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**TWELFTH REPORT**  
ON THE  
**SANITARY CONDITION**  
OF THE  
**Urban District**  
OF  
**RICKMANSWORTH.**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1909,

BY

MARK SHARMAN,

D.P.H., Scot.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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1910.

BROWN & SON, Rickmansworth.

To

THE RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Twelfth Annual Report.

Allow me to again record the great obligation I am under to the Clerk and the Inspector of Nuisances for the assistance given in framing the Report and the ready help always afforded to me in carrying out the routine work. My thanks are also due to the Collector of Rates and the District Registrar of Births and Deaths for information of value which they have placed at my disposal.

I regret to have to record the death, during the year, of Mr. Thomas Paramor who held the office of Registrar of Births and Deaths for many years and from whom I received great assistance in framing the statistics for previous Reports,

I am,

Your obedient servant,

MARK SHARMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

RICKMANSWORTH,

15th March, 1910.

# REPORT.

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THE RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT began its existence in April, 1898. It has been carved out of the old Civil Parish of Rickmansworth, which was one of the Parishes of the Watford Rural District.

The Urban District consists of the Town of Rickmansworth, the Hamlet of Batchworth, and the most populous parts of the Villages of Croxley Green and Mill End.

For the purposes of this Report, the District is divided into three localities, viz:—(1) Rickmansworth—including Batchworth, (2) Croxley Green, and (3) Mill End.

STATISTICS.(see Tables I., II., IV. and V.)—The Rickmansworth Urban District contained a population by census in 1901 of 5,627 persons: the number estimated to the middle of 1909 is 6602. The District comprises an area of 572 acres (of which 16 acres are water.) The number of inhabited houses for 1909 is 1387 giving an average density of population per house of 4·76 persons. The average number of persons per acre of dry land in the District is 11·87.

During the year 1909 sixty-one deaths have been registered in the Urban District of Rickmansworth to which must be added for statistical purposes seven deaths which took place in Watford Union Infirmary one death in the Hill End Asylum, and one death outside the district, the total making seventy.

On classifying all cases the death-rate for the year is 10·6.

It will be observed that the death-rate still remains low.

The age distribution was as follows :—

Under one year	...	...	...	12
At one year and under five	...	...	...	6
„ five years „ „ fifteen	...	...	...	2
„ fifteen „ „ twenty-five	...	...	...	4
„ twenty-five „ „ sixty-five	...	...	...	20
„ sixty-five and upwards				26

It will be seen that 17·1% of the registered deaths occurred in children under one year of age and 37·1 of persons over 65 years of age.

The deaths occurring in the localities into which the District is divided for the purposes of this Report were as follows :—

Rickmansworth	..	...	...	33
Croxley Green	...	...	...	19
Mill End	...	...	...	18

The “ yearly ” death-rate per thousand being—

Rickmansworth	...	...	...	9·5
Croxley Green	...	...	...	9·5
Mill End	...	...	...	17·6

It will be observed from the above figures that Rickmansworth and Croxley Green have the lowest “ annual death rate ” of the three localities which the Urban District contains. Special attention is drawn to Mill End later on in the report.

**BIRTHS**—There were 153 births registered, giving the “yearly” birth-rate for the District as 23·2 per thousand, of these 75 were females and 78 males.

Taking the births in the three localities, the figures are:—

		Females.	Males.	Total.
Rickmansworth	...	35	43	78
Croxley Green	...	23	19	42
Mill End	... ..	17	16	33
		—	—	—
		75	78	153
		—	—	—

The "yearly" birth-rate being respectively 21·8, 20·9 and 32·4 per thousand. It is to be noted that among the registered births for the year there was one illegitimate birth.

The birth-rate for the district is lower than that for the preceding year.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**—The deaths of Infants under one year were in the proportion of 78·4 to a thousand registered births for the whole District. Dividing up the District into the various localities the rates of infantile mortality are:—

Rickmansworth	...	...	...	51·3
Croxley Green	...	..	...	23·8
Mill End...	...	...	...	212·1

The loss of life amongst infants in Mill End must again this year be brought to the serious notice of the Council. Improper feeding and a general want of care in the up-bringing of the children are largely responsible for this mortality. No one can shut their eyes to the fact of the ever increasing wastage of life, and especially young life, in this locality compared with the other two localities in the District. An endeavour should be made on the part of the Council to improve the existing conditions of Mill End. If reference is made to former reports it will be found that the conditions existing in this locality are always the subject for unfavorable comments.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.—As I have already dealt with this matter in previous Reports it is hardly necessary to go over the same ground again.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Four deaths have been registered during the year as due to Zymotic disease. The “yearly” Zymotic death-rate is 0·60 per thousand.

	Small Pox	...	...	...	...	0
	Measles	...	...	...	...	2
	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	0
	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	0
	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2
Fevers	{ Typhus	...	...	...	...	0
	{ Enteric	...	...	...	...	0
	{ Other or doubtful	...	...	...	...	0
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	0
					—	4
					—	

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—Two cases were removed to the Hospital during the year, out of nine cases notified.

DISINFECTION. —Bedding and such other articles as cannot be safely and efficiently disinfected at the patients' homes are removed by the Isolation Hospital Authority and dealt with by means of a Steam Disinfector, and then returned to the houses of the owners.

During the year over which this report extends the number of cases removed to the well-appointed Isolation Hospital has been very small. The Hospital Staff still continue to do devoted and excellent work. Fortunately for Rickmansworth the services of this well served Hospital have been hardly required during the year.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENTS.** — At present Medical practitioners in the District are at liberty to send "throat specimens" to either the Lister Institute or to the Laboratory of the Watford Joint Isolation Hospital, at the expense of the Council, in order that they may be examined bacterially for the presence of the *Bacillus Diphtheriæ*.

**EPIDEMIOLOGY** (see Tables III. and IV.)—Since October, 1890, the District has been under the operation of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, and during the period over which this Report extends, nine cases only have been notified as against five cases during the year 1908.

Small Pox	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria (and Membranous Croup)					1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0
					—
					9
					—

This gives a Notifiable Sickness-rate of 1·36 per thousand of the population ; quite a satisfactory state of affairs.

**VACCINATION.**—Eleven years' experience of the working of the Vaccination Act of 1898 is now forthcoming. The following are the figures which relate to the Rickmansworth Urban and Rickmansworth Rural Districts.

Year.		Primary Vaccination.		Re-Vaccination.
1895	...	124	...	—
1896	...	88	...	—
1897	...	95	...	—
*1898	...	71	...	—
†1899	...	172	...	—
1900	...	144	...	3
1901	...	132	...	121
1902	...	142	...	783
1903	...	132	...	28
1904	...	145	...	18
1905	...	154	...	8
1906	...	147	...	20
1907	...	190	...	19
1908	...	146	...	41
1909	...	128	...	31

\* The few cases of this year were undoubtedly partly due to Boards of Guardians and individuals waiting for the Act of 1898.

† Vaccination Act of 1898 in force.

In accordance with the desire of the County Council the Medical Officer begs to furnish the number of Vaccinations performed during 1909 in the Urban District and the number of exemptions during the same period : they are respectively seventy-seven and forty-nine.

SCARLET FEVER.—With regard to Scarlet Fever, it will be seen that no case has been notified for the year 1909, only one was notified during the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA.—One case has been notified during the year 1909, as compared with three cases last year. No death has to be recorded from this disease during the current year.

The record of the District as regards these two diseases is very satisfactory.

It is important that the public and the medical men practising in the district should know that Antitoxin is provided free to anyone who may be suffering from the disease ; application need only be made at the Offices of the Urban District Council. The Medical Officer of Health wishes to draw particular attention to the fact that Antitoxin should be given early in the course of the disease (within two days if possible of the onset) if a successful issue is to be obtained.

DIARRHŒA.—The number of deaths from Diarrhœa since 1898 are as follows:—

1898	...	...	...	...	11
1899	...	...	...	...	6
1900	...	...	...	...	4
1901	...	...	...	...	1
1902	...	...	...	...	0
1903	...	...	...	...	3
1904	...	...	...	...	0
1905	...	...	...	...	0
1906	...	...	...	...	1
1907	...	...	...	...	0
1908	...	...	...	...	5
1909	...	...	...	...	0

The Medical Officer of Health again draws attention to the question of "flies" —more particularly "the common house fly" of which there are several varieties. There can be no doubt that flies are the carriers of disease. Epidemics of Diarrhœa, especially amongst children, are closely associated with their presence. The breeding grounds of these pests are in accumulations of decaying vegetable and animal matter such as collections of manure and refuse generally. It is extremely important that all Sanitary Authorities should rigidly enforce the prompt removal of such accumulations, from the proximity of dwellings or premises where

food is stored for human consumption. Milk, which is such an "explosive fluid," is extremely liable to contamination by the germs of disease. This important and common article of diet so largely used by all members of the community, whether rich or poor, young or old, sick or healthy requires immense care in its collection, storage and distribution.

A solution of "formalin" when exposed in a shallow open dish is undoubtedly poisonous to these insects; from experiments made, the solution requires fairly constant renewal to be effective.

**PUERPERAL FEVER.**—No case has been notified during the year.

**ERYSIPELAS.**—Seven cases were notified for the year 1909, One case was recorded during the year 1908.

**WHOOPIING COUGH AND MUMPS.**—During the early part of the year these diseases were very prevalent, especially Mumps. The outbreak of Mumps calls for some attention.

Mumps is characterized by inflammation of the parotid gland, one of the glands which manufactures the saliva or spittle; the disease is very infectious amongst children and adolescents. As a rule it is comparatively mild in its course. Occasionally it is very severe, especially if adults are attacked, and produces complications. The epidemic referred to was marked especially by the number of adults attacked, people between forty and fifty years of age not being spared. Another serious point in the epidemic was the occurrence of a certain number of serious or septic cases. Two children were attacked during convalescence by inflammation of the lungs and peritonitis one of which died and the other had a long and struggling convalescence. In the experience of the Medical Officer of Health this is the first time he has been able to trace the cause of death indirectly to an attack of Mumps.

**TUBERCULOUS DISEASES** (including Phthisis or Consumption.) Ten deaths have occurred from these diseases during the year,

four in Rickmansworth, four in Croxley Green, and two in the locality of Mill End. This gives a "yearly" death-rate for these diseases of 1·5 per thousand for the whole District.

The death-rate from Phthisis alone is 0·9 per thousand.

CANCER.—On investigating this disease four deaths have to be recorded, one from the locality of Rickmansworth, one from Croxley Green, and two from Mill End. The death-rate from this disease is therefore 0·6 per thousand living.

RAINFALL.—The Medical Officer of Health desires again to record his sincere thanks to Mr. S. Ingleby Oddie for supplying details of the rainfall in the District during the year 1909 which are most interesting.

Rain Guage.—Diameter of funnel, 5 inches; height of top above ground, 7 inches; above sea level, 250 feet.

#### RAINFALL IN INCHES.

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Jan.	0·83	2·52	2·43	1·10	4·50	0·87	1·74	·58
Feb.	1·29	1·59	3·28	0·65	2·44	1·43	1·40	·45
March	1·44	2·52	1·26	2·80	1·50	1·01	3·25	3·16
April	0·76	3·10	1·35	1·60	0·48	2·89	3·05	2·16
May	2·23	1·91	2·71	0·63	1·50	2·08	1·67	1·33
June	2·69	5·73	0·98	3·95	2·31	1·78	2·01	4·26
July	1·51	3·81	1·68	1·12	0·77	2·31	3·00	2·82
August	4·88	2·95	2·01	2·42	1·26	1·90	3·23	2·03
Sept.	0·49	1·62	1·60	1·12	1·44	0·54	1·39	2·04
Oct.	1·76	6·82	1·45	1·09	5·11	4·70	2·89	4·65
Nov.	1·94	1·60	1·52	2·54	3·68	2·53	0·83	·78
Dec.	1·15	2·06	2·08	0·96	2·29	3·62	2·14	2·96
Totals	20·97	36·23	22·35	19·98	27·78	25·66	26·60	27·22

Mr Oddie in his comments on the rainfall for 1909 remarks "that the year has been an exceptionally wet and miserable one but the rainfall only exceeds the average for the last five years by 1·42 inches and the number of wet days is only fourteen more than the average for the same period. In February we had a quite remarkable succession of sunny days and frosty nights, there being only six days during the month upon which rain or snow fell; the total rainfall for the month only amounting to ·45 inches compared with an average of 1·48 inches. There was a very heavy fall of rain in June of 4·26 inches and in October of 4·65. June July and August were chiefly notable for the number of days upon which fires were necessary for ordinary comfort."

**WATER SUPPLY.**—The District draws its water for drinking and domestic purposes from the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company's mains, and deep wells with or without pumps.

The Company's water—save for its hardness—is thoroughly good and absolutely free from organic pollution.

The number of new connections made during the last eleven years with the Water Company's mains are as follows:—

1899, new connections made...	...	105
1900	"	78
1901	"	78
1902	"	90
1903	"	51
1904	"	93
1905	"	220
1906	"	96
1907	"	40
1908	"	18
1909	"	13

The Medical Officer of Health has, at the request of the Council, had an analysis made of the water drawn from the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company's wells in the District with the following result :—

Colour	...	...	...	good.
Odour	...	...	...	none.
Turbidity	...	...	...	none.
Sediment	...	...	...	slight white powder (chalk.)
Microscopic Examination				nothing definite.
Residue on Evaporation	...			white (chalk.)
Chlorine	...	...	...	1·5 parts per hundred thousand.
Total Hardness	...	...	23·5	" "
Permanent Hardness	...	...	4·8	" "
Nitrites	...	...	...	absent " "
Nitrates	...	...	0·4	" "
Oxygen absorbed	...	...	0·026	" "
Free Ammonia or Saline				
Ammonia	...	...	0·001	" "
Albuminoid Ammonia or				
Organic Ammonia	...	...	0·003	" "

Again and again, even at the risk of repetition, the following remarks must be emphasized this year. It is evident that this would be a really good, pure water were it not so hard. Hard water is distinctly bad for kettles and boilers, necessitating their constant cleaning and repair, which if postponed is liable to cause danger to householders by the possible bursting of the boiler. Every boiler in this district should be cleaned, that is, the incrustation of lime should be removed, at least once every three months, if an effective heating of the water is desired. The crust which forms in boilers may be loose or hard, the former condition is the result of the deposit of salts, causing temporary hardness, the

latter the result of salts causing permanent hardness. It is stated that one quarter of an inch of incrustation—which is a bad conductor of heat—produces waste of coal to the extent of 45 per cent. It has been calculated that one grain of chalk wastes 8 grains of soap, and hence arises the difficulty for washing purposes of the hard water such as is drawn from the deep chalk formations. Owing to the hardness much soap is needed for lathering.

**DRAINAGE.**—During the year 13 houses were connected with the sewers, making a total of 1,358 houses connected.

The Medical Officer of Health hopes that another of Webb's Patent Sewer Ventilating Lamps will be erected during the coming year, in the Croxley Green District. Those already erected have done very efficient work.

The Sewerage Scheme continues to work very satisfactorily.

**SCAVENGING.**—The Dust Carts used by the Contractor for this work are still without proper covers and only temporary measures are adopted to prevent refuse from being distributed in the streets. It is hoped that the Council may see its way to provide suitable vans for this work. Attention has been drawn to this matter in several previous reports.

**ROADS AND STREETS.**—The winter of 1909 has been a bad one for roads owing to the continued wet weather, the New Road, Croxley Green is far from satisfactory, although granite is now used for repair instead of flints, the heavy motor-buses doing considerable damage to the road which was never intended for such traffic. The Medical Officer of Health fears that the dust nuisance in that locality will be a serious one during the coming summer.

Wharf Lane (a private road and referred to in the Report of 1908) is still in a bad state and it is hoped that the Council may be able to enforce the Private Street Works Act 1892, next year.

During last year a practically unanimous petition was forwarded by the inhabitants of Rickmansworth to the County Surveyor requesting that some attempt should be made by the County Council (the road authority) to mitigate the dust nuisance in the town and the question was referred to the Urban District Council. The Medical Officer of Health desires to impress upon the Council the great importance of dealing with this great dust question during the coming year.

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.—The Closing Order obtained seven years ago in reference to the Cottages known as Marble Arch still remains in force,

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—These have been regularly inspected.

*Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.*—The Factories and Workshops in the District have been regularly inspected.

Workshops inspected during the year are as follows :—

Bakeries	...	...	...	...	9
Millinery and Dressmaking Establishments					13
Builders' and Plumbers' Shops	...			...	5
Wheelwrights' and Blacksmiths' Shops	...				6
Cycle-repairing Shops	...	...		...	3
Tailoring Shops	...		...	...	3
Boot Manufactories	...	...		...	4
Miscellaneous Workshops	...		...	...	5
					—
					48
					—

From returns received by the Inspector, it appears that two outworkers are employed in the District.

*Vaccination Act, 1907.*—Statistics coming to hand point to the fact that the conscientious objector is taking full advantage of the facilities provided by the Legislature for avoiding vaccination. Time will prove whether recent legislation on this momentous question is wise or not.

*Notification of Births Act, 1907.*—The Council decided not to adopt this Act.

*Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907.*—The Medical Officer of Health is glad to note that the Council has taken the necessary steps to adopt Parts II., III. and IV. These provisions will be of the utmost benefit to the welfare of the inhabitants of the District and will give the Council much needed powers.

*Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907.*—A Summary of the Report required by the Chief School Medical Officer of the Assistant School Medical Officer for this District for the current year is appended as follows :--

The Assistant School Medical Officer reports that he "had the assistance of the teachers for about sixty-four hours during his inspections and the work of the Schools seems to have been but little disorganized thereby. Five visits were paid to the Boys Department of the Rickmansworth School, and five visits to the Girls Department, and seven visits to the Infants. At Croxley Green three visits were made to the Boys and Girls Departments respectively and seven to the Infants. At Mill End the Mixed Department received three visits and the Infants Department one visit. The average time taken per inspection was about six minutes, some cases requiring four, five and sometimes ten minutes.

The time occupied in "travelling" to the various Schools was, respectively, Rickmansworth about three hours, Croxley Green about five and a half hours, Mill End about two and a quarter hours. One child, mentally deficient, was sent to a special School."

The Assistant School Medical Officer for the District further adds:—"First and foremost attention must be drawn to the willing and hearty co-operation of the Masters, Mistresses and Teachers in this important work which is only on the threshold of its usefulness. The success so far in the work would never have been accomplished except for the help of the Teachers; further, the Teachers themselves undoubtedly realize the importance of the work of Medical Inspections and everything should be done by those concerned to make their willing service easier. So much does the Assistant School Medical Officer for Rickmansworth appreciate this fact that he hopes he has done and intends to do in the future all that lies in his power to lighten these voluntary labours. Another point worthy of notice is the marked diminution of uncleanness in the Schools, using the term in its broadest sense during the short time regular Medical Inspection has been in vogue. The moral effect of the inspections has been most marked."

*Anthrax Order 1899 and 1907 and Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, Glanders, Farcy and Hydrophobia.*—The Local Government Board are prepared to favourably consider the addition of these diseases in the main to the Notification List. This suggestion, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, is worthy of serious attention by the Urban District Council.

*Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908.*—By this enactment cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption) occurring either in Poor Law Institutions or cases dealt with by the Poor Law District Medical Officer as such are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary District. In other words "Consumption" is made a "Notifiable disease" when it occurs amongst those receiving Poor Law Medical Relief. It may be that this legislation forecasts the compulsory notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption) generally throughout the country.

*Housing & Town Planning Act, 1909.*—This Act which came into force on the 3rd December will prove of considerable value to local authorities. The provisions of the former law relating to the closing and demolition of dwelling-houses so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation have been amended and extended and the procedure simplified. In future, closing orders will be made by the local authority itself with a right of appeal on the part of the owner to the Local Government Board. When a closing order has been in force for three months and nothing has been done in the meantime to render the dwelling-house fit for human habitation and nothing is being done, or where the closed house is a nuisance or is dangerous or injurious to health it will be the duty of the local authority to make an order for its demolition.

In this connection, the Medical Officer of Health would direct the attention of the Council to the property known as the Marble Arch, Church Street, in respect of which a closing order was obtained some years ago but nothing has since been done to the property, which is in a ruinous condition. The Act is also intended to compel owners of weekly properties to keep them in proper repair.

The clauses relating to Town Planning will no doubt be of considerable assistance in the future development of districts although from the very restricted area of the Rickmansworth Urban District there is little or no scope for their application at the present moment.

There are other valuable clauses in the Act which it is not possible to refer to in this report.

TABLE I.

# Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and ten previous years.

## Rickmansworth Urban 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 Public Institutions in the Dis't	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the Dis't	Nett. Deaths at all ages belonging to the District	
		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
1899.	5885	160	27.2	17	106.2	57	10.0	—	—	2	59	10.0
1900.	5550	171	30.8	16	93.5	51	9.1	—	—	3	54	9.7
1901.	5640	155	27.4	16	103.2	56	9.9	—	—	5	61	10.8
1902.	5988	152	25.3	16	105.2	78	13.0	—	—	10	83	14.6
1903.	6155	168	27.3	19	113.1	61	9.9	—	—	10	71	11.5
1904.	6245	157	25.1	10	63.7	58	9.3	—	—	6	64	10.2
1905.	6430	154	23.9	13	116.8	56	8.7	—	—	15	71	11.0
1906.	6494	174	26.8	12	69.0	58	8.9	—	—	14	72	11.1
1907.	6516	162	24.8	14	86.4	51	7.8	—	—	19	70	10.7
1908.	6545	169	25.8	16	94.7	55	8.4	—	—	10	66	9.9
Aver. ages for years 99-1908	6144	162	26.4	15	95.1	58	9.5	—	—	9	67	10.9
1909	6602	153	23.2	12	73.4	61	9.2	—	—	9	70	10.6

\* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population of all ages, 5627	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses, 1181	
Average number of persons per house, 4.76	

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 556.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District:—

Watford Union Workhouse

Watford District Joint Isolation Hospital

Watford District Cottage Hospital.

Hill End Asylum, St. Albans.

**TABLE II.**  
**Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1909 and**  
**ten previous years.**  
**Rickmansworth Urban District.**

Names of Localities		Rickmansworth.				Croxley Green.				Mill End.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	
1899.	3200	76	33	8	1895	56	20	6	790	28	6	3	
1900.	3000	87	30	8	1750	56	16	4	800	28	8	4	
1901.	3040	82	36	10	1790	46	17	3	810	27	8	3	
1902.	3204	82	39	6	1834	43	25	5	950	27	14	5	
1903.	3230	87	36	8	1975	58	20	6	950	23	15	5	
1904.	3285	84	35	4	1970	42	20	2	990	31	9	4	
1905.	3410	73	34	7	1990	48	24	4	1030	33	13	7	
1906.	3532	77	39	4	1962	62	20	5	1000	35	13	3	
1907.	3551	84	40	2	1975	47	19	7	990	31	11	5	
1908.	3561	89	24	6	1980	51	22	5	1004	29	19	5	
Averages of Years 1899 to 1908.	3301	82	34	6	1912	51	20	5	931	29	11	4	
1909.	3575	78	33	4	2009	42	19	1	1018	33	18	7	

**TABLE III.**  
**Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.**  
**Rickmansworth Urban District.**

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Rickmansworth.	Croxley Green.	Mill End.	Rickmansworth.	Croxley Green.	Mill End.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.						
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	7	—	—	1	—	4	2	3	1	3	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Relapsing fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	9	—	—	2	1	4	2	4	2	3	1	1	—

Isolation Hospital: Watford Joint District Isolation Hospital. Situated in the Watford Urban District.

TABLE IV.

Cause of and Ages at death, during Year 1909, of Residents belonging to localities whether occurring in or beyond the Rickmansworth Urban District.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all Ages.			Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Rickmansw'rth	Croxley Green.	Mill End.	
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Diphtheria and membranous croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever { Typhus ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other continued	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic influenza ... ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other septic diseases ... ..	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) }	6	—	—	—	1	5	—	3	2	1	—
Other tubercular diseases	4	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	2	1	—
Cancer, malignant disease	4	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	2	—
Bronchitis ... ..	9	1	1	—	—	—	7	4	3	2	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	3	1	—	—	1	1	4	—	2	—
Pleurisy ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of liver }	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—
Venereal diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Heart diseases ... ..	5	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	4	—	—
Accidents ... ..	3	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	1	—
Suicides ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other causes ... ..	18	3	—	—	—	4	11	8	4	6	—
All causes ... ..	70	12	6	2	4	20	26	33	19	13	—

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.  
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under  
One year of Age.  
Rickmansworth Urban District.

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

Births in the year } Legitimate—152.  
                              } Illegitimate—1.

Population estimated to middle of 1909—6602.

Deaths from all causes at all ages—70.

# VI

## RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

### INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

#### Sanitary Work completed in the Year 1909.

Total No. of Complaints received	...	...	...	51
" " Houses and premises visited	...	...	...	364
Houses cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	5
Notices served	...	...	...	6
Accumulations of offensive matter removed	...	...	...	11
House Drains—Repaired, cleansed, trapped, &c.	...	...	...	20
Smoke test applied (old drains)	...	...	...	1
Houses connected with Sewers	...	...	...	13
Water Supply—Samples for Analysis	...	...	...	1
Well closed	...	...	...	0
Houses connected with water mains	...	...	...	13
House refusal removal—Complaints received and attended to	...	...	...	28
Infectious Disease—Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	2
Houses inspected	...	...	...	9
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	2
Bedding, &c., removed to steam disinfectors	...	...	...	2
Schools—Visits made	...	...	...	Frequent
Bakehouses—No. on Register	...	9	...	
Dairies and Cowsheds—No. on Register	...	16	...	Regularly inspected
Slaughter Houses—No. on Register	...	7	...	
New Buildings—Plans passed	...	...	...	21
Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884—No. of boats inspected	...	...	...	65
No. of Contraventions :—				
Absence of Certificate	...	...	...	4
Boats not marked	...	...	...	2
No water vessel provided	...	...	...	2
Certificate not identifying owner with boat	...	...	...	1
Cabins requiring repair and painting	...	...	...	8
Overcrowding	...	...	...	2
Female improperly occupying...	...	...	...	1
No double bulkhead	...	...	...	1

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# VII.

## SUMMARY OF WORK

Done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Urban Sanitary District of Rickmansworth during the year ended December 31st, 1909, as required by the Hertfordshire County Council.

	Total No. for year.	Result of Inspection, &c.
1. Complaints received ... ..	51	{ in 4 instances no nuisance existed at the time of visit.
2. Nuisances detected without complaint ... ..	25	
3. Nuisances abated ... ..	70	
4. Notices served ... ..	6	
5. Summonses taken out ... ..	—	
6. Convictions ... ..	—	
7. Cottages inspected ... ..	13	
8. Lodging-houses inspected ... ..	—	
9. Slaughter-houses inspected ... ..	7	{ on Register } Frequent
10. Bakehouses inspected ... ..	9	
11. Dairies and Milkshops inspected ... ..	9	
12. Cowsheds inspected ... ..	7	
13. Workshops inspected ... ..	48	{ Inspections.
14. Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875 ... ..	2	
15. Houses disinfected ... ..	5	
16. Overcrowding abated ... ..	3	
17. Houses placed in habitable repair ... ..	—	
18. Houses closed .. ..	—	
19. Houses erected or re-built for which Water "Certificates" were applied ... ..	—	
20. "Certificates" granted ... ..	—	
21. " " deferred ... ..	—	
22. Wells sunk, or improved supplies of water afforded ... ..	—	
23. Wells cleansed or repaired ... ..	—	
24. Wells closed ... ..	—	
25. Houses connected with sewers ... ..	13	
26. " " with water mains ... ..	13	
27. Earth pail or improved privies constructed or existing Privies altered ... ..	—	
28. Privies & W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water ... ..	5	
29. Cisterns cleaned, repaired or covered ... ..	—	
30. Animals improperly kept ... ..	1	
31. Samples of water taken for Analysis ... ..	1	
32. Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding ... ..	—	
33. Seizure of unsound Meat, &c. ... ..	—	

(Signed) ALBERT FREEMAN,