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AC 44 141(1) LEWES
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Borough



of Lewes.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1926.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1926,
in which that of the Sanitary Inspector is embodied.

The Sanitary Staff is as last year.

The Isolation Hospital Staff has been changed and a fresh
married couple are in charge.

The figures of the Report speak for themselves and do not
require elaboration. It will be noticed that the Lewes Birth-rate is
2.5 per 1,000 lower than that of England as a whole, and the Death-
rate 0.3 per 1,000 better.

There has been no marked epidemic of Notifiable Disease, and
for the first time all cases that died of Tuberculosis had been
notified previously.

The remedy for the falling Birth-rate would seem to be the
provision of more houses suitable for occupation by young married
couples.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

W. A. DOW,

Medical Officer of Health.

General Statistics.

Area	1,042 acres.
Population (1921 Census)	10,797.
Number of inhabited houses (1921 Census) ..	2,605.
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	2,784.
Rateable Value (estimated)	£67,894.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£283.

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Population estimated to middle of year	10,800	10,930	11,060	11,110	11,200
Birth-rate per 1,000	19·5	16·7	16·6	15·4	15·35
General death-rate	10·0	11·8	11·66	10·4	11·34
Death-rate per 1,000 from notifiable diseases (excluding consumption)	·55	·73	·72	·99	·35
Death-rate from respiratory tuberculosis	·55	1·37	·63	·81	·98
Death-rate under 1 year to 1,000 births	28·4	32·7	65·2	52·6	46·5
Deaths over 65, percentage of total deaths	52·7	43·0	54·2	55·4	49·6

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

				TOTALS.	M.	F.
Births	Legitimate	..	..	167	82	85
	Illegitimate	..	..	5	3	2
				Total	172	

BIRTH RATE 15·35.

Deaths	66	61
Total	127	

CORRECTED DEATH RATE 11·34.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

Sepsis	0
Other causes	0

Deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 births (usually spoken of as Infantile Mortality):—

RATE, 46·5.

The number of deaths being 8, all of whom were legitimate children.

Deaths from Measles	0
„ „ Whooping Cough	0
„ „ Diarrhoea	0

Causes of Death in Lewes.

CIVILIANS ONLY.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	66	61
Influenza	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	10	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	9	12
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	4	5
Heart Disease	9	12
Arterio-sclerosis	3	2
Bronchitis	3	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	3
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	2	1
Other Deaths from Violence	4	1
Other defined diseases	11	14

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—

Total	4	4
Illegitimate	—	—

TOTAL BIRTHS	85	87
Legitimate	82	85
Illegitimate	3	2

Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1926.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1926 while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1925. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Causes of Death Certified by Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales ..	17.8	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.10	0.07	0.22	0.47	8.7	70	91.8	7.2	1.0	
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.2	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.10	0.22	0.43	11.8	73	92.0	7.5	0.5	
158 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations, 20,000—50,000)	17.6	10.6	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.11	0.06	0.23	0.40	6.6	67	92.6	6.3	1.1	
London	17.1	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.05	0.12	0.17	0.48	11.8	64	90.6	9.4	0.0	
Lewes	15.3	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.44	0.00	46	95.2	4.7	0.0	

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.			Total Deaths.	
Diphtheria	6	..	2	..	—
Scarlet Fever	8	..	5	..	—
Enteric Fever	—	..	—	..	—
Erysipelas	5	..	1	..	—
Pneumonia	1	..	—	..	8*
Encephalitis Lethargica			3	..	—	..	1
Puerperal Pyrexia		1	..	—	..	—
Tuberculosis.									
(a) Pulmonary.	{	Males	..	..	8	..	1	..	10
		Females	..	..	6	..	4	..	1
		Total	..	..	14				
(b) Non-Pulmonary.	{	Males	..	..	—	..	—	..	—
		Females	..	..	3	..	2	..	1
		Total	..	..	3				

Most of the cases of tuberculosis are notified; nearly all cases are referred by the medical attendant to the Tuberculosis Officer of the East Sussex County Council; these receive appropriate treatment according to the circumstances of each case. The houses of all known cases are visited, and any necessary sanitary work carried out. Cases not attending the Tuberculosis Clinic are urged to take advantage of its benefits.

* Notices were sent to all Medical Practitioners *re* Notifiable Diseases, also warning letters to those Medical Practitioners who failed to notify cases that should have been notified.

Causes of Sickness.

Scarlet Fever.—Eight cases were notified, and distributed throughout the year, thus:—

January	..	..	1	July	..	..	—
February	..	..	—	August	..	..	—
March	..	..	—	September	..	..	—
April	..	..	2	October	..	..	1
May	..	..	—	November	..	..	2
June	..	..	1	December	..	..	1

NOTES ON SICKNESS.

Scarlet Fever.—Four cases were of children of school age, who attended the following Schools:—Southover, 2; St. Pancras, 1; Private School, 1.

In two instances, two cases occurred in one family.

Analysis of Infectious Diseases Notified and arranged in Age Groups.

	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS.—New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	4	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
35	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	8	5	—	3	10	1	—	1

All deaths from tuberculosis were cases which had been previously notified.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home:—

(a) General. None provided by the Sanitary Authority, but services of District Nurses from the Lewes Nursing Association are available, and are voluntarily provided in cases of necessity; in other cases fees are charged according to the circumstances of the patient.

(b) Infectious diseases (*e.g.*, Measles). The Local Authority provides nurses in necessitous cases. There are private nurses residing in the town, and nurses can be obtained from Brighton and other towns, but there is no financial or other arrangement between them and the Local Authority.

Midwives.—The East Sussex County Council are the supervising authority under the Midwives' Act. The Lewes Nursing Association provides three midwives (one whole time, two part time).

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

	Name.	Situation.	Nature of accommodation	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.	Lewes.	Cliffe Square.	Ample.	Voluntary. Nurse provided and receives grant through County Council
Day Nursery.	None.	None.	None.	—
School Clinic.	Lewes.	Rooms in Town Hall.	Waiting and consulting room, medical and dental officers.	Lewes Education Authority.
Tuberculosis.	Lewes.	Dispensary, St. Nicholas Lane.	Sufficient.	East Sussex County Council.
Venereal Disease.	E. Sussex.	Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.	Out-patient or In-patient as required.	East Sussex County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or County Council.

Tuberculosis.—Darvell Hall Sanatorium, Robertsbridge, Sussex. Provided by the East Sussex County Council. Accommodation sufficient for the needs of the Borough.

Maternity.—Hospital for Women, West Street, Brighton, is available for cases from Lewes, and is subsidised by the County Council.

Children.—Royal Alexandra Hospital, Brighton. Subsidised by the County Council (two beds retained).

Fever.—Lewes Isolation Hospital, Nevill Road, Lewes. Maintained entirely by the Lewes Town Council. Consists of Administration Block and two Pavilions, and has accommodation for 24 patients.

Small-pox.—Cases of Small-pox are admitted to the Brighton Small-pox Hospital under agreement with that authority.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Infants.

The Diocesan Purity Association has a Home in Lewes (Gateway House) with accommodation for 10 persons, and is maintained by voluntary contributions.

Ambulance Facilities.

One horse ambulance used exclusively for infectious diseases.

One motor ambulance used exclusively for non-infectious sickness and accidents. Both the property of the Local Authority. See page 18.

NOTE.—The motor ambulance is available for use of patients in districts outside the Borough at fixed charge per mile run.

Laboratory Work.

Chemical and Bacteriological Work.—Specimens for bacteriological examination for Diphtheria and Enteric Fever are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London; material for Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, to the pathological department of the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. Examination of material for the detection of tubercle bacilli is undertaken generally by the Medical Officer of the East Sussex County Council.

The Council pay for these examinations, also for the supply of Diphtheria anti-toxin in most cases.

Analysis of the Lewes Water Company's supply made, bacteriologically and chemically, by Dr. S. Allinson Woodhead, who reported that the water maintains its very high standard of purity.

Mr. Johnston, Manager of the Waterworks Company, has kindly supplied the following figures for the Rainfall during the year:—

RAINFALL FOR THE YEAR 1926 AT THE PUMPING STATION OF THE
LEWES WATERWORKS COMPANY.

Month.	Rainfall in inches.	Above Average for 35	Below Average years.	Days '01 or more rain fell.	Greatest quantity in one day.
January	4.5	1.42	—	23	0.89 on 28th
February	3.85	1.24	—	20	0.97 on 17th
March	0.82	—	1.59	11	0.28 on 3rd
April	4.31	2.11	—	20	0.56 on 29th
May	2.87	1.01	—	17	0.86 on 5th
June	4.04	2.02	—	13	0.82 on 17th
July	1.88	—	0.65	14	0.47 on 19th
August	3.66	0.89	—	13	1.12 on 31st
September	1.14	—	1.41	17	0.28 on 7th
October	3.47	—	0.52	16	0.95 on 14th
November	7.78	4.28	—	27	1.55 on 13th
December	0.59	—	3.55	11	0.27 on 5th
Total	38.91	—	—	202	

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health (part time), W. A. Dow, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector (whole time), Arthur Ward, C.R.S.I.

Contribution to the salaries of both officers is made under the Public Health Acts.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector (whole time), A. L. Vigar, C.R.S.I.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Town is situated on the tidal River Ouse. The greater part is on the chalk, rising from the alluvium, at the lower part of the Town, 18 feet above high water mark to 200 feet above high water mark at the highest part of the Town.

The Town is largely residential, but Ironworks, Cement Works and Breweries provide occupation for a considerable industrial population.

There is no occupation particularly influencing the public health.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supply.—The water supply is derived almost entirely from the Lewes Water Company. The Cliffe Well and some private wells are still being used.

The Company's well is situated at the South-west end of the Town. The water is pumped from the well into the three covered distributing reservoirs, *i.e.*, Jubilee Park, The Race Hill and Western Road. The supply is constant, of good quality and sufficient for the needs of the community.

Analyses of the water made during the year gave very satisfactory results.

Drainage and Sewerage.—"Water carriage system"; a few houses only being connected to cesspools.

The sewerage system provides for the converging of all sewers to a Central Station at Southerham, where the effluent, after the passing of the sewage through screens and settling tanks is discharged into the River Ouse at suitable states of the tide.

Closet Accommodation.—Practically all water closets; part hand flushed and part with flushing cisterns. 23 have been provided with flushing cisterns during the year, as a result of Notices served.

Scavenging.—The collection of House Refuse and its Disposal is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The collection is made once a week over the whole district. The refuse is deposited at the Corporation's tip at Ham Fields, some distance from the town, and after sorting and burning the residue is utilised for mixing with the sludge from the Sewage Works, and filling up low-lying grounds.

101 movable galvanized iron covered dustbins have been provided during the last year.

Bye-laws, Adoptive Acts, &c.

Adopted.

Bye-laws ..	Cleansing of footways and pavements	} 20th Oct., 1882
	Nuisances	
	Common Lodging Houses	
	Slaughter Houses	
	Paving of yards and open spaces in connection with dwelling houses ; and keeping the water closets supplied with sufficient water for flushing	15th March, 1907
	New Streets and Buildings	4th Feb., 1925
Acts ..	Infectious Disease (Prevention Act), 1890	2nd Feb., 1898
	Public Health Act Amendment Act (Part 3), 1890	3rd Aug., 1905
	Public Health Act Amendment Act (Parts and Sections), 1907	9th Sept., 1912
	Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1925 (Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5)	3rd Mar., 1926
Regulations.	L.G.B. Orders <i>re</i> Offensive Trades ..	1912 and 1913
	Rats and Mice Destruction Order ..	1923
	Public Health (Meat) Regulations ..	1924
	Milk and Dairies Order	1926

Sanitary Administration.

Work of the Sanitary Department, prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. ARTHUR WARD, under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1922 :—

1. Summary of Inspections.
2. Summary of notices served and work done.
3. Housing.
4. Inspection of places where food is prepared and sold.
5. Number and condition of Slaughter Houses, registered or licensed.
6. Arrangements for disinfection, &c.
7. Inspections under Factory and Workshops Acts.
8. Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.
9. Motor Ambulance.
10. Petroleum Acts.
11. Rats and Mice Destruction Order, 1923.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS, &c.

Number of houses and premises inspected	1091
„ complaints attended to	154
„ visits to slaughter houses, shops, &c.	435
„ visits to cowsheds and milkshops	30
„ visits to fried fish shops	6
„ drains tested by smoke	9
„ drains tested by water	19
„ visits to Common Lodging Houses	5
„ visits for re-inspections	590
„ visits for sundry purposes	552
„ visits under the Factory and Workshops and Shops Acts	59
„ notices sent to Employers, <i>re</i> Outworkers	14
„ visits, <i>re</i> sickness	475
„ patients removed to Hospital	9
„ visits, re-disinfection	55
„ visits to remove infected bedding, &c.	22
„ rooms disinfected (2 houses, 8 Schools)	90
„ sets of bedding, &c., disinfected	22
„ articles disinfected	290
„ visits <i>re</i> Rats and Mice Destruction Order, 1923	71
„ visits to stables	34
„ samples of water for analysis	2
„ visits <i>re</i> house refuse	37
„ visits to Cattle Market	15
„ inspections of Urinals	20
„ inspections, <i>re</i> Petroleum Acts	118
„ inspections of Marine Stores	14
„ attendances at the Police Court	3
„ of smoke observations	3
„ of matters referred to Borough Surveyor	17
Notices sent to the Secretary Education Committee	341
Notices sent to Parents	359
Reports, <i>re</i> Infectious Sickness prepared for Medical Officer of Health	41
Number of letters and notices written	414
Number of Notices served	530
Number of Notices complied with, or work in hand	484

TABLE II.—NOTICES SERVED AND WORKS DONE DURING 1926.

Nature of Notice.	Warning and Statutory Notices.						Work in hand.	Not commenced.
	Number served.				Number of notices complied with.			
	Warning.		Statutory.					
	Owner.	Occupier.	Owner.	Occupier.	Owner.	Occupier.		
To empty, cleanse and fill up cesspool and drain into main sewer ..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
To re-lay drain, ventilate, &c... ..	6	..	..	..	6	..	..	..
To repair drain or soil pipe	28	..	..	..	17	..	5	6
To re-construct urinal	14	..	..	..	6	..	8	..
To cleanse urinal .. ..	..	13	..	..	..	13	..	..
To repair, clear or cleanse closet ..	26	16	..	..	20	15	6	1
To clear drain or soil pipe	20	..	5	..	19	..	1	..
To repair, cleanse and whitewash† ..	15	1	1	..	12	..	2	2
To cleanse and disinfect verminous house	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
To abate overcrowding .. ..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	..
To pave yard, scullery, &c.	16	..	1	..	13	..	2	1
To fill up, or remove foul ashpit ..	21	..	1	..	19	..	..	2
To provide galvanized iron bins ..	108	2	3	..	99	2	5	4
To cleanse premises and remove accumulation*	6	17	..	3	6	17	..	..
To discontinue keeping animals so as to be a nuisance .. ..	..	8	..	..	..	8	..	..
To repair defective roof	9	..	2	..	7	..	2	..
To repair external walls (dampness) ..	11	..	1	..	9	..	2	..
To provide water to closet, or urinal ..	39	..	..	..	23	..	15	1
To provide W.C. accommodation	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	..
To repair flushing cistern to W.C. ..	6	1	..	..	6	1	..	..
To provide or repair rain water gutter and pipes	12	..	2	..	10	..	1	1
To repair board floors	3	..	..	..	2	..	1	..
To repair and make windows open top and bottom for ventilation ..	4	..	..	..	3	..	1	..
To fix new sink, or repair, waste pipe, &c. ..	44	..	..	..	31	..	9	5
To ventilate staircase	7	..	..	..	6	..	1	..
To cleanse and fill up manure pit	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	..
To remove accumulation of manure ..	..	13	..	..	..	13	..	..
To discontinue making black smoke..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Other nuisances and defects	25	7	..	..	18	7	6	1
Rats and Mice Destruction Order ..	3	3	..	..	2	3	1	..
LICENSED PREMISES.								
To re-construct urinal	14	..	..	..	6	..	8	..
To provide water to closet or urinal ..	25	..	..	..	17	..	8	..
To fix new sink, &c.	27	..	..	..	19	..	6	2
To repair closets, &c.	4	..	..	..	3	..	1	..

† 23 rooms (1 house).

* 3 Marine Stores, 1 Fish Frying.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1926.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).	23
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	13
(1) By Local Authority 	—
(2) By other bodies or persons	23

1. *Unfit dwelling houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	301
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Consolidated Regulations, 1925	176
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(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 ..	67

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	63
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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 :—	
(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	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) by owners	3
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the 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	
(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	

FOOD.

Inspection of Places where Food is Prepared, Sold, &c.

Bakehouses.—There are 12 bakehouses in regular use. Notice was served in one instance, and unsatisfactory conditions remedied.

Milk.—The greater supply of the milk is drawn from farms outside the Borough. There are four cowkeepers with about 50 cows, and 15 retailers registered within the Borough.

Posters and leaflets, setting forth the requirements of employers and employees under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, were distributed to each cowkeeper and milkseller within the Borough. The whole of the cowkeepers and retail purveyors of milk applied for registration. All the applications were granted and a Certificate of Registration issued to each applicant.

Two retailers hold licenses for the supply of "Certified Grade A" milk, under the Milk (Special Designation) Amendment Order, 1923.

Meat, Fish, &c.—The various premises and conveyances used for the preparation and sale of these articles have been given supervision.

In two instances Notices were served in respect of dirty fish frying apparatus and premises.

Slaughter-houses and Shops. Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.—There are nine registered slaughter-houses and one licensed slaughter-house in the Borough, with 13 occupiers. Inspection of the slaughter-houses and shops under the Regulations have been regularly made.

Examination of carcases during and after slaughter was made on practically all occasions of slaughter, and nearly 25½ cwts. of diseased and unsound meat condemned as unfit for human consumption. In each case of condemnation the meat was voluntary surrendered by the owner, and afterwards burnt at the Corporation's Refuse dump.

One prosecution was taken for failing to give notice of slaughter, a fine of £2 being imposed.

Unsound Food Condemned and Surrendered.

Meat	2841 pounds.
Corned Beef	12 „

No. of carcases or parts, condemned as tubercular :—

Carcases (whole), 4 pigs, 2 beasts	6
„ (parts), 4 „ 8 „	12

Number of slaughter houses in use in the district :—

	In 1920.	January, 1926.	December, 1926.
Registered	9	9	9
Licensed	—	1	1
	9	10	10

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

Analysis under these Acts is undertaken by the East Sussex County Council. The Inspector, Mr. W. Fitcher, has kindly furnished the list of samples taken :—

New Milks	50
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All the samples proved to be of excellent quality.

Methods of Procedure in dealing with Infectious Disease.

Notifiable Disease.

On receipt of notification the house is visited and enquiries made into all the circumstances under which the sickness has arisen; also the conditions of the house and surroundings, milk supply, school and contacts, and any other information ascertained which would lead to the source of infection, and restrict the further spread of disease.

When the patient is removed to the Hospital for Infectious Diseases, which is always urged in the cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever, and generally agreed to, the room is afterwards disinfected, by either spraying or fumigation, followed by the removal of the bedding, wearing apparel, &c., to the Council's Steam Disinfecting Station, with a printed list of articles removed, which is signed by the owner on their safe return.

Stripping, &c., of walls is required according to circumstances, and thorough cleansing of rooms is urged in all cases.

A card is left with the parent or guardian containing instructions *re* visiting patient at the Hospital and the symptoms which should be regarded as being suspicious of infection in other members of the family.

A certificate, excluding the patient and contacts from Day and Sunday School, is left with the parent and also sent to the Secretary of the Education Committee.

Non-Notifiable Diseases, i.e., Chicken Pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Scabies, &c.

Notice is sent by the Head Teachers of the Elementary Schools to the Medical Officer of Health, on forms provided for the purpose, of any absentees from school owing to sickness arising from the above diseases, or other suspicious sickness.

The homes of these children are visited, the facts ascertained as nearly as possible, and exclusion certificates given to parents and teachers as the conditions indicate.

When it is found that no doctor is in attendance the parents are advised to obtain medical advice.

In the case of Scabies, special treatment of hot baths and application of Liquor Calcis Sulph. and Ung. Sulphuris (with disinfection of the clothing of school children) is provided by the Council, the treatment being carried out by the School Nurse.

Factory and Workshops Acts.

Inspections.

Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Notices given <i>re</i> defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Matters referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Outworkers.

Lists of Outworkers received	..	..	..	..	..	13
Number of Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	19
Lists forwarded to other Authorities	..	..	..	..	..	1
Lists received from other Authorities	..	..	..	..	..	1

COLLECTION and DISPOSAL of HOUSE REFUSE.

Costs for the Year ending 31st December, 1925.

Wages :—						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sorters	..	..	..	..	..	133	2	8			
Establishment Charges	..	..	..	..	..	7	16	0			
									140	18	8

Bills :—

Hunt, J.	..	..	..	..	..	931	0	0			
Removing Trade Refuse to Tips	..	..	..	..	..	0	14	7			
Repairs, Tools, Lime, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	3	0	6			
									934	15	1

Receipts :—

Per Sale of Bottles, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	7	4	6			
„ Special Collections	..	..	..	..	..	2	19	0			
„ Tipping Trade Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	6	14	9			
									16	18	3

Nett Cost £1,058 15 6

Total nett cost for the year 1925 .. £1,036. 14s. 1d.

Total nett cost for the year 1926 .. £1,058. 15s. 6d.

Nett cost per head of population .. 1s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Nett cost per house 7s. 6d.

Nett cost per ton 10s. 7d.

Collection.—A new contract for the Collection of House Refuse was made with Mr. J. Hunt, for the twelve months ending 29th September, 1926, at an inclusive price of £925.

Disposal.—The refuse has been tipped at the Osier Bed in the Ham Fields during the year, the refuse along the face of the tip is kept burning. Trade refuse is also received for disposal at special charges.

The Council's Sewage Works have been kept supplied with ashes for mixing with the sludge.

Motor Ambulance.

During the year ending 31st December, 1926, 83 journeys were made; 74 patients carried; 1,716 miles run; Receipts, £118. 0s. 9d.; Running Costs, &c., £53. 9s. 4d.; Accounts outstanding, £1. 3s. 9d. Owing to the special circumstances of patients, the Committee modified the charges in 8 cases.

Petroleum Acts.

118 visits were made under these Acts during the year.

Forty licenses were issued: 26 for the storage of Petroleum, and 14 for the storage of Carbide of Calcium.

The total amounts that might be kept under these licenses were: Petroleum, 33,706 gallons; Carbide of Calcium, 5,816 pounds.

There are 23 underground storage tanks.

Fees amounting to £10. 5s. were received.

Petroleum Act, 1926.

Circulars and Posters relating to this new Act were issued to all dealers in Petroleum or Carbide of Calcium.

Rats and Mice Destruction Order, 1923.

Seventy-one visits (under the Order) were made, and advice given as to treatment required.
