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Contributors

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2079

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Hartismere

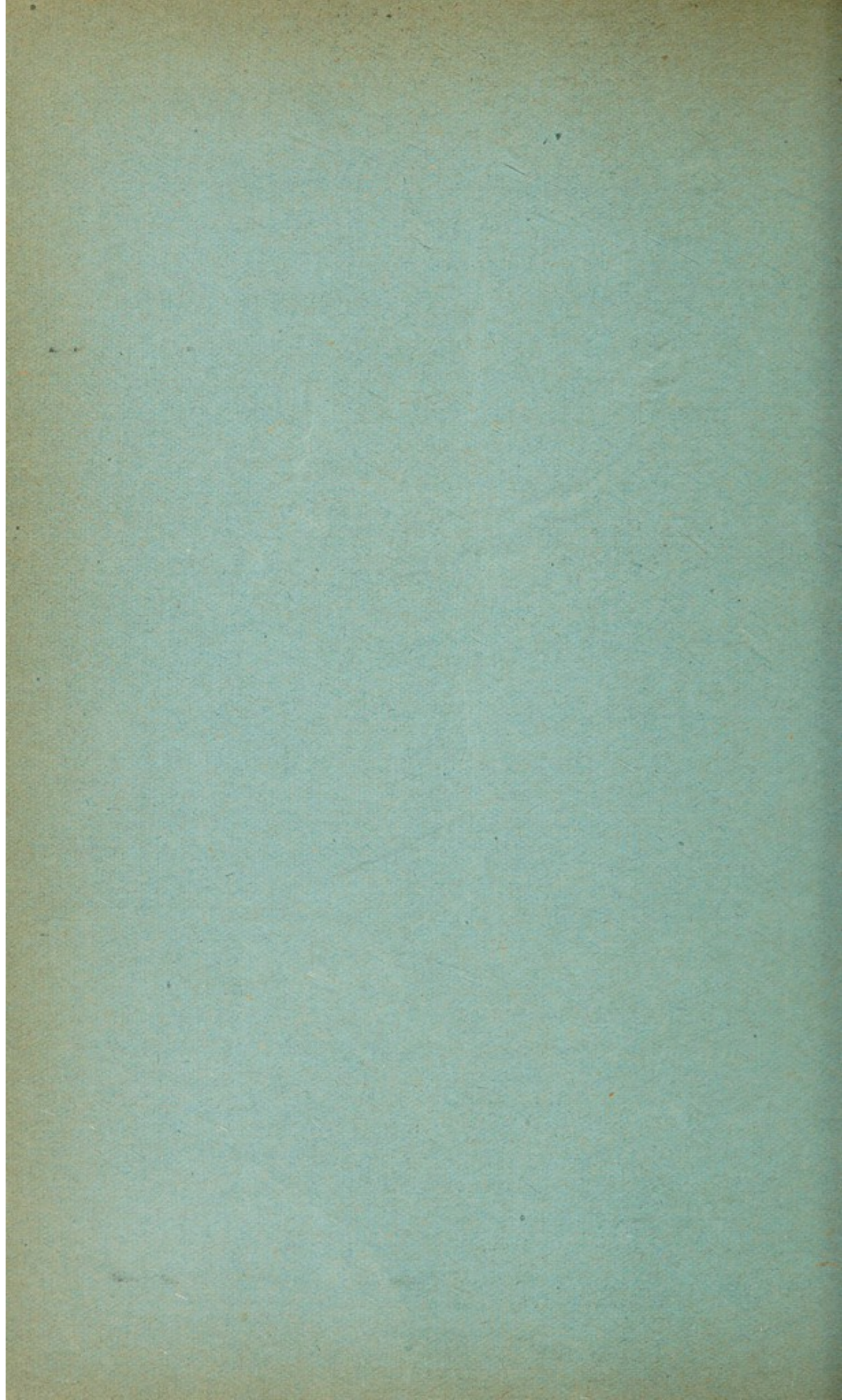
Rural District

FOR THE

Year ending DECEMBER 31st, 1920.

EYE:

A. G. ROPER, PRINTER, CHURCH STREET.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
Hartismere Rural District

For the Year ending December 31st, 1920.

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF HARTISMERE,

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Sanitary condition of your district for the period ending December 31st, 1920.

The District covers an area of 49,199 acres, with a population of 10,997, as estimated for 1920, and 11,486 at the Census in 1911.

The following parishes come within its boundaries :—
Aspal, Bacton, Botesdale, Braiseworth, Brome, Burgate, Cotton, Finningham, Gislingham, Mellis, Mendlesham, Oakley, Occold, Palgrave, Redgrave, Redlingfield, Rickingham Superior, Rishangles, Stoke Ash, Stuston, Thorndon, Thornham Magna, Thornham Parva, Thwaite, Thrandeston, Westhorpe, Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford, Wickham Skeith, Wortham, Wyverstone and Yaxley.

The whole district is agricultural, and there are no large factories in the area; the character of the country is undulating, well wooded, with small rivers and streams; the northern border separates it from the County of Norfolk, and is formed by the river Waveney. At the West

it adjoins the area of the West Suffolk County, while to the South and East it adjoins the Bosmere and Claydon district in the East Suffolk County. The soil varies from clay to gravel, the latter being most marked to the north of the district

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply is entirely from wells and ponds ; there are 37 public wells under the control of the Council, the rest are on private property; there are no true artesian wells, a few which draw the water from the chalk, these are often spoilt by a large quantity of iron, the rest are surface wells varying from 20 to 60 feet in depth.

I have analysed 11 specimens of drinking water of which—

- 4 were satisfactory,
- 5 were doubtful,
- 2 unfit for drinking.

Eighteen of the public wells and pumps have required cleansing or repairing.

Five ponds have been cleansed.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—No case of pollution of these has been reported.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—There are no complete schemes of drainage in the district, in most cases this is carried out separately for each property, but where more than one property uses the same drain arrangements are made between the users for keeping them clear and free from nuisance. The drains have their outlets into ditches, sometimes with the intervention of a cesspool to catch the solid matter.

In the cases of Mendlesham and Palgrave, the cesspools are cleansed by the District Council.

Owing to the difficulty of getting a proper fall, more trouble arises from the drains, cesspools, and the outfalls than from any other nuisances.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—There are only a few water closets in the district, and these only on private property and connected with their own scheme of drainage. The usual method of dealing with this is by large privies, many very old. Where it is possible to get the pails properly cleared I am endeavouring to get them converted into earth closets. How difficult this is, is shown by the fact that 36 privies were repaired, and only one converted during the year.

SCAVENGING.—House refuse also is entirely left to the individual householder to attend to, and is mostly collected in large brick bins.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.—This is systematically carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances, and in cases of difficulty by my own personal visit and inspection.

Many nuisances recur again and again, and might well be kept in order if the householder would only realise it was to his own advantage to keep them in order.

The extent of this work is shown by the following summary of the Inspector's work:—

- 200 Statutory Notices issued,
- 103 Verbal Notices given,
- 36 Privies repaired,
 - 1 Converted into an Earth Closet,
 - 2 New Pail Closets built,
 - 3 New Pails provided for existing closets,
 - 2 New Houses provided with New Drainage,
- 20 House Drains repaired and trapped,
- 6 Gutters and Cesspools filled in,
- 3 Dead Wells emptied and cleansed,
- 12 Foul Ditches cleansed,
- 31 Accumulations of Manure removed,
- 3 Premises cleansed,
- 6 Cases of Overcrowding abated,
- 10 Cases of Swine improperly kept removed,
- 22 Houses disinfected after infectious diseases,
- 2 Dustbins cleansed,
- 15 Gipsy Vans removed on account of insufficient sanitary accommodation,
- 3 Licences to sell petrol granted,
- Drain relaid at Mellis,

The Sewage Tanks at Mendlesham and Palgrave have been kept in order.

The Sewage Works of the Diss Urban Council have been regularly inspected, and no nuisance has arisen.

One Slaughter House is in the area in the parish of Wyverstone.

SCHOOLS.—These are all under the heading of Elementary Schools, and have been closed only after consultation with the School Medical Officer or on his recommendation.

Children suffering from infectious diseases, or coming from homes where there are cases of infection, are excluded from school until the house has been disinfected.

FOOD SUPPLY.

MILK, DAIRY AND COWSHEDS ACT.—The milk supply is entirely from farms, and no milk is imported into the district; on the other hand, a large quantity of milk is sent out of the district to London and elsewhere.

All such dairies are required to be registered, and 17 new premises were so registered during the year. There are now 46 premises in all registered under the Dairy and Cowsheds and Milk Shop Order; in 1915 there were only 8.

I have before pointed out that I am far from satisfied with the way the sheds are kept, and think each owner of cows would do well to read and follow the directions given in the pamphlet your Council has issued for ensuring cleanliness in milk.

Not only do these remarks apply to the sheds, but to keeping the cows and the hands of the milkers clean, and avoiding the use of sheds near stagnant pools, and, finally, the habit of allowing the yards to get too full of manure.

MEAT.—There is no public abattoir in the District.

No action has been taken under the Public Health Acts.

There are three Slaughter Houses in the District.

Registered in 1914	3	in 1920	3
Licensed ,,	3	,,	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The number of cases of infectious disease was 35.

- 3 cases Scarlet Fever.
- 8 cases of Diphtheria.
- 1 case of Poliomyelitis.
- 1 case of Erysipelas.
- 1 case of Chickenpox.
- 4 cases of Malaria.
- 9 cases of Pneumonia.
- 1 Puerperal Fever.
- 3 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
- 4 cases of other Tubercular Diseases.

SCARLET FEVER.—The first case occurred at Finningham, and was moved to the Isolation Hospital at Yaxley.

The second case occurred at Bacton, and was also removed.

The other case occurred at Aspall, and was isolated at home.

No cause was traced in any of these cases, and they were not connected with each other.

DIPHTHERIA.—Five of these cases occurred in your district.

Three from the Infirmary at Eye for treatment in the Isolation Hospital at Yaxley.

Five cases were also removed from Hoxne Rural District for treatment to Yaxley. The cases in your own

district were isolated ones, two at Bacton were removed to the Hospital at Yaxley.

The others were treated at home, the isolation being satisfactory.

The case of Puerperal Fever was removed to the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, and died there.

The case of Poliomyelitis made a good recovery without paralysis.

Five cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were treated at the Sanatorium at Ipswich.

HOUSING AND TOWN-PLANNING ACT.—During the year 567 dwelling houses have been inspected under this Act.

- 74 were found Defective.
- 113 Partly Repaired.
- 5 Closing Orders made.
- 1 Repaired after Closing Order.
- 3 Closed.
- 36 Statutory Notices were issued and 49 Verbal Notices.
- 6 Houses were Drained for Dampness.
- 4 House Drains were Repaired.
- 1 House had New Drainage.

These figures are in addition to those under the systematic inspection.

With regard to the New Housing Scheme, houses have been commenced at Mellis, Botesdale and Yaxley, and sites have been chosen at Rickingham, Wickham Skeith, Stoke Ash and Mendlesham.

I would remind you that I found 493 defective houses in your District, and your whole scheme only allows for 250 new ones, and there is urgent need to repair those that are standing.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.—The Register contains 113 (12 less than in 1915), they are as follows:—

FACTORIES:

- 18 Steam and Wind Mills for corn.
- 1 Sewage Farm.

WORKSHOPS:

- 26 Blacksmiths' shops.
- 4 Carpenters.
- 4 Wheelwrights.
- 4 Wheelwrights and Carpenters.
- 5 Builders.
- 3 Plumbers.
- 3 Coachbuilders.
- 1 Brickmaker.
- 4 Harnessmakers.
- 4 Dressmakers.
- 2 Bootmakers.
- 2 Tailors.
- 1 Basket Maker.
- 1 Brushmaker.
- 14 Cycle Repairers.
- 16 Retail Bakehouses.

There are no underground bakehouses.

Two hundred and thirty-six Inspections have been made, and all the premises are properly kept.

BIRTHS.—The corrected number of Births registered in your District during the year was 255, being a rate of 23.1 per 1,000 of the population; the corresponding rate for England and Wales was 25.4 per 1,000.

DEATHS.—The corrected number of Deaths in your District was 119, being a rate of 10.8 per 1,000; the corresponding rate for England and Wales was 12.4 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The number of Deaths under one year of age was 19, being 74 per 1,000 Births registered; the rate for England and Wales being 80 per 1,000 Births.

Legal proceeding was taken in one case only.

I have to thank the Sanitary Inspector for his assistance during the year.

I am

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY E. BARNES,

M.D. LON., M.O.H.

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death during the Year 1920.

CAUSES OF DEATH. (Civilians only).				MALES.	FEMALES.
All causes	...	...	...	54	65
1 Enteric Fever	...	...	...	—	—
2 Small Pox	...	...	...	—	—
3 Measles	...	...	...	—	—
4 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
5 Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6 Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	—	—
7 Influenza	...	...	...	—	2
8 Erysipelas	...	...	...	—	—
9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	3
10 Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	—	—
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	—	—
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	5	9
13 Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	—	—
14 Meningitis	...	...	...	—	—
15 Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	10	14
16 Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	4
17 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	1	1
18 Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	—	2
19 Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—	—
20 Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	2	—
21 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	1	—
21a Alcoholism	...	...	...	—	—
22 Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	—	—
23 Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	—	1
24 Parturition, apart from puerperal fever	...	...	...	—	1
25 Congenital debility, etc	...	...	...	5	7
26 Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	3	—
27 Suicide	...	...	...	4	—
28 Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	17	21
29 Causes Ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included above)					
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age,					
Total	...	...	...	5	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	2
Total Births					
Legitimate	...	...	...	132	99
Illegitimate	...	...	...	12	12
Population					
...	...	...	...	...	10,997

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous croup) ..	8	1	3	3	—	1	4	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ..	3	—	3	—	—	—	2	—
Typhus fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	9	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Puerperal fever ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	4	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Chickenpox ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	35	3	12	4	15	1	7	—

HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1920. Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-5 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified	...	7	3	0	1	11	4	3	3	3	24
	Uncertified	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All Causes	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Congenital Malformatns.	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Premature Birth	...	6	...	1	1	8	...	...	...	...	8
	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	3
	Other causes	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	4
Totals ..			9	1	1	1	12	2	1	2	2	19

Nett Births in the year: legitimate, 255; illegitimate, 24.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS. Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	- - - - -	10,997
(2) General death-rate	- - - - -	119*
(3) Death-rate from tuberculosis	- - - - -	5‡
(4) Infantile mortality	- - - - -	19†
(5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	- - - - -	2,441
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses	- - - - -	2,141
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	- - - - -	0

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	- - - - -	567
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	- - - - -	297
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	- - - - -	5
(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	- - - - -	74

II.—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	- - - - -	113
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	- - - - -	29
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	- - - - -	—
(a) by owners	- - - - -	—
(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	- - - - -	—
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	- - - - -	200
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	- - - - -	—
(a) by owners	- - - - -	113
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	- - - - -	—
C.—Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.		
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	- - - - -	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	- - - - -	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	- - - - -	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	- - - - -	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	- - - - -	—

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—

(1) Name of area	- - - - -	—
(2) Acreage	- - - - -	—
(3) Number of working-class houses in area	- - - - -	—
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	- - - - -	—
4.—Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919		—
5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer		†

* 10.8 per 1,000. † 0.74 per 1,000 births.

‡ Sanitary Inspector, Medical Officer of Health.

§ 0.45 per 1,000.