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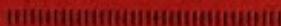


Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

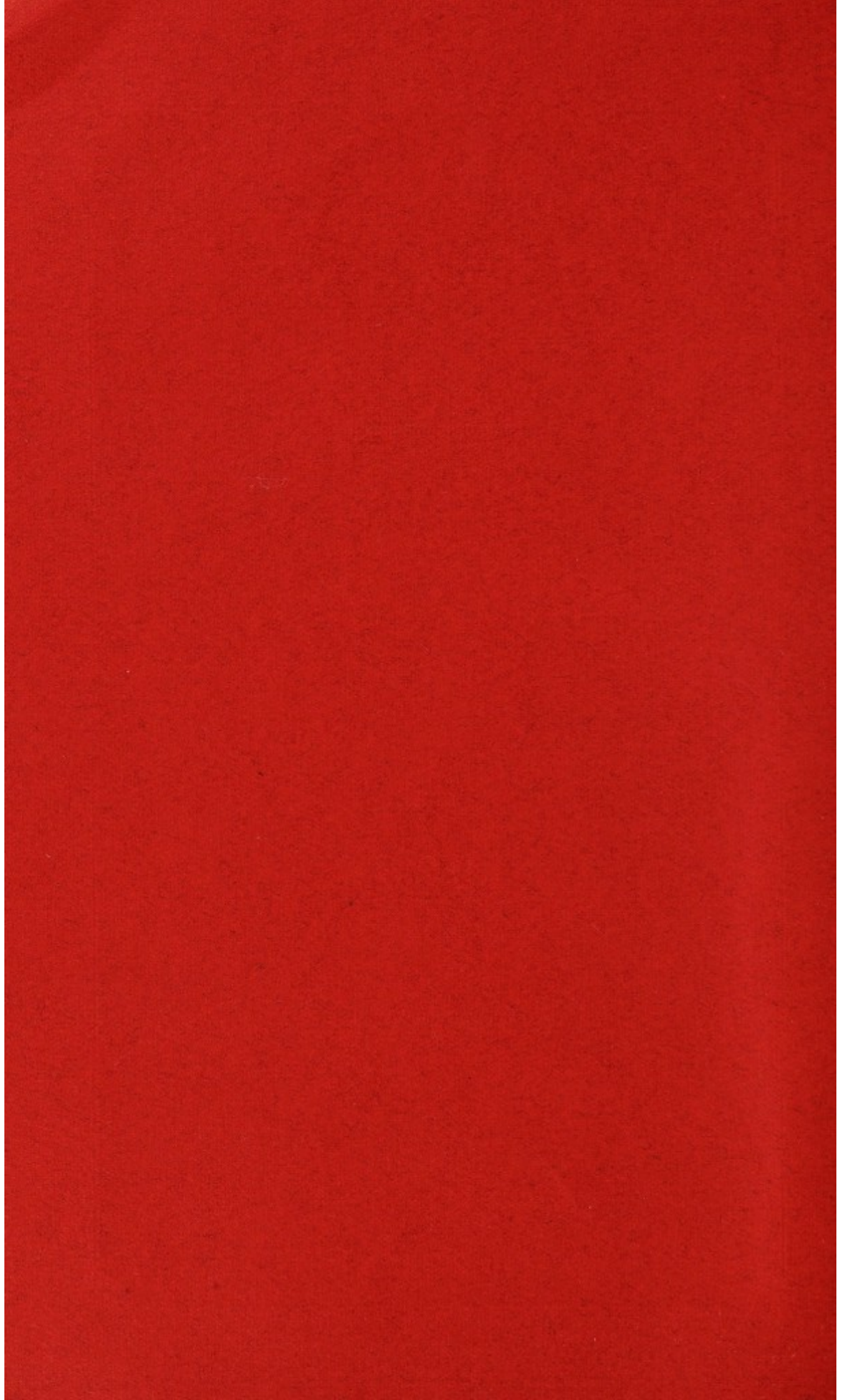
FOR

1925.



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
SEVENOAKS.

—oo—

REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1925

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITIONS AND
VITAL STATISTICS of the
Sevenoaks Urban District by the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORT of the SANITARY
INSPECTOR.

—oo—

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HEALTH REPORT FOR 1925.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting my Annual Report for the year 1925, being the third one presented by me as your Medical Officer of Health.

The estimated population for the year 1925 is 9,191, as against an estimated population of 9,171 in 1924, and an actual population of 9,060 at the Census of 1921.

The Birth Rate for the year was 14.2 per thousand of estimated population, as compared with 18.3 per thousand for England and Wales. The corresponding figures for 1924 were 13.4 and 18.8.

The corrected Death Rate was 11.6 per thousand of population, as against 12.2 for England and Wales. The corresponding figures for 1924 were 11.7 and 12.2.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 45 per thousand of registered births, the rate for England and Wales being 75. In 1924 these figures were 32 and 75.

The year under consideration was an extremely satisfactory one from the point of view of incidence of Infectious Disease, only 27 cases being notified during the whole year.

I desire to express my hearty thanks to the Council and their Officers for the help and consideration they have shown me.

I would again like to place on record my appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. W. Scothern.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. N. CAVE,
Medical Officer of Health.

Urban District Council of Sevenoaks.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

MR. H. MOORE, Chairman.

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MR. W. H. BALLANTYNE.	MR. C. NEWMAN.
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MR. F. JARVIS.	MR. G. WHITE, J.P.
LT.-COL. J. D. LAURIE.	

Representative on the Sevenoaks Local Nursing Association
and on the Mothers' and Babies' Welfare Committee:

MR. G. WHITE, J.P.

Representatives on the Darent Valley Main Sewerage Board:

COL. E. T. FISHER, C.B., J.P.	MR. F. ROBINSON, J.P.
LT.-COL. J. D. LAURIE.	MAJOR G. E. SMITH.
MR. H. MOORE.	MR. G. WHITE, J.P.

STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:

P. N. CAVE, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

W. SCOTHERN, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitor.

NURSE C. SCARFE.

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1925.

The Sevenoaks Urban District is situated in the Northern part of the Sevenoaks Rural District, by which it is entirely surrounded, and together the two Authorities form the Sevenoaks Union.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The area of the District is 3,259 acres, and it is of a somewhat hilly character.

The population at the time of the 1921 Census was 9,060, while for 1925 it was estimated to be 9,191. In 1924 it was estimated at 9,171, and in 1923 at 8,967.

The number of occupied houses in 1925 was 2,218, as against 2,213 in 1924.

The Rateable Value of the District is £88,315, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £335.

The subjoined Table shows the variation in population from 1901 to 1925.

POPULATION AND INTER-CENSAL VARIATIONS.

Population.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1901	8,106	—	—
1911	9,182	3,898	5,284
1921	9,060	3,828	5,232
1922	8,911	—	—
1923	8,967	—	—
1924	9,171	—	—
1925	9,191	—	—

Inter-censal Variations:

1901-1911 1,076

1911-1921 — 122

Excess of Births over Deaths:

1911-1921 445

Loss by Migration:

1911-1921 567

The following Table shows the occupations by sex :

	MALES.	FEMALES.
Fishermen ... ..	...	...
Agricultural occupations	383	19
Mining and quarrying occupations	9	...
Makers of coke, lime, cement, etc. ... ..	...	...
Makers of bricks, pottery, glass	19	...
Workers in chemicals, paints, etc.	6	...
Metal workers	136	...
Workers in precious metals	2	...
Electrical apparatus makers, fitters	28	...
Makers of watches, etc.	8	1
Workers in skins, leather goods makers	7	...
Textile workers	3	...
Makers of textile goods, articles of dress	45	101
Makers of foods, drinks and tobacco	49	3
Workers in wood, etc.	111	20
Paper workers, printers, etc.	54	18
Builders, bricklayers, etc.	118	1
Painters and decorators	114	...
Workers in other materials	1	2
Workers in mixed and undefined materials	9	2
Persons in gas, water, electricity supply	16	2
Transport workers	326	15
Commercial and financial occupations	387	163
Public administration and defence	102	16
Professional occupations	137	152
Persons employed in entertainments, etc.	6	3
Persons employed in personal service	92	1,039
Clerks, draughtsmen, typists, etc.	142	69
Warehousemen, etc.	21	2
Stationary engine drivers, etc.	9	...
All other occupations	119	7
Total occupied	2,459	1,625
Unoccupied and retired	524	2,762
Total occupied and unoccupied	2,983	4,387

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

During the year 131 Births were registered as belonging to this District, of which 82 were males and 49 females, as against 123 last year, and 125 in 1923.

The Birth Rate for the year was 14.2 per thousand of population, as against 13.4 last year.

The Birth Rate in England and Wales was 18.3 and 18.8 respectively.

The number of illegitimate births was one, giving an illegitimate birth rate of 0.7 per cent. of total births, as against 4.0 last year.

DEATHS.

Deaths registered during the year were 107 (39 males and 68 females), as against 108 last year, and 106 in 1923. This number excludes deaths occurring within but not belonging to this District, and includes deaths belonging to this District which occurred outside.

The Death Rate for the year was equal to 11.6 per thousand of population, as against 11.7 last year.

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 12.2 and 12.2 per thousand of population respectively.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths registered as occurring in infants under one year of age was six (all legitimate), as against four last year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 45 per thousand births, as against 82 last year, and 56 in 1923.

The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales was 75 and 75 respectively.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES.

Deaths Between One and Five Years.—During the year one death occurred in a child between the ages of one and five years, which is equal to a death rate of 0.1 per thousand of population.

Deaths in Persons of 65 Years and Over.—The number of deaths occurring in persons of 65 years and over was 59, giving a death rate of 6.4 per thousand of population and comprising 55 per cent. of the total deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

The deaths in 1925 included:

Enteric Fever -	Influenza -
Scarlet Fever -	Pneumonia 4
Diphtheria -	Bronchitis 7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... 5	Cancer 13
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... 3	Puerperal Sepsis 1
Measles -	Other Accidents and Diseases
Whooping Cough 4	of Pregnancy and Parturition 1
Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years) -	

The diseases giving rise to the greatest number of deaths during the year were heart disease 19, cancer 13, and cerebral haemorrhage 13.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The Zymotic Death Rate is a term commonly applied to the rate of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic complaints, viz., Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (which latter term includes Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, and Paratyphoid Fevers), and Diarrhoea.

The number of deaths occurring from these complaints during the year was five, giving a Zymotic Death Rate of 0.54 per thousand of population.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The deaths from Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Consumption or Phthisis) numbered five, giving a death rate of 0.54 per thousand of population.

OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

Deaths from other respiratory diseases numbered 11. This gives a death rate of 1.19 per thousand of population.

CANCER.

The number of deaths occurring from Cancer (malignant disease) was 13, giving a death rate of 1.41 per thousand of population.

INFLUENZA.

No deaths occurred from Influenza.

ANALYSIS OF DEATH RATES.

		All Causes.	Zymotic Disease.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Respiratory Diseases.	Cancer.	Influenza.
1925	Number of Deaths.	107	5	5	11	13	Nil
	Rate per 1000 of population.	11·6	0·54	0·54	1·19	1·41	...
1924	Number of Deaths.	108	1	7	9	11	8
	Rate per 1000 of population.	11·7	0·10	0·76	0·98	1·19	0·87

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. 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.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years.)	Total Deaths under One year.	
England and Wales	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	
157 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ...	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	
Sevenoaks Urban District ...	14.2	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.00	45	

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The year 1925 has been a satisfactory one from the point of view of incidence of Infectious Disease; no epidemic arose, and although the number of cases of Scarlet Fever were above the average, the incidence of each disease was satisfactorily low.

The following Table shows the number of cases notified in each of the past six years:

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever	6	10	8	6	5	16
Diphtheria	4	—	5	7	1	6
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—	1	4	—
Erysipelas	3	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	2	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery... ..	—	1	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	16	14	13	15	12	27

The following Table shows the cases notified during 1925, together with the number removed to hospital and the number of deaths:

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	16	9	—
Diphtheria	6	3	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	1
Pneumonia	1	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	1
TOTAL	27	13	6

The monthly incidence of Infectious Disease was:

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphth- eria.	Erysip- elas	Puerpera ^l Fever.	Pneu- monia.	Oph- almia Neona- torum.	Enc-ep- alitis Lethar- gica.
January	2	3	...	...	...	...	...
February	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	3	...	...	...	1	1	...
April	4	1	...	...	...	...	...
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
October	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
November	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
December	2	...	...	...	...	...	...

The notifiable Infectious Diseases fall into the following age groups:

Number of cases.	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45 and over.
27	1	6	5	4	3	2	4	2

Scarlet Fever.—Sixteen cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, as against five last year.

The age periods were:

0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45 and over.
—	4	4	4	—	2	—	2

Nine cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.
No deaths were registered.

Diphtheria.—Six cases of Diphtheria were notified, as against one last year.

The age periods for Diphtheria were:

0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45 and over.
—	2	1	—	3	—	—	—

Three cases were removed to hospital.
No deaths were registered.

Enteric Fever.—No cases of Enteric Fever were notified.

Puerperal Fever.—One case of Puerperal Fever was notified, which I regret to say terminated fatally.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—One case of Encephalitis Lethargica was notified as occurring in a male aged 42 years. The patient was removed to hospital, and subsequently died.

Pneumonia.—One case was notified, being the same number as the previous year.

Erysipelas.—One case was notified. The patient was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis.—The number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year was 13, being the same number as last year. Of these cases eight were Pulmonary (four males and four females), and five (three males and two females) were other forms of Tuberculosis.

One case of Tuberculosis (Tuberculous Meningitis) came to knowledge other than by notification.

Deaths from Tuberculosis numbered eight, of which five were from Pulmonary and three from non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The age periods for the cases notified and the deaths registered were:

Age Periods. Years	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
1 and under 5 ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
5 ,, 10 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 ,, 15 ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
15 ,, 20 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 ,, 25 ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ,, 35 ...	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
35 ,, 45 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 ,, 55 ...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...
55 ,, 65 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and 'upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS ...	4	4	3	2	4	1	1	2

The Kent County Council through their Tuberculosis Officers carry out the treatment for cases of Tuberculosis, and where accommodation is available provide sanatorium treatment for both insured and non-insured persons.

The following number of persons have received treatment during the year:

Number of persons who received sanatorium treatment	12
Number of persons who received dispensary treatment	13
Dispensary supervision only	27

The following Table shows the number of cases and deaths occurring since Tuberculosis became compulsorily notifiable on the 1st February, 1913:

YEAR	CASES.			DEATHS.		
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
1913 11 months	14	6	20	7	1	8
1914	22	10	32	8	3	11
1915	20	6	26	14	3	17
1916	14	4	18	13	6	19
1917	11	7	18	5	1	6
1918	10	9	19	9	1	10
1919	9	4	13	7	2	9
1920	10	1	11	5	1	6
1921	4	2	6	5	4	9
1922	4	1	5	4	1	5
1923	4	3	7	8	2	10
1924	12	1	13	7	3	10
1925	8	5	13	5	3	8

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The above Regulations came into force on the 1st January, 1925, requiring, inter alia, that a quarterly return should be made to the County Medical Officer of Health of all cases of Tuberculosis, whether pulmonary or non-pulmonary, that were on the register at the end of each quarter.

Existing cases in the event of cure, removal from the District, or deaths are deleted from the register, and the new notifications added on as received.

Subjoined are the figures on the register at the end of each quarter of 1925:

	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
31st March	15	19	34	12	16	28
30th June	15	19	34	14	17	31
30th September	16	20	36	15	17	32
31st December	13	20	33	15	17	32

In order to obtain the necessary information, the Council made arrangements for the part-time services of one of the Nurses employed at the Isolation Hospital in nursing the cases of Tuberculosis, to be available.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Measles.—Again this year no deaths occurred from Measles.

Whooping Cough.—Four deaths were registered from Whooping Cough.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).—No deaths occurred.

Cancer.—Thirteen deaths, four males and nine females, were registered as occurring from Cancer (Malignant Disease), as against 11 last year, and 22 in 1923.

The death rate from Cancer is 1.41 per thousand of population.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

On the receipt of a notification of the Infectious Disease, the case is visited and full particulars obtained. I am always glad to see any doubtful case of Infectious Disease in consultation with the Doctor in charge; and I have pleasure in placing on record the cordial co-operation I have received from all Medical Practitioners in this respect. This is, I feel sure, of great assistance in dealing with the incidence of Infectious Disease.

When any outbreak of the Infectious Disease arises in connection with the scholars attending any school, whether a private school or a public elementary or secondary school, particular attention is given to any possible factor which may be tending to cause the spread of the disease.

DISINFECTION.

The Council have provided a Washington-Lyons Disinfecter, situated in the Hospital grounds at Oak Lane, and during the year 23 batches of bedding, clothing, etc., have been disinfected.

Fumigation is carried out as a routine in all cases of Infectious Disease.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

A complete Hospital is provided by the Council for the reception of cases of Infectious Disease, and is situated in Oak Lane, in the Rural District of Sevenoaks.

The accommodation consists of two separate pavilions, together with an administrative block, laundry, disinfecting block and mortuary.

Each of the pavilions contains six beds, and consists of three separate wards, containing one, two and three beds respectively. There are ample and suitable sanitary annexes to each pavilion.

A horse-drawn ambulance is kept at the Hospital.

STAFF.

A permanent Matron and Nurse were appointed and commenced duty on March 1st, 1924.

In July, 1924, an arrangement was made with the Kent County Council whereby the Council place the Southern Pavilion at the disposal of the County Council for the reception of eight cases of Tuberculosis.

This was sanctioned by the Ministry of Health; and the first Tuberculosis patients were admitted on July 17th, 1924. In July, 1925, arrangements were made by the County Council, with the sanction of the Ministry of Health, for the number of Tuberculosis cases to be increased from eight to twelve.

The present staff of the Hospital now consists of:—

1 Matron	1 Laundress
1 Assistant-Matron	1 Housemaid
3 Nurses	1 Wardmaid
1 Cook	1 Betweenmaid

An important feature of the year in the Hospital administration was the taking over by the Council of a house belonging to them, and situated in Oak Lane, some 220 yards

from the Hospital, which they have equipped and put into use as a hospital annexe. This provides additional emergency accommodation when required, and also furnishes quarters for the gardener and for any additional staff that may from time to time be required.

Medical Arrangements.—The medical attendance on the Infectious Disease patients is in the hands of the doctors practising in the area, each of whom attends his own patients. Arrangements have been made by the Council for the payment of a fee of four guineas in respect of each patient.

Medical attendance on the Tuberculosis patients is provided by the Sevenoaks doctors, each of whom attends for a period of three months in rotation; and by myself.

Patients Admitted.—During the year 41 patients were admitted, viz.:

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	9
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	28

Four deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Disinfector.—A Washington-Lyons Disinfector is placed in the Hospital grounds, and is in efficient order.

LABORATORY WORK.

The bacteriological work in connection with this District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

* During the year the following specimens, etc., have been examined:

	Total.	Positive.	Negative.
Diphtheria Swabs	49	9	40
Tuberculosis	20	6	14
Enteric Fever	2	...	2
TOTAL	71	15	56

DRAINAGE.

The Darenth Main Sewerage Board was formed under the Local Government Provisional Order Confirmation (Darenth Valley) Act, 1878, of representatives from the Sevenoaks and Dartford Urban and Sevenoaks Rural District Councils for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a trunk sewer through the Valley of the River Darenth from Westerham to Dartford, from which point the sewage is conveyed through the sewers of the Urban District Council of Dartford and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board to the outfall works of the latter Authority at Longreach. The District consists of those parts of the respective Districts lying between the Northern and Southern boundaries of the Darenth Watershed.

The whole District is sewered, with the exception of 16 water closets draining into cesspools, two earth closets, and six pail closets.

The cesspools are attached to houses which are not within reach of the public sewer, and on request the Council undertake the cleansing on payment by the owners.

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole District is supplied by the mains of the Sevenoaks Water Company. The water is of excellent quality and purity, and suitable in every way for all drinking and domestic purposes.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

The collection of house refuse is undertaken by the Council, and in only a few instances have complaints been received. The refuse is deposited in a brickyard on the outskirts of the District.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The general condition of housing throughout the District is on the whole satisfactory, but certain localised areas require attention as soon as suitable arrangements, particularly as regards alternative accommodation, can be made.

The general standard of houses can be considered good, but overcrowding exists to a certain extent, caused by the shortage of working class dwellings. Steps are taken, where possible, to abate these nuisances, but difficulty is experienced owing to this shortage. The usual defects in houses found on

inspection are defective roofs, shootings, floors, pavings, and rooms requiring cleansing, lime-washing, etc.

The need for more houses falls definitely within two categories, the one to remedy cases of overcrowding and the other to provide means of housing those living at the present time under unsatisfactory conditions.

Reference to Tables A, B, C and D, which are printed below, will show the present state of affairs, which has not altered materially since the date of the 1921 Census, from which the Tables have been compiled, and the information extracted and collated.

“A.”

The 1921 Census shows the following figures:—

Out of every 100 structurally separate dwellings 90 were returned as private houses, one as maisonettes, flats, tenements, etc., and nine as shops, offices, warehouses.

The corresponding figures for the whole County are

	91	1	8	Sevenoaks Urban District.	County of Kent.
Rooms per dwelling, 1921	6.13	5.62
Families per dwelling	1.05	1.10
Persons per family, 1921	3.96	4.09
” ” ” 1911	4.34	4.24
Room per person, 1921	1.47	1.25
Population living more than two persons to a room—					
1921	182	47,688
1911	124	35,120

“B.”

Acreage, Population, Private Families and Dwellings—

Area in Acres ...	...	...	...	3,259
Total Population, 1911 ...	...	...	...	9,182
” ” 1921 ...	...	...	...	9,060
Persons per acre ...	...	...	...	2.8
Private families ...	...	...	...	2,154
Population in private families ...	...	...	...	8,535
Structurally separate dwellings occupied ...	...	...	...	2,056
Rooms occupied ...	...	...	...	12,572
Rooms per person ...	...	...	...	1.47

"D."

Number of persons in families.	Total Private Families.		Population in private families.	Rooms occupied.	Average number of rooms per person.
	No.	%			
1	151	7.0	151	522	3.46
2	389	18.1	778	1,928	2.48
3	487	22.7	1,461	2,701	1.85
4	393	18.2	1,572	2,232	1.42
5	295	13.7	1,475	1,800	1.22
6	201	9.3	1,206	1,367	1.13
7	119	5.5	833	936	1.12
8	63	2.9	504	532	1.06
9	27	1.3	243	228	0.94
10	18	0.8	180	179	0.99
11	4	0.2	44	46	1.05
12	3	0.1	36	39	1.08
13	4	0.2	52	62	1.19
14	...	...	...	...	...
15 and over	...	...	...	...	...

HOUSING.

The following Table shows the work done with respect to Housing during the year 1925:—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under	
(b)	33
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons	26

1.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.**Inspection.**

(1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	375
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	27
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	258

2.—Remedy of Defects Without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of the Local Authority or their Officers	247
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3.—Action Under Statutory Powers.**A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:—**

(1) Number of dwelling houses of which notices were served requiring repairs	27
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:	
(a) By owners	27
(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 intention to close Nil

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 230
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:
- (a) By owners 221
- (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 view to making of a Closing Order Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling house having been rendered fit Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling houses in which Demolition Orders were made Nil
- (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare work is under the control of the Urban District Council, and does not come within the scope of the General County scheme.

Each year a grant of £65 is made to the local Nursing Association (which is affiliated to the Kent Nursing Association and the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses), and in return for this the services of one of the Association's Nurses, Miss C. Scarfe, was available as the District Health Visitor.

Two Child Welfare Centres have been established in the District, viz., one at Church House Rooms, High Street, the other being at Sandy Lane, St. John's.

Both the Centres are held under the auspices of the Sevenoaks Mothers' and Babies' Welfare Association, and an annual grant of £50 is made by the District Council to this Association. This Association is affiliated to the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare.

Sessions are held weekly on Thursday afternoons, from 2.30 to 4 p.m., and Dr. A. C. Brown, the Medical Officer in charge, attends each Centre for half an hour, in order to see any case requiring medical attention.

On payment, dried milk, cod liver oil and malt, virol, etc., are supplied to the mothers through the Centres.

NURSING OF MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, EPIDEMIC DIARRHOEA, POLIOMYELITIS, Etc.

The Health Visitor, by arrangement with the Nursing Association, pays visits to cases of the above complaints which require her services.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

No Ante-Natal Clinic is at present held, but there appears to be a growing need for one, and it is hoped to establish one early in the next year.

FREE AND ASSISTED MILK TO EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS, Etc.

During the year 413 pints of milk were supplied free to various families, as compared with 26 pints in 1924.

ATTENDANCES AT CENTRES.

The following Table shows the average number of attendances at the Centres:—

Average attendance per session:

	Sandy Lane.	High Street.
Mothers	20	20
Children	22	18

During the year the Health Visitor paid 540 visits.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

I should again like to express my great appreciation of the work done by the Voluntary Workers at the Centres. The benefit derived by the District from the successful carrying out of this important phase of Public Health work is very great, and the success of the work is contributed to materially by the services so efficiently rendered by the Voluntary Workers.

The local Nursing Association and the Mothers' and Babies' Welfare Association have continued their excellent work, and I am personally indebted to their representatives for the help they have given me.

SCHOOLS.

There are four elementary and two secondary schools within the District.

The Kent County Council carries out the medical inspection of school children.

On no occasion during the year was it found necessary to close a school owing to prevalence of Infectious Disease amongst the scholars.

All schools are connected to the public sewer, and also are supplied with water from the Company's main.

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

Children up to Five Years of Age.—By arrangement, the Sevenoaks Local Nursing Association pays visits to children up to five years of age under the Maternity and Child Welfare powers.

General Nursing.—General Nursing is carried out by the above Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

General Hospital.—The Holmesdale Hospital, which has 26 beds and two cots, is available for this District.

Isolation Hospital.—An Isolation Hospital is provided by the Council for Infectious Diseases.

Small Pox Hospital.—Accommodation for cases of Small Pox is provided at the Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Southborough Joint Hospital.

The Hospital is only used for the treatment of cases of Small Pox and is situated in the Tonbridge Rural District.

The Council pays a retaining fee of £12 10s. per annum for the right to send cases to this Hospital.

REGULATED TRADES.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—There are 19 registered premises within the District, of which seven are Dairies, six are Cowsheds, and six are Milkshops.

During the year 71 visits of inspection have been paid, and in five instances defects were discovered.

The number of licenses issued for the sale of Certified and Grade A milk is:—

For the sale of Certified milk	5
For the sale of Grade A milk	3

Slaughterhouses.—There are four Slaughterhouses within the District, two being registered and two licensed.

These premises are frequently visited; 452 inspections have been paid during the year, and in six cases defects were found. These have all been remedied.

	Slaughterhouses 1920.		In January, 1925.		In December, 1925.
Registered	2	...	2	...	2
Licensed	1	...	1	...	2

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

These Regulations came into force on the 1st April, 1925.

The duty of carrying out the provisions of this Order was undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

During the period from the 1st April to the 31st December, 1925, the following number of animals have been killed for human food in the slaughterhouses within the District, together with the number of carcasses inspected:

			Slaughtered.		Carcasses Inspected.
Beasts ... ..	...	...	135	...	121
Calves ... ..	...	...	125	...	76
Pigs ... ..	...	...	450	...	427
Sheep ... ..	...	...	764	...	488

During the year 452 inspections have been made and 1,868 carcasses have been examined, and 741 lbs. of meat have been condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Bakehouses.—There are eight Bakehouses, to which 103 visits of inspection have been paid. In nine instances defects were found.

Other Places Where Food is Prepared.—There are 19 other food preparing places, to which 110 visits of inspection have been paid.

Common Lodging Houses, Etc.—There are no Common Lodging Houses nor Houses-let-in-lodgings in this District.

The number of regulated trades, and the number of Factories and Workshops situated in the District, is shown in the following Table, together with a summary of the work done in connection with them:

	No. in District	No. of Visits in 1925	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses	8	103	9	8
{ Dairies	1	} 71	} 5	} 5
{ Cowsheds	5			
{ Milkshops	6			
Slaughterhouses ...	4	452	6	6
Other food preparing places	19	110	8	8
Common Lodging Houses	nil	...	...	...
Houses let in Lodgings	nil	...	...	...
{ Factories	19	31	} 22	} 20
{ Workshops	72	91		
{ Workplaces	8	40		

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS.

The Kent County Council carries out the duties under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

It will be seen from the subjoined list that there are now 19 Factories, 72 workshops, and eight workplaces in the District.

All these are periodically visited, and due attention is paid to maintaining them in such a condition as to comply with the requirements of the Act.

During the year, 162 visits of inspection were paid, and in 22 instances nuisances or irregularities were found.

	Factories.	Workshops.	Total.
Saw Mills	3	...	3
Laundries	2	10	12
Cycle Works ... ..	...	4	4
Carriagemakers and Wheelwrights...	...	2	2
Printing	3	...	3
Carpenters and Builders	4	5	9
Undertakers ... ..	...	2	2
Shoeing Forges and Engineers	1	3	4
Dressmakers and Tailors ... ..	...	22	22
Upholsterers ... ..	...	5	5
Bakeries ... ..	...	8	8
Flour Mills	1	...	1
Harness Making ... ..	...	2	2
Boot Making and Repairing... ..	...	9	9
Motor Repair Works	3	...	3
Stable Yards and Cab-washing Work-places ... ..	...	...	0
Water Company	1	...	1
Gas Company	1	...	1

1.—**Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	31	1	...
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	91	5	...
WORKPLACES (Other than Out-worker premises)	40	3	...
TOTAL	162	9	...

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			No. of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	4	3		
Want of ventilation	—	—		
Overcrowding	—	—		
Want of drainage of floors	3	3		
Other nuisances	11	10		
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	1	1	
	unsuitable or defective	3	3	
	not separate for sexes	—	—	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)				*
Other offences†				
TOTAL	22	20		

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

† Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.

GENERAL.**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.**

On no occasion has it been necessary to take Legal Proceedings to enforce the carrying out of any notices served.

WATER COURSES.

All water courses within the District are kept under constant supervision.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Cases.—A horse-drawn ambulance is provided by the Council for the removal of cases of Infectious Disease.

For Accident and General Cases.—A motor ambulance is provided for the removal of accident and general cases. (Telephone: Sevenoaks 188.)

MIDWIVES ACT.

The supervision of midwives is under the control of the County Council.

Four midwives have given notices of intention to practice within this District, of whom three are trained and one is bona fide.

APPENDIX.**1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.**

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	3,259
Population, 1924	...	...	...	...	...	9,191
Number of inhabited houses, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	2,218
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	2,056
Number of families or separate occupiers, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	2,154
Rateable Value, 1924	...	...	...	...	...	£88,315
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£335

2.—EXTRACTS FROM GENERAL VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Births, Legitimate	130	81	49
Births, Illegitimate	1	1	—

Birth Rate, 14.2.

Deaths, 107. Death Rate, 11.6.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth:—

From sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
From other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths of infants per thousand births:—							
Legitimate 45, illegitimate nil, total	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS.

The following are the Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws, and Regulations in force in the District:—

Bye-laws as to the cleansing of footways and pavements, removal of house refuse, and cleansing of earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools.

Bye-laws as to nuisances.

Bye-laws as to new streets and buildings.

Bye-laws with respect to the drainage of existing buildings.

Bye-laws with respect to pleasure grounds.

Bye-laws as to prevention of nuisances arising from snow.

Bye-laws as to regulation of public baths.

Bye-laws as to slaughterhouses.

Bye-laws with respect to hackney carriages.

Bye-laws with respect to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops.

Rules and regulations with respect to the management of the cemetery.

The following Adoptive Acts are in force in the District:—

The infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, and Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, have been in force in the District since June 1st, 1901.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.—Sections 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 (Part II.); Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 (Part III.); Sections 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67 (Part IV.).

The above came into force in this District on June 7th, 1915.

TABLE I.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1925.

Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	
	At all Ages.	at—ages—years.														
		Under 1	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	16	...	...	1	3	4	4	4	...	...	2	...	2	...	9	...
Diphtheria ...	6	...	...	...	2	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
TOTALS ...	27	1	...	1	5	5	4	3	2	4	2	...	2	...	13	6

TABLE II.

Deaths registered during the year 1925.

Disease.	Males.	Female.	Total.
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever... ..	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	1	3	4
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	1
Meningococcal Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	4	1	5
Other tuberculous diseases	1	2	3
Cancer, malignant disease	4	9	13
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Diabetes ... ..	...	...	...
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	7	6	13
Heart disease... ..	6	13	19
Arterio Sclerosis	1	6	7
Bronchitis	2	5	7
Pneumonia, all forms	2	2	4
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	...	...	...
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	...	1	1
Diarrhœa, etc. (under two years) ... ..	...	...	...
Appendicitis and typhilitis ... ..	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	...
Acute and chronic nephritis ... ..	...	2	2
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	...	1	1
Other diseases and accidents of pregnancy and parturition ... ..	...	1	1
Congenital debility, malformation, premature birth ... ..	...	1	1
Suicide ... ..	...	...	...
Other deaths from violence... ..	1	2	3
Other defined diseases	9	13	22
TOTAL	39	68	107

Sevenoaks Urban District Council.
Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

March 22nd, 1926.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting a summary of the work carried out in the Health Department for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

INSPECTIONS.

Periodical and systematic inspections have been carried out in accordance with the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshops Act, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, etc.

All complaints received were promptly investigated and further action taken where necessary.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The new Meat Regulations which came into force on the 1st of April entailed a good deal of extra work in my department.

The Butchers have to give at least three hours' notice of their intention to slaughter, and this work is usually carried out between five and eight in the evening, necessitating visits to be paid during these hours.

During the year I have made 452 visits to slaughterhouses and have examined 1,268 carcasses, the amount of meat condemned and destroyed being as follows:—

Meat affected with Tuberculosis	...	377 lbs.
" " " Bone Taint	...	120 "
" " " Emaciation	...	82 "
" " " Cirrhosis	...	74 "
" " " Flukes	...	67 "
" " " Swine Erysipelas	...	10 "
Fish, Smoked Whiting, unsaleable	...	140 "
		<hr/>
Total	...	881 "

I have also paid numerous visits to other food preparing places such as Butchers' Shops, Bakehouses, etc.

DUST COLLECTION.

This is another branch of work in my department that has steadily increased during the year owing to building operations. Thirty-three new houses have been erected, most of these being houses standing in their own grounds and several on plots on the outskirts of the District and at a considerable distance from the tip.

A weekly collection is made by horse-drawn dust vans. A few minor complaints were received and promptly attended to.

SUMMARY.

Inspections and Re-inspections	...	...	1,674
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	452
" " Factories, Workshops, and Work-places	...	...	162
" " Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops			71
" " Bakehouses	...	...	103
" " Other Food Preparing Places	...		110
Defective Dwelling Houses	...	...	375
Notices Served (Preliminary)	...	...	95
" " (Statutory)	...	...	14

Dustbins Provided	...	...	...	...	47
Drains Repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	51
Sanitary Conveniences Repaired	...	...	...	...	40
Rooms Disinfected	...	...	...	...	66
Nuisances caused by Fowls, etc.	...	...	...	...	14
Accumulations Removed	...	...	...	...	21
Food Condemned	...	...	...	...	881 lbs.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. SCOTHERN, C.R.S.I.,

Certified Meat & Food Inspector.

