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Brentford Urban District Council.

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector,

1919.



BRENTFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY COMMITTEE. 1918-1919.

Chairman of the Council.

FORRESTER CLAYTON, Esq., J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman of the Council.

CHAS. H. CURTIS, Esq., F.R.H.S.

Chairman of the Sanitary Committee.

E. PAINTER, Esq.

Members.

J. CLEMENTS, Esq., J.P.

GEO. CHALLIS, Esq. and E. C. JONES, Esq.

Medical Officer of Health and
Superintendent Isolation Hospital.

HENRY BOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London.

Sanitary, Housing, Canal Boat and Petroleum Inspector.


HARRY COLEMAN, M.S.I.A., ASSOC. R. SAN. INST.

CERT. INSPECTOR OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Clerical Assistant.

W. G. BYFORD (Temporary)

R. R. DICKER (On Active Service).



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CLIFDEN HOUSE,

BRENTFORD,

September, 1920.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Brentford.**

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report upon the natural and social condition, and the sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1919.

The area of the Urban District of Brentford, the County Town of Middlesex, is 1,090 acres, and comprises the Parish of Old Brentford and the Township of New Brentford.

The district is bounded on the North by the Borough of Ealing and the Urban District of Hanwell; on the South by the River Thames; on the East by the Urban Districts of Chiswick and Acton, and on the West, by the Urban District of Heston and Isleworth.

The geological sub-soil formation consists, in the main, of gravel, although, in certain parts of the district, clay and loam are to be found. The level of the district rises gradually from the river and reaches its highest point at Boston Manor Station, on the North-West boundary, 81.2 feet, and on the North-East boundary, 91.7, above Ordnance Datum.

The inhabitants consist, chiefly, of the working class, many of whom are employed in local occupations, principally at the Gas Works, Metropolitan Water Works, Brewery, Jam Factory, Soap Works, Parchment Works, Tyre Factory, Asbestos Packing Works, Great Western Railway Docks and Warehouse, Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market, Nut and Bolt Works, Laundries, Barge Building and Repairing Yards, Engineering Works, and at the South-Western, Midland, and London & North-Western Goods Depôts.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General has estimated the population at 17,960 for the birth-rate and 17,241 for the death-rate, and upon these figures the report is based, the difference in the rates being accounted for by the absence of men on active service.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during the year was 333, viz., 184 males and 149 females, to which must be added 8 births, viz., 7 males and 1 female, which, although occurring outside, belong to the district.

The actual number of births belonging to the district is therefore 341, and, on the basis of the figures supplied by the Registrar-General, is equal to a birth-rate of 18.9 per 1,000, which is slightly higher than the birth-rate of London (18.3) and England and Wales (18.5).

The following table shows the number of births :—

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	178	142	320
Illegitimate	...	...	13	8	21
			—	—	—
			191	150	341
			—	—	—

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 133, viz., 64 males and 69 females, equal to a death-rate of 7.7 per 1,000. Four of these deaths were transferable to other districts, while 88 residents of Brentford, viz., 47 males and 41 females, died outside the district. The corrected number of deaths is, therefore, 217, and on the basis of the population estimated by the Registrar-General, the nett death-rate is equal to 12.5 per 1,000.

The death-rate for London is 13.4, and for England and Wales 13.8.

Seven inquests were held during the year.

The following table epitomises the ages at which death occurred :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	36	} 43 deaths under 5 years.
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	7	
5	„	15	„	...	8	} 174 deaths over 5 years.
15	„	25	„	...	12	
25	„	65	„	...	75	
65	„	75	„	...	45	
75	„	85	„	...	29	
85	„	100	„	...	5*	

* The following died at the respective ages :—One at 86, one at 87, two at 91, and one at 92.

Nett Deaths at all Ages (Civilians only).

Cause of death.					Males.	Females.
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
Small-Pox	...	...	...	...	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	0	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	8	9
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	16	10
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	4	12
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1	1
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	12	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	11	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	7	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	5	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	0	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	0	0
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	0	0
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	3	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	5
Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	2
Congenital Debility, etc.	...	...	...	...	8	5
Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	28	33
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	0	0
Total ...					108	109
					217	
Special Cause (included in the above),						
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...					1	0

Total population at all ages, 16,584.
 Total families or separate occupiers, 3,659. } At Census, 1911.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year of age among the residents of the district was 25, viz., 10 males and 15 females, corresponding to a rate of 73.3 per 1,000 births. Unfortunately, I have to record 11 deaths of infants, viz., 9 males and 2 females, belonging to the district, which occurred in institutions outside the district.

These deaths bring the number up to 36, viz., 19 males and 17 females, equal to a rate of 105.5 per 1,000 nett births.

PHTHISIS.

This is the seventh year of the compulsory notification of Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis. The following particulars have been extracted from the Register :—

Cases not previously notified (Form A)	...	...	...	24
„ notified by School Medical Inspectors (Form B)	...	...	...	0
„ „ „ Medical Officers of Poor Law Institutions and Sanatoria (Form C)	...	...	...	36
„ notified after discharge from Poor Law Institutions, etc. (Form D)	...	...	...	26
Notifications transferred to other districts	...	...	...	0
Total number of notifications received				86

Analysis of Notifications received.

27	patients have been notified once	...	...	...	27
20	„ „ „ twice	...	...	...	40
3	„ „ „ three times	...	...	...	9
1	patient has been notified four times	...	...	...	4
1	„ „ „ six times	...	...	...	6
					86

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Scavenging.

House refuse is collected once a week by direct labour under the supervision of the Surveyor. The amount collected is about seven tons per week, all of which is disposed of by burning in the Destructor.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Details of this are found in the Report of the Inspector.

Food.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—The bulk of the milk comes from the country; only a few cows are kept in the district.

(b) *Other Foods*.—I have, from time to time, examined, at the request of your Inspector, various articles of food, and in all cases his opinion was confirmed as to its wholesomeness or otherwise. A quantity of tuberculous meat has been condemned, but full details as to the inspection of meat and other foods appear in the Inspector's Report.

(c) *Sale of Food and Drugs Act*.—This Act is administered by the Officers of the Middlesex County Council.

Water Supply.

The district is supplied with water from the mains of the Metropolitan Water Board, and a good supply is always obtainable. There are several wells in the district, and, as far as is known, only one is in use.

A sample of water from this well has been submitted for analysis. The report states that the quality of the water is good; consequently no further action could be taken by the Council.

A deep well on the south side of the High Street has been filled in with waste materials.

Housing.

Since my last report, nine houses have been reported upon as being unfit for human habitation, three of which were voluntarily closed by the owners upon representation being made to them by the Inspector. Two have been repaired, and the remainder, owing to the difficulty of finding suitable accommodation for the occupants, remain occupied.

The following properties have been dealt with:—

Nos. 35, 37, 39, and 41, Ealing Road.—The Inspector reported that these houses were in a dilapidated and insanitary condition, and, upon reporting the matter to the Committee, was instructed to communicate with the owner. The Inspector subsequently met the owner on the property, who, after viewing the same, decided not to attempt to repair the houses. Upon the tenant vacating No. 41, it has since remained vacant. The other houses are occupied.

Nos. 9 and 10, Church Alley.—In consequence of an outbreak of Typhoid Fever and the result of an inspection of the premises by myself and the Inspector, the attention of the owner was called to their insanitary condition. Subsequently the owner met the Inspector on the property, and, after viewing the property, decided to close the houses. Both houses have since been demolished.

No. 396, High Street.—Upon inspection, this house was found to be in a dilapidated and neglected state. The attention of the agents to the owner was called thereto, and consequently the property was sold. It is the intention of the present owner to carry out the necessary repairs.

Nos. 82 and 83, Distillery Road.—Upon the attention of the owner being called to the condition of these houses the property changed hands. The present owners have carried out the necessary works, viz., damp-proof course, consisting of slates bedded in cement, has been inserted to the house walls, the surface of the yards has been concreted, drains overhauled and inspection chamber provided, the interior walls have been repaired and cleansed, roof overhauled, new sink provided, and a draw-off tap connected direct with the rising main.

DEMOLITION OF INSANITARY PROPERTY.

Fourteen houses have been demolished since my last Report, viz., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Red Lion Yard, Nos. 9 and 10, Church Alley, and Nos. 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30, The Ham.

The following particulars show that during the past 13 years 301 dwelling-houses have been reported as being unfit for human habitation. Of this number—

57 houses were repaired and rendered habitable (including one house in respect of which a Closing Order made under the Housing Town Planning &c. Act, was revoked).

214 houses were demolished. Of these, 153 were demolished voluntarily and 61 upon receipt of Demolition Orders made by the Council.

30 houses still remain standing, of which 20 were unoccupied and 10 occupied at the end of 1919.

Total 301

In September, 1919, in compliance with your instructions, I caused a survey to be made for the purpose of ascertaining the housing needs of the district, and in October a special report was submitted to the Housing and Town Planning Committee showing that 186 dwelling-houses in the district which, although occupied, are not, and cannot be made, fit for human habitation, and that 122 occupied dwelling-houses which, although structurally defective and unfit for habitation, can be so altered, repaired, or reconstructed as to render the same fit for habitation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT.

The following table shows the number of notifications received from the Medical Practitioners during the various months of the year, compared with previous years :—

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Enteric Fever.	Malaria.	Measles.	Puerperal Fever.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Influenza.	Polio- myelitis.	Total for Month.
January	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	5
February	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
March	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	6	...	12
April	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	7	...	13
May	3	1	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	10
June	2	1	...	1	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	11
July	3	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	9
August	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	6
September	5	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	10
October	1	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	5
November	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	10
December	7	4	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	14
Total for Year 1919	31	13	6	2	2	2	18	16	2	1	14	0	107
1916	36	10	3	1	0	4	0	330	2	0	0	...	386
1917	16	14	8	4	1	0	0	354	0	0	0	2	399
1918	18	6	9	4	2	1	0	69	1	0	0	0	110

SCARLET FEVER.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, 31 cases being notified, as compared with 18 cases in 1918 and 16 cases in 1917, and a decrease in the number as compared with 36 cases in 1916 and 69 in 1915.

DIPHTHERIA.

Thirteen cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year, compared with 6 in 1918, 14 in 1917, 10 in 1916, and 25 in 1915.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Two cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year. Both patients, who had recently returned from seaside resorts, where they had partaken of shell-fish, were removed to the Isolation Hospital. No further extension of the disease occurred.

The following table shows the number of cases of Enteric Fever notified during the past 10 years, and which affords an index of the sanitary condition of the town :—

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
Cases	0	6	7	0	2	1	4	0	1	2

The following table shows the school incidence :—

School.	1916		1917		1918		1919	
	Sc'let Fever	Diph- theria	Sc'let Fever	Diph- theria	Sc'let Fever	Diph- theria	Sc'let Fever	Diph- theria
St. Paul's	5	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
Ealing Road	5	2	3	1	5	1	6	0
Rothschild	3	0	2	1	2	0	1	2
St. George's	3	0	3	1	2	1	1	3
St. Lawrence's	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
St. John's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Ham	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Half Acre	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Boston Road Infants	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Private Schools	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	0
Schools outside district	3	0	1	1	1	1	4	0
Under School Age ...	9	5	2	2	1	1	9	2
Over School Age ...	3	2	4	5	3	1	4	4
Totals	36	10	16	14	18	6	31	13

It has not been found necessary to close any of the schools on account of epidemic diseases.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Table showing number of patients treated in the Brentford Isolation Hospital during 1916, 1917, 1918, and 1919 :—

1916. 1917. 1918. 1919.

PATIENTS UNDER TREATMENT

(31st December, 1915) :

Scarlet Fever	11	0	5	0
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CASES ADMITTED :

Scarlet Fever	36	16	17	29
Diphtheria	9	13	5	12
Typhoid Fever	4	0	0	2
Erysipelas	...	...	0	0	0	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	0	1	0	0
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	1	0	0
			—	—	—	—
Total cases treated	...	...	60	31	27	45
			—	—	—	—

PATIENTS DISCHARGED :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	47	11	22	20
Diphtheria	...	...	8	13	5	12
Typhoid Fever	...	...	4	0	0	2
Erysipelas	...	...	0	0	0	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	1	0	0

PATIENTS DIED :

Diphtheria	...	...	1	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	0	1	0	0

**PATIENTS UNDER TREATMENT
AT END OF YEAR :**

Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	5	0	9
			—	—	—	—
Total	...	...	60	31	27	45
			—	—	—	—

CONCLUSION.

This is the first Report I have been able to present for several years—in fact my last Report was submitted in 1915—and many changes have taken place during that period. I am happy to think that two of your most important officials are still serving you. I allude to Mr. Coleman and Matron Ives. Mr. Coleman has now been here for many years, and his length of service only seems to make him more efficient and useful. His duties are manifold, and during the war were most troublesome, requiring constant attention and great tact, and I am pleased to think that he never failed in his duty or caused unnecessary friction. It would be very hard to find another as capable.

Miss Ives, I am glad to say, has had very little to do, for it is some years since we had an epidemic of either Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria, but she and her staff are always ready, and the Isolation Hospital is a model of cleanliness and efficiency.

I would also thank the Authorities of the Cottage Hospital for their prompt aid when called upon, and I hope for much co-operation from them in the future.

All the Teachers of the Public Elementary Schools are alert, and never fail to notify any suspicious case of infectious disease.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. BOTT,
Medical Officer of Health.

CLIFDEN HOUSE,

BRENTFORD,

June, 1920.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Brentford.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report, in which is recorded the work in connection with the sanitary inspection of the district during the year 1919.

The number of inspections, and re-visits, made to premises was 2,940, particulars of which are given in Table B. appended. As the result of these inspections, 560 preliminary and statutory notices were served. Wherever nuisances were found to exist a notice was served upon the person responsible, calling attention to the matter and pointing out the necessary remedial works. If the notice was not complied with, a report was made to the Committee, and authority to serve a statutory notice obtained.

The supervision of all works carried out for the abatement of nuisances has been, in spite of the difficulty of providing suitable labour and the inflated cost of materials, well maintained, and while no attempt was made to exercise unreasonable control, the efficient execution of all works was insisted upon.

In three instances, however, it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings to procure the abatement of various nuisances, details of which appear in Table A. In addition to the matters specifically enumerated herein, it must be remembered that no small amount of my time is taken up with clerical work and interviewing owners, agents, and builders, at the office or on the property. There are also numerous inquiries to be answered, statistics to be compiled, and besides the keeping of the various registers, records, and other books, some 1,529 communications were sent out during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

The following is a list of houses and premises the drains of which have been partly or entirely reconstructed under my supervision since the last Report :—

No. 1, High Street.

No. 14, Boston Road, and Cottage and Stables at rear.

No. 212, High Street (iron pipes throughout).

Castle Hotel (part only with 4in. iron pipes).

Rutland House, The Butts.

Nos. 119 and 121 and 53a and 54a, Ealing Road.

Nos. 50 and 51, Braemar Road (surface water and soil drains).

Nos. 52 and 53, Braemar Road (surface water drains only).

Nos. 56 and 57, Braemar Road (soil drains).

Nos. 21, 43 and 44, Eastbourne Road.

Nos. 99 and 101, Windmill Road.

Nos. 82 and 83, Distillery Road.

Nos. 86, 88 and 90, Windmill Road (major portion of main surface and soil drains and the whole of the branch drains).

In addition, application was made under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to examine the drains and water-closets on or belonging to Nos. 2, 4 and 6, Boston Road, and "Ports-down," The Butts, and in each instance the drains, etc., were found to be in such a condition as to necessitate an entirely new system of drainage. Notices have been served on the owners and occupiers to carry out the necessary works.

In the construction of new drains glazed stoneware pipes or heavy iron pipes, laid on concrete, are used. The hydraulic test is applied to all new drains before and after filling in the ground, and soil and ventilating pipes are tested by air pressure.

Plans are required in all cases, and these, which are kept and filed, form a complete record of the work carried out in the district.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

There are three licensed and two registered slaughter-houses and one licensed knacker's yard in use in the district. The latter is used solely for the purpose of slaughtering horses and cattle *not* intended for human consumption.

One new slaughter-house licence was granted during the year. They have all been kept under constant supervision and the necessary steps taken to secure compliance with the Bye-Laws. The visits to these premises have been arranged to take place, as far as possible, when slaughtering was in progress.

During the year three cases of Tuberculosis came under observation. In one instance the carcass of a heifer was found to be affected with Generalised Tuberculosis, and upon the attention of the owner being called thereto the whole carcass was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

It affords me great pleasure to record the fact that the butchers, fishmongers, and general dealers have shown a great desire to co-operate with me by submitting for examination any article of food the condition of which they were in doubt.

In one instance, however, upon making a night surprise visit to a slaughter-house, I found two sides of beef hanging up, dressed in the usual way, and apparently intended for human food, but which, upon examination, was found to be reeking with disease. The explanation of the person to whom the same belonged as to the reason for not giving notice relative to the disease was very unsatisfactory, and although proceedings were not instituted against him, the slaughter-house licence was not renewed. The premises are now used for other purposes.

In April last I submitted, in accordance with the Council's instructions, a Special Report on the subject of Tuberculous and other forms of diseased meat, including the provision of a public abattoir and the abolition of private slaughter-houses.

Since my last Report five seizures have been made in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, and in

each instance Orders were obtained from a Justice of the Peace to destroy the food seized so as to prevent the same being used for the food of man.

One person was cautioned, and in four instances legal proceedings were instituted, viz., two for selling unsound eggs, one for depositing for the purpose of sale unsound eggs, and one for exposing unsound fruit for sale. A conviction was recorded in each instance.

The following table shows the approximate weight of meat and foodstuffs seized, surrendered and destroyed, in respect of which 133 certificates were issued during the year :—

Articles of Food.				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Carrots	...	...	...	21	19	...	...
Potatoes	...	...	...	20	11	1	20
Dates	...	...	...	17	12	3	3
Cabbages	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Parsnips	...	...	...	3	3	...	...
Mutton	...	...	...	2	17	3	22
Tomatoes	...	...	...	1	16	0	26
Apples	...	...	...	1	2	1	10
Beef (including tubercular meat & organs)	...	...	...	...	19	2	8
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	14	0	26
Strawberries	...	...	...	...	1	3	16
Cheese	...	...	...	...	1	3	7
Salmon	...	...	...	...	1	0	10
Livers, Kidneys, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	2	14
Dried Fruits	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	1	26
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Eggs	...	...	...	...	3	0	0
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Total Weight				74	17	3	12
1918 total weight	...	...	...	45	6	2	13
1917 „ „	...	...	...	73	3	0	15
1916 „ „	...	...	...	6	9	2	15

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

During the year 107 cases of Infectious Disease were investigated and reported upon to the Medical Officer of Health. The precautions taken to prevent the further spread of the disease were as follow :—

- 43 premises disinfected upon the removal to hospital or recovery of patient;
- 12 library books taken from infected houses and disinfected; and
- 34 rooms stripped and cleansed.

As in previous years, school exclusion notices have been sent to the County Medical Officer, the Headmasters and Mistresses of the various Elementary and Private Schools within and without the district, and to the School Attendance Officer.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are six registered common lodging-houses in the district. The houses contain 29 rooms for sleeping purposes, and afford accommodation for 171 lodgers nightly. No cases of infectious disease have been notified at or traced to any of the occupants of these houses.

The cleansing has been carried out in accordance with the Bye-Laws and inspections made as frequently as possible.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Regular inspections of the premises where offensive trades are carried on have been made, and found, so far as the nature of the business will allow, to be kept in a cleanly manner.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are two cowsheds, four dairies, and 40 milkshops in the district. These latter sell milk only in small quantities. Regular inspections of these premises have been made, particular attention being paid to the cleanliness of the vessels and premises.

PROSECUTIONS (TABLE A).

Since the publication of the last Report proceedings for various offences under the Public Health and Canal Boat Acts and Bye-Laws have been instituted in 24 instances.

The following particulars are extracted from the register :—

Nature of Offence.	Act or Bye-Law under which proceedings were taken.	Result.
1916.		
Failing to give into the care of the master of a canal boat a certificate of registration.	Canal Boat Act, 1877	Fined 10s.
Unlawfully permitting a canal boat to be used by more persons than specified in the certificate of registration.	Ditto	Fined 10s.
Failing to keep a canal boat in good repair and constructed as to be capable of being maintained, at all times, weatherproof and dry	Ditto	Fined 20s.
Failing to abate a nuisance arising from the overcrowded condition of a bedroom.	Public Health Act, 1875	Fined 40s. or 25 days' imprisonment. Order made to abate the nuisance.
Conveying offensive matter through the street during prohibited hours.	Bye-Law No. 2	Fined 20s. and 10s. 6d. costs.
Ditto	Ditto	Fined 20s. and 10s. 6d. costs.
Ditto	Ditto	Dismissed. No costs allowed against the Council.
Ditto	Ditto	
Keeping more than the amount of petrol specified in the regulations.	Regulations made by Secretary of State	Fined 20s.
Keeping petroleum spirit without having obtained a licence from the Council.	Petroleum Acts, 1871-1881	Fined 20s.

Nature of Offence.	Act or Bye-Law under which proceedings were taken.	Result.
Conveying offensive matter through the street during prohibited hours	Bye-Law No. 2	Fined 20s. and costs.
Conveying offensive matter through the streets in vessels not properly constructed	Bye-Law No. 3	Fined 40s. and costs.
1917.		
Conveying offensive matter through street during prohibited hours	Bye-Law No. 2	Fined 20s.
Conveying offensive matter through the streets in vessels not properly constructed	Bye-Law No. 3	Fined 40s.
Ditto	Bye-Law No. 3	Fined 40s.
Conveying offensive matter through streets during prohibited hours	Bye-Law No. 2	Dismissed. No costs allowed against the Council.
Failing to abate a nuisance arising from the defective condition of the eaves gutters	Public Health Act, 1875-1907	Order made to abate the nuisance and to pay the costs.
1918.		
Selling unsound eggs	Public Health Act, 1875	Fined 20s.
Ditto	Ditto	Fined 20s.
Depositing for the purpose of sale 11 cases of eggs which were unsound	Ditto	Fined 20s.
Exposing for sale unsound fruit	Ditto	Fined 20s. and costs.
Failing to abate a nuisance	Ditto	Fined 20s. and £2 2s. costs.
1919.		
Failing to abate a nuisance	Ditto	Order made to abate the nuisance and to pay £1 1s. costs.
Ditto	Ditto	Fined 20s. Order made to abate the nuisance within seven days and to pay costs.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

During the year 10 canal boats were inspected, and, with the exception of two infringements, the condition of the boats and their occupants was satisfactory. Both defects were remedied without the necessity of serving notices, but, on the other hand, three complaint notes issued by neighbouring Authorities have been attended to.

No cases of infectious disease were reported amongst the canal boat population, and therefore it was not necessary to detain any vessel for the purpose of cleansing and disinfection.

Six canal boats have been registered during the year :—

(a) Motor-propelled canal boats	...	...	4
(b) Other boats	...	...	2

The total number of boats believed to be in use or available, is as follows :—

Motor-propelled canal boats	...	...	27
Other boats	...	...	341
			— 368
Boats which cannot be traced	...	...	14
Boats struck off register	...	...	10
			—
Number corresponding with Canal Boat Register			392
			—

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1871-1881.

Four applications to keep petroleum, and one to keep carbide of calcium, were received and reported upon during the past year, and in each instance a licence was granted on the usual conditions.

There are 22 licensed petrol stores and 3 licensed carbide stores in the district. The amount of petrol kept varies from 5 to 5,000 gallons. All the stores have been inspected, and the conditions upon which the licences were granted have, with few exceptions, been carefully observed.

Thirty-four notices of intention to store petroleum, not exceeding, in each case, 60 gallons in 2-gallon sealed cans, at various premises in the district, were received and reported upon.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

There are no premises in the district where flock is manufactured from rags, and only at one establishment is the process of "remakes" carried out, that is, the removal of flock out of the covering of a mattress and refilling the cover with the same and *no* other flock, which process does not come within the scope of the Act.

I have, however, observed that in all cases where mattresses, and the bags which contain the flock, bear a label to the effect that the condition of the contents comply with the regulations.

It has not been found necessary to take samples of any flock for the purpose of analysis.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the support which has been extended to me by the members of the Council generally in my efforts to carry out the oft-times difficult, disagreeable, and dangerous duties which I am called upon to perform in my endeavour to improve the conditions of the poorest, most helpless, and oppressed inhabitants of the district, coupled with the task of rendering growth more perfect, decay less rapid, life more vigorous, and death more remote.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. COLEMAN,

*Inspector of Nuisances and
Housing Inspector.*

TABLE B.

County of Middlesex—Sanitary Work, 1919.

Inspections.		
Number of premises inspected on complaint	...	27
" " in connection with In-		
fectious Diseases	...	107
Number of premises under periodical inspection	...	153
Houses inspected from house to house (H. and T.P. Act)	...	30
Total number of inspections and re-inspections made	...	2,940
Action taken (other than under H. and T.P. Act).		
Cautionary or intimation notices	...	502
Statutory orders issued	...	58
Action taken under H. and T.P. Act, 1909.		
Number of houses dealt with under Section 15	...	9
" " found to be in a state dangerous or		
injurious to health (Section 17)	...	9
Number of representations made by M.O.H. or In-		
spectors	...	9
Number of houses made habitable without closing		
orders being made	...	2
Closing orders made	...	0
Number of houses closed voluntarily	...	3
" closing orders revoked	...	0
" houses demolished—		
(a) by order of the local authority	...	0
(b) voluntarily	...	14
" underground rooms vacated	...	0
Houses let in lodgings (tenement houses).		
Number registered under Bye-Laws	...	32
" of contraventions	...	11
Common Lodging Houses.		
Number registered	...	6
" of inspections made	...	21
" of contraventions	...	7
Canal Boats.		
Number registered during year	...	6
" of contraventions	...	2
" prosecutions	...	3
" of convictions	...	3
Movable Dwellings, Caravans, Tents, &c.		
Number observed during the year	...	5
" of nuisances therefrom abated	...	2
" removed from district	...	5

Bakehouses.

Number in district	6
„ of contraventions of Factory Act	2

Slaughter-houses.

Number on Register	6
„ of inspections	293
Contraventions detected and remedied	21

Cowsheds.

Number in use in the district	2
„ of inspections made	5
„ of milch cows	13
Contraventions of regulations	1

Dairies and Milkshops.

Number on Register	44
„ of inspections made	67
Contraventions of regulations	9

Unsound Food.

Surrendered	5
Seized	128
Prosecutions	4
Convictions	4

Method of disposal—by burning at the Destructor,
and where possible, for poultry and pig food.

Offensive Trades.

Number of premises	5
„ of inspections made	21
Contraventions	4

Water Supply.

Cisterns, new provided	27
„ cleansed, repaired, covered, etc.	9
Draw-off taps placed on main	53

Drainage of Existing Buildings.

Water-closets—repaired, supplied with water, or other- wise improved	36
Drains—Examined, tested, exposed	54
„ Unstopped, repaired, etc.	19
„ Rain-water pipes disconnected	29
„ New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	18
„ Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts re- paired	3
„ Disconnecting and inspection chambers con- structed	35
„ Reconstructed	25

Disinfection.

Rooms disinfected—ordinary infectious disease	...	42
„ „ other causes	... ..	5
„ stripped and cleansed	... ..	34
Library books	... ..	12

Dust.

New Bins provided	... ..	59
How frequently is dust removed from each house?	Weekly.	
Method of disposal—by burning at the Destructor.		
Number of complaints of non-removal	... ..	2

Sundry Nuisances abated.

Overcrowding	... ..	1
Smoke	... ..	1
Accumulations of matter	... ..	22
Foul pigs and other animals	... ..	4
Dampness	... ..	47
Yards paved or repaired	... ..	39
Other nuisances	... ..	28

Bye-Laws with respect to removal of offensive matter.

Contraventions	... ..	10
Prosecutions	... ..	10
Convictions	... ..	8

The above do not include nuisances abated or prevented at the request of your Inspector, or nuisances existing in houses regarding which notices have been served or action taken under the Housing Acts.