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1905.

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THE

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND OF THE

**Sanitary Inspector**

FOR THE

**PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.**

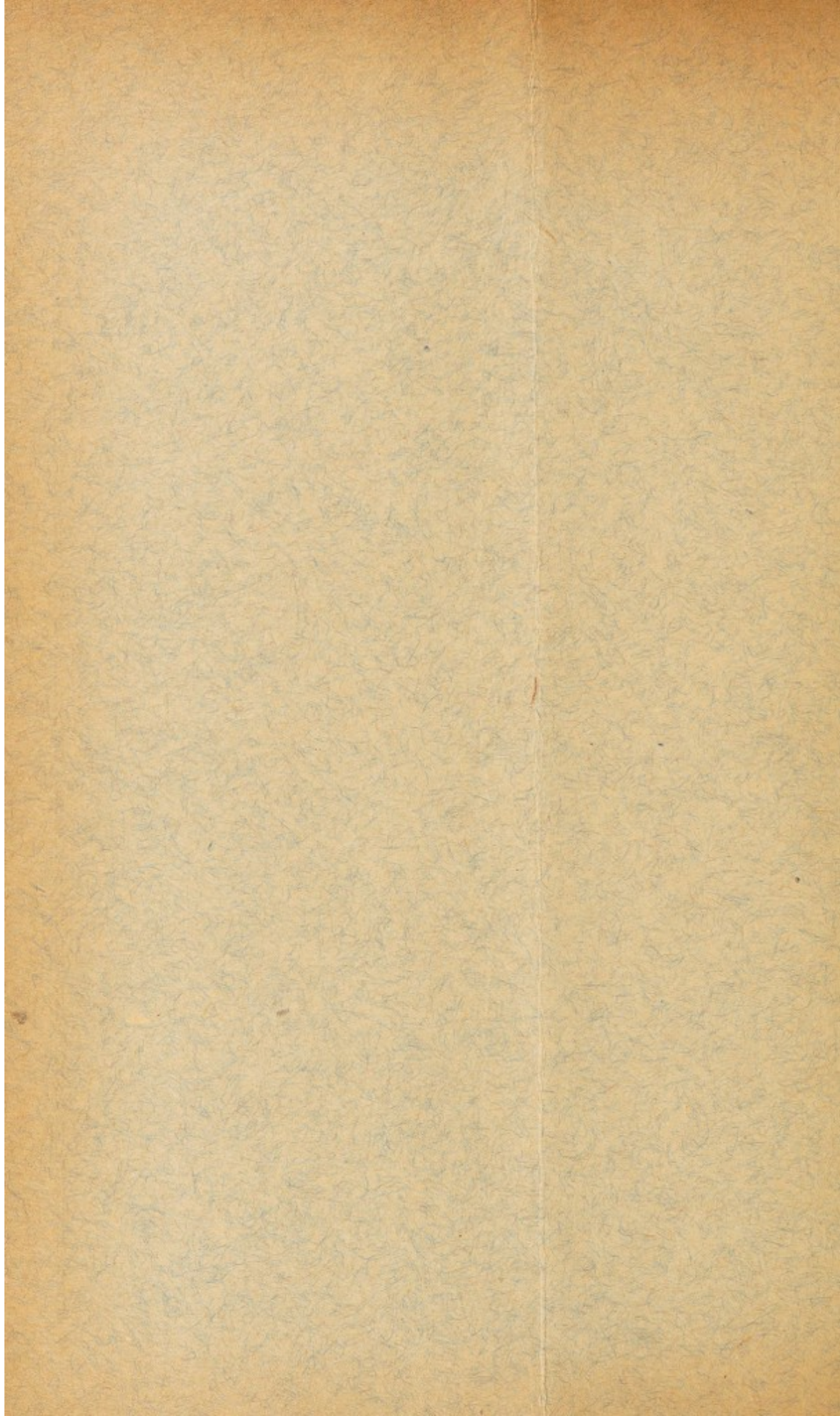
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PAIGNTON :

W. A. AXWORTHY, PRINTER, 26, PALACE AVENUE.







*THE ANNUAL REPORT*  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
For the year 1905.

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*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Paignton  
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

In this my fifteenth Annual Report it is a pleasure to be able to give you a better one than that of last year. The general health throughout the year has been good and there has been a very small zymotic death rate. The question of the building bye-laws is ever a subject of much talk and some members think there is room for amendment. I agree there is room for amendment but not in the direction desired. Paignton is a town developing and Councillors should look ahead and at any rate keep abreast of the times if not to anticipate future requirements. Air-space about the dwellings is not sufficiently understood or appreciated and I strongly advise you to get your bye-laws altered in this direction.

At present some houses are being built with only fifteen feet back garden which I have often advised you is contrary to my interpretation of your Building Bye-laws, and if I am wrong I can only say it is high time an alteration was made in the direction of increased air-space. With our present knowledge a minimum of 25ft. would only be a reasonable requirement and personally I would rather see 40ft. Another subject requiring alteration and urgently so,

is the width of new streets. At present everything points to the development of mechanical traction and the 36ft. roadway is not sufficient for this traffic. Here are two suggestions which I most respectfully but urgently advise you to seriously consider and I have no doubt the Local Government Board would be pleased to pass such amended bye-laws.

The following statistics are estimated upon a population to the middle of the year of 9,000

**Births.** There were 189 births registered, 91 boys, 98 girls, giving a birth rate of 21 per 1,000 per annum and is again an increase on last year and just above the average of ten years. The natural increase, excess of births over deaths was 55.

**Deaths.** The deaths registered during the year were 134 and are over the average of ten years by 33, which is not a material increase taking into consideration that there is an increase of population during the time of 1,000. Of the deaths registered 60 were males and 74 females giving for this year a death rate of 14·8 per 1,000 per annum.

The following table shews the number of deaths at the various ages :

Under 1 year of age	...	...	..	...	10
1 year and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	1
5 years and under 15 years	...	...	...	...	5
15 years and under 25 years	..	..	...	...	6
25 years and under 65 years	...	...	...	...	49
65 years and over	...	...	...	...	63
					134

There were 27 deaths of persons over 70 years of age.

There were 21 deaths of persons over 80 years of age.

Two were over 90 and one attained to 101 years.

It will thus be seen that 47 per cent. of the deaths were of persons over 65 years old.



The following is a summary of the causes of death registered during the year :—

**TABLE IV.**

PAIGNTON DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Und'r 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Small-pox ... ..							
Measles ... ..							
Scarlet fever ... ..							
Whooping-cough ... ..							
Diphtheria and membranous croup ... ..							
Croup ... ..							
Fever { Typhus ... ..							
{ Enteric ... ..	1					1	
{ Other continued ... ..							
Epidemic influenza ... ..	2					1	1
Cholera ... ..							
Plague ... ..							
Diarrhoea ... ..							
Enteritis ... ..	2	2					
Puerperal fever ... ..							
Erysipelas ... ..							
Other septic diseases ... ..	2					2	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	13			2	2	9	
Other tubercular diseases ... ..	2				1	1	
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	14					6	8
Bronchitis ... ..	10	1					9
Pneumonia ... ..	6				1	2	3
Pleurisy ... ..	1					1	
Other diseases of respiratory organs ... ..							
Alcoholism ... ..							
Cirrhosis of liver } ... ..	1					1	
Venereal diseases ... ..							
Premature birth ... ..	3	3					
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	1					1	
Heart diseases ... ..	9					4	5
Accidents ... ..	4			1	1	1	1
Suicides ... ..							
All other causes ... ..	63	4	1	2	1	19	36
All causes ... ..	134	10	1	5	6	49	63

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905  
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

## PAIGNTON DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in the Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES NETT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	7350	166	22.5	17	102.4	105	14.2					
1896	7420	166	22.2	11	66.4	106	14.2					
1897	7500	180	24.2	10	55.5	89	11.8					
1898	7700	161	20.9	19	118.0	95	12.3					
1899	7900	145	18.3	13	89.6	98	12.4					
1900	8150	166	20.3	21	126.0	141	17.1					
1901	8400	178	21.2	11	61.8	119	14.1					
1902	8500	169	19.8	14	82.8	122	14.3					
1903	8650	156	18.0	18	115.0	97	11.2					
1904	8800	176	20.0	21	119.0	140	15.9					
Averages for years 1895-1904.	8037	166.3	20.7	15.5	93.6	111.2	13.7					
1905	9000	189	21	10	53	134	14.8					

\*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-Residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	...	5,177.5	
Total population at all ages	...	8,385	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,785	
Average number of persons per house	...	4.7	



The infant mortality was 10, and measured by the proportion of deaths under one year of age to the number of births registered is 53 per 1,000, and is a great improvement on last year when the deaths were 21 and the proportion 119. The average for ten years are respectively 15.5 and 93.6, and full particulars of the causes of death are given in the accompanying table:—

Infant  
Mortality.

**TABLE V.**

PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

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

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Wk.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	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 ... ..																	
	{ Uncertified ... ..																	
Common Infectious Diseases.	{ Small-pox ... ..																	
	{ Chicken-pox ... ..																	
	{ Measles ... ..																	
	{ Scarlet fever ... ..																	
	{ Diphtheria : Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases	{ Whooping Cough																	
	{ Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	{ Enteritis (not Tuberculous)			1				1									2	
Wasting Diseases	{ Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																3	
	{ Premature Birth	1	1	1														
	{ Congenital Defects																	
Tuberculous Diseases	{ Injury at Birth ...																	
	{ Want of Bre'st-milk																	
	{ Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus							1									1	
	{ Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	{ Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica																	
	{ Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	{ Erysipelus ... ..																	
	{ Syphilis ... ..																	
	{ Rickets ... ..																	
	{ Meningitis (not Tuberculous)											1						1
Other Causes	{ Convulsions ... ..																	
	{ Bronchitis ... ..								1								1	
	{ Laryngitis ... ..																	
	{ Pneumonia ... ..																	
	{ Suffocation, overlaying																	
	{ Other Causes ... ..							1		1								2
	{ Total		1	1	2				4		1	1						10
District (or sub-division) of Paignton.																		
Births in the year { legitimate 184 { illegitimate 5		Population estimated to middle of 1905, 9,000.																
Deaths from ALL CAUSES AT ALL AGES 134.																		



The following table will no doubt be of interest to you as showing the local statistics together with those of all England.

VITAL STATISTICS OF ENGLAND AND WALES,  
FOR THE YEAR 1905.

	Annual Rate per 1000 living.			
	Births.	Deaths from all causes.	Deaths from 7 chief Epidemic Diseases.	Infant Mortality. Annual death rate of Infants under 1 year of age to 1000 births
England and Wales ...	27·2	15·2	1·53	128
76 Great Towns .. ...	28·2	15·7	1·88	140
141 Smaller Towns ...	26·9	14·4	1·50	132
England and Wales less the 217 Towns ..	26·3	14·9	1·09	113
<b>Paignton</b>	<b>21·0</b>	<b>14·8</b>	<b>0·11</b>	<b>53</b>

From this table it will be seen that the birth rate of Paignton is below the average of Rural England and Wales, the death rate also is just below but the death rate from zymotic disease and the infant mortality are both considerably below the average and are a good indication of the healthiness of the town and its population.

Notifications

There were 23 notifications received during the year :

Small Pox	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever	....	...	8
Enteric Fever	...	...	5
			<hr/>
			23

**TABLE III.**

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING  
YEAR 1905.  
PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox ..	1					1		1
Cholera ... ..								
Diphtheria ..	2			1	1			1
Membranous croup								
Erysipelas ...	7				1	5	1	
Scarlet Fever ...	8		2	4	2			5
Typhus Fever ...								
Enteric Fever ...	5		1			4		2
Relapsing Fever ...								
Continued Fever ...								
Puerperal Fever ...								
Plague ... ..								
Totals... ..	23		3	5	4	10	1	9

The case of small-pox was isolated at Holne Moor, all other cases at the Paignton Isolation Hospital.

The number of deaths due to zymotic disease were 3, viz., 2 Enteritis or Diarrhœa, and 1 Enteric Fever = 3; giving a zymotic death rate of 0·33 per 1,000 per annum and a great improvement on last year when the rate was 2·8 per 1,000 per annum. Only one death occurred as due to notifiable disease viz.: Typhoid Fever, and this gives for the year the very low death rate of 0·11 per 1,000 per annum.

There were 13 deaths registered as due to Phthisis <sup>Phthisis</sup> giving a death rate 1·44 per 1,000 per annum and is just over that of last year but still below the average of all England and Wales. Of these deaths 4 were of visitors living in one or other of the Nursing Homes or apartments thus reducing the Paignton death rate as due to Phthisis to 1·0 per 1,000 per annum. With regard to disinfection after deaths from Phthisis every effort is made to get this carried out and I am strongly of opinion that where permission is refused an order should be served and the work done compulsorily.

On the 24th of June, a case of this disease was notified <sup>Small-pox</sup> and as no case has occurred here for quite a generation it naturally was a source of great anxiety. The patient had been



at work in a large public work at Holne, sixteen miles from this town, where a person suffering from this disease had been taken on as a labourer but did not remain sufficiently long to be seen by any medical man and his illness was not recognised as one of Small Pox. However, within twelve days four men, this patient being one of them and he came home, were taken ill with the disease. Immediately on receiving the notification I got into communication with Dr. Johnson, the Medical Officer of Health of the district of Holne and made an arrangement with him to receive this case into the Small Pox encampment that was being made. After the patient was removed the house was most carefully disinfected and the bedding burnt, every person who had been in contact was sought out and all submitted to re-vaccination. An agreement was entered into that in consideration of the Paignton Sanitary Authority providing food and other necessaries all the contacts would remain indoors over the incubation period; this I believe they did and Mr. Crathorn, the Sanitary Inspector, looked after them. No other case occurred.

Scarlet  
Fever.

There have been only a few sporadic cases this year and eight cases were notified; three of the cases were in one house and I heard nothing until the third case of illness. No doubt the parent had deliberately held back the information and the excuse was that the lodgers might be frightened away. All the three were at once removed to the Isolation Hospital and the house thoroughly disinfected, and there was no further spreading of the disease.

Enteric  
Fever.

Five cases were notified during the year and there is no doubt one of them was imported for the patient was brought home very ill. Two of the cases were removed to the hospital and one died. This was the only death during the year from notifiable disease.

Drainage.

Great attention has been paid to the sewers during the year and the result has been that the town has been spared the flooding that had taken place so often in previous years, so that for the time we can manage but the subject must not be shelved.

Scavenge  
Disposal.

Here is another matter that apparently cannot be put off very much longer. Every year it becomes more difficult to secure places for the disposing of the scavenge and every year the cost of cartage is increasing and the provision of a destructor should be taken into consideration.

Water.

The water engineer reports that the pipe line to the service reservoir at Marldon is completed, and connexion has been made with the present storage reservoir so that

whenever necessary moorland water can be delivered into the town mains. The plans for the redistribution are under consideration and it is hoped that during this year the work on the dam will be completed.

During the year I have paid many visits to these places independently of the routine visits of the Inspector of Nuisances who will state full particulars in his report.

Slaughter  
houses, Milk-  
shops,  
Dairies, and  
Bakehouses.

The following is the report of Mr. Revell, the Vaccination Officer :—

Successfully vaccinated ... ..	149
Died unvaccinated ... ..	8
Conscientious objectors ... ..	10
Postponed on account of illness ... ..	2
Removed from district ... ..	1
Not yet vaccinated under 6 months old ... ..	19
	<hr/>
	189

Numerous visits have been paid to these and no serious defects found and I consider the Act is being carefully carried out, and any work required was carried out without written notice.

Factory and  
Workshops  
Act.

I am, Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. W. VICKERS, D.P.H., London,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



*THE ANNUAL REPORT*  
OF  
*THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,*

For the Year ended the 31st day of December, 1905.

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Paignton Urban  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my 11th Annual Report, and in doing so desire to thank you for the consideration that has been given to any matter that it has been my duty to place before you.

Drains, &c.

The testing of the drains of old houses has been carried on during the year to a larger extent than usual, people before taking the houses are in many cases requiring Sanitary Certificates, this necessitates a large amount of supervision, in some cases it becomes necessary to overhaul the whole of the drains, and often re-construction of the same. I am pleased to say that the sanitary condition of the houses generally, especially those let in lodgings, are being put in a thorough sanitary condition.

The drains of all new houses have been inspected, and I am pleased to report a great improvement in the manner in which the work has been carried out. A good number of old drains have been tested for Certificates and otherwise, where defects were found and the drains not in a satisfactory condition, reports were made to the owners calling attention to the necessary work required to be done. In connection with this work it has been necessary to take out a quantity of D and Bell traps and replace them with stoneware gullies. A number of old Mason's traps have been destroyed and Interceptor traps substituted, and in many cases Inspection Chambers have been provided, all old pan containers and long hopper pans where found have been condemned and good pans of the washdown type put in their places. I have always been glad to give advice in the carrying out of any necessary alterations, and my requirements have been carried out in nearly every case without friction, and it has not been necessary in any of these cases to serve a legal notice this year.

Scavenging.

The removal of house refuse is still carried on by the Council's staff, by the surveyor's department. Some difficulty will be found in the future of disposing of this refuse, and the Council will have to seriously consider this matter at an early date. Several complaints were made at the latter part of the year that the refuse was not removed as often as it might have been. The working of the several



Districts have now been altered, and we hope the new arrangement will give satisfaction. A further large number of galvanised iron ashbins have been provided by the owners.

All cases of Infectious Disease notified have been visited, and where found necessary and convenient have been removed to the Isolation Hospital. Disinfectants have been supplied on application; the premises have been disinfected, and the drains examined and if necessary tested. Cleansing orders have been served upon several owners to thoroughly cleanse premises. Disinfection has been carried out in a number of cases of Phthisis. Infectious Diseases.

Several samples of water have been taken from private wells. In one case the well was closed, and one case the well cleaned out. Though there was a low rainfall during the year the town water consumers had a constant supply during the whole of the summer. A supply of town water has been laid on to 12 old houses during the year. Water.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been visited during the year. The Dairies, and Milkshops have been kept in a satisfactory condition. Notices have been served, and several Cowhouses limewashed, but the latter generally are not kept in so good and clean a condition as they may be. Dairies, &c.

Periodical visits have been made to the workshops and Bakehouses during the year. No lists of outworkers have been sent in to the Council during the year. Workshops.

Frequent visits have been made and they have been kept in a fairly satisfactory condition, as far as the unsuitability of some of the premises permit, complaints have been made in reference to several, but I do not see that any action can be taken until the Council are in a position to provide a public slaughter house. Slaughter houses.

Upon completion of the drains of all new houses they have been tested, and I am pleased to know that the Council have decided that Inspection Chambers are to be built in connection with the drainage of all new houses. Although the Building Industry has been very slack during the year, I have again to report an increase in the number of new houses built during the year. New Houses.

These have been served where considered necessary, or where instructed by the Council, for the abatement of nuisances, removal of animals and offensive accumulations, sanitary defects, &c., and in all cases but one were complied with and the necessary work carried out. In one case summary proceeding had to be resorted to, and upon the conclusion of the proceedings before the Magistrates an order was made against the defendant to carry out the terms of the notice served, and defendant to pay costs to the amount of £2 5s. 6d. Notices.



I herewith append a list of some of the Sanitary work carried out during the year :—

Complaints received and attended to...	...	12
Houses inspected	...	409
Preliminary notices	...	41
Legal notices	...	2
Drains found choked	...	21
Drains tested (old)	...	48
Drains tested (new)	...	88
Drains found defective	...	80
Drains taken up and relaid	...	6
Drains, new system	...	12
Inspection chambers to old properties	...	17
Interceptors in place of Mason's traps	...	18
Gullies in place of defective D and Bell traps	...	33
Washdown W.C.'s in place of pan containers	...	30
Washdown W.C.'s in place of long hopper	...	20
Water waste preventers fitted...	...	13
Water waste preventers repaired	...	11
Soil pipes in wall destroyed and new carried outside	...	10
Soil pipes repaired	...	3
Rain and waste pipes dis-connected from drains	...	2
Ashpits repaired...	...	2
Ashbins provided	...	66
Offensive accumulations removed	...	4
Animals removed	...	5
New W.C.'s built	...	4
Town water laid on to old premises	...	12
Infectious cases visited ..	...	10
Infectious cases removed to Hospital...	...	8
Houses disinfected	...	21
Houses cleansed...	...	4
Cesspools closed...	...	1
Samples of well water taken	...	2
Cowhouses cleansed	...	16
New houses tested	...	88

I feel it my duty before closing my report to again call your attention to the need of immediate renovation of several of our public sanitary conveniences, also to the need of others in the different neighbourhoods, and ask you to kindly consider the matter at an early date.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

Paignton

Town Hall,

March 5th, 1906.

J. CRATHORN, A.R.S.I.,

*Certificated Sanitary Inspector.*