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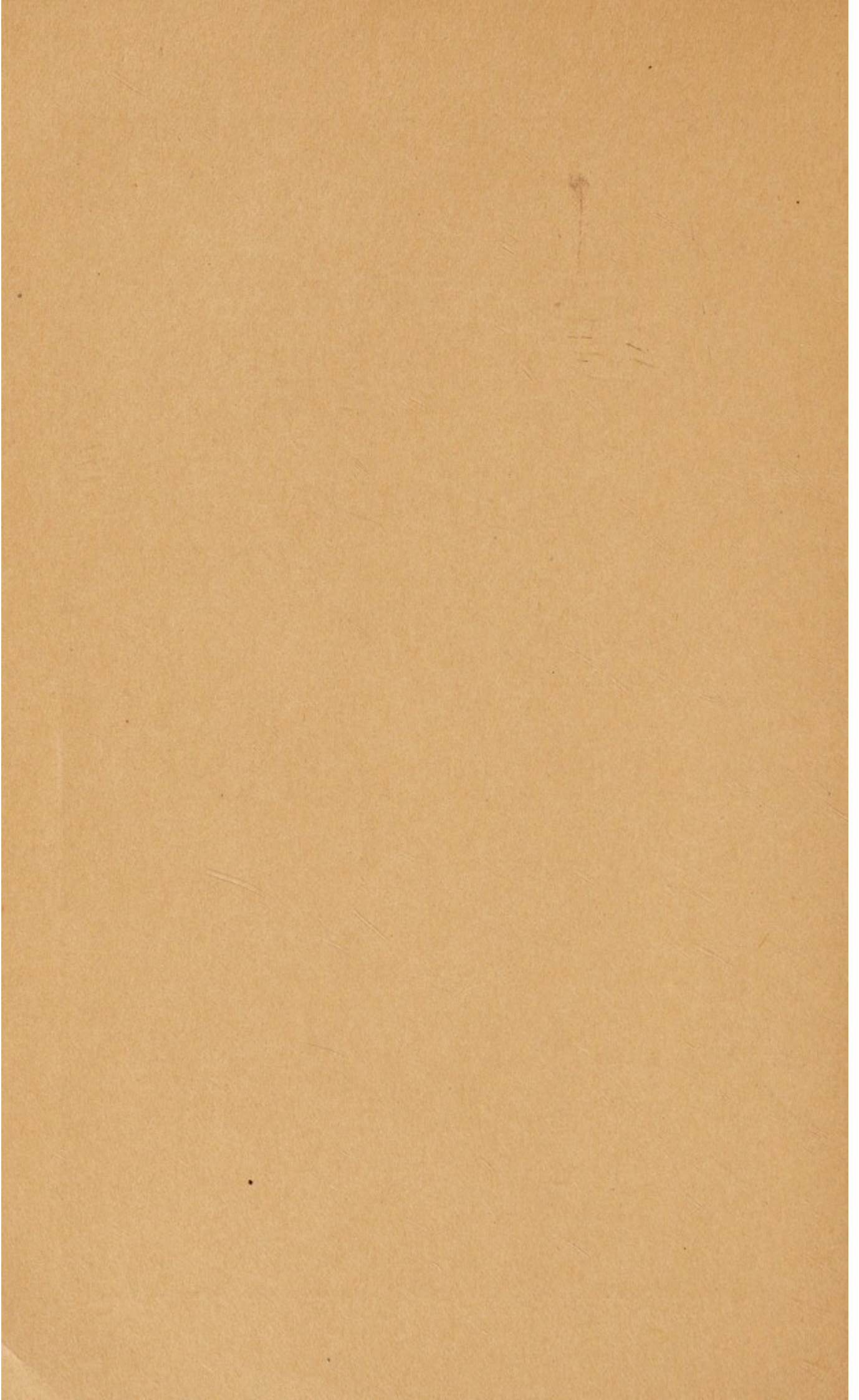
ANNUAL REPORT

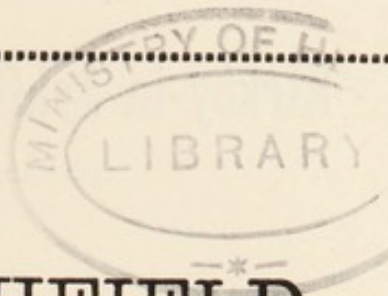
FOR 1925,

BY

M. E. KAYTON, D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.





KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1925,

— BY —

M. E. KAYTON, D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD :
A. MOORE, PHOENIX PRINTERIES, KINGSWAY.

Kirkby-in-Ashfield Urban District Council.

Chairman :

G. HIBBERT, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

W. LEE.

Councillors :

East Ward.	West Ward.	South Ward
T. E BANKS, J.P.	F. J. ASPINALL.	W. BATES.
W. BAYLISS	J. T. LEA.	W. COLLEDGE.
F. J. BERRY.	W. RICHARDS.	W. DAVISON.
J. C. BIRD.	W. SCOTHERN.	W. LEE.
J. CRESSWELL.	F. RAWSON.	W. MATTLEY.
G. HIBBERT.		
N. PURDAY.		

Clerk :

E. B. HIBBERT, Esq., Solicitor.

Medical Officer of Health :

DR. M. E. KAYTON, D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector & Superintendent of Cleansing.

W. MASSEY, C.R.S.I.

Surveyor :

L. DODSLEY.

Water Manager :

L. LEIVERS.

Assistant Overseer & Rate Collector :

P. CUPIT.

Rates Clerk :

S. UNWIN.

Gas Manager :

G. M. GRIBBLE.

Health Visitors :

NURSE FACKRELL.

NURSE WHETTON.

REPORT.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kirkby-in-Ashfield Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my twelfth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district.

This report will be a "survey" Report, in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health, it being five years since the issue of a similar Report.

While keeping to the headings desired by the Ministry according to the issued instructions, I propose continuing to embody in the Report, as is our usual custom, the tables giving the vital statistics of the district, not only as a whole, but also as sub-divisions into the three Wards, namely the East, West and South.

These latter statistics will be both interesting and full of information for local purposes, as shewing us the incidences of births and deaths occurring in the component parts of the district.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

Geographically, the district is situated on the North-West boundary of the County of Nottinghamshire, and comprises an acreage of 5,814 acres. It is divided for local electoral purposes into three Wards, viz. : East, West and South.

The first-named being most largely populated, and the habitations in it most concentrated. The other two are chiefly composed of scattered hamlets, particularly the South Ward.

In the East Ward the surface is generally of light loam, the subsoil being sand. In the West Ward there is a stratum of magnesium limestone covered with a layer of loam which becomes stronger in a westerly and south-westerly direction. In the South and East Wards beds of clay appear.

The district is hilly and is, on the average, 530 feet above sea level, the valleys thus giving ample facilities on the gravitation system throughout.

The principal occupation of the inhabitants is coal mining, the remainder being occupied as railway workers, hosiery operatives and a few are engaged in farming.

The district is served by two railway companies and three railway stations.

Three small rivers have their sources within the area.

The population at the Census, 1921, was 17,540. It is estimated by the Registrar-General for 1925 to be 18,700 ; this is only an increase of 60 on his estimated

population for the previous year. As a matter of fact we have had actually 170 houses built during the year, and this at a moderate estimate of five persons per house as an average, gives us an increase of 850. Many of these new houses are occupied by two families, so that in reality our population at a very conservative estimate is considerably larger than the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

In order to avoid contentious material in the Report, all calculations are based on the figures supplied by the Registrar-General.

The number of houses in the district are :—

	East Ward.	West Ward.	South Ward.	Total
Occupied ...	1933 ...	1034 ...	895 ...	3862
No. of families or separate occupiers	1921			4026
Estimated population for Ward Rates	9130 ...	5100 ...	4470 ...	18700

The rateable value of the district is £74,698, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £272.

Coal mining as an occupation, though more hazardous than others and causing nearly the highest mortality by comparison from injuries, is not conducive to a higher death rate in other respects, in fact, the general death-rate in males is lower than that of males in other occupations of risk.

It has a higher tendency to respiratory troubles owing to the inhalations of particles of coal dust, which fortunately, being comparatively free from sharp angles, are hence less irritating than stone or metallic dust.

Other diseases peculiar to the industry are, what is commonly called "Beat-knee" and "Beat-elbow," and Nystagmus.

The number of births registered during the year were 387; males...205, females...182. Of these, 24 were illegitimate, 15 boys and 9 girls. The birth-rate for the year was 20·7 per 1000 of the population. With the exception of one year this is the lowest on record, but is still above the birth-rate for England and Wales which is 18·3 per 1000. There has been a gradual decline in the birth-rate of England and Wales for a number of years.

The full statistics of the births in the district will be observed in the following tables.

TABLE I.

Showing Births in Wards:—

	East Ward	West Ward	South Ward	Totals
1st Quarter ...	43	14	31	88
2nd Quarter ..	44	33	23	100
3rd Quarter ...	46	40	20	106
4th Quarter ...	43	25	25	93
Totals 1925...	176	112	99	387
„ 1924 ..	185	106	107	398
„ 1923 ..	184	100	92	376
„ 1922 ..	225	98	103	424
„ 1921	230	142	112	484
„ 1920 ..	254	109	123	486
„ 1919 ..	184	111	93	388
„ 1918...	202	120	114	436
„ 1917 ..	204	111	111	426
„ 1916 ..	205	98	119	422

Births occurring quarterly :—

				Illegitimate	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
1st Quarter	...	51	37	3	1
2nd Quarter	...	57	43	4	3
3rd Quarter	...	55	51	3	4
4th Quarter	...	42	51	5	1
Totals 1925	...	205	182	15	9
„ 1924	...	208	190	13	9
„ 1923	...	196	180	7	7
„ 1922	...	213	211	8	7
„ 1921	...	253	231	4	12
„ 1920	...	253	233	10	10
„ 1919	...	182	206	4	10
„ 1918	...	218	200	10	8
„ 1917	...	263	205	6	12
„ 1916	...	212	193	10	7

Ward Birth Rates for the last 10 years :—

		East Ward	West Ward	South Ward
1925	...	19'2	21'5	22'1
1924	...	20'1	21'0	24'1
1923	...	20'6	20'2	20'7
1922	...	25'4	20'0	23'4
1921	...	27'0	29'8	26'2
1920	...	29'7	22'2	27'9
1919	...	22'5	23'6	21'9
1918	...	24'0	24'5	23'6
1917	...	24'4	22'6	25'2
1916	...	24'6	20'0	27'2

Birth Rate for the whole district for the last 10 years :—

1925	...	20·7	per 1000	of the population.
1924	...	21·3	”	”
1923	...	20·6	”	”
1922	...	23·5	”	”
1921	...	27·5	”	”
1920	...	27·9	”	”
1919	...	22·6	”	”
1918	...	24·9	”	”
1917	...	24·6	”	”
1916	...	24·0	”	”

The total number of deaths recorded for this area during the year were 103 males and 83 females, a total of 186. This gives a death-rate of 9·9 per 1000 of the population of the district. The death-rate for England and Wales is 12·2 per 1000.

The classification of deaths is as follows :—

	Male	Female	Total
Measles	1	2	3
Whooping Cough	—	2	2
Influenza	2	4	6
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	4	7
Cancer	8	7	15
Rheumatic Fever	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	2	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ...	4	2	6
Heart Disease	7	9	16
Arterio Sclerosis	3	3	6
Bronchitis	17	11	28
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	11	7	18
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	—	1
Diarrhœa (under two years) ...	2	—	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1
Acute & Chronic Nephritis ...	1	4	5
Puerperal Sepsis	—	1	1
Other Accidents & Diseases of Parturition		1	1
Congenital Debility & Prematurity	10	3	13
Other deaths from violence ...	10	3	13
Other defined diseases ...	23	16	39
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	103	83	186

This death-rate is the lowest on record and somewhat compensates us for the low birth-rate.

Of the deaths, 24% were those of persons who were 70 years and over; there being thirty over 70 and under 80 years, and fifteen over 80 years of age.

The deaths from Bronchitis were 28, or 15% of the whole.

There were 2 deaths from Whooping Cough, 3 from Measles and 2 from Diarrhœa (under two years).

TABLE II.

Shewing Deaths in Wards at all ages :—

	East Ward	West Ward	South Ward	Male	Female	Totals
1st Quarter ...	20	16	15	27	24	51
2nd Quarter ...	25	7	11	27	16	43
3rd Quarter ...	22	9	8	22	17	39
4th Quarter ...	34	11	8	27	26	53
Totals 1925 ...	101	43	42	103	83	186
„ 1924 ...	84	62	46	109	83	192
„ 1923 ...	79	47	61	90	97	187
„ 1922 ...	90	61	39	102	88	190
„ 1921 ...	...	...	...	103	85	188
„ 1920 ...	69	44	42	88	91	179
„ 1919 ...	83	45	50	...	...	178
„ 1918 ...	103	60	68	...	...	231
„ 1917 ...	93	51	33	...	...	177
„ 1916 ...	70	32	36	...	...	138

Death Rate for the whole District for the last 10 years :—

1925	...	9'9	per 1000	of the population.
1924	...	10'3	”	”
1923	...	10'2	”	”
1922	...	10'5	”	”
1921	...	10'7	”	”
1920	...	10'5	”	”
1919	...	12'3	”	”
1918	...	16'4	”	”
1917	...	12'7	”	”
1916	...	8'5	”	”

General Provision of Health Service in the Area.

There is no hospital accommodation within the district. The nearest General Hospital on the one side is at Mansfield, which is five miles away, and on the other at Nottingham, a distance of thirteen miles. Both these are utilised by this district, the latter being used to the greater extent.

For Tuberculosis. Ransom Sanatorium, near Mansfield, provided by the County Council.

Children's Hospitals. There is none specially provided in the district, but those in Nottingham are available when necessity arises.

Fever Hospitals. The local Authority have an arrangement with the Basford Rural District Council whereby cases are sent there for treatment, when the conditions at home necessitate their removal.

Small Pox. The Council have a Small Pox Hospital, consisting of two buildings, each having two Wards and Nurses' quarters. This is kept in readiness for receiving patients at all times. There is accommodation for forty patients. It is now supplied with water from the Council's main and a telephone has been installed.

Maternity Hospitals. Special arrangements have been made by the Council with the Castle Gate Women's Hospital, Nottingham, to accept maternity cases with complications, on the authority of the Medical Officer of Health, if requested by any Medical practitioner in the district.

For Infectious Cases.—Provided by the Hospital concerned. For Small Pox.—Provided by the local Authority.

Ambulance
Facilities.

For Non-Infectious Cases.—An Ambulance is provided by the British Red Cross Society and worked by the Society's Officers, the Council providing garage accommodation. Ambulances are also provided by the Colliery Companies in the district.

The Maternity and Child Welfare is dealt with fully under that heading.

Clinic
and
Treatment
Centres.

The District Nursing is provided by the two Nursing Associations in the district.

The Centre for the treatment of Venereal Diseases is at Mansfield.

Tuberculosis Dispensary provided by the County Council, is situated at Mansfield.

The Council make contributions to the Orthopædic Guild at Nottingham and Mansfield, most of the cases needing treatment being sent to Mansfield.

These are under the authority of the County Council. There are four trained and five bona-fides practising in the district.

Midwives.

The Council have a small Laboratory for helping in diagnosis.

Public Health Staff.

The above consists of the Medical Officer of Health (part time), who is also in charge of Maternity & Child Welfare Centres and Medical Superintendent of the Small Pox Hospital.

The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. Massey, who is also the Meat Inspector and holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. The duties of Superintendent of Cleansing are also carried out by this Officer.

HEALTH VISITORS.—

Nurse Fackrell, Certificate of Central Midwives Board, Health Visitor's Certificate and the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Nurse Whetton, Certificate of Central Midwives Board, and three years training in a Poor Law Hospital.

Legislation in force in the District.

The Public Health Act, 1875, and other Acts incorporated thereunto.

Local Government Act, 1894.

Powers conferred by Local Government Board.—

- (a) The powers of a Parish Council as to Charities.
- (b) To appoint Overseers of the Poor.
- (c) To appoint and revoke appointment of Assistant Overseer.

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL.

The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1899.

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890 (Part 3).

„ „ 1907 (Part 2).

Streets & Buildings. Part iii (Sanitary Provisions).

Certain Sections comprised in Part iv (Infectious Diseases),
Part vi (Recreation Grounds), Part viii (Fire Brigade),
and Section 95 comprised in Part x.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

And all subsequent Acts.

Infectious Diseases.

There were notified during the year 294 cases of Infectious Diseases (exclusive of Tuberculosis), as compared with 315 cases the previous year.

Of these, no less than 204 were those of Chicken Pox, which under ordinary conditions would not have been on the register at all, this being a simple disease and needing little or no treatment. The reason why I have recommended you to persist in keeping it compulsorily notifiable for the time being is because of the continued prevalence of Small Pox, not only in this County but in a neighbouring County as well, in areas adjacent to ours. The overlooking of one case of Small Pox might lead to a high epidemic, therefore it is advisable to continue having Chicken Pox under observation.

This leaves us with only 90 cases of notifiable diseases, the largest number of these being from Pneumonia.

There were 14 cases of Small Pox, spread over eight months of the year, showing that these are sporadic cases we are getting through contacts from other places.

There was one case of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis during the year, the patient fortunately making a complete recovery.

The 14 cases of Scarlet Fever all recovered.

There were six cases of Diphtheria. The whole of these also made a complete recovery.

One case of Enteric Fever, due possibly to the man drinking suspicious water from a spring, has also fully recovered.

Excepting the cases of Small Pox, Enteric Fever and Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, which were treated in hospital. none of the cases were removed, all being treated in their own homes.

TABLE I.

Showing Notifiable Zymotic Diseases :—

	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	14 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	Totals
Small Pox	...	...	4	7	2	1	...	14
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	1	12	...	1	...	...	14
Diphtheria & Membraneous Croup	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	6
Erysipelas	...	...	2	2	2	5	7	18
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	9	7	9	7	2	...	35
Chicken Pox	14	83	105	1	1	...	...	204

TABLE II.

Showing Zymotic Diseases occurring in Wards :—

	East Ward	West Ward	South Ward
Small Pox	8	3	3
Scarlet Fever	10	4	...
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	...	...
Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup	2	4	...
Erysipelas	10	3	5
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	1	...
Pneumonia, all forms ...	22	6	7
Chicken Pox	119	59	26

TABLE III.

Showing Notifiable Diseases occurring in months :—

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Small Pox ...	1	1	1	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	6
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	.	.	.	.	.	...	...	1	...	...	.	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	4	1	1	...	...	...	2	3	1	1	...
Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	.	2	1	...	...
Erysipelas ...	3	1	2	...	4	2	...	...	...	4	1	1
Enteric Fever ...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia, all forms ...	4	2	5	2	3	4	3	1	4	1	3	3
Chicken Pox ...	12	15	21	30	54	35	15	4	1	4	3	10
Phthisis ...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	4	1	1	3	...
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	...	..	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	2

TABLE IV.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	...		...		...		...
5	...		1	0	...		...
10	...		0	2	...		...
15	1	1	1	0	1	0	...	
20	1	1	0	1	1	3	...	
25	0	1	...		...		...
35	2	5	0	1	1	1	...	
45	0	1	0	1	...		...
55	...		...		...		...
65 upwards.	...		...		...		...
Totals	4	9	2	5	3	4	Nil.	

These totals are much less than those for the previous year, when 34 cases were notified and 8 deaths occurred.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There is a Sub-Committee composed of all the Members of the Council and nine lady non-members, nominated from the three Wards of the district, co-opted on this Committee to deal with this section.

There are three Child Welfare Centres in the district, one, the chief Centre, is held at the Council Offices on the 1st & 3rd Monday and 2nd & 4th Tuesday in each month, during the hours of 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. There are two subsidiary Centres held in the outlying portions of the area, for the convenience of those who find it too far to attend the chief Centre. These are held, one in the South Ward, at the Church Institute, Annesley Woodhouse, on the 4th Monday in each month; and the other in the West Ward, at St. Wilfrid's Sunday School, Church St., on the 2nd Monday in each month, during the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. in each instance.

Your Medical Officer of Health attends each Monday meeting of the Centres for consultations and occasionally Lectures to the mothers on the feeding and management of babies and minor ailments. The Health Visitors are also in attendance at these meetings.

The Child Welfare work, since its introduction into this district, has been of great benefit, as shown by the decline in the Infantile Mortality, and the healthier condition of the surviving children. In 1915, the year of its inception, the infantile death-rate was 172'0. Since that year there has been a gradual decline, so that in the last year we find the death-rate has come down to 82'6 per 1000 births, which is the lowest on record, with only one exception.

This, in my opinion, is very gratifying, but there is still a big field for decrease, as shown by the fact that we have still to deal with a large number of infants who survive only a few hours or a few days after birth. The only way to deal with these is to get hold of the mother if possible before the birth of the child, because these deaths are undoubtedly due to ante-natal causes and not post-natal. The difficulty however, is to induce the mothers to attend the Welcome. Most of them have their own family doctor under some "family doctoring scheme" connected with the Collieries, or otherwise, whom probably they intend to consult (but never really do) on this subject, and by refraining from coming to the Centre during the pregnancy period, we cannot do anything for them until it is too late.

There were 47 meetings held in the East Ward, 11 in the West Ward and 12 in the South Ward.

There was an average attendance of 38 mothers and 47 children in the East Ward ; 22 mothers and 28 children in the West Ward ; and 19 mothers and 24 children in the South Ward.

During the year approximately 2304 lbs. of Glaxo, 1160 lbs. of Ambrosia, and 420 lbs. of Virol were sold.

There were given away to necessitous cases and for illegitimate children 529 lbs. of Glaxo, 492 lbs. of Ambrosia, 326 lbs. of Virol and 29 tins of Lactagol.

The classification of Infantile Deaths is as follows :

Prematurity	...	...	...	10
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	...	4
Infantile Jaundice	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	4
Congenital Debility	..	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	4
Infective Enteritis	...	...	...	1
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	1
Pertussis	...	...	...	2
Marasmus	...	...	...	1
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	1
Otitis Media	...	...	...	1

Infantile Mortality occurring in Wards :—

		East Ward.	West Ward.	South Ward.	Total
1st Quarter	...	3	3	3	9
2nd	„	3	3	3	9
3rd	„	2	2	1	5
4th	„	8	1	0	9

Infantile Death Rate in Wards :—

		East Ward.	West Ward.	South Ward.
1925	...	90'9	80'3	70'7
1924	...	140'5	56'6	121'4
1923	...	70'6	60'0	130'4
1922	...	85'2	91'8	135'9
1921	...	86'9	98'5	133'9
1920	...	90'5	55'0	81'3
1919	...	108'9	53'5	141'3
1918	...	118'8	41'6	96'4
1917	...	93'0	117'1	90'0
1916	...	73'1	81'6	75'6

—————

Infantile mortality for the whole district for the last ten
years :—

1925	...	82'6	1920	...	85'9
1924	...	113'0	1919	...	100'5
1923	...	82'8	1918	...	97'7
1922	...	99'0	1917	...	99'7
1921	...	102'7	1916	...	75'8

Health Visitors' Annual Report, 1925.

Births registered ...	Legitimate 363.	Illegitimate 24.	Total...387
„ notified ...	Live Births 391.	Still Births 15.	„ ...406
„ „ ...	By Midwives 271.	By Doctors 135.	„ ... 406
Infantile Deaths ...	23 Males.	9 Females.	„ ... 32
	1 Legitimate.	2 Illegitimate.	„ ... 3

Rate per 1000 deaths 82'6. Birth Rate 20'7.

Rate (Illegitimate) 125'0 per 1000.

Visits—To expectant mothers	...	Total ...	147
To the newly-born	...	„ ...	394
To Infants under 1 year	...	„ ...	1374
To Children over 1 & under 5 years.	„	„ ...	3721
Special Visits	... ..	„ ...	147
Total number of visits			<u>5636</u>

The above consists of work done in the two districts into which the parish is divided.

NURSE WHETTON.

255 First visits to the newly born.

850 Revisits to the children under 1 year of age.

2062 Revisits to children over 1 year and under 5 years.

58 Ante Natal visits, 48 Measles, 25 Whooping cough.

2585 Homes visited.

NURSE FACKRELL.

139 First visits to newly born.

524 Revisits to children under 1 year of age.

1659 Revisits to children over 1 year and under 5 years.

89 Ante Natal visits.

1836 Homes visited.

61 Measles and Pneumonia cases, 19 Whooping cough.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Water Supply for the greatest part of the district is derived from deep wells situated in Norman's Hollow, Sherwood Forest.

Water.

The remaining portion of the district, consisting of four streets, belonging to the Butterley Co. Ltd., and comprising 335 houses with a population of about 1400, is supplied with water from the Company's own works which are situated in Sherwood Forest near to the Council's works and the water derived from the same strata.

The Water Works for the first mentioned area are the Council's own property. The supply has hitherto been found sufficient for the needs of the district. Lately, however, great difficulty has been experienced in maintaining a constant supply to the high ground of the South Ward. It is hoped, however, that this trouble will be permanently remedied by the action you have taken in the matter, by installing a new main along the Derby Road, coupling up with the existing main at the top of the Shoulder of Mutton Hill. To get a better lift of water from the well, the pumps have been lowered during the year.

The quality of the water is extremely good. There is no contamination and no plumbo-solvent action.

Three small rivers have their source in this district, the Erewash rises in the centre and runs in a South West-erly direction. The Leen rises on the South-Eastern boundary and runs in a Southerly direction and the Maun rises on the Northern boundary and travels in a Northerly direction. All these may be said to be free from pollution.

Rivers and
Streams.

The main portion of the sewage is dealt with at the outfall works in Park Lane.

Sewerage.

A portion of the South Ward is dealt with by irrigation on land, for which privilege, rent is paid to the owner of the land.

As however the district is developing outside the limits of the existing sewers, and cesspools are in consequence becoming too numerous, you have under consideration a more comprehensive scheme to bring the whole of the sewage to the present disposal works, where extensions and rearrangements will be necessary.

For the isolated hamlet of Portland Row on the South-West boundary and Pinxton Green in the Western boundary small outfall works have been constructed and good results are obtained.

The main Sewage Works in Park Lane, deals with four-fifths of the whole of the Sewage of the district. The method of purification is by means of settling tanks and filter beds, the filtering medium of the latter being granite.

The effluent is quite satisfactory, but the system of dealing with the sludge leaves much to be desired.

Closet
Accommoda-
tion.

The Closet accommodation of the district is as follows:

Water Closets	...	1419
Pail Closets	...	2428
Waste Water Closets	...	2
Midden Privies	...	6

During the past year 90 Pail Closets have been converted into Water Closets by the owners and the Midden Privies of seven houses have been converted into Water Closets by the Council under Section 36, P.H.A. 1875, on the owners failing to comply with their notice, the Council recovering the costs.

As in previous years, I again urge the Council to consider a scheme for the conversion of all Pail Closets into Water Closets.

The Scavenging of the whole area is carried out by **Scavenging.** the Council's workmen, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

The Pail Closets are cleansed during the night, and the nightsoil disposed of to farmers principally, and a smaller quantity to garden holders.

During the year 3,016 loads of nightsoil were collected and disposed of.

The house refuse is collected during the day and 6,525 loads were collected. Of this amount 4,843 loads were dealt with at the Destructor and the balance disposed of at a tip.

The policy of getting ashpits abolished and movable dust bins substituted, is being pursued and during the year 206 of these conversions have been made.

The following nuisances have been dealt with by means of informal and statutory notices and abatements have been secured without legal proceedings being necessary excepting in one case, this was for general repairs to six houses, the owner failing to comply with notices served on him a prosecution was necessary. The court made an order for the work to be done within one month and imposed a fine of £2 and costs.

House Drains unstopped and cleansed	...	...	208
Closet Pails renewed	...	...	43
Dust Bins renewed	...	...	43
Pail Closets to Water Closets	...	...	90
Midden Privies to Water Closets	...	...	7
Defective Drainage taken up & reconstructed	...	...	33
Defective Rain Water spouting	...	...	9
Ashpits abolished & Dust Bins substituted	...	...	206
Yards repaved	...	...	29

Insanitary houses made good	...	38
Overcrowded and dirty condition of house		1
Hutment unfit for habitation	...	1
Nuisances arising from animals	...	3
Houses unfit for habitation	...	2

Of the latter one house has been reconstructed and the other closed, the owners having built two new ones on the site.

Number of inspections made	...	2139
Number of Informal Notices served		713
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	4

Schools.

The Sanitary accommodation of the Schools is good in general, and they are all provided with Water Closets, with the exception of one School at Portland Row where a Midden Privy and Pail Closets exist. This matter has been reported to you and you have communicated with the County Education Authority on the matter, but owing to the lease having nearly expired nothing has been done to improve conditions.

In my opinion this is a serious condition of affairs where the health of the children is concerned and something should be done at once to remedy the existing dangers.

Your Veterinary Inspector accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector, twice examined the milch cows in the district. One cow was found to be affected with Tuberculosis and was destroyed. The rest of the cows were found to be in very good condition as a result no doubt of the farmers realising the value of improved ventilation and light in the cowsheds and the cleaner conditions under which the cows are kept. These regular visits have had an excellent effect, and the cowkeepers are now disposed to

ask advice instead of spurning it when offered as used to be the case when these inspections were first instituted.

There is no milk sold in the district under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, excepting that a small quantity of pasteurised milk is imported in sealed bottles and sold as received. The greater portion of the milk is distributed by purveyors without special treatment.

As I have on many occasions observed, there is an excellent opportunity for the farmers and purveyors to establish a pasteurisation plant and distribute the milk under the more hygienic conditions, but unfortunately both producers, purveyors and consumers appear to be very conservative in their ideas and rather cling to the ills they have than try something new and better.

The new Meat Regulation which came into operation on April 1st, 1925, placed a considerable amount of work on the Sanitary Inspector. Before the order became operative this Officer met the local Butchers' Association and fully explained the provisions of the order to them. In consequence, a working agreement was arrived at whereby it was made possible for the Inspector to see each animal after slaughter before removal to the sale shops. As the 14 licensed slaughter houses are situated in different parts of a wide area, the arrangements made have been very successful in enabling the Inspector to carry out the provisions of the order.

Meat.

There were during the year three beasts and one pig found to be badly affected with tuberculosis and condemned, there were also condemned 140 lbs of frozen meat.

Of tinned goods, 25 tins of fruit, 2 tins of fish and 1 of meat were condemned.

The whole of this food was destroyed at the Refuse Destructor.

The number of private slaughter houses are :—

	1920		Jan. 1925.		Dec. 1925.
Registered	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Licensed	13	...	14	...	14

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

There are Six Bake-houses in the district, all of which are kept in a cleanly condition. One bake-house has been closed during the year.

Twenty Workshops and Workplaces have also been found to be kept in a satisfactory state.

Housing.

The Housing problem in the district is still acute, although during the last year 170 new houses have been erected giving considerable relief to the overcrowded conditions of a year ago; there now remains about 20% of the houses in the district with double tenancies.

Some relief to this is expected in the near future by the migratory portion of the population moving to the new colliery villages now being built in the Northern part of the County and by the increased activity in the building trade locally.

The general fitness of houses is good, with a few exceptions where very old property exists. In one such instance a row of 24 old houses have been completely reconstructed and made fit for habitation.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Officials for their co-operation during the year, and particularly so to Mr. Massey, for his active assistance in successfully dealing with and keeping under the Small Pox epidemic, and his practical assistance in all Sanitary work of the district.

I wish also to thank you, gentlemen, for your kind consideration to all suggestions and proposals I have had to bring before you during the year for the amelioration of the sanitary conditions of the district.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MAURICE E. KAYTON.



Housing Statistics for the year 1925.

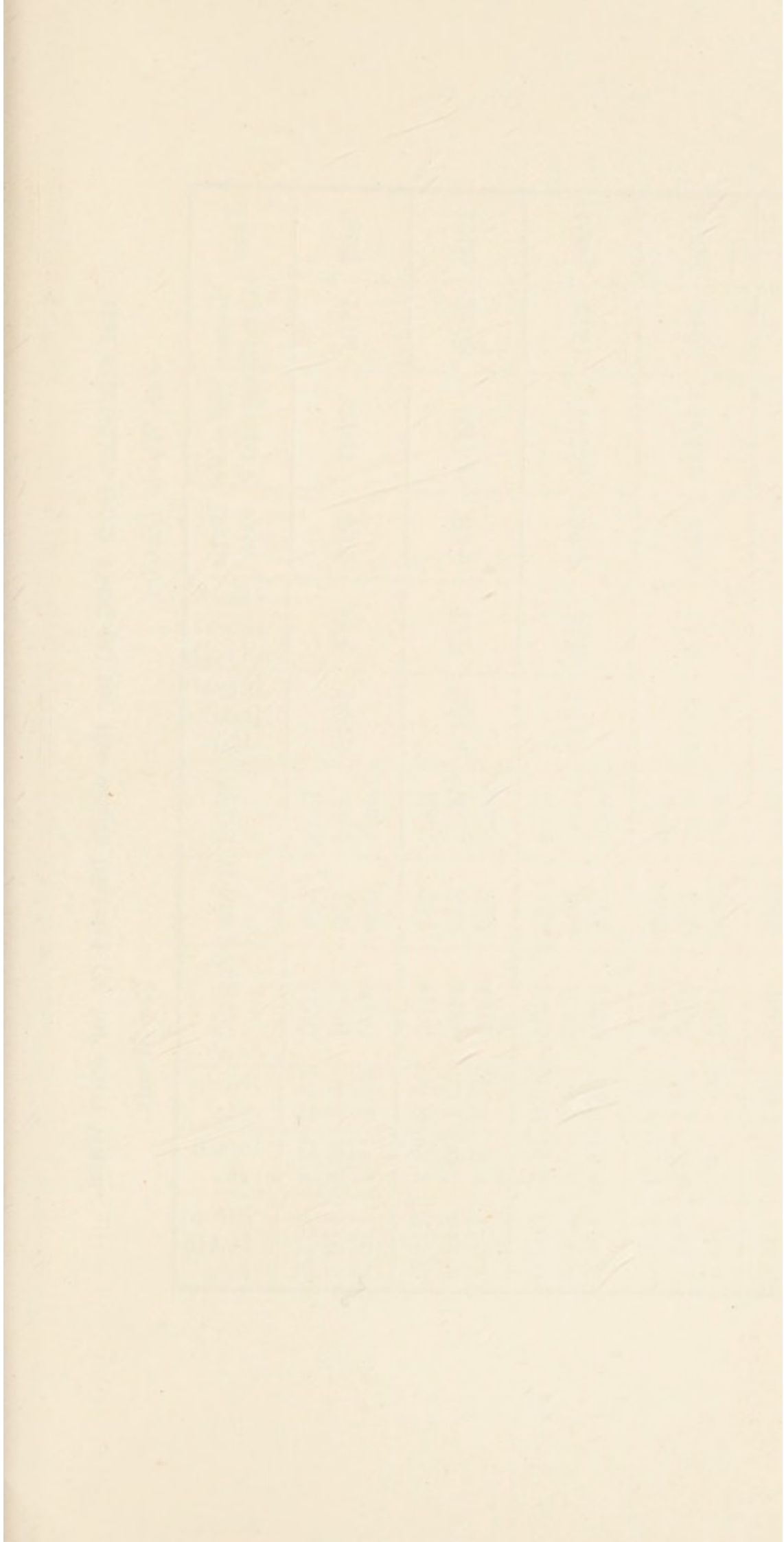
Number of new houses erected during the year	
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).	170
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority.	—
(ii) By other bodies or persons. Subsidy	142

1.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	2139
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	26
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	38

2.—Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	64
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Vital Statistics from 1896 (a) for the whole District (b) for each Ward.

For Whole District. For Wards.

Year	Houses occupied	Estim't'd populat'n	Birth rate	Death rate at all ages	Infant Death Rate	Ward	Houses	Populat'n	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1896	1704	8520	39.5	18.5	186.9	East	684	3420	45.2	19.3	184.6
						West	420	2100	35.1	18.2	170.5
						South	600	3000	43.1	18.1	176.9
1900	2108	10034	39.9	19.9	204.4	East	741	3705	48.8	23.7	248.0
						West	645	3225	33.1	20.4	214.9
						South	722	3610	31.3	9.8	132.7
1904	2751	13755	37.8	12.6	165.0	East	1193	5695	39.9	11.5	163.8
						West	805	4020	30.3	11.6	180.3
						South	754	3770	42.7	15.6	155.2
1908	3165	16442	33.0	11.8	139.9	East	1409	7318	37.6	11.4	180.6
						West	930	4863	36.1	13.6	157.7
						South	820	4261	35.1	12.9	145.4
1912	3325	16625	28.5	11.5	123.0	East	1533	7665	30.7	12.2	114.4
						West	958	4790	26.1	11.0	104.0
						South	834	4170	26.3	9.3	154.5
1916	3514	17570	24.0	8.5	75.8	East	1661	8305	24.6	8.4	73.1
						West	980	4900	20.0	6.5	81.6
						South	874	4365	27.2	8.4	75.6
*1917	3524	17469	24.6	12.7	99.7	East	1666	8330	24.4	11.1	93.0
						West	980	4900	22.6	10.4	117.1
						South	878	4390	25.2	7.3	90.0
*1918	3589	17613	24.9	16.3	97.7	East	1680	8400	24.0	12.2	118.8
						West	980	4900	24.5	12.2	41.6
						South	879	4395	23.6	15.4	96.4
*1919	3551	17092	22.6	12.3	105.6	East	1692	8142	22.5	10.1	108.9
						West	980	4705	23.6	9.6	53.5
						South	879	4245	21.9	11.7	141.3
*1920	3565	17062	22.9	10.5	85.9	East	1706	8530	23.7	8.0	90.5
						West	980	4900	22.2	8.9	55.0
						South	879	4395	27.9	9.5	81.3
1921	3615	17540	27.1	10.7	102.7	East	1754	8508	27.0	9.1	86.9
						West	981	4763	29.8	12.5	98.5
						South	880	4269	26.2	14.2	133.9
1922	3626	18080	23.5	10.5	99.0	East	1762	8760	25.4	10.2	85.2
						West	982	4885	20.0	12.4	91.8
						South	882	4385	23.4	8.9	135.9
1923	3653	18220	20.6	10.2	82.8	East	1780	8950	20.6	8.8	70.6
						West	990	4950	20.2	9.4	60.0
						South	883	4415	20.7	13.8	130.4
1924	3692	18640	21.3	10.3	133.0	East	1809	9161	20.1	9.1	140.5
						West	1000	5040	21.0	12.3	56.6
						South	883	4439	24.0	10.3	121.4
1925	3862	18700	20.7	9.9	82.6	East	1933	9180	19.2	11.0	90.9
						West	1034	5100	21.5	8.4	80.3
						South	895	4470	22.1	9.3	70.7

*These figures are worked on the Registrar General's figures and the Local Registrar's Returns.



