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# Annual Reports

For the Year 1908,

ON THE

## Malvern Urban District,

BY

C. R. P. MITCHELL, M.D.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH;

AND


HENRY HILLYARD, Cert. San. Inst.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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Malvern:

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## To the Malvern Urban District Council.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, which deals with the year 1908.

The year has been an uneventful one as regards the health of the District.

For the sake of convenience in referring to past reports I have adhered to the order as used by your late Medical Officer of Health, conforming to the memorandam issued to Medical Officers by the Local Government Board in 1900.

Copies will be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Tables I., III., IV., and V. are given, as required by the Local Government Board. Table II. does not apply to your District.

**TABLE I.**

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS registered in District.			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		Nett Death Rate minus Deaths among Visitors.	
		Number.	*Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	*Rate.				Number.	*Rate.	No. of Visitors excluded.	* Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
†1898	14838	347	23.4	28	79	196	13.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1899	16000	296	18.5	27	87	215	13.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1900	16300	312	19.1	31	99	217	13.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1901	16448	328	19.9	31	94	178	10.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1902	16448	312	18.9	29	92	194	11.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1903	16448	306	18.5	17	55	154	9.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1904	16448	286	17.3	27	93	178	10.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1905	17500	287	16.4	15	52	158	9.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1906	17500	293	16.7	30	102	196	11.2	5	5	13	175	10.0	16	10.7
1907	17500	271	15.4	21	77	165	9.4	7	—	20	185	10.5	11	9.9
Averages for years 1898-1907	16543	303	18.4	25	83	185	11.2	6	2	16	195	11.6	17	10.5
1908	18000	228	12.6	19	83	180	10.0	10	2	12	190	10.5	11	9.9

\*Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.  
 (†) Malvern Link District and Welland were annexed in 1898.

Table II. is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Malvern Urban District.

**TABLE III.**

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Cases Removed to Hospital.
Smallpox ... ..								
Cholera ... ..								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	10		1	3	3	3		7
Erysipelas ...	2					2		
Scarlet Fever ..	36		4	25	6	1		19
Typhus Fever ...								
Enteric Fever ...	3				2	1		1
Relapsing Fever ...								
Continued Fever...								
Puerperal Fever ...								
Plague ... ..								
TOTALS ...	51		5	28	11	7		27

**TABLE IV.**

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during year 1908, referred to in Table I., Col. 12, as required by Local Government Board.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Smallpox ... ..							
Measles ... ..							
Scarlet Fever ... ..							
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	1					
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup							
Croup ... ..							
Fever { Typhus ... ..							
{ Enteric ... ..							
{ Other continued ... ..							
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	4						4
Cholera ... ..							
Plague ... ..							
Diarrhoea ... ..							
Enteritis ... ..	4	3				1	
Puerperal Fever ... ..							
Erysipelas ... ..							
Other Septic Diseases ... ..							
Phthisis ... ..	6	1	1		1	2	1
Other Tubercular Diseases ... ..	3	1				2	
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	31					20	11
Bronchitis ... ..	7						7
Pneumonia ... ..	18	1	2		2	2	11
Pleurisy ... ..							
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	4		1				3
Alcoholism } ... ..	3					1	2
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal Disease ... ..							
Premature Birth ... ..	2	1				1	
Diseases and Accidents of parturition ... ..	3	3					
Heart Diseases ... ..	23				1	3	19
Accidents ... ..	4	1				3	
Suicides ... ..							
Senile Decay ... ..	20						20
All other causes ... ..	57	7	2	1	2	26	19
All causes ... ..	190	19	6	1	6	61	97

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
		All Causes.	Certified ... ..	5			3	8	2	1	1	2	1				1	1
Uncertified .. ..	2					2												2
Common Infectious Diseases	Smallpox ... ..																	
	Chicken-pox ... ..																	
	Measles ... ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ... ..																	
	Diphtheria : Croup ... ..																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough ... ..													1				1
	Diarrhoea, all forms . . .						1			2								3
	Enteritis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )																	
Wasting Diseases	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ... ..																	
	Premature Birth . . .	1																1
	Congenital Defects ... ..	1																1
	Injury at Birth ... ..	1																1
Tuberculous Diseases	Want of Breast-milk ... ..																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... ..				2		1					1						4
Other causes.	Tuberculous Meningitis...																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica...																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..								1							1		2
	Erysipelas ... ..																	
	Syphilis ... ..																	
	Rickets .. ..																	
	Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )...																	
Convulsions ... ..					2													2
Other causes.	Bronchitis ... ..																	
	Laryngitis ... ..																	
	Pneumonia .. ..									1								1
	Suffocation, overlaying ...	1			1													2
	Other Causes ... ..	1																1
		7			3		2		1	1	2	1			1	1		19



Table I. gives the general Vital Statistics for 1908 and previous years.

## Birth-Rate

As shown in the Table, 228 births were registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 12·6 per 1000 of the population.

In 1907, 271 births were registered, and the birth-rate was 15·4.

A comparison of the two years shews a considerable decrease in the birth-rate for the district in 1908, and this is to be regretted, as for the same period the general birth-rate for England and Wales shewed a fractional increase, the figures being 26·3 and 26·5 respectively.

The birth-rate for the district always has been low, owing to the age constitution of the population.

Mortality Tables shew that there is a great tendency to death among very young children. This decreases as they grow older, and the liability reaches its minimum at the age period 10—15, and then gradually increases.

From this we see that a low birth-rate may bring about a low death-rate, because the mortality among infants and very young children is high, but if it continues for years the proportion of persons over 15 will increase, and the death-rate will gradually rise. Fortunately this does not altogether apply to Malvern, where we are not entirely dependent on the birth-rate for the increase in the population.

## Marriage-Rate

The number of marriages registered in the District in 1907 was the lowest on record, but 1908 shows a substantial increase in the number.

## Death-Rate

As seen in Table I. the total number of deaths registered in the District in 1908, was 180, giving a death-rate of 10 per 1000 of the population.

Two of the deaths were uncertified.

Of these 180 deaths not fewer than 113 occurred in persons of 60 years or over, the ages being as follows :

Between 60 and 70 ... ..	31
„ 70 and 80 ... ..	49
Over 80 ... ..	35

The nett death-rate, which is obtained by “excluding deaths of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district,” and “including deaths of residents registered in public institutions beyond the district” amounts to 10·5. This includes 12 deaths of “residents registered in public institutions beyond the district,” viz. :

Birmingham General Hospital ... ..	1
Upton-on-Severn Workhouse .. ...	8
Worcester General Infirmary ... ..	3

I have followed the plan adopted by your late Medical Officer of Health, and added columns 14 and 15 to Table I., and excluded visitors who died in the district. These number eleven.

Including “residents from beyond the district” and excluding \* “visitors and non-residents,” the nett death-rate works out at 9·9 per 1000 of the population.

The death-rate for England and Wales for 1908 was 14·7 per 1000 of the population, the lowest on record.

The infantile mortality for Malvern in 1908 was 83 per 1000 registered births, while in England and Wales it was 121 per 1000.

The lowness of the infantile mortality is most satisfactory, as the standard for a healthy district is about 100.

It must be remembered, however, that where the birth rate is low, the infantile mortality will also be low, and *vice versa*, as is shown by a comparison with the 76 great towns of England and Wales, with a birth-rate of 27, and an infantile mortality of 128.

**TABLE VI.**

Area in acres ... 4,777. Estimated Population, 1908 ... 18,000

Births.		Nett Deaths.		Infantile Mortality.	
Number of.	Rate per 1000 of population.	Number of	Nett Rate per 1000 of Population, excluding deaths among Visitors.	Number of deaths under 1 year of age	Rate per 1000. Births registered
228	12·6	179	9·9	19	83

\* By the term "visitor" is meant any person who has come here for a short time, for health or other cause, and whose permanent place of residence is beyond the district.

### Cases of Infectious Diseases notified.

	Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Observation Ward.
Cases ... ..	—	36	10	3	2	—	3
Deaths .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital Cases ...	—	19	7	1	—	—	—
„ Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## The Extent, Distribution and Causes of Notifiable Disease

Details of these are given in Tables III. and VI.

### Smallpox

No case occurred during the year.

### Measles

This disease is not notifiable, but I have no reason to believe it was prevalent. No school had to be closed, nor was there any death attributed to the disease.

## Scarlet Fever

**TABLE VII.**

No. of Cases in each Month.	Total.	Date of Fatal Cases.
January (1), February (4), March (4), April (1), September (1), October (12), November (13) ... ..	36	

Table VII. shews the incidence of the disease. In a great part of the year the District was free from Scarlet Fever.

Twenty three of the cases occurred in connection with an unfortunate outbreak in a private institution in West Malvern in October and November, and the original source of infection was found to be an imported case. Two occurred in a private institution in Great Malvern. The source of infection in the remaining 11 cases was obscure, as is frequently the case in scarlet fever, and these cases were confined to 7 families.

Nineteen cases were treated in your Isolation Hospital, and no deaths were recorded from the disease.

## Diphtheria

**TABLE VIII.**

No. of Cases in each Month.	Total.	Date of Fatal Cases.
January (1), February (1), April (1), May (1), June (2), July (2), September (2) ... ..	10	

This Table shows that 10 cases were notified during the year.

Three of these cases were undoubtedly imported.

In one case the house drains were found defective, and have since been remedied.

As seen from the Table the disease was not epidemic at any time during the year. Diphtheria, however, was prevalent in some districts adjoining the Malvern area, and, in my opinion, the remainder of the scattered cases, indicated in the above table, were due to infection, carried in from these districts.

Seven of the cases were removed to your Hospital.

It is of interest to note, that in no case was the infection directly spread from one person suffering from the disease to another in the same house.

There were no deaths from this disease.

## Enteric Fever

**TABLE IX.**

No. of Cases in each Month.	Total.	Date of Fatal Cases.
March (1), May (1), November (1) ... ..	3	

As seen from the Table three cases of Enteric Fever were notified

during the year. One of these was certainly imported. Of the other two, one occurred in a house where the drains were defective, and where the well water in use was found to be polluted. The drainage defects have since been made good, the well condemned, and the town water laid on.

One case was removed to the Hospital.

Isolation at home was found to be practicable in the other cases. There was no death from the disease.

## Erysipelas

Two cases occurred during the year. These were mild cases of Facial Erysipelas, and were efficiently isolated at home.

## Whooping Cough

Whooping Cough is not notifiable in the District, but I believe it was somewhat prevalent in parts of the District towards the end of the year.

One death was attributed to the disease.

## Puerperal Fever.

No case of Puerperal Fever was notified.

It will be seen from the above that there was no death from notifiable disease during the year.

## Tuberculosis (Consumption)

Table IV. shews that six deaths occurred in the District, one of these deaths being a person over 65 years of age.

This is equivalent to an annual death rate of 0.3 per 1,000 of the population.

The Tuberculosis death rate for the previous six years was as under, viz. :

1907	...	0.5	1904	..	0.8
1906	...	0.5	1903	...	0.5
1905	...	0.4	1902	...	0.4

1908 shews a satisfactory decrease.

Your offer to have the houses where deaths from Phthisis took place disinfected, has been taken advantage of in 4 instances.

## Schools.

No Schools were closed during the year on account of Disease.

**TABLE X.**

			Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever	Observation.
Malvern District	...	...	19	7	1	3
Upton-on-Severn District	...	...		33		
Martley District	...	...		3		
Total	...	...	19	43	1	3

## Isolation Hospital.

As seen from the Table, 66 persons were admitted to your Isolation Hospital during the year.

Of these, 38 came from beyond the District.

Three patients were admitted to the Observation Ward. Of these two, after being kept under observation for some days, were found not to be suffering from infectious disease.

There is no doubt as to the great advantage of having such a Ward attached to the Hospital, especially when an epidemic is threatening. By the removal of suspicious cases to this Ward a serious outbreak may be averted.

During the year the walls of the Wards have been freshly distempered, wood-work painted, and some few improvements made in the Bedding.

## Disinfection.

Disinfection of houses and clothing has been very efficiently carried out. In all, your Inspector has disinfected 60 houses.

This year the Formalin spray method of disinfection has been employed, in addition to the use of sulphur and Formalin vapour. The spray is a very useful adjunct to the other methods, for instance, in the disinfection of passages and staircases, where it is impossible to disinfect thoroughly by means of gases, unless the whole house is sealed up.

## House Accomodation.

During the year 3 houses, where improvements were asked for, were closed by the owners. As the improvements have not been carried out, the houses remain closed.

In no one of these cases was it necessary to serve closing notices.

During the year the following buildings were erected in the district : Dwelling-houses, 19 ; Additions to same, 18 ; School, 1.

## House Drainage

Your Sanitary Inspector's report shews fully the amount of excellent work which has been done during the year.

Sixty-seven applications were received for Sanitary Certificates, and of these thirty-five were granted. This small proportion shews that the standard of efficiency aimed at is high, and in several cases complete reconstruction was insisted upon before your Inspector could recommend a certificate to be issued.

## Sewerage

Your Surveyor, Mr. Thorpe, has kindly furnished me with the following details :

"The past year has been one of considerable activity in carrying out extensive repairs and renewals to sewers, and extensions to same where necessary. New Sewers have been provided at West Malvern

Road, above the Lamb Inn ; at Pound Bank Road ; Cockshot Road to relieve stormwater ; Upper Howsell Road, and Church Road, 12in. main, outfall relief sewer ; and Wilmot Road, sewer. A number of sewers have been relaid, notably, the main sewer from Spring Lane to the Sewage Lift at Malvern Link, and also from Goodson Road to the same point. This work gave considerable trouble owing to its great depth and the water logged condition of ground, and has been constructed in iron throughout. A cast iron sewer has been laid from The Central Temperance Hotel, under Anglesea House, in Great Malvern, whilst the main drain near the Heathlands, Malvern Wells, has also been relaid. A new sewer at the rear of Belvoir Terrace, Cowleigh Road, has been provided, to replace an old defective drain which previously passed under the houses, and also a portion of the Merton Road main sewer in Malvern Link has been relaid. The old brick barrel sewer, from Abbey Road to College Road, through the grounds of Malvernbury and Ashfield, has been abolished, and a new pipe sewer substituted round College Road. Numerous other small improvements and repairs have been effected.

#### **Sewage Disposal Works**

The Disposal Works at Barnard's Green have given uniformly clear and satisfactory effluents, without exception, throughout the year. The last filte started is now in working order, and will tend to increase the standard of purity already obtained. Some small complaints have been made as to smells arising from the fine sprays in certain atmospheric conditions, and steps are being taken to minimise this.

Clinker is still being hauled, so that further provision for storm-water may be made at a later date.

Both Shuttlefast Farm at Malvern Wells and West Malvern Farm are very satisfactory. A new installation at Coton Farm, for dealing with the drainage of houses at Malvern Wells too low for the drains to gravitate into the main outfall sewer, has been provided, and is now in use. The Settling Tanks, &c., provided at the Gas Works at the latter end of 1907, have fully answered expectations, and have got over a very considerable difficulty, in dealing with the very objectionable waste liquor given off from the sulphate of ammonia plant.

#### **Removal and Disposal of House Refuse**

This continues to be efficiently carried out, and a further saving has been effected without affecting the proper performance of the work. Most of the refuse is consumed at the Electric Light Works, where it is completely and thoroughly destroyed and rendered innocuous.

#### **Water Supply**

The year 1908 had a rainfall equal to the average of previous years, viz., 26½ inches. The amount of water used for all purposes during the year was 112,167,000 gallons, whilst the amount received from the hills was 60,255,000 gallons, and 27,361,000 gallons from Bromsberrow. These figures shew that the Bromsberrow supply must be drawn from very considerably in the coming year, and also how invaluable a supply it is to the town.

Frequent analysis of the water has been made by the County Analyst, and on all occasions the result has been to shew that the high standard of purity aimed at has always been attained. No new mains have been laid during the year under consideration, whilst thirty fresh services have been connected to the supply.

## Excrement Disposal

Details of the work carried out are seen in Mr. Hillyard's report.

Sixty-two water closets have been furnished with flushing cisterns.

In this connection I would point out that many of the houses visited during the year had flushing cisterns installed, which had been put out of use, and that consequently the closets had been allowed to become foul. This matter has been reported to your Sanitary Committee. Now that the town has a practically unlimited water supply, in my opinion, this evil would, in the great majority of cases, be at once remedied if water were supplied by rate instead of by meter, as at present many of these people do not use the flush for motives of economy.

There are still too many closets flushed by means of slop-water only, but fortunately for the health of the district these are becoming fewer each year.

## Places over which the Council have Supervision

### Common Lodging-House.

The only Common Lodging-House in the district has been well conducted during the year.

Towards the end of the year a case of doubtful infectious disease was removed to the Observation Ward, where later it was proved to be Diphtheria. The premises were thoroughly disinfected after this case and no further spread took place.

### Slaughter Houses.

The ten registered licensed Slaughter Houses have been duly inspected and have been found fairly satisfactory.

It is to be regretted that these Slaughter Houses are so scattered throughout the district that a thorough inspection of all the carcasses killed is an utter impossibility.

A public Abbatoir, with every convenience for cleansing and handling the meat, would be of great service in a town such as this; every carcass would have then to be passed and stamped by your Inspector; and the possibility of unsatisfactory meat being sold would thereby be reduced to a minimum.

### Factories and Workshops.

The Workshops have been regularly inspected, and I have very little cause for complaint about their condition. In a certain number of cases the workpeople have not taken advantage of the means of ventilation provided, and the atmosphere of the rooms has been found to be unwholesome.

### Dairies and Cowsheds.

These were fully commented upon by Dr. Fosbroke in his report last year. The conditions remain very much as they were then.

Further legislation on this subject is urgently required, and it is probable that before long a Bill on this subject will be brought forward in Parliament.

In January, 1909, the Royal Commission in Human and Animal Tuberculosis published their third interim report.

This deals with the infectivity of the milk and faeces of Tuberculosis cows.

They point out that the milk of cows who have tuberculous udders always contain tubercle bacilli, and they also further found that the milk of cows, apparently healthy, and which were only found to be tuberculous by the tuberculin test, also contained tubercle bacilli. This is of such importance that I give abstracts from the report.

“None of the cows investigated shewed any sign of disease of the udder during life, and in all, after slaughtering, the udder was carefully examined for tuberculous lesions, and tubercle bacilli. No tuberculosis was found, except in one case in which one quarter of the udder shewed four small nodules. These could not possibly have been detected during life.”

“We found that the milk of the cows obviously suffering from tuberculosis contained tubercle bacilli, whether the milk was obtained in the ordinary way, or was withdrawn from the teat by means of a sterilised catheter. The presence of tubercle bacilli in the milk of cows clinically recognisable as tuberculous, confirms the opinion we expressed in our Second Interim Report, that the milk of such cows must be considered dangerous for human beings.”

They then pass on to consider the dangers of infection from the faeces. Some of the cowsheds in your district are so placed that the cows have to cross the farm yard coming and going, and consequently, it is almost an impossibility for the udders not to be soiled.

The remarks made by your late Medical Officer on page 21 of his report for 1907, are brought into further significance by the result of the following experiments quoted by the Royal Commission.

“The experiments which we have carried out with regard to the infectivity of the faeces of tuberculous cows, were dictated by knowledge of the fact that dirt of various kinds from cows and the cowshed is almost constantly present in milk as it reaches the consumer.”

“Cows suffering from extensive tuberculosis of the lungs must discharge considerable numbers of bacilli from the air passages in the act of coughing, and some of the bacilli thus expelled may find their way into the milk. But our experiments indicate that the excrement of cows obviously suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs or alimentary canal must be regarded as much more dangerous than the matter discharged from the mouth and nostrils. We have found that even in the case of cows with slight tuberculous lesions tubercle bacilli in small numbers are discharged in the faeces, while as regards cows clinically tuberculous our experiments shew that the faeces contain large numbers of living and virulent tubercle bacilli.”

“The presence of tuberculous cows in company with healthy cows in the cowshed is therefore distinctly dangerous, as some of the tubercle bacilli which escape from their bodies in the excrement are almost certain to find their way into the milk.”



This mode of conveying infection had not before been prominently noticed, and is another proof of the importance of scrupulous cleanliness of the udders and quarters of the cows, which can only be brought about by constant grooming and washing.

### **Bye-Laws.**

During the year Bye-Laws for the following objects have been drawn up :

- (1) Housing of hop-pickers.
- (2) Water.
- (3) Streets and new buildings.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the members of the Sanitary Committee for their courtesy, which has been appreciated by me, coming as I did to take the place of your late Medical Officer, who had filled the post for so many years.

I remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. R. P. MITCHELL M.D.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

# Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL OFFICES,

MALVERN, Feb., 1909.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Twelfth Annual Report, this being for the year 1908.

Towards the end of 1907 your Committee considered some of the many urgent duties with which I had to contend and which could not be foreseen. These matters frequently baffled and prevented accomplishment of every day working of the office, inasmuch as they would admit of no delay. The Committee recognised that I required help, and in May last I received the assistance of a junior clerk from the Gas Department (Mr. F. Cullen), and he has, I am glad to say, proved most reliable and a great help in many ways.

My work was for a considerable period at the beginning of this year further interrupted by matters relating to the action against the Council then in progress at the Royal Courts of Justice.

## Complaints

The Complaints lodged at my offices had reference to the following :

Drainage Defects	...	...	...	...	33
Defective Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	9
Nuisances arising from the keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	17
Dirty or Defective Dwellings	...	..	..	..	7
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	4
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	11
Unsatisfactory Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	4
Various Insanitary Conditions	...	...	...	...	19
Breaches of Factory and Workshops Act	...	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	...	109

Although these complaints necessitated a considerable amount of work and expense, comparatively little trouble was experienced with those responsible.

The principal works consequent on these complaints were the complete reconstruction of the drainage and sanitary appliances of some 16 premises, and the remedy of a number of defects in 17 others.

Amongst the complaints were two which had reference to the dwellings of aged and helpless persons.

The circumstances attending such cases are generally deplorable and very difficult to deal with.

In one of the cases alluded to, however, the difficulty was met by generous help from some of those who lived in the neighbourhood.

Pig-keeping has again been the cause of numerous complaints, especially towards the latter part of the year. This nuisance probably causes more discomfort and annoyance to the general public than any other.

### Records of Insanitary Defects

The total number of premises upon which insanitary conditions have been discovered is 245.

These conditions were entered in the Record of Defects, and subsequently reported to your Sanitary Committee. The Record shews that the number of outstanding matters have during the last few years been on the decrease, but although the work is now better in hand than it has ever been before, I still hope for improvement. The Summary at the end of this work gives approximate figures of the matters contained in the Record.

### Drainage

The Drainage and Sanitary arrangements of some 78 houses have been entirely reconstructed, and in 44 other instances minor defects have been dealt with. In addition to this, the drainage of a number of yards and stables has been remodelled.

Although the drainage of existing buildings is not in any way regulated by your Bye-laws, the method of examination and testing which I adopted nearly twelve years ago, has necessitated work of such a character that it would be exceptional for any of it to fall below the standard required by the most up-to-date Regulations.

### Sanitary Certificates

Of 67 applications received for Sanitary Certificates, 35 have been granted, and in addition to these some eleven copies of certificates previously issued have been given upon request. These numbers shew an increase over any other year.

The following gives the class of premises which have been certified:

Private Schools	...	...	...	...	5
Private Institutions	..	..	...	...	1
Boarding Houses	...	...	...	...	3
Private Residences	...	...	...	...	26
					<hr/>
			Total	...	35
					<hr/>

These Certificates have reference to Sanitary Arrangements and Drainage, but at the same time one has frequently found structural defects and faulty arrangements of water supply, so that the Certificates have sometimes been withheld until the defects were remedied.

## Workshops

The number of Workplaces now upon the Register is 131, and the following gives the number of the various trades carried on therein :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	32
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	6
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	13
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	9
Shoe and Harness Makers	...	...	...	...	...	9
House Furnishers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Coachbuilders...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Various	...	...	...	...	...	34
						<hr/>
						131
						<hr/>

The number of defects and infringements of the Act to which attention of the occupants and owners has been directed during the visits of your Medical Officer and myself, is 45.

A considerable number of improvements have within the past few years been made, and I am now unaware of the existence of any serious defects.

## Slaughter-Houses

There are now ten slaughter-houses in the district, and these have been frequently inspected, both by Dr. Mitchell and myself, and on the whole were found very well conducted.

The slaughter-house situated upon the Chase Estate, Pickersleigh Road, has been abandoned for slaughtering, and is now used as a motor garage.

## Common Lodging-House

These premises have been very well conducted. I think, however, that a change from the old straw and flock mattress now in use for those of a more modern and sanitary type is desirable, and I have made such suggestions to the keeper.

At the end of the year a lodger arrived, who was not feeling well. He was immediately sent to your Hospital and retained in the observation ward. Disinfection and cleansing was immediately put in hand, and enquiries from time to time made as to any further illness amongst the occupants. The patient's illness turned out to be diphtheria, but no further cases occurred.

## Water Supply

During the year some 14 samples of water were submitted for analysis. Five of these samples were taken from wells which supplied 10 houses, and of these two were satisfactory and three condemned. The samples condemned supplied the occupants of four houses, and in these cases town water has been laid on. In addition to these samples, the gathering ground of a private supply of water upon which a number of houses were dependent was found to be unsatisfactory, and has on several occasions received the attention of your Committee. The users have in this instance been warned, and the owners have approached your Surveyor with the object of extending and substituting the town supply.

In addition to the above, another private source has also received my attention and I have reported upon the same to your Committee.

These reports were strongly supported by your Medical Officer of Health, and a number of sanitary improvements are now being carried out with the object of preventing contamination of the soil near its source.

These two matters, I may say, were of very great importance to this district.

### **Food Supply**

Speaking generally, and from the small amount of time that one's duties have up to the present allowed for this class of inspection, one has every reason to think that the supply is generally satisfactory, and I may say that compared to the district of which I had charge previous to Malvern, and where one frequently found occasion to seize and prosecute, the standard is very good indeed. During the year I have met with two unsatisfactory cases, the one being some preserved food, and the other the carcass of a cow exposed for sale, and about which there were reasons for suspicion.

Your Medical Officer of Health subsequently saw and carefully examined the carcass and it was later destroyed in our presence.

### **Infectious Disease**

Enquiries into Infectious Disease, under the direction of your Medical Officer, resulted in the discovery of two unreported cases of Scarlet Fever.

Action has also been taken in a number of instances for protecting milk supplies, and for preventing infection being conveyed to Schools and business premises, such as laundries, etc., by persons from infected homes.

### **Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milk Shops**

The number of names upon the register is 49, viz.: 16 cowkeepers, dairymen and purveyors, and 33 purveyors only. These latter are generally connected with farms outside the district.

Those within the district have been visited from time to time by Dr. Mitchell and myself, and during these visits requests have been made for a greater standard of cleanliness.

The worst feature connected with Cowsheds generally is, in my opinion, the fact that cows have frequently the opportunity of walking across the farmyard in going to and from the cowshed, and as the yards are generally full of dung the animals become dirty.

Particulars of the cowsheds and their surroundings were fully set out in the last annual report.

### **Hop-Pickers**

Although there are no hopyards within this district, there are several just outside its boundaries, and in 1907 a number of hop-pickers were brought over the borders and lodged in some disused buildings. The buildings were ill adapted for the purpose, inasmuch as there was no supply of water, no sanitary conveniences, or means for separating the sexes.

A report was made to your Sanitary Committee and they, for preventing the possibility of a recurrence of these conditions, prepared Bye laws, which were subsequently submitted to the Local Government Board. These Bye-laws have now been confirmed and will constitute a great protection, should occasion arise.

## Summary of Works, etc.

<i>Prevention of Infectious Diseases under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.</i>	
Cases enquired into	57
Houses disinfected and cleansed	60
Patients removed to hospital	29
Patients removed from outside district	36
Unreported cases discovered	2
Loads of bedding disinfected	45
Bedding destroyed	2
<i>Houses Closed, Improved, etc.</i>	
Closed as unfit for habitation	2
Overcrowding abated	3
Cleansed, limewashed, &c.	17
Repaired, dampness abated	16
Roofs, eaves gutters, etc., repaired	27
<i>Drainage Improvements.</i>	
House drains reconstructed	78
House drains repaired and unstopped, etc.	44
Yard and stable drains reconstructed	38
Yard and stable drains cleansed and repaired	3
Rain water pipes disconnected from drains, and defective traps abolished	175
Inlets to drains removed from the inside of houses and buildings	17
Inspection chambers constructed	156
Gullies and intercepting traps fixed	285
Ventilating shafts and anti-syphonage pipes fixed	109
Soil pipes constructed	19
Soil pipes, etc., repaired	25
<i>Improvements in Closet Accommodation.</i>	
Additional water closets built	5
Water closets built in place of those faultily placed or found dilapidated	6
Water closets repaired, ventilated or cleansed	72
Water closets refitted with modern appliance	88
Water closets provided with water supply	62
Privies abolished	3
<i>Improvements in connection with Sinks, Waste Pipes, Urinals, etc.</i>	
New sinks provided	55
Waste pipes and traps fitted to baths, sinks, lavatories, etc.	98
Rain water cisterns removed from inside houses	12
New urinals built	1
Urinals fitted with modern appliances	2
<i>Miscellaneous Nuisances abated.</i>	
Accumulations of manure, filth, etc., removed	24
Nuisances from pig-keeping and other animals abated	24
Yards paved or repaired	20
Cesspools abolished	3
Defective sewers reported and remedied	11
<i>Water Supply.</i>	
Samples of water submitted to Public Analyst	14
Samples condemned	3
Samples reported unsatisfactory	9
Town water laid on to houses	30

<i>Smoke Nuisances.</i>							
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Factories and Workshops.</i>							
Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Certified for limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Number of insanitary conditions dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Cubic capacity fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number employing young persons reported to Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding discovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
<i>Slaughter Houses.</i>							
Registered or licensed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Regularly inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Repaired, limewashed and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
<i>Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.</i>							
Number of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Number of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
<i>Common Lodging-House.</i>							
Number on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Clerical Work.</i>							
Number of official letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	686
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Miscellaneous written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Sanitary certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Copies of sanitary certificates previously issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of premises entered in Record of Insanitary Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	245
Number of entries in Record of Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Number of premises complained of	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Monthly and special reports to Sanitary Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of entries in Register of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Number of entries in Register of Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of entries in Register of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The number of Statutory Notices served is 19, and I am glad to say that the defects have been remedied without resort to legal proceedings. Recommendations for prosecution have only been made in cases where all other methods have failed, and I think it is worthy of note that, although you have from time to time upon my recommendation instructed me to institute legal proceedings, the knowledge that such proceedings would be taken has proved sufficient, and there has been no prosecution whatever for insanitary conditions during the whole time I have had charge of your district.

This record may be better appreciated by the fact that about 1,600 premises have been entirely redrained, and these works have frequently necessitated an expenditure of several hundreds of pounds.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY HILLYARD,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

