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1925.

Northwich Rural District.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

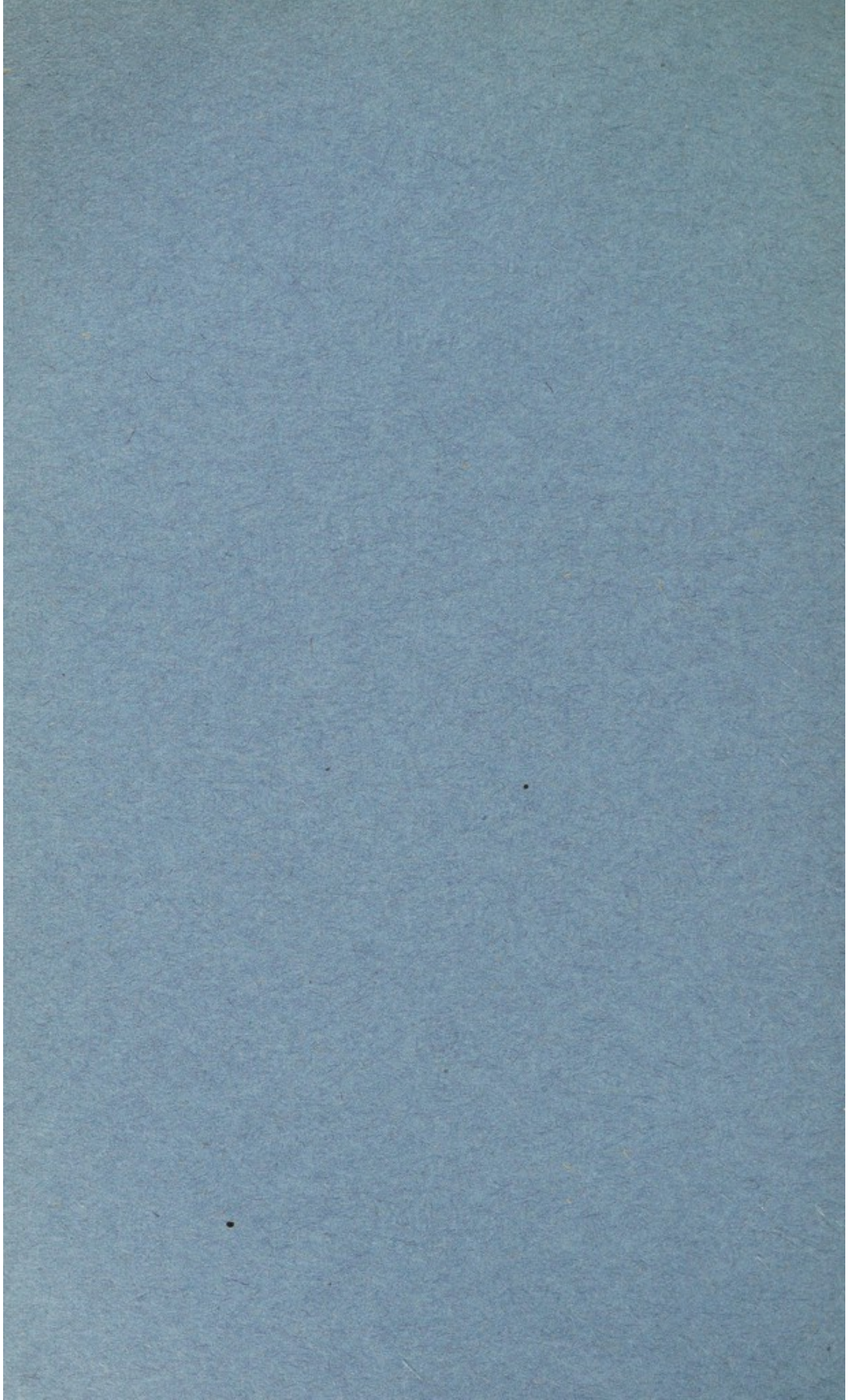
Medical Officer of Health,

AND

Vital Statistics, &c.,

For the Year ended Dec. 31st, 1925.

NORTHWICH:
W. HOBSON & SON, PRINTERS.



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NORTHWICH RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31st, 1925.

The population is estimated by the Registrar General to be 25,690; the excess of births over deaths being 241. The Area of the District remains at 54,303 acres.

The rateable value of the district is £252,357, and a penny rate produces £860.

The amount given as Out-door Relief within the district was £3,930, in addition to which £939 was expended throughout the Union as Relief to unemployed.

Births.—The total number of births (corrected by R.G.) was 497, of which 267 were of males and 230 of females, giving a rate of 18.8 per 1,000. There were 16 births of illegitimate children.

The following table shows the number and sex during each quarter in the several Sub-Districts, the figures being based upon the returns of the Local Resistrars:—

Rural District of	1st QUARTER.				2nd QUARTER.				3rd QUARTER.				4th QUARTER.				TOTALS FOR YEAR.		
	M	F	Tot'l	Rate	M	F	Tot'l	Rate	M	F	Tot'l	Rate	M	F	Tot'l	Rate	M	F	Tot'l
Weaverham	37	19	56		28	30	58		36	14	50		28	25	53		129	88	217
Northwich	19	24	43		13	19	32		17	20	37		17	16	33		66	79	145
Over	12	4	16		5	7	12		5	7	12		5	4	9		27	22	49
Middlewich	10	10	20		13	11	24		9	13	22		10	9	19		42	43	85
Totals for Quarters...	78	57	135		59	67	126		67	54	121		60	54	114		264	232	496
Births of Illegitimate Children	W. 1 M. N. 1 F. O. 1 M. <hr/> 3				W. 3 F. N. 1 F. <hr/> 4				W. 1 M. N. 1 F. O. 2 F. <hr/> 4				W. 1 F. N. 2 M. <hr/> 3				W. { 2 M. { 4 F. N. { 2 M. { 3 F. O. { 1 M. { 2 F. <hr/> 14 } 5 M. { 9 F.		

The number and rate per 1,000 during the past five years is:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Number of births	536	526	559	520	497
Rate per 1,000 ...	22.2	21.1	22.2	20.2	18.8
Number of illegitimate births ...	20	16	20	21	16

Deaths.—The corrected number of deaths is 256 of which 138 are of males and 118 of females. Table II shows the causes of death at various ages, where it will be seen that there were seven deaths from infectious diseases, 1 being caused from whooping cough, 1 from diphtheria, 4 from influenza and 1 from encephalitis. There were 17 deaths from tuberculosis, 30 from cancer, all except one being of persons over 45 years of age. There were 57 from diseases of the heart and blood vessels, 48 from diseases of the respiratory organs, none from appendicitis, 2 from parturition, 25 from premature birth, &c., 17 from violence, 13 from old age and the remainder from various other causes.

There were 4 deaths in the Isolation Hospital and 20 in the Weaverham Sanatorium, all of the latter and most of the former being of persons from other districts.

Inquests were held upon 23 deaths—3 being suicidal by cutting of the throat; 4 were accidentally drowned or found dead in water; 1 killed by a train, 1 by a cycle, 1 by motor cycle collision, 1 by motor car collision, 1 by collision with tree while on horseback, 1 by fall off scaffold, 1 by falling down stairs, one by a pole falling upon him, 1 (a child of 3 years) from tuberculosis accelerated by a fall, 1 (an infant age 2 days) from jaundice and premature birth, the remainder from cancer, aneurism, and cardiac failure.

There was one death not certified—a male aged 18 from meningitis. The number of deaths during the past 5 years was as follows:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Total deaths ...	249	298	273	305	256
Rate per 1,000 ...	10.1	11.9	10.8	11.8	9.8
No. of deaths from—					
Tuberculosis ...	11	19	16	18	17
Cancer ...	24	32	29	34	31
Influenza ...	3	2	8	7	4
Respiratory disease	42	39	34	35	50

Infantile Mortality.—The total number of deaths of infants under a year old was 44 (corrected), only one was of an illegitimate child. Table III shows the numbers (as returned by the Local Registrars) at different ages. It will be seen that there

was no uncertified death; that more than half occurred during the first fortnight, premature birth and marasmus being the chief factor. Of the other deaths pneumonia shows by far the heaviest mortality.

The numbers during each month and quarter were as follows:—

Jan. ...	7	Apr. ...	2	July ...	0	Oct. ...	2
Feb. ...	6	May ...	2	Aug. ...	1	Nov. ...	3
Mar. ...	10	June ...	2	Sept. ...	1	Dec. ...	2
	—		—		—		—
1st Quar.	23	2nd Quar.	6	3rd Quar.	2	4th Quar.	7
Total for year—38.							

The numbers and rates for the five years are as follows:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Number of deaths	32	25	44	42	44
„ Illegitimate deaths	2	3	6	0	1
„ deaths of infants					
per 1,000 births	51	47	78	80	88

Hospital Accommodation.—This Rural District of 54,303 acres is a rich dairying country situated in the shallow valley of the River Weaver and entirely surrounding the Urban Districts of Northwich, Middlewich and Winsford, in the vicinity of which are semi-urban villages and districts with chemical and salt works.

Within the Rural District are the Joint Isolation Hospital at Leftwich and the Smallpox Hospital at Marbury; the district is also served by the Workhouse Hospital in the Northwich Urban District for unmarried mothers, destitute children. And also by the Victoria Infirmary at Northwich and the Albert Infirmary at Winsford for surgical cases. Most of the villages are supplied with a district nurse by voluntary effort.

Ambulances for infectious cases are kept at the Isolation Hospitals at Leftwich and Marbury, and for ordinary cases are procurable from the Urban District and some of the works provide their own.

There are Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the Urban Districts which supply this Rural area, and one situated within the area at Weaverham; all these being run by the County Council. Tuberculosis is catered for by the County Council with a dispensary at Northwich.

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890—Adopted 1891.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part III—Adopted 1891.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885—Adopted 1889.

Bye-laws with respect to Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the Removal of House Refuse and the Cleansing of Earth-closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools—Adopted 1879.

Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses—Adopted 1879.

Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings, Latest Series—Adopted in 1915.

Bye-laws with respect to Slaughter Houses, Latest Series—Adopted 1910.

URBAN POWERS OBTAINED.

Public Health Act, 1875:—

SECTION 42—Such provisions as relates to Watering of Streets for the Townships of Hartford and Lostock Gralam. Granted in 1910.

SECTION 66—Provision of Fire-plugs for the Townships of Acton, Barton, Clive, Cuddington, Davenham, Hartford, Leftwich, Lostock Gralam, Marston, Moulton, Oakmere, Stanthorne, Weaverham, and Wincham. Granted in 1892.

SECTIONS 112, 113, and 114—Relating to Offensive Trades for the Township of Lostock Gralam. Granted in 1883 and for the Township of Acton in 1913.

SECTION 155—Relating to Line of Buildings for the Townships of Anderton, Barnton, Hartford, Davenham, Kinderton, Leftwich, Lostock Gralam, Moulton, Rudheath, Weaverham, Wincham, and Winnington. Granted in 1914.

SECTION 160—Relating to Naming and Numbering of Streets for the Townships of Barnton, Davenham, Leftwich, Lostock Gralam, Marston, Rudheath and Wincham. Granted in 1896 and for Hart-

ford and Weaverham in 1913. With respect of Ruinous and Dangerous Buildings for the Townships of Anderton, Clive, Barnton, Comberbach, Davenham, Leftwich, Lostock Gralam, Marbury, Marston, Marton, Moulton, Rudheath, Wincham and Winnington. Granted in 1920.

SECTIONS 169, SECOND AND THIRD PARAGRAPH AND 170—
Relating to Slaughter Houses. Granted in 1908.

SECTION 171—Portion of Incorporating Sections XXX and XXXI, Towns-Police Clauses Act, 1847 relating to Chimneys on Fire, for the Township of Winnington only. Granted in 1897.

Public Health (Building in Streets) Act, 1888:—

SECTION 3—Relating to Buildings not to be brought forward for the Townships of Anderton, Barnton, Davenham, Hartford, Kinderton, Leftwich, Lostock Gralam, Moulton, Rudheath, Weaverham, Wincham, and Winnington. Granted in 1914.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890:—

SECTIONS 29, 30 AND 31—Relating to Slaughter House Licences. Granted in 1908.

SECTION 36—Relating to means of Ingress and Egress from Public Buildings. Granted in 1896 for the whole area.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907:—

SECTION 27—Relating to Temporary Buildings for the Township of Winnington only. Granted in 1913.

SECTION 32—Relating to Hoardings to be securely erected. Granted for the whole area in 1909.

Water.—Very great improvements in water supplies have been undertaken during the period under review. A very comprehensive scheme has been undertaken for enlarging and extending the Council's waterworks at Crabtree Green. It is composed of five separate parts and the following table shows the source of supply of each scheme and the townships to be supplied by each of them:—

Source of Supply	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6
	Scheme. <i>Crabtree Green, Oakmere.</i>	Scheme. <i>Northwich Urban District.</i>	Scheme. <i>Northwich Urban District.</i>	Scheme. <i>Winsford Urban and Northwich Rural Joint.</i>	Scheme. <i>Crabtree Green, Oakmere.</i>	Scheme. <i>Middlewich Urban District.</i>
TOWNSHIPS.						
Acton	X	—	—	—	—	—
Allstock	—	X	—	—	—	—
Anderton	X	—	—	—	—	—
Barnton	X	—	—	—	—	—
Bostock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Byley	—	X	—	—	—	—
Clive	—	—	—	—	—	X
Cogshall	X	—	—	—	—	—
Comberbach...	X	—	—	—	—	—
Crowton	X	—	—	—	—	—
Cuddington ..	x Part of	—	—	—	—	—
Darnhall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Davenham ...	—	—	X	—	—	—
Delamere	—	—	—	—	X	—
Eaton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eddisbury ...	—	—	—	—	X	—
Hartford	x Part of	—	—	—	—	—
Kinderton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lach Dennis	—	X	—	—	—	—
Leftwich	—	—	X	—	—	—
Little Budworth	—	—	—	x Part of	x Part of	—
Little Leigh..	X	—	—	—	—	—
Lostock Gralam.....	—	X	—	—	—	—
Marbury	x Part of	—	—	—	—	—
Marston	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marton	—	—	—	x Part of	x Part of	—
Moulton	—	—	X	—	—	—
Nether Peover...	—	X	—	—	—	—
Oakmere	—	—	—	—	X	—
Rudheath	—	X	—	—	—	—
Sproston	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stanthorne ...	—	—	—	—	—	X
Weaverham ..	x Part of	—	—	—	—	—
Whatcroft	—	X	—	—	—	—
Wimboldsley..	—	—	—	—	—	X
Wincham	—	—	—	—	—	—
Winnington...	X	—	—	—	—	—

Of these schemes Nos. 1 and 4 have been approved by the Ministry of Health and are well in the way towards completion. Nos. 2 and 3 await the completion (which is imminent) of the Northwich Urban Council's scheme; No. 5 scheme is in hand and No. 6 has been before the Ministry of Health but its execution is deferred on account of the cost as the Unemployed Grants Committee have refused assistance.

The existing supplies to the townships of Bostock, Darnhall, Eaton, Kinderton, Marston, Wincham and Sproston are satisfactory but the new scheme is so arranged that it can supply them if circumstances in future should require it.

The following list shows the townships which already possess a supply:—

	Private Wells.	Private Works.	Other Council's Mains.	N.R.D.C. own Works.	
Acton .....	...	...	...	X	
Allostock	X	...	...	...	Intermittent supply only.
Anderton .....	...	...	...	X	
Barnton .....	...	...	...	X	
Bostock	X	X	X	...	
Byley	X	...	...	...
Clive .....	...	...	X	...	
Cogshall	X	...	...	...
Comberbach...	X	...	...	...	Public fountain only.
Crowton	X	...	...	X	
Cuddington ..	...	...	...	X	
Darnhall	X	X	...	...
Davenham ...	...	...	...	X	
Delamere	X	X	X	...	
Eaton	X	...	...	X	
Eddisbury ...	X	X	X	...	
Hartford .....	...	...	...	X	
Kinderton	X	...	X	...	
Lach Dennis	X	...	...	...
Leftwich .....	...	...	...	X	
Little Budworth	X	...	X	...	
Little Leigh..	X	...	...	...
Lostock Gralam.....	...	...	...	X	
Marbury	X	...	...	X	The private supplies are from Northwich Urban and Winsford Urban Council's Mains.
Marston .....	...	...	...	X	
Marton	X	X	X	...	
Moulton .....	...	...	...	X	
Nether Peover...	X	...	...	...
Oakmere .....	...	...	X	...	
Rudheath	X	...	X	...	The private supply is from Middlewich Urban Council's Main.
Sproston	X	X	X	...	
Stanthorne ...	...	...	X	...	
Weaverham ...	...	...	...	X	
Whateroft	X	...	...	X	Township mainly supplied from Brunner, Mond & Co's. private works plus a quantity from the Council's main in return for a similar quantity supplied by them to Barnton. A few private supplies from N. Urban Main.
Wimboldsley..	...	...	X	...	
Wincham .....	...	...	...	X	
Winnington...	X	...	...	X	

The water supply to the Schools is shown in a table under that heading.

Analysis of Water.—There were 13 samples of water submitted to the County Analyst for bacteriological and chemical analysis during the year. Two samples from rain water tanks (underground) were found to be badly polluted with sewage; and arrangements were made in both cases for the Township supply to be laid on.

Five samples were from the Council's new works at Crabtree Green and in each case the results proved highly satisfactory. Two samples from the Oakmere Lake were submitted for information as to the necessity for filtration.

One sample from a new well at Byley proved bad and was abandoned.

One sample from a farm at Nether Peover was found excessively hard but bacteriologically sound.

One sample from a farm at Darnhall proved unsatisfactory and arrangements were made with the owner to have the public supply laid on.

One sample from a farm at Gorstage, Weaverham, was found to be badly polluted and it was arranged with the tenant for a supply to be obtained from a neighbouring farm pending a supply from the Council's new main which is being laid past the farm.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The sewers and drains have extended considerably during the five years, new 9in. sewers have been laid in several districts.

Appended is a detailed list of the sewerage and sewage disposal works in the several townships with the area, population and number of houses served by them:—

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE WORKS.

Townships	Sewerage Works.	Sewage Outfall Works.	Area in Acres.	Population 1921.	Houses.
Acton	1	1	1176.750	555	129
Allostock	0	0	3017.461	454	109
Anderton	1	0	525.375	368	63
Barnton	1	2	759.604	3355	763
Bostock	0	0	1164.854	156	38
Byley	0	0	1731.221	176	35
Clive	1	1	482.245	145	34
Cogshall	0	0	519.862	92	21
Comberbach...	1	1	370.065	395	97
Crowton	0	0	1738.443	488	115
Cuddington...	0	0	1150.978	520	122
Darnhall	0	0	2708.702	241	54
Davenham ...	1	2	495.780	616	152
Delamere	0	0	1969.248	690	180
Eaton	0	0	455.945	20	4
Eddisbury ...	1	1	2085.026	355	81
Hartford	1	2	917.303	894	225
Kinderton	1	2	1998.580	529	105
Lach Dennis	0	0	1619.316	158	34
Leftwich	1	2	721.143	886	225
Little					
Budworth	0	0	3867.676	552	118
Little Leigh..	0	0	1595.416	351	78
Lostock					
Gralam.....	1	1	1731.462	2115	419
Marbury	0	0	384.582	44	10
Marston	1	0	840.648	777	148
Marton	0	0	2749.943	611	137
Moulton	1	1	474.862	1290	254
Nether					
Peover...	0	0	968.867	247	48
Oakmere	0	0	2961.743	357	90
Rudheath	1	1	2297.005	1356	296
Sproston	0	0	1283.892	176	39
Stanthorne ...	0	0	1113.211	214	44
Weaverham ..	1	2	3622.684	2112	516
Whatcroft	0	0	1246.349	141	25
Wimboldsley..	0	0	1732.113	179	38
Wincham	1	2	1246.095	1175	242
Winnington...	1	*1	578.930	1662	372
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17	22	54303.318	24432	5460

*Northwich Urban and Northwich Rural Joint Outfall Works.

Scavenging.—In the more rural townships the closet accommodation consists of W.Cs. draining to their own septic tanks in the case of farm houses and the larger residences, the smaller type of house being furnished with privies. In the more populous townships the conditions are apparent from the table below and it shows that with the completion of the water scheme conversion to W.Cs. will become possible. There is a

question whether the Council could not do this work by direct labour more efficiently and economically than by contract.

SCAVENGING CONTRACTS.

<i>Townships.</i>	<i>Pails and House Refuse.</i>	<i>House Refuse only.</i>	<i>Total number of Houses.</i>	<i>Amount of Contract.</i>	<i>Contract Expires.</i>
Acton	—	—	—	—	—
Allostock	—	—	—	—	—
Anderton	62	—	62	£30	31/3/27
Barnton	460	252	712	£550	31/3/27
Bostock	—	—	—	—	—
Byley	—	—	—	—	—
Clive	—	—	—	—	—
Cogshall	—	—	—	—	—
Comberbach...	—	—	—	—	—
Crowton	—	—	—	—	—
Cuddington...	—	—	—	—	—
Darnhall	—	—	—	—	—
Davenham ...	130	8	138	£100	31/3/28
Delamere	—	—	—	—	—
Eaton	—	—	—	—	—
Eddisbury ...	—	—	—	—	—
Hartford	—	246	246	£120	31/3/28
Kinderton ...	76	2	78	£120	31/3/28
Lach Dennis	—	—	—	—	—
Leftwich	180	29	209	£150	31/3/28
Little Budworth	—	—	—	—	—
Little Leigh..	—	—	—	—	—
Lostock Gralam.....	394	16	410	£380	31/3/28
Marbury	—	—	—	—	—
Marston	148	—	148	£65	31/3/28
Marton	—	—	—	—	—
Moulton	233	27	260	£80	31/3/28
Nether Peover...	—	—	—	—	—
Oakmere	—	—	—	—	—
Rudheath	—	402	402	£115	31/3/28
Sproston	—	—	—	—	—
Stanthorne ...	—	—	—	—	—
Weaverham ..	316	301	617	£385	31/3/28
Whateroft ...	—	—	—	—	—
Wimboldsley..	—	—	—	—	—
Wincham	226	—	226	£100	31/3/28
Winnington...	—	83	83	£45	31/3/28
TOTAL.....	2225	1366	3591	£2240	

Factories and Workshops.—There are no homeworkers in this area. The register contains 140 workshops, viz:—18 smithies, 14 wheelwrights, 7 dressmakers, 33 bakehouses and 68 others.

There is only one underground bakehouse and that is a technical qualification as the bakehouse is built on a steep slope, its door opening on the ground level.

Defects were found in 5 instances, written notices were served and the defects remedied.

Canal Boat Act.—During the year 34 canal boats were inspected and in 4 only were infringements of the Act found. These were all cases of non-registration of change of ownership.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.—The number on the register of wholesale traders, producers and retail purveyors of milk is 392, of these 2 new retail purveyors of milk have been registered and 8 wholesale distributors transferred during the year.

Reports of tubercular milk from a farm caused the discovery of 2 suspected beasts in the herd, both were sent to the Manchester Corporation Abattoir for slaughter and being found totally unfit for food were destroyed.

Foot and mouth disease appeared in the district during the month of March, one farm with a stock of 21 cows was reported to the police, and the stock on a neighbouring farm was found to be in an advanced stage of the disease by the Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and all the beasts, 56 in number, and 17 pigs were destroyed.

Statutory notice to rebuild one shippon was found necessary and had the desired result.

The notices calling attention to the requirements of the regulations as to limewashing cowsheds during the months of May and October has been faithfully carried out during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

	1920	Jany. 1925	Dec. 1925
Registered	9	9	9
Licensed	7	8	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16	17	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

One licensed slaughter house has been re-built and two new licenses granted during the year. There are no public slaughter houses.

Meat Inspection.—The inspection of meat including arrangement for inspection at time of slaughter is under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The "regular hours of slaughter" are registered for slaughter houses in connection with butchers' shops and notice of "occasional slaughter" has been faithfully complied with in slaughter houses in connection with cattle dealers' business.

Periodical inspections are made during the regular hours and in every case of occasional slaughter in slaughter houses visits are made during slaughter or immediately after.

The total number of notices of "occasional slaughter" received during the year was 251 and included 534 animals. Of these 39 were beasts, 51 calves, 2 sheep and 442 pigs. The number of these killed in slaughter houses was 34 beasts, 51 calves, 1 sheep and 8 pigs, all the remainder were slaughtered upon farms, the 5 beasts and 1 sheep owing to accidental injury.

The total weight of meat condemned amounted to 6,950lbs. which includes:—8 whole carcasses of beasts, portions of 15 beasts, 1 calf, 2 sheep, 4 pigs, with all offal, 15 pigs' heads, 40 pigs' livers and 86lbs. of pork.

In making these inspections the advice of veterinary surgeons has been obtained to confirm the Inspector's action in 16 cases. Under the Tuberculosis Order of the Ministry of Agriculture the Police have given notices (on form I 6) of "intended slaughter" of 42 beasts. Each case was attended by the Inspector and in only 2 cases was permission to remove the carcase granted.

A printed card urging customers to refrain from handling meat has been supplied by the Council to all meat vendors for exhibition in their shops.

Public Elementary Schools.—The sanitary condition of the 23 schools is good and the table indicates the water supplies, drainage and closet arrangements.

The Council's No. 1 scheme will give a supply to the Comberbach, Crowton and Little Leigh Schools as the mains in each case are being laid past them and the Little Budworth Schools are provided for in the No. 4 scheme. The Allostock and Nether Peover Schools are to be provided for in the Council's No. 2 scheme so that the whole of the schools will be supplied with water from the Council's mains in the near future. No schools have been closed during the year by this authority and all of them have been disinfected by the Council's staff during the Summer and Winter vacations.

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

<i>Townships.</i>	<i>No. of Schools.</i>	<i>Water Supply.</i>	<i>Drainage outfall.</i>	<i>Closets.</i>
Acton				
Allstock	1	Filtered Rain Water	Tank	Pails
Anderton				
Barnton	3	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
Bostock				
Byley				
Clive				
Cogshall				
Comberbach...	1	Pump Well	Tank	Pails
Crowton	1	Public Fountain	Tank	Pails
Cuddington...				
Darnhall				
Davenham ...	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
Delamere				
Eaton				
Eddisbury ...	1	Township Mains	Tank	Pails
Hartford	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
Kinderton				
Lach Dennis				
Leftwich				
Little				
Budworth	1	Pump Well	Tank	Pails
Little Leigh..	1	Pump Well	Tank	Pails
Lostock				
Gralam.....	2	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
Marbury				
Marston	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	Pails
Marton				
Moulton	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
Nether				
Peover...	1	Pump Well	Tank	Pails
Oakmere				
Rudheath	2	Township Mains	{ 1 Public Sewer 1 Tank	{ W.C. Pails
Sproston				
Stanthorne ...				
Weaverham ..	2	Township Mains	{ Public Sewer Tank	{ W.C. Pails
Whatcroft				
Wimboldsley..	1	Township Mains	Tank	Pails
Wincham	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	Pails
Winnington...	1	Township Mains	Public Sewer	W.C.
TOTAL.....	23			

Housing.—GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS:—There is a general shortage of houses especially in the semi-urban parishes. Some 200 would materially assist our own needs but “overflows” from adjoining areas would absorb very many more.

To meet this shortage the Council have arranged for the erection of 8 houses in the Township of Eddisbury on land purchased by them in 1914 for the purpose, 20 houses in Barnton

on land obtained under the Assisted Housing Scheme and 20 houses in the Township of Moulton on land recently purchased by them for the purpose, making a total of 46 houses to be erected by the Council.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Townships.</i>	<i>Non-Subsidy.</i>	<i>Council's Subsidy Scheme.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Acton	1	1	2
Allostock	1	—	1
Anderton	—	—	—
Barnton	1	2	3
Bostock	—	—	—
Byley	—	—	—
Clive	—	4	4
Cogshall	—	—	—
Comberbach...	—	3	3
Crowton	—	2	2
Cuddington ..	5	4	9
Darnhall	—	—	—
Davenham ...	1	—	1
Delamere	—	5	5
Eaton	—	—	—
Eddisbury ...	—	1	1
Hartford	16	9	25
Kinderton	—	4	4
Lach Dennis ..	—	—	—
Leftwich	1	1	2
Little Budworth	—	1	1
Little Leigh..	—	—	—
Lostock Gralam.....	5	6	11
Marbury	—	—	—
Marston	—	1	1
Marton	1	—	1
Moulton	—	—	—
Nether Peover...	—	—	—
Oakmere	1	—	1
Rudheath	—	2	2
Sproston	—	2	2
Stanthorne ...	1	2	3
Weaverham ..	3	2	5
Whatcroft	—	—	—
Wimboldsley..	—	—	—
Wincham	—	—	—
Winnington...	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	37	52	89

During the five years 682 new houses have been erected.

The Council have also obtained sanction for subsidy grants for 50 additional houses to be built by private enterprise.

The provision for further development of land at Rudheath and Barnton obtained for the purpose of the Assisted Housing Scheme is under consideration.

Overcrowding.—The extent of overerowding if two or more families living in one house can be termed overcrowding is known to exist in Rudheath, 34; Moulton, 50; Barnton, 50; and Marston and Wincham, 24 and 37 respectively; making a total of 195 in these Townships.

The general standard of housing in the area is good and the character of defects found is due to general delapidation caused by low rents and excessive cost of repairs which prevents landlords from keeping their property up to a first class standard.

The great need is for a cheap house to accommodate the poorest-paid classes of the community, and a 3-roomed house with reasonable offices on a detached plot of its own and with cold water laid on would, provided the rooms were not too small make the nucleus of a domicile which the majority of working men would soon make into a comfortable home. Such houses might be built of wood, iron, asbestos or any cheap material.

This district suffers from "bungalows," a term applied to any flimsy structure with one room however small. They cannot be recognised under the bye-laws and nobody wants to prevent nature lovers from spending week ends and holidays in the country. There is a real need for power to deal with such structures as "temporary" dwellings.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b).	89
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority ...	nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons ...	52

1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

1.—Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	355

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	4
(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	22

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	16
--	----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—*Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	Nil.
(b) by local Authority in default of owners	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intentions to close	Nil.

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	Nil.
(b) by local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

C.—*Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.
(6) Number of dwelling-houses demolished voluntarily without Demolition Orders	4

Infectious Disease.—During the year the incidence of infectious disease was not extremely heavy. Scarlet fever of a mild type was prevalent during the whole year, the four quarters showing 11, 18, 35 and 23 cases respectively; of the total of 87, 79 were sent to hospital, which procedure does not appear to be much more efficacious as a preventative than home treatment, if reasonable isolation can be provided. There were 16 cases of diphtheria notified, spread over the district and the period pretty evenly; all but 3 were sent to hospital; only 3 were pathologically confirmed.

Tuberculosis was responsible for 37 of which 22 were pulmonary. The mortality from infectious disease except tuberculosis was light, only 1 death from scarlet fever, 1 from whooping cough, 1 from encephalitis, 4 from influenza and 17 from tuberculosis being notified.

The numbers notified during the five years were:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Smallpox ...	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	25	30	24	10	16
Scarlet fever ...	61	40	107	39	87
Enteric fever ...	0	1	0	0	1
Puerperal fever...	1	0	1	1	1
Encephalitis ...	0	0	2	3	2
TUBERCULOSIS:					
Pulmonary ...	21	17	17	16	22
Non-pulmonary	9	5	13	9	15

Of the non-notifiable infectious diseases, whooping cough was prevalent during the spring, but not extremely; of other varieties there was none of any gravity. The most valuable information of this class of disease is derived from the intimations from school teachers. There was no school closed during the year.

The S.A. provides any Practitioner with facilities for the pathological examination of throat swabs, sputa, blood and also diphtheria antitoxin is provided on application—56,000 units of antitoxin were applied for by Practitioners and supplied by the S.A.

There were 33 swabs from throats sent to the laboratory of the Manchester University, 3 being positive and 30 negative.

There were 56 samples of sputum examined by the County Tuberculosis Department for tubercle bacilli, 12 being positive and 44 negative.

Disinfection of houses is carried out by the Sanitary staff and bedding, &c., at the Isolation Hospital.

HENRY EDWARD GOUGH,

Medical Officer of Health.

11th April, 1926.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NORTHWICH R.D.—1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH—CIVILIANS ONLY.	MALES.	FEMALES.
ALL CAUSES	138	118
Enteric Fever.. .. .	.....	.....
Small Pox ... .. .	.....	.....
Measles ... .. .	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever ... .. .	.....	.....
Whooping Cough ... .. .	.....	1
Diphtheria ... .. .	.....	1
Influenza	2	2
Encephalitis lethargica ... .. .	.....	1
Meningococcal Meningitis ... .. .	.....	.....
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	9	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	14	17
Rheumatic Fever ... .. .	.....	1
Diabetes	1	.....
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	8	6
Heart Disease... .. .	15	16
Arterio-sclerosis	8	2
Bronchitis	4	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	23	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	1
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	2	.....
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... .. .	.....	.....
Cirrhosis of Liver ... .. .	.....	.....
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	.....
Puerperal Sepsis ... .. .	.....	.....
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition ... .. .	.....	1
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	7	15
Suicide... .. .	1	.....
Other deaths from violence	8	4
Other defined diseases	26	24
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... .. .	.....	.....
Special causes (included above):—		
Poliomyelitis ... .. .	.....	.....
Polioencephalitis ... .. .	.....	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—		
Total	22	22
Illegitimate... .. .	.....	1
TOTAL BIRTHS... .. .	267	230
Legitimate	261	220
Illegitimate	6	10
POPULATION:—		
For Births and Deaths	25690	

TABLE I.

I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	54,303
Population (1925) (R.G.) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,690
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,460
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rateable Value .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	£206,415
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	£860

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Births	{ Legitimate	497	261	236	} Birth Rate (R.G.) 18·8
	{ Illegitimate	16	6	10	
Deaths .. .. .	..	256	138	118	Death Rate (R.G.) 9·8
Number of women dying in, or in con- sequence of, childbirth	{ from sepsis .. .. .	..	..	..	0
	{ .. other causes .. .. .	..	..	..	0
Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—					
	Legitimate .. 86	Illegitimate .. 2	Total .. 88		
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0
.. Whooping Cough (all ages) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1
.. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2

TABLE 2.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.		Under 1 year.		1 and under 2.		2 and under 5.		5 and under 15.		15 and under 25.		25 and under 45.		45 and under 65.		65 and upwards.		TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Enteric Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small Pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria .....	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Influenza	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Encephalitis lethargica ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous of respira- tory system	9	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	4	2	2	3	..	..	8	12	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease.	14	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	6	6	10	..	..	..	..
Rheumatic Fever .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diabetes	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	11	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	7	4	..	..	..	..
Heart Disease.....	14	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	2	5	9	9	..	..	..	..
Arterio-sclerosis	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	1	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis	6	11	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	4	7	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	22	7	7	4	1	..	..	..	1	..	7	1	1	1	5	1	..	..	..	..
Other respiratory diseases..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Ulcer of Stomach or Duo- donum	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Sepsis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other accidents and dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition .....	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth ..	11	14	10	13	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suicide	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other deaths from Violence	8	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2	2	2	..	2	3	..	..	..	..
Other defined diseases ...	19	17	3	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	4	3	3	10	6	..	..	..	..
Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Special Causes (included above);	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polioencephalitis .....	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old Age	5	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	8	..	..	..	..
	139	122	22	20	1	..	1	5	3	2	8	4	20	14	26	25	58	52	8	16

TABLE 3.

INFANT MORTALITY

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 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
ALL CAUSES:										
Certified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Uncertified .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Diphtheria and Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous										
Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Abdominal										
Tuberculosis (<i>b</i>) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous										
Diseases .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis										
(<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Laryngitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	1	1	..	2	3	2	2	1	10
Diarrhoea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Enteritis .....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Gastritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Suffocation, over-lying .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital										
Malformations (<i>c</i>) ..	3	..	1	..	4	..	..	1	..	5
Premature Birth	11	2	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	13
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ..	2	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Other Causes .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	16	6	2	0	24	4	4	4	2	38

TABLE 4.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.	Total Deaths
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Diphtheria	16	1	...	2	1	...	3	4	1	1	1	...	...	13	...
Erysipelas	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	2	4	1	.....	...
Scarlet fever	87	...	1	3	10	11	40	13	6	2	1	...	...	79	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	.....	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	.....	...
Influenzal Pneumonia	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	.....	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Males	10	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	4	3	...	...	5	...
Females	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	3	4	1	...	3	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Males	9	1	...	...	2	...	...	4	...	1	1	...	...	1	...
Females	6	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	160	2	1	6	14	12	47	24	17	18	12	6	1	102	...

ARTICLE 19 (12) SANITARY OFFICER'S ORDER, 1922.

TABLE 5.

Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspector for the Year ended December 31st, 1925.

A Number and Nature of Inspections made.		Number.	B Number of Notices served.		C Result of Service of Notices.		
			Statutory.	Informal.	Notice com- plied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions. Instituted. Pending.
1.	Dwelling Houses (general inspection) ..	355	....	22	16	6	....
2.	Cellar Dwellings ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
3.	Back-to-Back Houses ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
4.	Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c... ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
5.	Courts, Yards, Passages ..	147	....	12	12	....	....
6.	Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets ..	18	1	18	18	1	....
7.	Cesspools ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
8.	House Drainage ..	154	2	53	53	2	....
9.	Ditches, Watercourses, &c. ..	20	1	2	2	1	....
10.	Offensive Accumulations ..	5	....	5	5	....	....
11.	The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3)) ..	2	....	1	1	....	....
12.	Offensive Trades ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
13.	(a) Slaughterhouses (Public) ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
	" (Private) ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
	(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold..	228	....	6	6	....	....
14.	Piggeries ..	64	....	6	6	....	....
15.	(a) Dairies ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
	(b) Cowsheds ..	197	....	....	....	....	....
	(c) Milkshops ..	9	1	390	391	....	....
16.	(a) Factories ..	6	....	1	1	....	....
	(b) Workshops ..	30	....	4	4	....	....
	(c) Workplaces ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
	(d) Outworkers' Premises ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
17.	Bakehouses (Overground) ..	42	....	3	3	....	....
	" (Underground) ..	2	....	....	....	....	....
18.	Common Lodging Houses ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
19.	Houses let in Lodgings ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
20.	Smoke Observations ..	14	....	2	....	2	....
21.	Canal Boats ..	36	....	4	....	4	....
22.	Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits ..	204	....	....	....	....	....
23.	Miscellaneous ..	24	1	1	2	....	....
	Totals ..	1557	6	530	520	16	....

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
1	2	3	4
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	6	1	..
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	30	4	..
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this Report).	..	..	..
Total	36	5	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	4	4	..	..
Want of ventilation .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other nuisances	1	1	..	..
Sanitary Accommodation. { insufficient .. .. .	..	..	..	..
{ unsuitable or defective. .. .. .	..	..	..	..
{ not separate for sexes. .. .. .	..	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report).	..	..	..	..
Total	5	5	..	..

*Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

