cowes Association where the County Council employs a full time nurse, (3) the Sandown and Lake District Nursing Society where the public health and schools work is done by the Sandown Maternity and Infant Welfare Committee's nurse, and (4) the Shanklin Association where a part-time nurse is engaged for the Council's work. All the Associations except those at East Cowes, Shanklin and one of the two at Sandown are affiliated to the County Nursing Association. The



County Nursing Superintendent is engaged jointly by the County Council and the County Nursing Association and there is close co-ordination between the district nursing work and the health visiting and school nursing.

(b)—**Infectious Diseases.**—There are no arrangements for the home nursing of patients suffering from infectious disease.

3.—**Midwives.**—34 midwives were in regular practice in the county during the year, 24 of these being in the employment of the district nursing associations and 10 in independent practice. 14 other midwives notified their intention to practise during the year, but 12 of these were only temporarily in practice and two did not practise. Under the Midwives Acts the County Council has made a grant of £100 to the County Nursing Association in respect of midwifery work for each of the past six years. This is the only subsidy given by the Council for midwifery work: the Council does not employ any midwives.

4.—**National Health Insurance.**—The work of the Council is not related to nor administered in co-operation with this service in any way. The numbers of insured persons in the Isle of Wight County Insurance Committee's Register in 1930 averaged 29,374 against 29,344 in 1929 and 28,993 in 1928.

5.—**For the purpose of Poor Law Medical Out-Relief** the Island is divided into 10 districts as under:—

District.		Approx. Population.
Brading	comprising Brading, Bembridge, Newchurch, Sandown, Shanklin and Yaverland ... ..	19506
Carisbrooke	" Carisbrooke and Calbourne ... ..	5437
Cowes	" Cowes, East Cowes, Northwood and part Whippingham ... ..	18613
Godshill	" Bonchurch, Godshill, Niton, St. Lawrence, Ventnor, Whitwell, and Wroxall ... ..	10290
Ryde	" Ashey, Binstead, Ryde and St. Helens ... ..	19440
North Shorwell	" Gatcombe and part Newport ... ..	1222
South Shorwell	" Brighstone, Chale, Kingston, Mottistone and Shorwell ... ..	1641
Yarmouth	" Brooke, Freshwater, Shalfleet, Thorley, Totland and Yarmouth ... ..	7217
South Arreton and Whippingham	" South Arreton and part Whippingham ... ..	1000
Newport and Whippingham	" Part Newport and part Whippingham ... ..	11150

The two last mentioned in the list have been served by one medical officer for over 30 years, so for practical purposes there are nine districts and it may be advisable later on when the opportunity offers to do away with the small North Shorwell district as a separate district and to absorb it into the neighbouring districts. No changes have been made in this service since its transfer to the Council and as the present arrangements appear to be working well no modification seems advisable apart from the slight change suggested.

**Poor Law Relief.**—The number of persons in receipt of poor relief in the Isle of Wight in December for each of the last 10 years, was as follows:—

Year.	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.
1921 ...	384	1808	2192
1922 ...	376	1557	1933
1923 ...	372	1423	1795
1924 ...	366	1118	1484
1925 ...	356	1344	1700
1926 ...	394	990	1384
1927 ...	371	801	1172
1928 ...	341	672	1013
1929 ...	352	632	984
1930 ...	359	564	923

6.—**Laboratory Facilities.**—A small bacteriological laboratory was established at the County Hall in 1926, and here specimens of sputum and urine are examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli: swabs from throat or nose for the presence of diphtheria bacilli, and blood for the typhoid and para typhoid widal reactions. The pathologist at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital examines blood samples for the Wasserman reaction and he has also examined from time to time other samples for the Council such as those from puerperal fever cases.

Milk and foodstuffs are analysed by Mr. Emsley the Public Analyst to the Southampton County Borough by arrangement between that Authority and the County Council and to him also water samples from the County Council are sent. Mr. Emsley's appointment dates from the 1st January, 1931. Before that date the appointment was held for more than 20 years by the late Dr. Angell of Southampton.

7.—**Legislation in force.**—A list of the various Local Acts, special orders and general adoptive Acts in force in each district is set out in the reports of the various district medical officers. In the county as a whole, there is no special legislation in force relating to the public health.



8.—Hospitals.—PARTICULARS OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES IN THE ISLAND, PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY, ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLES: Table (a).—

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	Number of Beds.	Admissions during 1930.	Management.	Medical Staff.	Nursing Staff.
Royal I.W. County Hospital ... ..	Ryde ... ..	General Hospital ...	71	1126	Voluntary	One Resident and full Honorary Staff	30 (1 Matron, 6 Sisters, 23 probationers.)
Frank James Cottage Hospital Memorial Home ...	East Cowes ...	" "	23	244	"	Visiting ...	7 (1 Matron, 2 Sisters, 4 Nurses.)
Arthur Webster Memorial Hospital ... ..	Shanklin ...	Cottage Hospital...	( * 4M 9 { 5F	81	"	Visiting ...	4 (1 Matron, 3 Nurses.)
Scio Hospital and Surgical Home ... ..	Shanklin ...	" "	10	159	"	Visiting ...	4 (1 Matron, 3 Nurses.)
Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the chest ...	St. Lawrence	Sanatorium ...	168	365	"	3 Resident & Visiting Staff ...	34
Mental Hospital, Whitecroft ... ..	Near Newport	Mental Disease ...	332	49	County Council ...	2 Resident ... 1 Visiting Dentist & Consultants as required.	70 (1 Matron, 45 female Nurses and Attendants and 24 male.)
Parkhurst Infirmary ...	Newport ...	Chronic Diseases & Maternity ...	116 * General 7 Maternity	168 † General 16 † Maternity	" "	Visiting Med. Officer	15 (1 Sister, 2 Charge Nurses, 12 Nurses.)
Longford Sanatorium ...	Havenstreet ...	Tuberculosis ...	26	95	" "	" "	4 (1 Matron, 3 Nurses.)
Fairlee Infectious Diseases Hospital ... ..	Newport ...	Infectious Diseases	31	94 †	Joint Hospital Board	" "	6 (1 Matron, 1 Sister, 1 Staff Nurse, 3 probationers.)
Ryde Infectious Diseases Hospital ... ..	Ryde ... ..	" "	8	7	Ryde Borough Council ...	" "	1 plus help as needed.
Shanklin Infectious Diseases Hospital ... ..	Scotchells ...	" "	10	6	Shanklin Urban District Council ...	" "	1 plus help.
Ventnor and Undercliff Infectious Diseases Hospital ... ..	Upper Ventnor	" "	4	15	Joint Hospital Board	Private Practitioners	1 plus help.
Emergency Small Pox Hospital ... ..	Ashey ...	Small Pox ...	4	1	County Council ...	Administered from the Fairlee Infectious Diseases Hospital.	

\* Including one bed in shelter.

† For 9 months April—December, 1930.

‡ Year April 1930—March, 1931.



TABLE (b) The number of beds available for various purposes in each institution is as follows :

Service.	Number of Beds.				Institution.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
General Medical ... ..	18	30	16	64	Royal County Hospital.
General Surgical ... ..	8	10	5	23	Frank James Cottage Hospital, East Cowes
	*4	5	—	9	Arthur Webster Memorial Hospital.
Children ... ..	—	—	10	10†	Scio Hospital.
Maternity ... ..	—	7	—	7	Parkhurst Infirmary.
Venereal Diseases ... ..	1	1	—	2	Royal County Hospital when required).
Tuberculosis ... ..	7	13	6	26	Longford.
	93	75	—	168	Royal National Hospital.
Chronic Sick ... ..	*54	62†	—	116	Parkhurst Infirmary.
Mental ... ..	117	215	—	332	Whitcroft.
Mental Deficiency ... ..	20	20	—	40	Parkhurst Institution.
Orthopaedic ... ..			A few as required at Some are sent also to		Royal County Hospital. Alton Hospital or to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London.
Ear, Nose and Throat... ..			As required at and at		Royal County Hospital ; Frank James Cottage Hospital
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia...			As required at		Fairlee Infectious Diseases Hospital.
Ophthalmia Neonatorium ...			As required at		Royal County Hospital.
Eye diseases ... ..	3	3	—	6	Royal County Hospital.

\*Including one bed in shelter.

†Includes "Isolation" block.

‡Including 2 private beds which may be adults.

The number of patients admitted to each hospital during the past year is shown in the first table.

Most patients requiring general hospital treatment are dealt with at the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital which is well equipped and adequate in every way except that there is rather a shortage of beds for medical cases—men, women and children. The beds there are kept fully occupied and in addition there are busy out-patient dispensaries (14,627 attendances in 1930), with general medical and surgical, ophthalmic, ear, throat and nose, dental, massage and electrical departments. The County Hospital takes patients from all parts of the Island and in that respect differs from the Frank James Cottage Hospital, the Arthur Webster Memorial Hospital and the Scio Hospital and Surgical Home which admit patients from a limited local area. There are operating theatres at all the voluntary hospitals in the Table but not at any of the council hospitals; there are X Ray plants at the County Hospital, the East Cowes Hospital, the Arthur Webster Hospital and the Royal National Hospital, Ventnor; and at the East Cowes Hospital there is a throat and nose department. There are facilities for examination of pathological specimens at the Royal County Hospital and at the Royal National Hospital. Practically all the patients at the Royal National Hospital are from other parts of the country this being the only institution in the Table which admits patients from outside the county, except the Mental Hospital which has a few private patients from other areas.

Chronic cases are nursed at Parkhurst Infirmary, and there is now under consideration a proposal to build here a separate maternity pavilion for complicated or difficult confinement cases and patients suffering from puerperal sepsis, in addition to normal cases which are destitute. The present maternity ward would then be available for female chronic cases for which there is a shortage of beds. Other alterations at Parkhurst now under consideration are (1) adapting a ward for treating ailing children or those with heart disease or other conditions needing more prolonged hospital treatment than the County Hospital can provide and (2) enlarging the accommodation for mental defectives.

In the section of this report dealing with infectious diseases it is mentioned that the fever hospital accommodation is now under consideration.

9.—**Maternity and Nursing Homes.**—During 1930, 5 applications were received for registration under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927. One of these was from a person already registered and now removing to different premises and another was in respect of new managers of a home previously registered. These 5 applications were all granted. No orders were made refusing registration and no applications were received for exemption of registration. In addition to the two cases in which registration lapsed as mentioned above, there were 3 others in which registration certificates were withdrawn, two because of the use of the premises as nursing homes was given up and one because of death. At the end of the year 21 homes were registered: 11 for maternity cases only, 6 for maternity and other patients and 4 for non-maternity cases. No District has applied for delegation of the County Council's powers under section 9 (2) of the Act.

10.—**Maternal Mortality.**—All maternal deaths are investigated and recently a report was considered by your Committee on the maternal mortality on the Island during the last 30 years (see the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare).



11.—**Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.** The Isle of Wight Preventive and Rescue Association have a home in Ryde with accommodation for 6 unmarried expectant mothers. There is a resident midwife. After confinement the mothers with their infants may remain a few months. This is the only accommodation of the sort on the Island.

12.—**Mental Defectives.**—Parkhurst Institution is approved by the Board of Control for 40 mental defectives—20 men and 20 women: and there is now under consideration a scheme for modifying the arrangements there to allow of more high grade cases and some low grade defectives being admitted. A few of the low grade cases are under care at Whitecroft mental hospital.

13.—**Ambulance Facilities.**—(a) For infectious cases there are four ambulances, one at each of the infectious diseases hospitals: those at Fairlee and Scotchells being motor ambulances, and those at Ryde and Ventnor horse ambulances. (b) For non infectious and accident cases there are four motor ambulances, one at the County Hospital, Ryde, one at Parkhurst Institution and two belonging to the Island branch of the British Red Cross Society. One of these last is stationed at the Town Hall, Newport (telephone Newport 218; or the Police, Newport 39; or Mr. Cheverton's Garage, Newport 401), and one at Freshwater (telephone Freshwater 12).

14.—**Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—Details of the Infant Welfare Centres are set out in Table XV. in this report. A few ante-natal cases are seen at some of these centres but there are no special ante-natal clinics. Orthopaedic cases are seen by arrangement at the Portsmouth School Clinic. There are no day nurseries. The other clinics are as follows:—

		Situation.	Accommodation.	Provided by
School Clinics	Ryde	St. John's Road School	2 rooms	County Council.
	Cowes	Denmark Road School	2 rooms	
	East Cowes	Osborne Road School	divided room	
Special School Clinic (eyes)	Newport	County Hall	1 room	" "
Tuberculosis Dispensaries	Newport	County Hall	3 rooms	" "
	Havenstreet	Longford Sanatorium	3 rooms	" "
Dental Clinics for necessitous mothers	Ryde	at School Clinic	2 rooms	" "
	Newport	at County Hall	2 rooms	" "
Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases	Newport	County Hall	3 rooms	" "
	Ryde	County Hospital	Out-patient Department	" "
Massage & Electr'l Treatment Clinic	Newport	County Hall	3 rooms	Island Branch British Red Cross Society.

15.—**Local Government Act, 1929.**—Under Section 5 (1) of this Act, services which were previously provided by the Poor Law and can now be provided otherwise, are gradually being transferred and new cases arising are being dealt with under the alternative Acts although no declaration of general transfer was included in the Council's scheme. The medical services provided under the Poor Law Act at Parkhurst Infirmary are still administered under that Act and no change in this procedure is anticipated, but extension of the medical services there is under contemplation in order that other cases may be dealt with apart from the poor law. There is only the one poor law institution in this County and this has not been appropriated by the Council for any other purpose.

No occasion has yet arisen of consulting under Section 13 of the Local Government Act, with representatives of the voluntary hospitals though it is probable that the opportunity for such consultation will present itself soon when extensions at Parkhurst Infirmary are being considered.

#### BLIND PERSONS' ACT, 1920.

There were 125 registered blind persons in the Island at the end of 1930 of whom one was under school age and five were between five and 16 years of age. These are sent to special schools for the blind by the Education Authority. 29 were between the ages of 16 and 50 years and 90 were over 50 years of age. The Isle of Wight Society for the Benefit of the Indigent Blind undertakes the supervision of these blind persons and works in conjunction with the County Council scheme. Pensions are granted to those in need and a Home Visitor teaches Braille and pastime occupations to the unemployable blind. At the end of the year 71 persons were in receipt of an allowance from the Society.

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION IN HEALTH.

Thirty Lectures were given during the year by the medical staff on various subjects concerning health, 12 of these being to Women's Institutes. It is the experience here that the women are keenly interested in matters dealing with food and proper dietaries and the health of children and these form the usual subjects of these lectures. The nurses also give lectures on such matters and there are many opportunities for the dissemination of knowledge on health and nutrition at the infant welfare centres and the school inspections.

During the first fortnight in December, Dr. Harley Williams of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, gave some 20 public lectures in the different towns of the Island. These lectures were accompanied by cinematograph demonstrations and were attended by the senior school children through the co-operation of the education authorities. It cannot be doubted that these various activities have a beneficial effect on the health of the individual and of the public.



## WATER.

In 1929, a Regional Water Committee for the Isle of Wight was formed consisting of one representative each from the County Council, the Urban and Borough Sanitary Authorities, and the water undertakers, and 3 representatives from the Rural District Council. In March, 1931, a special conference was held of the Committee and additional representatives appointed by the various water authorities on the Island to consider the advisability of setting up a Water Board. At this conference a proposition that it is desirable that a Water Board be established for the Island was negated by nine votes to seven.

Apart from dealing, in an advisory capacity, with one proposal which was referred to them by the Minister of Health to increase an existing supply, the activities of the Committee have been confined to obtaining information regarding the quantities of water needed in the various districts and the amounts available either from the existing works or from other possible sources.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

TABLE V.—SHOWING THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES FROM EACH AREA SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR ANALYSIS DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1930.

Parish.	New Milk.	Other Samples.	Total.	Remarks.
Ashey ...	4	—	4	
Bembridge ...	5 (2a)	—	5	Fined £2 and 14s. costs each case.
Binstead ...	1	—	1	
Bonchurch ...	1	—	1	
Brading ...	4 (1a)	—	4	Case dismissed.
Carisbrooke ...	5	—	5	
Chale ...	1	—	1	
Cowes ...	11 (2d) (1a)	—	11	Fined 10s. and 14s. costs.
East Cowes ...	6	—	6	
Freshwater ...	6 (2a)	—	6	Fined 10s. and 14s. costs each case (same vendor).
Godshill ...	2	—	2	
Gurnard ...	1	—	1	
Newport ...	13 (2d)	—	13	
Nettlestone ...	1	—	1	
Niton ...	2 (1d)	—	2	
Northwood ...	1	—	1	
Ryde ...	27 (2d) (2a)	—	27	(1) Fined 20s. including costs. (2) Dismissed.
Sandown ...	8 (1d) (1a)	—	8	Fined £2 and 14s. costs.
Shanklin ...	9 (2d)	—	9	
S. Arreton ...	1	—	1	
St. Helens ...	6 (1a)	—	6	Cautioned and dismissed.
Shorwell ...	2 (1a)	—	2	Sample taken under extraordinary circumstances. No proceedings.
Totland ...	3	—	3	
Ventnor ...	6	—	6	
Whitwell ...	2	—	2	
Wootton ...	3 (1d)	—	3	
Wroxall ...	2	—	2	
Yarmouth ...	3	—	3	
	136 (11d) (11a)	—	136	

(a) Adulterated.

(d) Dirty.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 136 samples were examined by the Public Analyst, these being all samples of milk. 11 were certified to be below the minimum standard laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and if allowance is made for the subsequent samples taken in cases where a first sample is not genuine there were 8 adulterated samples in a total of 120, i.e., at the rate of 6.6 per cent. which is the same percentage as in the previous year. Of the 11 samples certified as not genuine, one was an informal sample and proceedings were taken in the other 10; 3 were dismissed, one with a caution, and in the other 7, fines were inflicted of 10s. in 3 cases, 20s. in one case, and £2 in 3 cases, and in all these cases costs were granted in addition to the fine. Apart from these few adulterated samples the milk of the Island is of a high standard, many of the samples analysed being rich in milk fat.

Eleven of the 136 samples contained a visible quantity of dirty debris. At the time of writing, a clean milk competition, organised by the Agricultural Education Officer, is being held, and it is hoped that one result of this competition will be to induce a number of farmers to take out licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, as producers of graded milk. One has already done so and it is clear that a number of the other competitors are producing milk up to the standard of cleanliness required for graded milk. The public is alive to the advantages of clean milk and there seems to be little doubt that graded milk carrying a guarantee of cleanliness will have a ready sale if the extra cost is not prohibitive, and that an increased consumption of milk will follow to the mutual benefit of the farmer and of the public health.

Two samples of milk were examined at the University of Reading Laboratory for the presence of tubercle bacilli, both with negative results.



(b) **Meat and other Foods.**—The inspection of meat and other foods, slaughter houses, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared, is carried out by the officers of the various district councils and particulars of these inspections will be found in the annual reports of the medical officers of health of the councils.

(c) **Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.**—The following particulars refer to the Administration of the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912 and 1917, during the year 1930:—

1.—Milk: and cream not sold as preserved cream:—

		Number of samples examined for the presence of preservatives—		Number in which preservatives were reported to be present—
Milk	...	136	...	0
Cream	...	0	...	0

2.—Cream sold as preserved cream:—None examined.

UNDER THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925, of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries 111 (155) animals were examined and reported upon by the Veterinary Inspectors. These included 83 cows in milk and 28 other cows or heifers. In 14 (17) cases in which examination was called for, the presence of tuberculosis was not confirmed by the Veterinary Surgeon. Ninety-six (82) animals were found to be suffering from tuberculosis, of which one was classed as tuberculosis of the udder, 59 were tuberculous emaciation, and 36 other forms of tuberculous disease. These animals were all suffering from tuberculosis in an advanced stage.

#### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE VI.—NOTIFICATIONS MADE TO MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH DURING THE 53 WEEKS ENDING 3RD JANUARY, 1931.

	Isle of Wight Rural.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	Totals.
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1 (0)
Scarlet Fever	30	4	—	5	4	2	12	1	8	66 (121)
Diphtheria	13	5	13	27	2	—	6	—	2	68 (85)
Enteric Fever	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	9 (5)
Pneumonia	10	4	2	9	13	1	—	—	—	39 (68)
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1 (4)
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	—	1	4	5	1	—	—	—	16 (6)
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0)
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (4)
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 (2)
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (0)
Erysipelas	8	2	2	3	5	3	2	—	—	25 (19)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2 (2)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	30	15	4	8	12	5	12	8	18	112 (90)
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	4	2	2	4	—	1	1	2	22 (18)
Totals	108	38	25	58	47	13	34	11	31	365 (424)

There were 365 cases of Infectious Diseases notified as against 424 in 1929, the difference being mainly due to the fall in scarlet fever notifications from 121 to 66. For the 30 years 1900—1929 the yearly average number of notifications of scarlet fever has been 154. For the third successive year there was no death due to scarlet fever.

The diphtheria notifications numbered 68 (85). The yearly average number of notifications of this disease for the 30 years 1900—1929 was 111 and for the last 8 of these years was 42. There were 4 deaths from diphtheria which caused no deaths in the two previous years. There were more cases of diphtheria in East Cowes and in Newport in proportion to their population than in the rest of the Island, but variations like this are bound to occur from year to year when comparisons are made between small populations.

One case of mild smallpox occurred in Sandown just before Easter in a patient who was infected on the mainland and developed the disease 12 days after coming to the Island. The few friends he had come in contact with here were readily traced and they accepted the offer of vaccination and it was due to this and the fact that attention was drawn to the case at an early stage that no further cases of the disease developed. Immediately the diagnosis was confirmed the patient was isolated in the Ashley emergency smallpox hospital and as the disease was uncomplicated he was well and fit for discharge after 22 days residence.

Nine cases of enteric fever occurred with one death.

There were 39 notifications of primary and of influenzal pneumonia (68) and 37 deaths from pneumonia of all forms (54), the fall being due mainly to the comparative freedom from influenza during 1930.

Sixteen notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received and one only of puerperal fever although 2 deaths were certified from this cause. This subject is referred to later on in this report in the section dealing with maternity and child welfare.

There was one notification of cerebro spinal meningitis (0) and 2 of encephalitis lethargica (sleepy sickness). These last both ended fatally.



Of non notifiable diseases the school returns show that measles, german measles and mumps were all more prevalent than in the previous year. There were 5 deaths from measles and 6 from whooping cough although this last disease did not reach epidemic proportions in any district.

As regards the treatment of patients suffering from infectious disease a report on the isolation accommodation on the Island was submitted in October in accordance with Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, and at the end of the year this was under consideration by the Local Government Committee of the County Council and by the various District Councils.

Only 2 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified—the same as in the previous year—and both made complete recoveries.

The results of treatment in the cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were as follows:—

Year.	Cases.			Vision un-impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
1930	2	2	—	2	—	—	—

**Vaccination.**—The vaccination returns compared with those of previous years are shown in the following table. No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention Regulations, 1917).

TABLE VII.

Year.	1 Births.	2 Vaccinated.	3 Insusceptible.	4 Dead.	5 Conscientious Objection.	6 Postponed.	7 Removed.	8 Unaccounted	Percentage not Vaccinated, i.e. Columns 5, 6, 7, and 8.
1926	1198	442	1	51	620	12	51	20	58·7
1927	1145	456	2	35	560	11	59	22	56·9
1928	1123	432	1	34	557	9	52	38	58·4
1929	1158	385	1	42	661	10	21	23	61·7
1930	1117	328	4	36	687	7	18	37	67·0

## TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE VIII.—SHOWING THE NUMBER OF NEW CASES AND THE DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR.\*

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1— ...	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	1
5— ...	—	1	3	3	—	—	2	1
10 ...	1	1	3	2	—	—	—	—
15 ...	7	6	2	—	3	7	1	1
20 ...	13	6	1	1	—	—	—	—
25 ...	18	10	1	1	18	8	2	1
35 ...	13	4	3	—	—	—	—	—
45 ...	11	8	1	—	9	7	1	2
55 ...	10	4	—	2	2	—	1	—
65 and upwards	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	74	41	16	12	32	22	8	7

\*Note.—The figures in this table refer not to the calendar year but to the 52 weeks ending 29th December, 1930.

The new cases shown in Table VIII. include all the primary notifications and also any new cases coming otherwise to the notice of the Medical Officer during the year. These last number 21, 10 being transfers from other areas, and the death returns giving the first information in 11. The primary notifications number 122; so there were altogether 143 "new" cases (129 in 1929 and 132 in 1928), of whom 115 suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis (103) and 28 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis (26). The new cases of tuberculosis exceeded those of the previous year by 14 but there were 12 fewer deaths registered, viz., 69 as against 81; 54 of these deaths were from pulmonary disease (66) and 15 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis (15).

The following table shows the substantial fall that has taken place in the mortality from tuberculosis since the beginning of this century, the yearly number of deaths now being exactly half what it was 25 years ago.



Yearly average number of tuberculous deaths for the quinquennium.	Total.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary
1901—5 ... ..	138	114	24
1906—10 ... ..	131	100	31
1911—15 ... ..	86	73	13
1916—20 ... ..	85	73	12
1921—25 ... ..	89	75	14
1926—30 ... ..	69	56	13
For the year 1930 ... ..	69	54	15

In Cowes, East Cowes, Newport and St. Helens all the deaths due to tuberculosis were of notified persons; 4 persons died in the Rural District who had not been notified previously, and 4 in Ventnor and one each in Ryde, Sandown and Shanklin.

Enquiries are made as to the reason for non notification when a death from tuberculosis occurs of an unnotified person and it is found that they are nearly always exceptional cases in which earlier notification could not reasonably be expected. Of the 11 deaths of unnotified persons, 5 were due to pulmonary tuberculosis; one of these was in H.M. Prison, and another in an Island sanatorium of a patient coming from Scotland and in that case the death is not transferred to the area of permanent residence; in the other 3, the doctors in attendance understood that notification had been made years ago. Of the 6 non-pulmonary cases, 3 were due to meningitis, one to peritonitis and in 2, spinal disease was mentioned on the certificate: in 5 of these the diagnosis was in doubt until the end, and in the other the death was due to causes apart from the tuberculosis which was not in an active state. As has been stated in previous reports the doctors work in close co-operation with this department and notification is well carried out in this area.

Table IX summarises the changes in the register during the calendar year.

Number of Patients	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
On Register at end of 1929 ... ..	133	122	43	26	176	148
Added during 1930 (new cases) ... ..	65	37	12	9	77	46
Cases removed from other areas ... ..	6	3	1	—	7	3
Old cases re-admitted ... ..	1	4	2	3	3	7
Total ... ..	205	166	58	38	263	204
Removed to other areas during 1930 ... ..	13	15	2	—	15	15
Removed from the Register as being 'Cured'	3	—	3	1	6	1
Removed from the Register as 'Diagnosis not confirmed' ... ..	1	—	—	1	1	1
Died during 1930 ... ..	28	20	6*	4	34	24
Died from other diseases ... ..	—	—	4	—	4	—
Number on Register at the end of 1930	160	131	43	32	203	163

\* One notified non-pulmonary case died from pulmonary tuberculosis.

The figures in this table are based on the tuberculosis registers of notified cases which are kept by the medical officers of health of the sanitary districts; the 11 deaths of unnotified persons therefore do not appear in the table nor do transfers from one Island district to another. At the beginning of the year there were 324 persons on the Island notified as suffering from tuberculosis. In addition to the 123 new cases there were added during the year 10 cases who came here from other areas and 10 who had previously been taken off the registers either as having recovered but who were found to have active disease again, or as having left the Island but had now returned; 30 patients removed to other areas, 62 died during the year, 4 of them from causes apart from tuberculosis, 7 were cured and in 2 the diagnosis of tuberculosis was not confirmed, so at the end of the year 366 names remained on the registers.

1596 health visits were paid to tuberculous patients for the year ending 31st March, 1931: 1359 of these 1596 being by the district nurses who visit the patients in every area except in Shanklin where a private nurse is employed, and in Cowes and East Cowes where there is a whole time County Council nurse. The Council pays at the rate of 1s. for each health visit and for certain nursing visits in approved cases and the expenditure under this heading amounted to £47 2s. (£46 14s. the previous year).

No change has been made in the Council's tuberculosis scheme. Patients suffering or suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis are examined at the dispensary behind the County Hall, Newport, on Tuesday mornings from 9 o'clock, no appointments being necessary. When patients cannot attend then they may be given a special appointment or are visited at home. Eighty per cent. of all notified patients on the Island are under observation at the dispensary. Thus at the end of the year there were 291 patients on the dispensary books, 227 of whom were suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and 64 from other forms of the disease. Forty-one were children under 15 years of age and 250 were adults of whom 150 were insured under the National Health Insurance Act. In addition, 14 persons were under observation at the end of the year for the purpose of diagnosis: making a total of 305 on the dispensary books (256).



TABLE X SHOWS THE DISPENSARY WORK COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	New Persons examined	Dispensary Attendances	Home Visits	Bacteriological Examinations		
				Sputum		Other Specimens
				For Tuberculosis Officer	For Medical Practitioners	
1926 ... ..	138	379	195	135	89	45
1927 ... ..	191	366	321	128	106	330
1928 ... ..	244	360	312	137	132	232
1929 ... ..	244	333	326	122	148	699
1930 ... ..	201	332	258	111	161	709

Of the 201 new persons examined, 181 were referred by their own doctors for diagnosis or treatment, 8 were transferred from other areas and 12 were examined as contacts, 8 children and 4 adults: one of these last was found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. In the previous year 51 contacts were examined and in none of them was a diagnosis of tuberculosis established. Of the 181 persons referred for diagnosis or treatment 133 were adults and 48 were children. Seventy-seven of the adults were tuberculous (49 men and 28 women) and 10 of the children (5 boys and 5 girls). All except 16 were suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, 9 of these being adults (4 men and 5 women) and 7 children (4 boys and 3 girls).

The number of sleeping shelters in use on the Island by tuberculous patients is disappointingly low when it is remembered that they confer the double advantage of allowing the patient to live under the best conditions in the open air and of reducing to a minimum the risk of communicating the disease to the other members of the family. It was in 1924 that your Committee first provided six shelters with the intention of adding to these as more were required, but up to the end of 1930 we had only 10, 2 being added during the year, and a good deal of encouragement is needed to persuade patients to keep even this small number in constant use. When the number of tuberculous patients in the county is considered and the fact that the housing accommodation in the majority of these is not too generous, it would be reasonable to expect that many more would accept the offer of a sleeping shelter. The proportion of shelters in use here is much less than in other counties and even in towns where the conditions for out door treatment are not so favourable, and efforts are constantly being made to persuade more patients to take advantage of the shelters but it is only very gradually that their reluctance is being overcome.

Extra nourishment in the form of milk was given to 20 patients during the financial year ending 31st March, 1931. At the beginning of the year 5 patients were receiving grants, 15 were added during the year and at the end of the year 9 were still in receipt of milk. The cost of this item was £42 11s. 3d. (£37 16s. 6d. in the previous year).

TABLE XI.—TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED AT VARIOUS SANATORIA AND HOSPITALS DURING 1930.

Sanatorium or Hospital	Resident at beginning of year	Admitted during year	Discharged during year (inc. Deaths)	Remaind end of year	Total for the year
Longford Sanatorium ... ..	22	95	92	25	117
Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton ... ..	—	4	2	2	4
Totals ... ..	22	99	94	27	121

**Residential Treatment.**—There were 121 patients treated in institutions during 1930 as against 126 the previous year and all were treated at Longford Sanatorium with the exception of 4 who were admitted to the Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital at Alton. These 4 suffered from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 of the hip joint and one of the knee. One of them was taken home by her parents after only 3½ weeks in the institution, and another (tuberculous hip) was discharged with arrested disease after 9 months treatment; and 2 remained in residence at the end of the year, one with hip joint disease and one with tuberculosis of the knee.

The numbers treated at Longford during 1930 were as follows:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In residence on December 31st, 1929 ... ..	7	9	6	22
Admitted during the year ... ..	34	30	31	95
Discharged during the year ... ..	28	27	28	83
Died during the year ... ..	3	6	—	9
In residence December 31st, 1930 ... ..	10	6	9	25

Of the 83 persons discharged during the year 30 had been admitted for diagnosis (8 adults and 22 children) and all these were discharged as being not tubercular with the exception of 1 man who suffered from tuberculosis of bone. The average duration of stay of the 83 persons discharged was 90.1 days (67.7 in 1929 and 92.4 in 1928), but this includes the 29 persons already mentioned as not tubercular. The 54 tuberculous patients remained 113.2 days on the average.

The immediate results of treatment in these 54 patients were as follows:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Disease quiescent ... ..	—	—	1	1
Improved ... ..	20	19	5	44
No material improvement ... ..	6	3	—	9



The cost of treatment at Longford Sanatorium per patient per week was £2 4s. 4d. for the year ending 31st March, 1931, and during this period patients' contributions averaged 5s. 2d. per patient week. The corresponding figures for the previous year were £2 6s. 7d. and 5s. 9d.; and for the year ending March, 1929 were £2 11s. 0d. and the contributions 5s. 11d.

The Matron at Longford Sanatorium acknowledges gifts from Alderman G. W. Ball, Esq., J.P., Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Burton, Messrs. Burtons Stores, Dr. H. Carpenter, Sir A. Gough Calthorpe, Mrs. Cave, Dr. J. Fairley, Mr. Guy, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Hughes, Councillor Midlane, Mrs. Morris, Miss Prinsep, Red Cross Library, London, Dr. R. Robertson, J.P., C.C., Mrs. Sach, Councillor Sanders, Councillor H. Shepard, The Rev. Mr. Shepherd, Mrs. Stagg, Mrs. Tilley, Miss Warren, Mr. Wheeler.

#### VENEREAL DISEASES.

Under the Council's scheme for the treatment of venereal diseases, two treatment centres are provided, one at the Royal County Hospital, Ryde which is open on Friday afternoons at 3 o'clock for women and at 4 o'clock for men, and the other at the Clinic behind the County Hall. Previous appointments are not necessary for patients coming to these centres when the sessions are held. Patients who require irrigation treatment are given daily appointments at suitable hours at either centre. Treatment is free to all and patients' travelling fares are paid in necessitous cases. When hospital treatment is required this is provided at the Royal County Hospital where the Council has the privilege of sending two patients at any time on payment of a weekly maintenance charge. Under this arrangement two patients were admitted during 1930, one for a fortnight and the other in November for rather prolonged treatment.

The year's work is compared with that of previous years in the following Table:—

Year	No. of New Applicants	Number suffering from Venereal Diseases.						No. of days of In-patient Treatment	No. of attendances by patients
		Total	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Other Venereal Diseases.		
Yearly average			M	F	M	F			
1918 - 1920 (3 years)	107	71*	26	19	20	7	—	132	801
1921 - 1925 (5 years)	72	29*	11	8	8	1'6	1'2	14	702
Year									
1926 ... ..	131	35	17	9	7	2	—	—	1192
1927 ... ..	96	35	12	11	6	6	—	—	1334
1928 ... ..	98	37	14	4	13	6	—	42	861
1929 ... ..	115	38	10	5	21	2	—	—	974
1930 ... ..	113	44	11	7	22	4	—	70	1820

\*Includes patients suffering from more than one venereal disease.

The scheme for the treatment of patients suffering from venereal diseases was started in 1917 and in the next three years, i.e., those immediately after the war, the number of patients was greater than in subsequent years. As regards syphilis the number of cases has continued to decrease slightly as was expected before public treatment was begun because the administration of arsenical preparations very quickly renders a patient non-infective. Only 4 of the 18 syphilis cases presenting themselves for the first time during 1930 were fresh infections and 14 suffered from the sequelæ of syphilis. Gonorrhœa, on the other hand has increased in the last three years. About half of the cases are Island infections and it is obvious from the figures that women suffering from gonorrhœa are still reluctant to attend the public treatment centres. Twenty-three of the 26 gonorrhœa cases were fresh infections. Only 2 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified during the year however, which is an indication, so far as it goes, that there is not yet much gonorrhœa in this area. Although the number of patients presenting themselves for treatment was not much greater than in the previous year, the attendances at the centres were nearly doubled in 1930, being 1820, of which 788 attendances required the individual attention of the Medical Officer.



TABLE XII.—RELATING TO ALL PERSONS WHO WERE TREATED AT THE TREATMENT CENTRE AT RYDE AND THE BRANCH TREATMENT CENTRE AT NEWPORT DURING THE YEAR ENDED THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1930.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. No. of persons who, on the 1st Jan., 1930, were under treatment or observation for ... ..	18	8	—	—	7	2	—	—	25	10
Old patients re-admitted during year	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
2. No. dealt with during the year in the out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from	1. Less than one year's standing 2. More than one year's standing		—		21 1		38		71	
	3	1	—	—	21	2	38	31	71	42
	8	6	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
Total—Items 1 and 2 ...	30	16	—	—	30	6	38	31	98	53
No. of these transfers from other areas	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	2
3. No. of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient Clinic—										
(a) before completing the first course of treatment for ...	5	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	10	1
(b) after one or more courses but before completion of treatment for ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
(c) after completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure of ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
4. No. of persons transferred to other Treatment Centres after treatment for ... ..	3	2	—	—	5	1	—	—	8	3
5. No. of persons discharged from the out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation for	2	2	—	—	10	1	—	—	12	3
Died ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6. No. of persons who, on the 1st Jan., 1931, were under treatment or observation for ... ..	16	10	—	—	8	4	—	—	24	14
Total—Items 3, 4, 5, & 6...	30	16	—	—	30	6	—	—	60	22
7. Out-patient attendances—										
(a) For individual attention by the Medical Officer ...	230	106	—	—	281	42	86	43	597	191
(b) For intermediate treatment, e.g., irrigation, dressings, etc.	—	—	—	—	1032	—	—	—	1032	—
8. Aggregate No. of "In-patient days" of treatment given to persons who were suffering from ... ..	—	13	—	—	—	57	—	—	—	70
9. Examinations of Pathological material—					For detection of			For Wasserman Reaction.		
					Spirochetes	Gonococci	Other Organisms			
(a) Specimens which were examined at, and by the Medical Officer of, the Treatment Centre	—	—	—	—	—	76	—	—	—	—
(b) Specimens from persons attending at the Treatment Centre which were sent for examination to an approved laboratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	99	—
A. No. of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from—										
	Isle of Wight.	Greenwich.	London.	Basingstoke.	Totals.					
Syphilis ... ..	18	—	—	—	18					
Soft Chancre ... ..	—	—	—	—	—					
Gonorrhoea ... ..	23	1	1	1	26					
Conditions other than venereal ... ..	69	—	—	—	69					
	110	1	1	1	113					
B. Total No. of attendances at the out-patient Clinic of all patients residing in each area	1776	16	4	24	1820					
C. Aggregate No. of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area ... ..	70	—	—	—	70					
D. No. of doses of Arsenobenzene compounds given ... ..	126	—	—	—	126					
No. of doses of Bismuth preparations given ... ..	201	—	—	—	201					



## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY.

The usefulness of the bacteriological laboratory at the County Hall is now established. It was in 1926 that the examination of specimens of public health importance for the detection of diphtheria, typhoid fever and other communicable diseases was undertaken, although for some 4 years previously specimens of sputum had been examined for tubercle bacilli. The present arrangements save time as the reports reach the doctors more quickly than was possible when the specimens were sent to laboratories in London, and the expense is less: the cost of each of these examinations at an outside laboratory would average 5s. or a total of about £240 for the 981 specimens examined last year. No charge is made by the Council for these examinations. The doctors from all parts of the Island are using the laboratory, the number of specimens from each sanitary district last year being: Cowes 86, East Cowes 99, Newport 191, Ryde 78, St. Helens 19, Sandown 34, Shanklin 23, Ventnor 39 and the Rural District 205; there were 97 specimens from the isolation hospital at Fairlee, 54 from Longford Sanatorium and 56 from the venereal disease treatment centres.

Further details of the 981 examinations are as follows:—

	Total number of specimens examined.	Positive	Negative
Sputum for tubercle bacilli—			
For Medical Practitioners ... ..	161	25	136
For Tuberculosis Officers ... ..	111	40	71
Other fluids for tubercle bacilli ...	7	1	6
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli—			
For Medical Practitioners ... ..	380	55	325
Others, i.e., for isolation hospital schools, etc. ... ..	182	63	119
Bloods for Widal reaction ... ..	17	2	15
Smears for Gonococci... ..	76	28	48
Hairs for Ringworm ... ..	13	3	10
Other examinations ... ..	34	18	16
Total ... ..	981	235	746

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

**Midwives.**—Trained midwives are available in every part of the Island, and four-fifths of the births during 1930 were attended by them. The number of midwives in practice is shown in section 3 at the beginning of this report. They are inspected regularly by the County Nursing Superintendent and when special circumstances arise by the County Medical Officer. During the year the County Superintendent made 131 inspections of which 102 were routine visits and 29 were special visits of enquiry.

In 1930 there were 1098 live births registered in the Island including 129 in Ryde, which is the only local authority having a maternity and child welfare scheme apart from the County Council. In addition there were 35 stillbirths bringing the total number of births to 1133. A midwife was present at 904 of these births or 79.7 per cent.; a doctor also was present at 267 of these so the number of births which the midwives attended alone was 637 or 56.2 per cent. of the total (57.7). The midwives notified 11 stillbirths, 2 deaths of child, 12 artificial feeding, 10 performing last offices and 23 liability to be a source of infection, and they also sent notices of having summoned medical help in 152 instances. An analysis of the 152 cases shews that 19 were for the child and 133 for the mother. Of these last, 25 were for complications arising during pregnancy (17 for miscarriage or threatened miscarriage and 8 for other causes during pregnancy); 100 were for causes arising during labour (42 of these being for obstructed or delayed labour, 2 for hæmorrhage, 37 for ruptured perineum, and 19 for other causes during labour); and 8 were for causes arising after labour.

In cases in which medical help is sought by a midwife the Council is liable for the payment of the doctor's fee, but it is required to recover the fee from the patient except in necessitous cases. During the financial year ending 31st March, 1931, the Council paid the doctor's fee in 58 such cases, amounting to £94 5s. 0d. Of these 58 cases full liability was undertaken in 39; in 17 the patient was required to repay the fee, and in 2 part of the fee was repaid. The amount received during the year was £26 8s. 0d., of which £1 15s. 6d. was in respect of cases considered the previous year. The net expenditure of the Council under this heading has thus been £67 17s. 0d.

Table XIII shews the number of births attended by midwives compared with previous years and the proportion in which medical help was summoned and was paid for by the Council.

Year.	Total Births.	Number of Births.		No. summoning medical help.	No. in which medical fee was paid by Council.	Amount paid by Council less repayments by patients.
		Attended by Midwives (Dr. also engaged in some)	Attended by midwives alone (No Dr. engaged)			
1926 ... ..	1141	830	687	153	51	£57 9 0
1927 ... ..	1124	891	712	160	48	£40 13 6
1928 ... ..	1168	906	736	134	55	£55 18 0
1929 ... ..	1182	903	683	162	56	£76 11 0
1930 ... ..	1133	904	637	152	58	£67 17 0

\* The figures are those for the financial year ending 31st March.



The number of visits to expectant mothers paid by the health visitors was 3699 (see column 2, Table XIV.) These visits are made as part of a midwife's duties in all districts except in Cowes and East Cowes where the health visitor is a whole-time County Council nurse and not in midwifery practice. Deducting therefore the visits made in these two districts the balance is 3625 visits of which 627 were first visits. The other midwives who are not health visitors paid in addition, 1510 visits, of which 281 were first visits. There were therefore 5135 ante-natal visits paid by the midwives to 908 expectant mothers. All the midwives' cases were therefore visited and on the average 5.6 visits were paid to each case.

**Special Confinement Cases.**—Through the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare scheme 6 patients were admitted to the maternity ward at Parkhurst Infirmary during the year because of the following complications of pregnancy, viz., albuminuria, eclampsia, bacilluria with raised temperature, anaemia and debility, contracted pelvis, and diabetes with other complications; and to the Fairlee infectious diseases hospital 3 patients with puerperal pyrexia were admitted. All these nine cases recovered. After consideration of their financial circumstances it was decided that in one case a contribution of £2 towards the cost of treatment should be required and that the other 8 cases were unable to make any payment.

Seventeen notifications were received of puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia. The latter term is a general one applicable to a rise of temperature from any cause in a woman within 21 days of confinement and this may include the more severe puerperal fever cases. Six of the notified cases occurred in Ryde, 5 in the Rural District, 4 in Newport and one each in East Cowes and St. Helens (see Table VI). The same midwife was present at 4 of the Ryde cases, one each in January, June, October and November and during these months she attended many other normal confinements. One of these four patients died, this birth being attended by a doctor as well as the midwife. Of the 4 Newport cases, 3 were attended by the same midwife (all in February). Bacteriological investigation showed that her throat contained the organism usually causing puerperal sepsis (the streptococcus haemolyticus) and she therefore gave up midwifery work until after treatment her throat was found clear of this organism. These 4 patients recovered. The infant of one, however, developed pemphigus neonatorum, a septic condition of the skin, and died when 14 days old.

Apart from these Ryde and Newport cases no connection was traceable between any of the other puerperal pyrexia or puerperal fever patients, the medical and nursing attendants being different in each case. Three of the 17 cases were admitted to the Fairlee Infectious Diseases Hospital and 2 to the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital, 6 occurred in 5 separate nursing homes, one occurred in Parkhurst Infirmary and 5 were nursed at home. The Council keeps a stock of antitoxin to ensure that it will be available for any patient suffering from puerperal fever who may require it. This was issued for use in 3 of the patients who were not admitted to hospital. In one of these the whole cost was repaid by the patient; in another, half the cost, and in the third no charge was made. The antitoxin is supplied immediately to any doctor who telephones the medical officer at the County Hall.

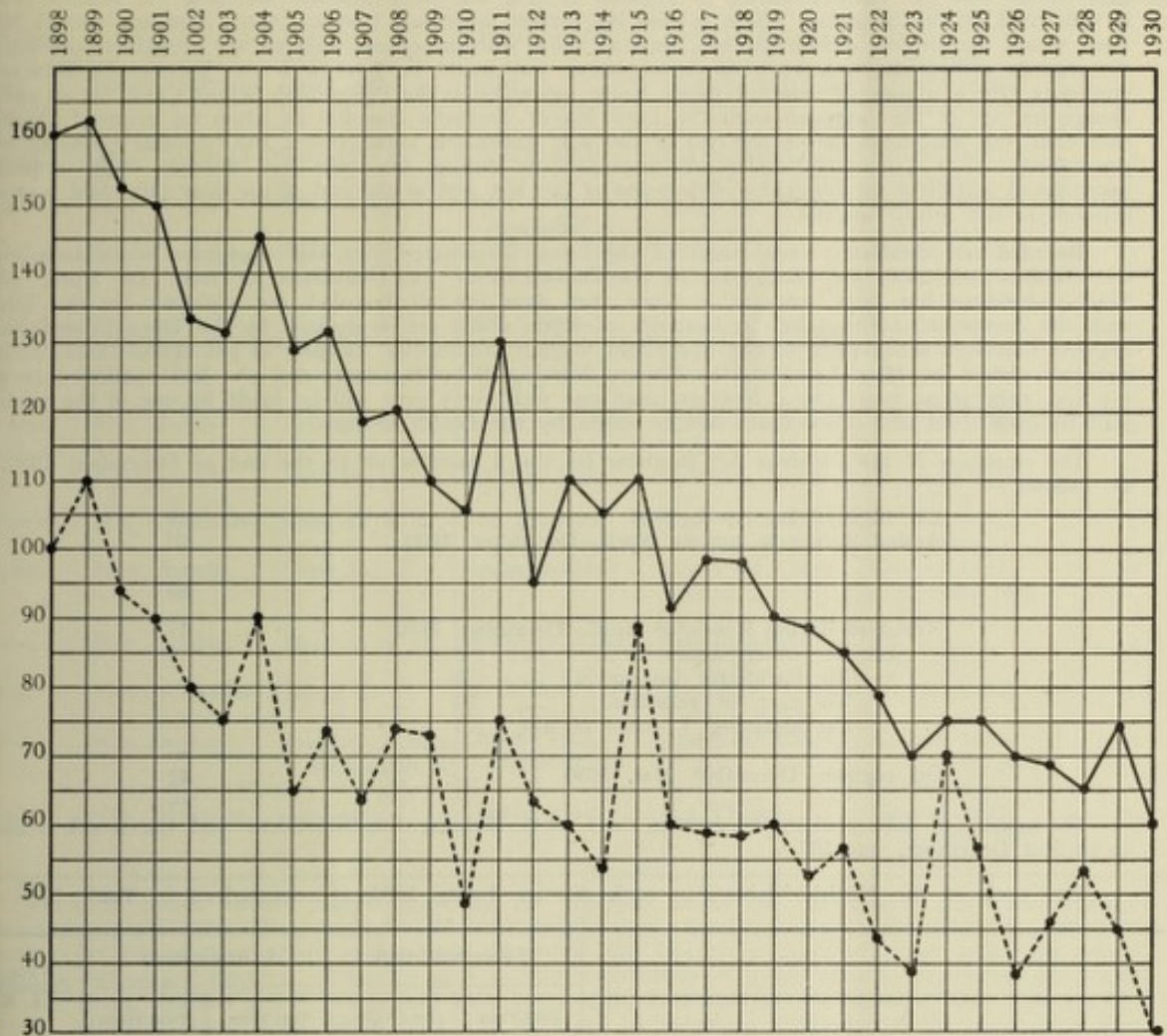
**Maternal Deaths.**—According to the Registrar General's figures, there were 4 maternal deaths in 1930 (8 in 1929), 2 of which were due to puerperal sepsis and 2 to other causes. Of the latter, one was from eclampsia which came on suddenly after confinement and the other was due to placenta praevia and haemorrhage; this death occurred elsewhere but was transferred for statistical purposes to the Island because this was her usual residence. Of the 2 deaths ascribed to puerperal sepsis one occurred in a nursing home, and the other was from septicaemia and pelvic cellulitis 6 weeks after confinement; this patient was not notified as suffering from puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia; she was admitted to Whitcroft Mental Hospital and died there. There was a third death from puerperal sepsis which the Registrar General has not classified as a puerperal death although it properly belongs to this category. The woman was notified as suffering from puerperal fever and was later admitted to the County Hospital. Her death was certified to be caused by acute infective endocarditis and no mention was made on the certificate that this was due to the puerperal state. It will be observed that the 3 fatal cases of puerperal sepsis all died in institutions.

A special report on the maternal mortality on the Island during the years 1900—29 was submitted recently on your Committee's instructions; this was called for because statements had been made that the mortality here was higher than in the country generally. It was shown in the report that while this was true for some recent years the puerperal mortality on the Island over the 30 years period was lower than the average. Our figures are small so one or two additional deaths make an appreciable difference in our death rate and it is therefore not justifiable to draw any general conclusions from such small figures. It was made clear that the cases of puerperal sepsis which is the largest single cause of maternal deaths had occurred sporadically and not in epidemics; this was certainly the case in recent years when our information was most complete and the evidence showed that it was no doubt true for the whole period. The conclusion was reached that the apparent rise in puerperal mortality was due to more accurate certification of the cause of death and that there was no evidence of any real increase in the risks of childbirth.

**Infant Welfare.**—Excluding the 133 births in Ryde there were 1000 births (including stillbirths) registered in the area administered for maternity and child welfare purposes by the County Council. 948 of these, i.e., 94.8 per cent. were notified to the county medical officer either through the district medical officers of health, or directly, because after April 1st, 1930, these notifications are made to the county medical officer. The number of infant deaths in this area was 30, or at the rate of 30.9 per 1000 live births. If the figures for Ryde are included the infant mortality rate for the Island is 30.0 which is the lowest in our records and compares with 45.0 in 1929. In neither Shanklin nor Ventnor did a single infant's death occur.



THE FOLLOWING CHART SHOWS THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS FOR THE LAST 32 YEARS IN THE ISLAND ..... , COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES ——— :





**Health Visiting.**—The arrangements for infant health visiting are that the visits start as early as practicable after the doctor or midwife stops attending, i.e., soon after the 10th day, and the frequency of subsequent visits depends in each case on the conditions of the home and the health of the infant, but as a minimum 6 visits are made in the first year and then two each year until the child goes to school. This system of regular visiting by experienced nurses is valuable particularly in the case of first babies and the visitor's advice as regards feeding and other matters affecting the infant's health is welcomed by the mothers. There is also the further advantage that any cases requiring special treatment which the parents cannot provide, such as those with orthopaedic defects, are brought to our notice. As regards orthopaedic treatment, an arrangement was made in June with the Portsmouth Education Authority which allows of selected cases being examined at the Portsmouth School Clinic for an agreed charge by one of the surgeons from the Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital at Alton for crippled children. One child was examined before the end of the year under this arrangement and remedial exercises were prescribed. Your Committee undertook responsibility during the year for another child requiring institutional treatment for congenital dislocation of the hip, and at the end of the year this child was still resident at the Alton Hospital.

**Boarded out children.**—As a result of the Local Government Act, the supervision of children under the Children Act, 1908, was taken over by the Council from the Guardians as from 1st April, 1930. Your Committee has been responsible since that date for all boarded out children on the Island with the exception of those in the Borough of Ryde which are supervised by the Town Council there because that is a separate Maternity and Child Welfare Authority. As early as practicable these children were all visited by Miss Lambert, the County Nursing Superintendent, and she has continued to pay the first visits in all new cases. Not less than one visit every year will be made by one of the medical staff to each child and other visits will be made by the health visitors.

The summary of the Children Act Register for the 9 months up to the end of December, 1930, is as follows:—

On register 1st April, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	39
Added during 9 months April—December, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	20
						59
Removed during 9 months April—December, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	17
i.e., To other areas	...	...	...	...	3	
To Parkhurst Institution	...	...	...	...	1	
To care of relations	...	...	...	...	10	
On attaining 7 years of age	...	...	...	...	3	
						—
On register December 31st, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	42

The number of visits paid by the doctors, the County Nursing Superintendent and the health visitors up to 31st December, was 167.

The work of the Health Visitors in each district during 1930, is summarised in Table XIV. :—

						To Expectant Mothers.		To Infants under 1-		Visits to Children aged 1-5.
						First Visits	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	
Arreton	Nurse	...	...	...	...	21	108	23	125	156
Bembridge	"	...	...	...	...	12	41	14	225	201
Brading	"	...	...	...	...	19	157	20	177	242
Brighstone	"	...	...	...	...	15	61	9	67	83
Calbourne*	"	...	...	...	...	5	65	12	58	99
Carisbrooke	"	...	...	...	...	44	189	59	365	199
Chale	"	...	...	...	...	6	49	6	80	96
Cowes	Nurse Preston	...	...	...	...	21	70	—	—	—
Cowes	(Nurse Blades)	...	...	...	...	41	74	190	937	1299
East Cowes		...	...	...	...	41	74	190	937	1299
Freshwater	Nurse	...	...	...	...	22	136	45	196	238
Godshill	"	...	...	...	...	35	298	50	166	79
Newport	"	...	...	...	...	137	475	190	765	678
Niton	"	...	...	...	...	14	50	16	60	83
Northwood	"	...	...	...	...	12	118	15	130	158
Ryde District	"	...	...	...	...	133	848	204	1918	2279
St. Helens	"	...	...	...	...	19	102	18	94	177
Sandown	"	...	...	...	...	35	226	71	539	524
Seaview	"	...	...	...	...	6	45	7	164	224
Shanklin (Nurse Jones)	"	...	...	...	...	5	6	43	132	114
Ventnor	Nurse	...	...	...	...	44	447	63	651	680
Wootton	"	...	...	...	...	12	78	28	284	264
Yarmouth	"	...	...	...	...	10	56	6	91	80
Total	...	...	...	...	...	668	3699	1089	7224	7953

\* The figures for Calbourne are for the first seven months of the year only.



TABLE XV.—SHOWING THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR OF THE VARIOUS INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

District.	Honorary Secretary.	Nurse in Charge.	Address of Centre.	Days and Times of Meetings.	M.O. and Time of Attendance.	Approximate Average Attendance Children.
Bembridge	Lady Thornycroft	Bennett, A.	Church Room	2nd Wednesdays, 3 p.m.	County M.O., Monthly	21
Brading	Miss Robinson	Jack, H.	Ditto	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	County M.O., Monthly (4th Tuesday)	8
Carisbrooke	Mrs. Goodwin	Preston, H.	Church Hall	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 3 p.m.	County M.O., Monthly	18
East Cowes	Mrs. Jones	Blades, E.	Ditto	Alternate Tuesdays	County M.O., Monthly	19
West Cowes	Mrs. Churchman	Blades, E.	St. Mary's Hall, Mary Street	Wednesdays, 3 p.m.	County M.O., Fortnightly (1st and 3rd Wed.)	33
Freshwater	Mrs. McMaster	Bowler, M. Rodda, M.	Parish Room	Alternate Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.	Dr. Mansfield Fortnightly	25
Newport	Mrs. Tilley	Cheverton, D.	Church Hall	Thursdays 2.30 p.m.	County M.O., Fortnightly	44
Parkhurst Barracks	Mrs. Smith	Preston, H.	Barracks	2nd & 4th Thursdays	Officer in Charge, R.A.M.C.	25
Ryde	Miss Corrie	Holmes, G.	Melville Street	Fridays, 3 p.m.	Dr. Edwards, Weekly	55
St. Helens	Mrs. Cockburn	Longworth, A.	The Institute	2nd Thursdays, 2.30-4 p.m.	Dr. Mussen, Monthly	11
Sandown	Miss Arnell	Dedman, E.	Rechabite Hall	2nd & 4th Thursdays.	County M.O., Monthly (4th Thursday)	37
Seaview	Mrs. Gordon	Mooney, A. M.	Wesleyan School	1st Tuesdays, 3 p.m.	Dr. Aston, Monthly	10
Shanklin	Mrs. Whitaker	Jones, G.	St. Saviour's Hall	Alternate Tuesdays, 3 p.m.	Dr. Melhuish	19
Ventnor	Mrs. Smyley	Stoodley, E.M. & Meikleham, A.	Church Hall, Alpine Road	2nd & 4th Thursdays	County M.O., Monthly (4th Thursday)	43
Wroxall	Mrs. Ferguson	Adamson, C.	Church Hall	1st Fridays	County M.O., Monthly (1st Friday)	26

These 15 infant welfare centres serve all the populous areas on the Island and their average attendances total 394. Many mothers do not attend every session: they may come to alternate meetings or less often, so these figures mean that some 600 infants or more are kept under the supervision of nurses and doctors. A service such as this is obviously of great value in promoting the health of these young children and it has proved most successful. It should not be forgotten that these centres without exception have been begun and are managed by voluntary workers, and the community owes a great deal to the ladies who give so much of their time and energy to this important work.

The Council makes grants to necessitous cases attending the infant welfare centres. During the financial year ending 31st March, 1931, £110 10s. 0d. was expended for 839 weeks' supply of milk to 72 cases. The corresponding figures for the previous year were £74 3s. 7d. for 563 weeks' supply to 47 cases and for the year ending 31st March, 1929, £55 6s. 7d. for 426 weeks' supply to 54 cases.

The dental treatment given to mothers and young children has been much appreciated. During the year 118 mothers were treated and many of these had teeth extracted, the number of attendances being 311. Thirty-four mothers were supplied with dentures, 18 of whom contributed towards the cost and 16 were excused payment. These were all women in necessitous circumstances and few if any could have obtained dentures apart from the Council's scheme. During the previous 13 months that the scheme was in operation some 300 attendances were made and five mothers were supplied with dentures.

#### COUNTY NURSING ASSOCIATION

The County Nursing Association which works in co-operation with the County Council was formed in 1917 to train, supply and supervise District Nurses for service in the Island. Since 1926, however, the Association has had no pupils under training mainly because of the difficulty of obtaining suitable candidates, a difficulty which was accentuated in 1925 by the rules of the Central Midwives Board relating to the training of midwives which lengthened the period of a midwife's training from 6 to 12 months in the case of students other than trained nurses and from 4 to 6 months in the case of trained nurses. During the years training was undertaken the Association trained and placed in Island districts 9 nurse midwives, and up to the end of 1930 these had given an aggregate of 33 years service on the Island and there is still one of them in practice here.

The training of nurse midwives was only a part of the County Nursing Association's functions which included the no less important objects of supplying district nurse-midwives, not necessarily of their own training, and of supervising and co-ordinating their work. The latter object was gained by the appointment in 1918 in co-operation with the County Council of a County Nursing Superintendent, but it was not until the beginning of 1927 that a nursing and midwifery service was established in every district



of the Island. The encouragement and support which the central Association was able to give in starting the new districts are still needed particularly in the case of some of the rural areas even after a nurse has been established in the district. Continuous supervision is necessary to ensure that the standard of the work is kept up; and again, the tendency of the service is to form larger districts so that each nurse may serve a bigger population, and to enable her to cover this enlarged area it has been found necessary in some cases to provide a small car. It has only been with the County Association's help in rearranging the districts and in contributing towards the initial cost of the nurse's car that it has been found possible to carry out these developments. It will be clear therefore that the County Nursing Association still has useful and necessary work to accomplish although the service of nurse midwives is now so complete as to cover practically the whole Island, and it is to enable the Association to perform this work that the Council has made the annual grant of £100 towards its expenses.

During 1930, the Calbourne District Nursing Association was unable to continue work on account of lack of funds and as from the beginning of 1931 the greater part of this area has been taken over by the Brooke and Brighstone District Nursing Association. A car has had to be purchased by this Association to make it possible for the nurse to cover the enlarged area.

The only area not served now by a district nurse midwife is, as already mentioned, part of the parishes of Shalfleet and Calbourne, and even here a trained nurse midwife's services are available in a private capacity because there is one residing in the neighbourhood who is in independent practice. The rest of the Island is covered by 21 district associations of which 18 are affiliated to the County Association. (See page 5.)

Table XVI. summarises some of the work done in the various affiliated districts during the year ending 31st March, 1931.

TABLE XVI.

Nursing Associations.	Medical Cases.	Surgical Cases.	Total.	Midwifery Cases.	Maternity Cases.	Total.
Arreton, Gatcombe, Chillerton, Blackwater, Rookley, and Merstone ...	22	2	24	17	3	20
Bembridge ... ..	113	9	122	5	6	11
Brading ... ..	43	12	55	14	9	23
Brighstone, Brook and Mottistone ...	49	34	83	11	—	11
Calbourne, Shalfleet, Porchfield, Newtown, Ningwood and Hamstead* ...	22	1	23	2	2	4
Carisbrooke ... ..	92	54	146	39	6	45
Chale, Kingston, and Shorwell ...	35	43	78	2	2	4
Cowes ... ..	116	75	191	21	9	30
Freshwater and Totland ... ..	94	124	218	17	10	27
Newport ... ..	328	139	467	94	51	145
Niton, Whitwell and St. Lawrence ...	45	2	47	6	6	12
Northwood and Gurnard ... ..	58	44	102	7	5	12
Ryde ... ..	268	102	370	114	32	146
St. Helens ... ..	54	22	76	13	5	18
Sandown and Newcurch... ..	12	25	37	28	7	35
Seaview and Nettlestone... ..	64	64	128	1	4	5
Ventnor, Bonchurch, Wroxall, and Godshell ... ..	130	74	204	53	21	74
Wootton Bridge and District ... ..	52	66	118	5	7	12
Yarmouth, Thorley, Ningwood, and Wellow ... ..	50	50	100	4	6	10
Totals ... ..	1647	942	2589	453	191	644

\* The figures for the Calbourne district are for the first seven months of the year only.



TABLE XVII.—HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1930.

	Rural District.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.
No. of new houses erected during the year—									
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).	102	4	5	21	3	2	54	16	19
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	8	—	—	4	—	2	20	*	*
(ii) By other Local Authorities ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	*
(iii) By other bodies and persons ... ..	94	4	5	17	—	—	34	*	*
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—									
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	8
(a) For the purpose of Part II. of the Act of 1925	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	*
(b) For the purpose of Part III. of the Act of 1925	—	—	—	4	—	2	20	*	*
(c) For other purposes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	*
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	*	1
1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year—									
(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and the number of inspections made ...	1284 2858	192 454	260 385	348 815	197 *	70 216	72 252	54 *	133 *
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the number of inspections made ...	983 1710	22 *	125 *	92 373	101 *	51 178	42 156	—	90 *
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	7	3	—	5	4	—	—	—	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	307	189	7	87	48	67	63	13	—
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices—									
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	323	145	3	87	36	51	56	13	34
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—									
(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—									
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	13	—	—	39	2	13	5	—	48
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—									
(a) By owners ... ..	20	—	—	39	2	13	4	—	14
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—									
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—	—	—	24	4	—	—	—	27
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—									
(a) By owners ... ..	—	—	—	19	4	—	—	—	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Proceedings under Section 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—									
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ..	7	3	—	3	4	—	—	—	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	6	3	—	3	4	—	1	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	1	—	3	2	—	3	6	—	1
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	4	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
4. Number of dwelling-houses owned by the Local Authority—									
Number of dwelling-houses built in the last two years and held under—	35	38	37	200	64	119	49	*	*
(1) Part III of the Housing Act, 1925 ... ..	8	—	—	28	44	36	23	*	*
(2) Part II of the Housing Act, 1925 ... ..	—	—	—	28	44	36	23	*	*
(3) Other Powers ... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	*

(According to these figures 226 houses were erected in the Island in 1930 as compared with 385 in 1929, 296 in 1928, 404 in 1927, 368 in 1926, 279 in 1925 and 186 in 1924.)

\*Details not given in District Medical Officer's Annual Reports.



## METEOROLOGY.

To Mr. John Dover, M.A., of the Totland Meteorological Station, Major C. G. Brodie, of Wootton, and Mr. C. Orchard, of Sandown, I am indebted for the figures in Table XVIII.

Month.	Maximum Temperatures.			Minimum Temperatures.			Mean Temperatures.			Rainfall in Inches.			Hours of Sunshine		
	Totland	Wootton	Sandown	Totland	Wootton	Sandown	Totland	Wootton	Sandown	Totland	Wootton	Sandown	Totland	Wootton	Sandown
January ...	53'2	57'0	55'0	32'9	30'0	29'0	45'0	44'5	42'0	4'22	5'65	5'03	56'9	—	53'8
February ...	49'3	50'0	51'0	29'4	27'0	30'0	38'5	38'7	40'5	0'68	0'82	1'19	76'3	—	83'9
March ...	52'0	57'0	55'0	25'0	19'0	24'0	42'5	42'0	39'5	1'22	1'35	1'43	135'3	—	142'7
April ...	67'1	63'0	68'0	32'2	31'0	35'0	47'2	46'9	51'5	2'51	2'58	2'27	151'5	—	161'6
May ...	66'7	67'0	65'0	38'1	37'0	41'0	51'6	52'1	53'0	2'13	1'96	2'16	177'9	—	185'3
June ...	75'7	77'0	75'0	42'7	42'0	45'0	59'3	59'0	60'0	1'06	0'32	0'75	249'2	—	260'2
July ...	74'0	78'0	77'0	50'2	47'0	49'0	60'6	60'3	61'0	1'78	2'11	2'21	245'9	—	252'2
August ...	81'6	85'0	82'0	45'6	45'0	49'0	62'2	61'4	65'5	2'48	4'78	3'17	237'6	—	246'1
September ...	72'0	75'0	75'0	46'7	42'0	46'0	59'4	58'3	60'5	2'93	3'05	3'72	178'0	—	165'2
October ...	64'0	67'0	65'0	35'0	32'0	35'0	54'4	53'2	50'0	3'07	3'04	3'78	129'9	—	140'0
November ...	57'0	60'0	59'0	27'4	24'0	29'0	47'5	46'1	44'0	5'30	5'43	5'80	71'7	—	72'0
December ...	52'3	53'0	54'0	28'6	26'0	30'0	43'1	41'5	42'0	3'80	4'52	3'48	56'8	—	55'7
Year 1930	81'6	85'0	82'0	25'0	19'0	24'0	50'9	53'3	50'8	31'18	35.61	34'99	1767'0	—	1818'7

The 1767 hours of bright sunshine at Totland was very near the average for the past 29 years of 1771 hours. Of 230 recording stations in this country, Ventnor had the greatest amount of bright sunshine last year with 1868 hours (Totland was 17th in the list) and as regards ultra violet rays the daily mean at Ventnor was 4.24 units which was the third highest in the country. The brightest month was June; May was deficient in sunshine. At Totland the four dark months, January, February, November and December altogether managed only 262 hours instead of their average 285 hours.

The rainfall was slightly above the average being 31.18 inches at Totland as compared with the usual 29.34 inches. Snow fell there on 3 days only during the year and hail on 4 days. Shanklin recorded the heaviest total rainfall on the Island in 1930 with 37.62 inches, Newport had 36.81 inches, Wootton 35.61, Sandown 34.99, Ventnor 32.24, Ryde Esplanade 30.71, and East Cowes 30.15. At Totland the average rainfall for August (40 years) is 2.40 inches and Totland had slightly more than this, viz., 2.48 inches, while Wootton had 4.78 inches and Sandown 3.18 inches in that month.

Mr. Dover contrasts the shade temperatures at Totland with those at Greenwich the daily averages being worked out for 90 years at Greenwich and for 44 years at Totland; the differences being that "by night throughout the year Totland is warmer than Greenwich. During the three dark months (November, December, January), when the sun has but little power, by day also Totland is the warmer of the two places. During the other nine months of the year Greenwich is hotter than Totland, especially in June, July and August."

There were 14 gales at Totland during the year, no less than 11 of these occurring in the last quarter.

