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County Borough of Stockport.




**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE
**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**



1927



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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
County Borough of Stockport
FOR THE YEAR 1927.

BY
NICOLAS GEBBIE,
M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STOCKPORT :
Swain & Co. Ltd., "Advertiser" Offices, High Street.

The following are the Committees for 1927-28 :—

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR ERNEST BARLOW.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR JAMES H. STANSFIELD.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, SAMUEL BREWSTER, JOHN W. CRAIG, HENRY GREEN, WILLIAM E. HAMNETT, JOSEPH ROGERSON, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P. ; COUNCILLORS GEORGE H. BENNETT, ARTHUR DUTTON, JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, ROBERT GREGG, WILLIAM HAMLEN, HELEN HENDERSON, AND WALTER F. WILLIAMS.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Aldermen Thomas Allcock, Samuel Brewster, John W. Craig, and Charles Sharples, J.P. ; Councillors George H. Bennett, Arthur Dutton, and Robert Gregg.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

SANATORIA SUB-COMMITTEE.

AND

VENEREAL DISEASES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Aldermen Thomas Allcock, Henry Green, Joseph Rogerson, and Charles Sharples, J.P. ; Councillors John W. Fidler, and Thomas S. Fish.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR HELEN HENDERSON.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOSEPH ROGERSON.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN JOHN W. CRAIG, HENRY GREEN, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS ERNEST BARLOW, ARTHUR CROSSLEY, WILLIAM A. DOWNHAM, JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, WILLIAM HAMLETT, HENRY PATTEN, J.P., AND GEORGE PEET; MRS. N. W. BENNETT, MRS. AGNES N. BUCKLEY, MRS. EVELYN M. MURRAY, MRS. ELIZABETH POTTS, J.P., MRS. MARY A. SKUSE, J.P., AND MISS FLORENCE ROWBOTHAM, J.P.

Meetings—Third Monday in each Month.

 MATERNITY HOME SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Helen Henderson.

Vice-Chairman—Alderman Joseph Rogerson.

Alderman J. W. Craig; Councillor Thomas S. Fish; Mrs. Agnes N. Buckley, and Mrs. Elizabeth Potts, J.P.

Meetings—First Tuesday in each Month.

 SUB-COMMITTEE RE DISTRIBUTION OF MILK.

Councillor Helen Henderson.

Councillor John W. Fidler.

 HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN WILLIAM E. HAMNETT, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., AND CHARLES ROYLE, J.P.; COUNCILLORS WILLIAM H. CLAYTON, JOHN COUPE, ARTHUR DUTTON, SAMUEL FILDES, GEORGE GILL, HELEN HENDERSON, JOHN T. LORD, GEORGE MARPLES, JOSEPH MORTON, DAVID SCOTT-MORTON, WILLIAM STANTON, AND EDWIN WALSH.

Meetings—Second Tuesday in each Month.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals ; Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer ; Medical Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and to the Education Committee :—

NICOLAS GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer :—

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Consultant Venereal Diseases Officer :—

W. J. S. REID, M.A., B.S.c., M.D., M.R.C.P.

Deputy Medical Superintendent, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals :—

JAMES WORTHINGTON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M.

Medical Officer (part-time) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :—

HARRY SLATER, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Analyst (part-time) :—JAMES P. SHENTON, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Chief Inspector and Inspector of Foods, &c. :—W. BUTLER. §°

District Inspectors	}	Also Factory and Workshop Inspector J. ASHTON §
		..... J. R. BATES.
		..... H. PRICE §°
		..... F. MILLS §°
		..... P. M. BLOMFIELD §
Shops Act Inspector and Ambulance Attendant		A. E. HAMBLET.
Ambulance Driver		J. WEBB

Health Visitors	}	..... MISS K. M. JONES §†a
		..... MISS E. B. SWAN §†‡
		(Resigned June 11) MRS. P. B. BALL*†‡
		..... MISS E. SNOWDON*†
		..... MISS E. MORLEY*†
		..... MISS L. M. DREW*†
		(Commenced July 11) MISS A. N. STUBBS*†
		(„ July 18) MRS. E. HOLLAND*†
(„ August 8) MISS M. BILLINGS*†		
		for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases MISS M. M. SMITH*†

Matron, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals MISS T. P. CRANMORE

Matron, Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital MISS B. L. SCOTT

Deputy Matron, Isolation Hospital MISS K. RICHARDSON

Deputy Matron, Tuberculosis Hospital MISS E. E. WILSON

Clerical Staff	}	..... H. BAILEY
		..... A. ROWLAND, A.C.I.S.
		(Resigned February 19) L. JARMAN
		(Commenced February 21) E. KELLY
		(At Dispensary) MRS. F. STEAD
		..... MISS A. B. BELLERBY
V.D. Orderly (part-time)		W. E. LEES

§ Certificate, Inspector of Nuisances.

° Certificate, Meat and Other Foods.

* Certificate of General Training.

† Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

‡ Certificate (old) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

a Certificate (new) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the County Borough
of Stockport.



MR. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS. HENDERSON, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the Health, Sanitary Circumstances, and Vital Statistics of the County Borough of Stockport for the year 1927. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health this Report is an Ordinary Report of the series, that is, a Report of a more simple character than the full Survey Report which is prepared every five years.

I have again sub-divided the Report into five parts, to facilitate reference as follows :—

- Part I. Health and Housing.
- „ II. Infectious Diseases.
- „ III. Tuberculosis.
- „ IV. Venereal Diseases.
- „ V. Maternity and Child Welfare.

The estimated population given by the Registrar General for the middle of 1927 is 125,200, being a decrease of 200 on the corresponding estimated figure for 1926. The Birth-rate for the year, 14.66 per 1,000 of the population is the second lowest recorded. With the exception of the post war years 1920 and 1921, when there was a temporary rise in the Birth-rate, there has been a steady decline in this rate, not only locally but also throughout the country generally, during the past twenty years—from 27.94 in 1908 to 14.66 in 1927.

The general Death-rate of 12.54 per 1,000 of the population again shows a decrease from that of 1926, viz., 12.78 per 1,000.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 77.4 per 1,000 Births registered is highly satisfactory and with the exception of the record figure of 76.7 for the year 1922 it is the lowest recorded for the County Borough.

With regard to the Notifiable Infectious Diseases during the year under review two sets of circumstances came into prominence.

- (1) A marked decline in the Scarlet Fever Epidemic which had been prevalent during the previous years. The number of cases of this disease notified fell from the very high figure of **840** in 1926 to **545** in 1927.
- (2) The occurrence of a small epidemic of Small-pox, five cases in all, during the first quarter of 1927.

Full details of the incidence of these and other infectious diseases, together with particulars of the measures adopted for their control, are given in the appropriate sections of this Report.

Throughout the text of this Report and in the statistical tables presented there is ample evidence of arduous and painstaking work carried out with marked success by all the members of the staff of your Public Health Department

My best thanks are unreservedly given to all the members of the Medical, Nursing, Inspectorial and Clerical Staffs of the Department, without whose unflinching loyalty and devotion to duty the successful results of the work of the department recorded in these pages could not have been attained.

I would again take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the members of the Council, and especially to the Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and members of the various Committees for their personal kindness to me and for their zeal and enthusiasm in dealing with the many and varied problems concerned in the preservation of the Public Health.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Stockport.
April, 1928.

Medical Officer of Health.

County Borough of Stockport.

1927.

Statistical Memoranda.

	Stockport.	England and Wales.	107 County Boroughs & Great Towns.	155 Smaller Towns.
Population (Census 1921).....	123,315	—	—	—
Estimated Population, Mid-year, 1927.....	125,200	—	—	—
Area in Acres.....	7,059	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000.....	14.66	16.7	17.1	16.4
Do., do., average for five years, 1922-1927.....	16.8	—	—	—
General Death Rate per 1,000.....	12.54	12.3	12.2	11.3
Do., do., average for five years, 1922-1926.....	13.32	—	—	—
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	77.4	69	71	68
Do., do., average for five years, 1922-1926.....	87	—	—	—
Death Rate from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.....	0.26	—	—	—
Death Rate from Phthisis (Pul- monary Consumption).....	0.62	—	—	—
Death Rate from all other Tuber- cular Diseases.....	0.22	—	—	—

All the rates are calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1927.

Rateable Value (1927).....	£800,062
Sum represented by a penny rate for Borough Rate purposes (estimated 1927).....	£3,047
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	29,765
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)..	30,225

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Births : Legitimate...	1750	875	875	} Birth-rate, 14.66
Illegitimate..	85	45	40	
Deaths.....	1570	728	842	Death-rate, 12.54

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

From sepsis.....	3
From other causes.....	10

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

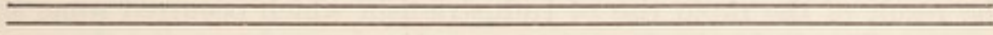
Legitimate 77.1.	Illegitimate 82.4.	Total 77.4.
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Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	7
„ Whooping Cough (all ages).....	6
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....	4

Natural and Social Conditions of the District

The report of the Commission on the State of the District for the year 1931 is published in this report. The Commission was organized in 1928 to study the conditions of the District and to report thereon to the Council of the District. The Commission has held numerous public hearings and has received many suggestions from the people of the District. The Commission has also conducted extensive research into the various social and economic conditions of the District. The report is divided into several parts, each dealing with a different aspect of the District's conditions. This part of the report deals with the natural and social conditions of the District.

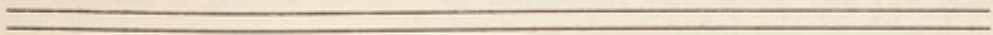
The Commission has found that the conditions of the District are generally poor. The people of the District are poor and live in poor housing. The District is overpopulated and the land is being used in an unwise manner. The Commission believes that these conditions are the result of the policies of the Council of the District. The Commission recommends that the Council of the District should take steps to improve the conditions of the District. These steps should include the following:



PART I.

Health and Housing.

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Year	Population	Area	Density
1921	100,000	100 sq. miles	1,000 per sq. mile
1931	150,000	100 sq. miles	1,500 per sq. mile

The Commission has found that the conditions of the District are generally poor. The people of the District are poor and live in poor housing. The District is overpopulated and the land is being used in an unwise manner. The Commission believes that these conditions are the result of the policies of the Council of the District. The Commission recommends that the Council of the District should take steps to improve the conditions of the District. These steps should include the following:

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The rivers Goyt and Tame unite at Tiviot Dale to form the river Mersey and the Borough is situated on both the Lancashire and Cheshire sides of this river. In the immediate vicinity of the Mersey stands the old part of Stockport around which there has grown a large industrial city. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Doubling, Hat Manufacture, Engineering, Brewing, Jam Making, Confectionery and allied trades.

For the most part the people are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in long rows. Dwellings of this type are universal in the industrial areas of the North of England and are the result of the rapid rise of Industrialism which occurred some sixty years ago. The lack of adequate town-planning schemes in those early days of the town's growth and development is responsible for many of the defects which are apparent to-day. In the older parts of the town factories and dwellinghouses are in close proximity to each other and over the central area of the town there hangs a cloud of smoke from industrial and domestic chimneys.

Stockport, however, has many amenities. It is well provided with residential areas and with open spaces and playing fields. Its facilities for rail and road transport are good. Sites are available for new works and for extension of existing factories, and the rates levied in the town are comparatively low.

The industries of the area are so many and varied that one is unable to single out any particular industrial process as having a marked effect on the health of the inhabitants as a whole.

The population of Stockport at the 1921 Census was 123,315, a figure which was subsequently amended to 125,500.

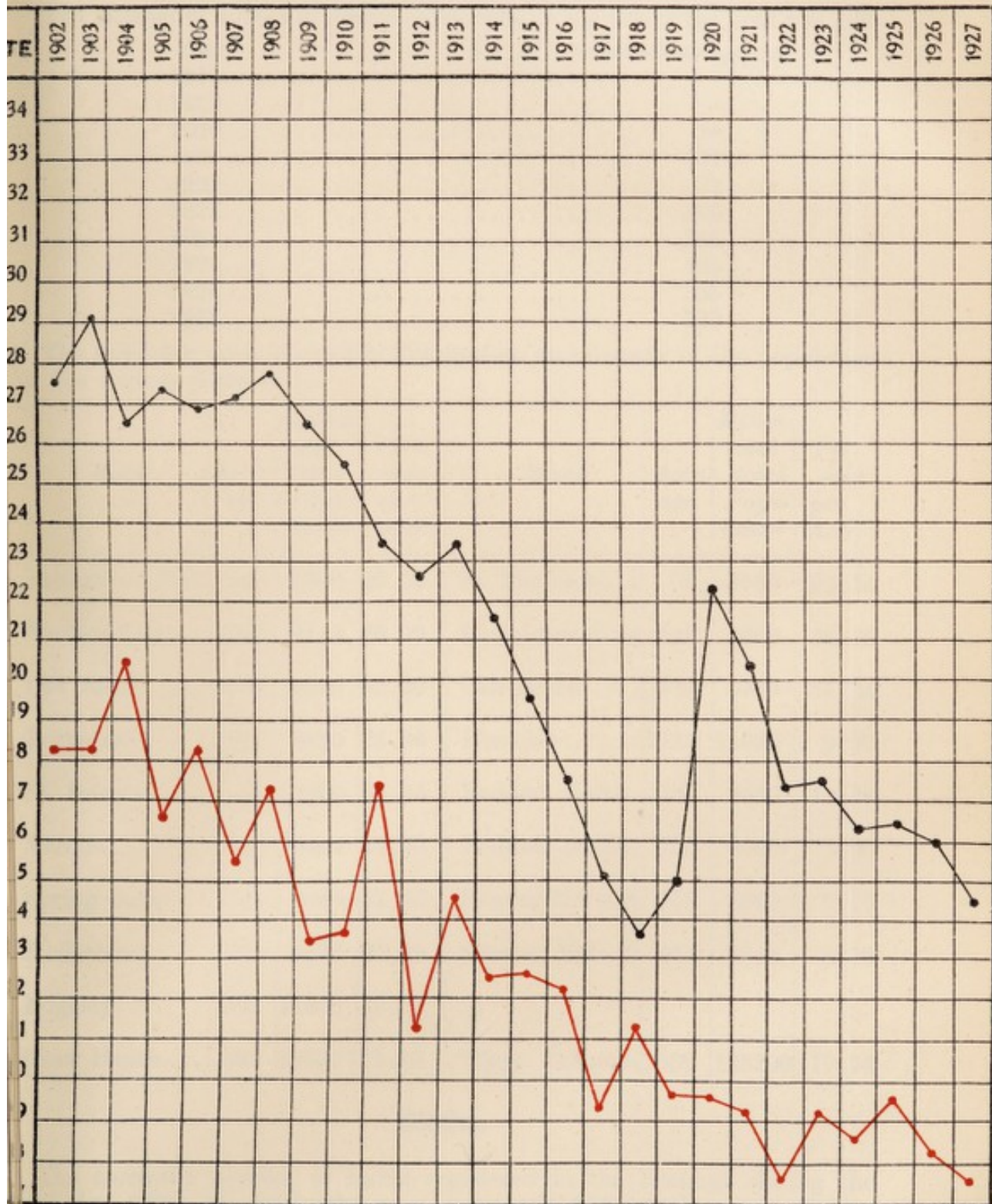
The population at the middle of 1927, as estimated by the Registrar-General, is 125,200.

The Census figures on the last five occasions were as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
1881.....	59,553
1891.....	70,263
1901.....	78,897
1911.....	108,693
1921.....	123,315

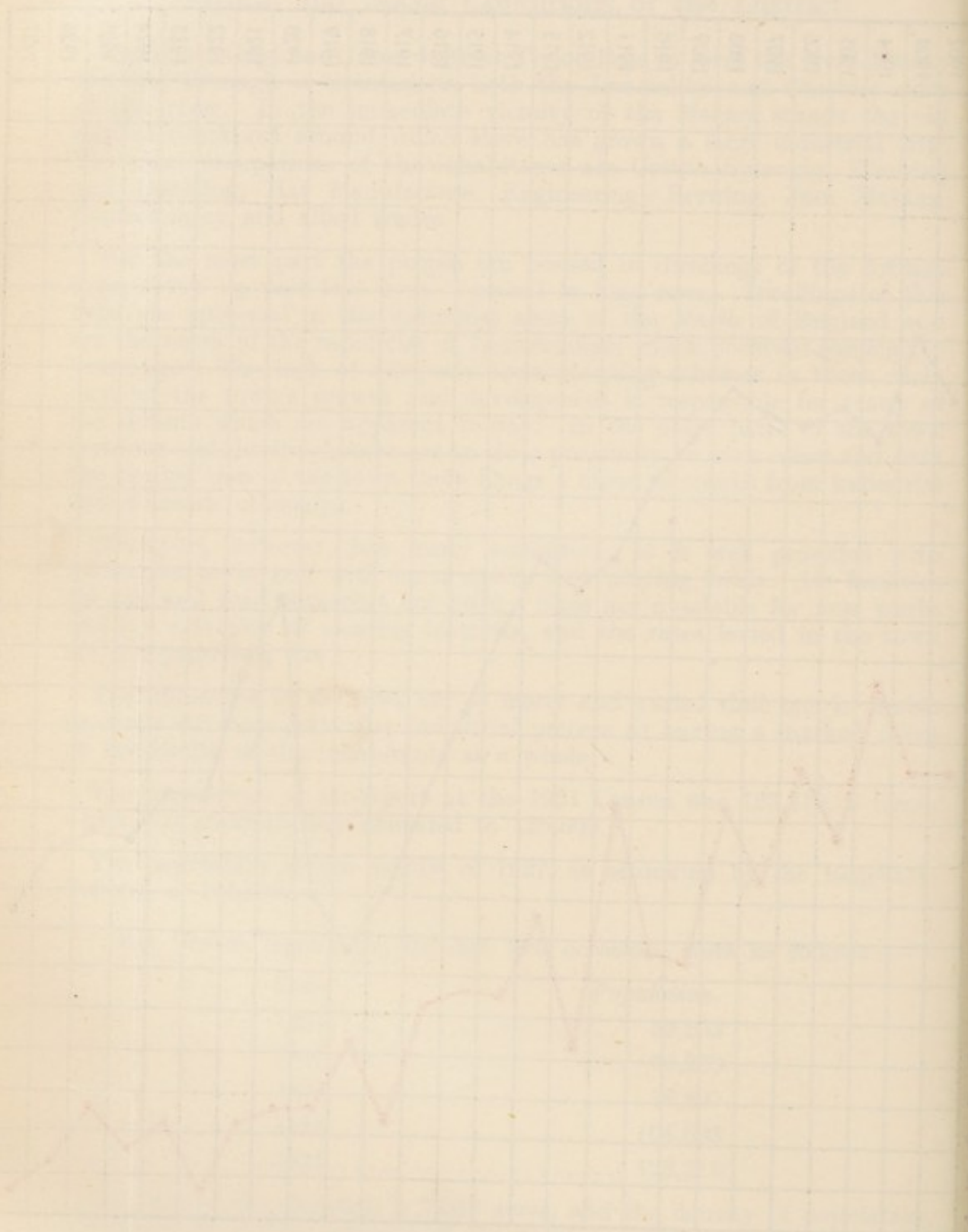
The area of the Borough is 7,059 acres, and the density of population, as calculated on the estimate of the total population, is 17.74 persons per acre, varying from 97.74 in St. Thomas's Ward to 6.77 in Heaton Norris South Ward.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand of the population
and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of Registered Births,
for the past 26 years (1902 - 1927).



Birth-rate indicated by Black lines.
Infant Mortality Rate indicated by Red lines.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent of Registered Births for the past 25 years (1892-1917)



Birth rate indicated by black line
Infant Mortality Rate indicated by red line

The number of new houses completed during the year 1927 was 330.

The number of houses in course of building at the end of the year was 148.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of new houses completed.</i>
1918.....	—
1919.....	—
1920.....	24
1921.....	131
1922.....	71
1923.....	176
1924.....	241
1925.....	405
1926.....	335
1927.....	330

The following table shows the distribution and density of the population in the various districts :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>	<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>
Lancashire Hill.	145	5700	39.31	St. Thomas's...	53	5180	97.74
Heaton Lane....	234	6115	26.09	Hempshaw L'ne	146	5650	38.70
Old Road.....	114	5950	52.20	Cale Green.....	145	6430	44.34
Portwood.....	324	8120	25.06	Heaviley.....	1115	11080	9.90
St. Mary's.....	91	2960	32.53	Reddish North.	786	9655	12.28
Vernon.....	427	6425	15.05	Reddish South.	755	6000	7.95
Spring Bank...	81	4265	52.65	Heaton Nor's N	711	5060	7.12
Hollywood.....	346	8970	25.92	Heaton Nor's S	863	5840	6.77
Edgeley.....	331	11050	33.38				
Shaw Heath....	392	10750	27.42	Whole Borough	7059	125200	17.74

Births.

The corrected number of births registered in the Borough during the year was 1,835, of which 920 were males and 915 females.

The birth-rate per thousand of the population was equal to 14.66, which is a decrease on the rate of last year.

The highest birth-rate occurred in Spring Bank Ward, namely, 22.27, while the lowest recorded was in Heaton Norris North Ward, namely, 7.91.

Illegitimacy.

During the year there were 85 illegitimate births registered belonging to the Borough, as compared with 88 in 1926. This gives an illegitimate birth-rate of 46.32 per thousand births registered, as compared with 43.69 in 1926.

The infantile mortality rate amongst illegitimate children is 82.4 per thousand illegitimate births.

The following table shows the comparison between the death-rates of illegitimate children and others registered in the Borough during the past ten years :--

Year	Esti- mated popula- tion.	Births.		Illegitimate. Births.		Total deaths under 1 year of age	Infan- tile mor- tality per 1000 births.	Deaths of illegiti- mates under 1 year of age.	Illegiti- mate infantile mortality per 1000 illegiti- mate births.
		Legit- imate	Illegit- imate	to 1000 living	to 1000 births				
1918	129352	1690	100	0.77	55.87	201	112.3	21	210.0
1919	130868	1847	123	0.94	62.44	194	98.5	22	178.8
1920	130635	2763	138	1.05	47.57	282	97.2	26	188.4
1921	125500	2435	129	1.03	50.31	233	90.8	18	139.5
1922	125800	2087	104	0.83	47.47	168	76.7	10	96.2
1923	125700	2121	95	0.76	42.87	203	91.6	25	263.2
1924	126000	1969	94	0.75	45.56	180	87.3	11	117.0
1925	125900	1975	104	0.83	50.02	202	97.2	20	192.3
1926	125400	1926	88	0.70	43.69	165	81.9	14	159.1
1927	125200	1750	85	0.68	46.32	142	77.4	7	82.4

Marriages.

The number of marriages solemnised during the year 1927 was 1027, or 91 more than in 1926. The marriage-rate per thousand persons living being 16.4. This figure is higher than the rate for the country generally, which was 15.7.

Of the 1027 marriages 551 were solemnised according to the rites of the Established Church, 110 under Roman Catholic rites, 160 according to the rites of other religious denominations, and 206 at the Registrar's Office.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Marriages.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Living.</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales.</i>
1918	883	13.7	15.3
1919	1345	20.6	19.7
1920	1464	22.4	20.2
1921	1165	18.6	16.9
1922	1079	17.2	15.8
1923	1008	16.0	18.0
1924	1094	17.4	15.3
1925	1050	16.7	15.2
1926	936	14.9	14.3
1927	1027	16.4	15.7

Deaths.

The corrected number of deaths recorded in the Borough during the year 1927 was 1,570, namely :—728 males and 842 females.

The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population was 12.54.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING LAST DECENNIUM.

Herein are set out some of the principal causes of death in the Borough for the past ten years :—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>									
	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
<i>Seven Chief Zymotics...</i>	80	40	115	66	67	44	64	62	50	32
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever.....	3	6	7	5	4	1	5	6	7	5
Diphtheria.....	9	9	30	20	18	14	5	3	7	6
“Fevers”—Typhoid and Continued....	1	3	2	3	1	..	2	..	..	..
Measles.....	15	1	41	1	19	9	42	4	25	7
Whooping Cough....	30	8	25	9	22	12	6	41	5	6
Diarrhoea.....	22	13	10	28	3	8	4	8	6	7
Influenza.....	351	124	23	20	53	20	33	19	25	39
Lung Diseases (includ- ing Phthisis).....	503	563	483	413	527	481	559	501	391	373
Heart Disease.....	222	300	296	324	364	367	374	400	420	373
Injury.....	31	48	45	35	30	31	43	58	33	44

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	No. of Deaths.
Lung Diseases (excluding Phthisis).....	296
Phthisis.....	77
Other Tubercular Diseases.....	28
Preventable Diseases (excluding Tubercular Diseases).....	87
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart, &c.).....	373
" Nervous System.....	68
" Digestive System.....	75
" Kidneys.....	73
Debility and Wasting, etc., in Infants.....	19
Old Age.....	61
Cancer.....	198
Accidents.....	44
Suicides.....	18
All other Diseases.....	153

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Nett Death-rate.</i>	<i>Zymotic Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
1908	27.94	19.99	2.99	171
1909	26.33	17.96	1.73	132
1910	25.60	17.03	1.63	137
1911	23.33	17.38	2.73	172
1912	22.75	16.02	1.42	109
1913	23.17	16.64	1.85	146
1914	21.64	15.10	1.18	124
1915	19.32	16.69	1.59	127
1916	17.66	15.42	1.49	121
1917	15.17	13.18	0.54	96
1918	13.84	18.29	0.69	112
1919	15.05	13.33	0.32	98
1920	22.20	12.87	0.88	97
1921	20.43	12.16	0.53	91
1922	17.42	13.37	0.53	77
1923	17.63	12.66	0.35	92
1924	16.37	13.86	0.51	87
1925	16.51	13.94	0.49	97
1926	16.06	12.78	0.40	82
1927	14.66	12.54	0.26	77

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests.

During the year there were 131 deaths registered in the Borough in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. In 123 of these cases an inquest was held, and the verdicts found by the Coroner's juries may be summarised as follows :—

1.—NATURAL CAUSES.

Heart Disease.....	15	Bronchitis.....	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	4	Pneumonia.....	2
Nephritis.....	8	Inanition.....	1
Peritonitis.....	1	Convulsions.....	4
Cancer.....	1	Other Natural Causes.....	6

2.—BY ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.

In Vehicular Traffic.....	20	Falls.....	4
By Drowning.....	1	Fractures.....	13
Burns and Scalds.....	6	Other Injuries.....	12

3.—SUICIDE.

By Hanging and Strangulation.....	3	By Shooting.....	1
„ Cut or Stab.....	3	„ Gas Poisoning.....	5
„ Drowning.....	3	„ Poison.....	6

Vital Statistics of whole Borough during 1927, and previous years.—Name of District, STOCKPORT.

YEAR.	Total Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.			NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.							Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1918	129,352	1780	1790	13.84	2115	18.32	100	96	201	112	2111	18.29		
1919	130,868	1956	1970	15.05	1694	13.48	111	92	194	98	1675	13.33		
1920	130,635	2888	2901	22.20	1680	12.86	101	102	282	97	1681	12.87		
1921	125,500	2558	2564	20.43	1548	12.33	91	39	233	91	1526	12.16		
1922	125,800	2195	2191	17.42	1687	13.41	85	80	168	77	1682	13.37		
1923	125,700	2206	2216	17.63	1639	13.04	139	91	203	92	1591	12.66		
1924	126,000	2056	2063	16.37	1791	14.21	134	89	180	87	1746	13.86		
1925	125,900	2074	2079	16.51	1805	14.43	152	91	202	97	1744	13.94		
1926	125,400	2019	2014	16.06	1660	13.24	161	103	165	82	1602	12.78		
1927	125,200	1863	1835	14.66	1650	13.18	175	95	142	77	1570	12.54		

Total population at all ages, 125,500 at Census of 1921. Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 7,059. Private families or separate occupiers, 30,225, at Census of 1921.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH AND EACH OF ITS WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1927.

WARD	Acreage.	Estimated Population.	Persons per acre.	No. of Births registered.		Birth rate.	Nett deaths.	Nett Death rate.	No. of deaths under 1 year of age.	Infant mortality rate per 1000 births.	No. of deaths from 7 principal Zymotic diseases.	Zymotic Death rate per 1000.	Zymotic death rate per 1000 (excluding Diarrhoea).	No. of deaths from Diarrhoea.	Death rate from Diarrhoea per 1000.	No. of deaths from Phthisis.	Death rate from Phthisis per 1000.	No. of deaths from other Tubercular diseases.	Death rate from other Tubercular diseases per 1000.	No. of deaths from Other Lung Diseases.	Death rate from Other Lung Diseases per 1000.
				M.	F.																
LANCASHIRE HILL ...	145	5,700	39.31	34	50	14.74	52	9.12	2	24	1	0.18	0.18	...	...	4	0.72	...	...	11	1.93
HEATON LANE ...	234	6,115	26.09	55	60	18.81	79	12.92	10	87	...	...	...	...	3	0.49	...	...	16	2.62	
OLD ROAD ...	114	5,950	52.20	52	45	16.30	89	14.96	13	134	2	0.34	0.17	1	0.17	7	1.18	1	0.17	21	3.53
PORTWOOD ...	324	8,120	25.06	84	73	19.45	93	11.45	11	70	2	0.25	0.12	1	0.12	6	0.74	1	0.12	20	2.46
ST. MARY'S ...	91	2,960	32.53	30	28	19.59	43	14.53	3	52	...	...	...	...	2	0.68	1	0.34	14	4.78	
VERNON ...	427	6,425	15.05	48	55	16.03	86	13.39	6	58	2	0.31	0.31	...	...	3	0.47	4	0.62	21	3.27
SPRING BANK ...	81	4,265	52.65	42	53	22.27	78	18.29	8	84	2	0.47	0.24	1	0.24	4	0.94	3	0.70	21	4.92
HOLLYWOOD...	346	8,970	25.92	57	55	12.49	108	12.04	9	80	3	0.33	0.33	...	...	6	0.67	1	0.11	16	1.79
EDGELEY ...	331	11,050	33.88	73	62	12.22	127	11.49	9	67	2	0.18	0.09	1	0.09	4	0.36	...	...	24	2.17
SHAW HEATH ...	392	10,750	27.42	64	77	13.12	113	10.51	11	78	2	0.19	0.19	...	...	3	0.28	3	0.28	21	1.95
ST. THOMAS'S ...	53	5,180	97.74	45	50	18.34	78	15.06	9	95	6	1.16	0.97	1	0.19	6	1.16	3	0.58	19	3.67
HEMPSHAW LANE ...	146	5,650	38.70	49	38	14.51	89	15.75	9	110	3	0.53	0.53	...	...	7	1.24	1	0.18	20	3.54
CALE GREEN ...	145	6,430	44.34	41	32	11.35	86	13.37	5	68	...	...	...	...	4	0.62	1	0.16	11	1.71	
HEAVILEY ...	1115	11,080	9.90	73	78	13.63	185	12.18	11	73	4	0.36	0.27	1	0.09	4	0.36	6	0.54	18	1.63
REDDISH NORTH...	786	9,655	12.28	77	70	15.23	123	12.74	15	102	1	0.10	0.10	...	...	3	0.31	2	0.21	20	2.07
REDDISH SOUTH...	755	6,000	7.95	45	43	14.66	77	12.83	8	91	1	0.17	0.17	...	...	6	1.0	1	0.17	9	1.50
HEATON NORRIS N.	711	5,060	7.12	24	16	7.91	53	10.47	2	50	1	0.20	...	1	0.20	2	0.40	...	...	7	1.38
HEATON NORRIS S.	863	5,840	6.77	27	35	10.62	61	10.45	1	16	...	...	...	...	3	0.51	...	...	7	1.20	
STOCKPORT BOROUGH	7059	125200	17.74	920	915	14.66	M 728 F 842	12.54	M 66 F 76	77.4	M 16 F 16	0.26	0.20	M 4 F 3	0.06	M 53 F 24	0.62	M 13 F 15	0.22	M 133 F 163	2.36

* Deaths of Stockport residents in the Union Hospital, Union Workhouse, Infirmary, and Isolation Hospital are here referred to the Wards in which they lived. Deaths within the Borough of Non-residents from out-townships are excluded.

† The "Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases" are Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid and continued), and Diarrhoea. ‡ Registrar General's estimate.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTALITY STATISTICS

Ward	No. of Births registered	No. of Deaths registered	Population	Average per 1000	Rate per 1000
LANCASHIRE HILL	34	50	2,700	145	18.0
HEATON LANE	55	60	2,115	234	18.0
OLD ROAD	52	45	2,250	114	17.0
PORTWOOD	84	73	2,150	324	18.0
ST. MARY'S	30	38	2,360	91	16.0
VERNON	48	55	2,425	127	16.0
BRING BANK	42	53	2,285	81	16.0
HOLLYWOOD	57	55	2,270	246	18.0
EDGELEY	73	63	2,050	331	16.0
SHAW HEATH	64	77	2,750	232	18.0
ST. THOMAS'S	45	50	2,180	53	18.0
HEMPSHAW BANK	49	38	2,650	146	14.0
CAIRN GREEN	41	33	2,430	145	14.0
HEAVILEY	73	78	2,080	115	18.0
BIDDISH NORTH	77	70	2,555	288	15.0

Mortality Statistics.

The Corrected Nett Death-Rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.54 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The principal causes of death during 1927 were diseases of the Circulatory System (Heart, etc.), diseases of the Lungs and Cancer. Climatic conditions undoubtedly play an important part in causing the high incidence rate of chest diseases which obtains locally. Long spells of cold and damp weather, and the pollution of the atmosphere by smoke and by other products of the incomplete combustion of raw coal, reduce our powers of resistance to infection and render us susceptible to attacks of such diseases as Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia, and Rheumatism.

Diseases of the Respiratory System, e.g., Bronchitis and Broncho-pneumonia are of frequent occurrence as complications of such diseases as Measles and Whooping Cough and are of grave import. In the industrial centres of the North of England, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Heart Disease may well be ranked with Phthisis as the "Captains of the men of Death."

Cancer continues to exact a heavy toll in human suffering and misery and, in Stockport in 1927, 198 deaths were ascribed to it. Of these 198 fatal cases, 90 were males and 108 females. The age incidence of the diseases was as follows :—

Years.	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over.
Number	1	—	20	35	56	86

The situation of the lesion in these cases may be summarised thus :—

Cancer of Mouth and Digestive System.....	130	Cases.
„ Female Genital Organs.....	14	„
„ Breast.....	19	„
„ Skin.....	6	„
„ Other Organs.....	29	„
	198	„

The death-rate from Cancer in 1927 was 1.58 per thousand of the population as compared with 1.44 for the year 1926.

Cancer essentially affects individuals beyond middle-life and in one or other of its many forms may attack almost any organ of the body.

In spite of careful scientific investigation and painstaking research conducted in many lands the cause of Cancer still remains obscure. If detected early it is curable by surgical measures, but in what is often at first a painless disease it is difficult for the patient to realise the necessity for surgical aid.

Increasing attention is being paid to the all important question of Cancer Research and the Imperial Cancer Research Commission affords valuable aid in the co-ordination of research work in the investigation of the pre-disposing and exciting causes of Cancer. The present position of research upon the subject of Cancer is carefully reviewed in certain publications issued as Circulars by the Ministry of Health and the necessity for early diagnosis and treatment is emphasised.

Mortality in Different Wards.

The Corrected Nett Death-rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.54 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The highest Ward Death-rate occurred in Spring Bank Ward, namely, 18.29, whilst the lowest was recorded in Lancashire Hill Ward with 9.12.

The Zymotic Death-rate for the whole Borough was 0.26. This Rate is calculated on the number of deaths from the following diseases:— Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Typhoid Fever, and Diarrhoea, and the total number of deaths from these diseases was 32.

Phthisis Death-rate. The Death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis or consumption of the lungs, for the whole of the Borough, was 0.62 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.56 for 1926, and the total number of deaths recorded was 77, as compared with 70 for 1926, 104 for 1925, 110 for 1924, and 119 for 1923.

The highest Death-rate occurred in Hempshaw Lane Ward, namely, 1.24 per 1,000 of the population.

Registrar General's Return of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life in the County Borough of Stockport.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	AGE PERIODS										
			0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—		
ALL CAUSES.....	M. F	729 842	67 75	15 12	13 13	13 19	30 21	97 94	240 220	157 196	97 192		
1. Enteric Fever.....	M. F	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
2. Small-pox.....	M. F	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
3. Measles.....	M. F	3 4	1 2	1 ..	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
4. Scarlet Fever.....	M. F	1 4	.. ..	1 1	2 ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
5. Whooping Cough.....	M. F	5 1	3 1	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
6. Diphtheria.....	M. F	2 4	.. ..	.. 2	2 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
7. Influenza.....	M. F	31 35	5 2	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 3	10 15	6 9	3 4	.. ..
8. Encephalitis Lethargica.....	M. F	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
9. Meningococcal Meningitis.....	M. F	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	M. F	54 24	1 ..	.. ..	.. 2	7 3	.. ..	24 15	19 4	2 ..	1 ..	.. ..
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	M. F	13 16	.. 3	6 ..	3 3	.. ..	.. ..	3 2	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease.....	M. F	92 110	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	8 13	47 47	28 28	8 22	.. ..
13. Rheumatic Fever.....	M. F	2 5	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
14. Diabetes.....	M. F	10 15	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

STOCKPORT COUNTY BOROUGH REGISTERED OFFICE, 10, CROSS STREET, STOCKPORT.

AGES.

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.

	Totals.		AGES.													
	M.	F.	-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over
IX. DISEASES OF NERVOUS SYSTEM—<i>Ctd.</i>																
General Paralysis of Insane.....	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..
Other forms of Insanity.....	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Cerebral Tumour.....	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	3	3	..	..
Epilepsy.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..
Diseases of Spinal Cord.....	2	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	5
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
X. Otitis, Otorrhœa.....	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
XI. DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM :—																
Pericarditis.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Endocarditis, Valvular Diseases of the Heart.....	48	56	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	4	7	16	10	10	24	37
Angina Pectoris.....	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	3	..
Aneurism.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	5
Senile Gangrene.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Embolism, Thrombosis.....	5	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6
Phlebitis.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Fatty Degeneration.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other diseases of Heart and Circulatory System.....	82	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	11	36	131	..
Cerebral Hæmorrhage.....	27	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	16	36	..
XII. DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM :—																
Bronchitis, Acute.....	15	18	9	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	18
Bronchitis, Chronic.....	50	79	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	3	5	13	23	89	..
Pneumonia, Lobar.....	16	19	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	5	8	6	8	..
Pneumonia, Broncho.....	27	27	10	10	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	5	7	11	..
Pneumonia, Influenza.....	13	10	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	5	4	7	..
Pneumonia, form not stated.....	5	6	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	3	1	1	1
Empysemæ, Asthma.....	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pleurisy.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over
XIII. DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM :-																	
Diseases of Pharynx	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Disease of Oesophagus	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ulcer of Stomach.....	7	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of Stomach.....	2	2	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis.....	7	7	14	10	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis.....	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Obstruction of Intestine.....	4	11	15	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	5	..	..
Other diseases of Intestine.....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver.....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Other diseases of Liver.....	3	8	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	4	4	..	..
Peritonitis.....	2	8	10	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1
Diseases of Pancreas.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Digestive Diseases.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
XIV. Myxoedema.....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Exophthalmic Goitre.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XV. DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM :-																	
Nephritis, Acute.....	14	12	26	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	7	5	7	..	..
Bright's Disease.....	24	23	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	7	11	23	..	..
Diseases of Bladder and Prostate..	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	..	..
Pyelitis .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Other diseases of Urinary System..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..
XVI. Diseases of Uterus & Appendages..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Diseases of Vagina and External Genital Organs .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
XVII. DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH CHILD-BIRTH :-																	
Abortion, Miscarriage.....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of Pregnancy and Child-birth.....	..	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	2	1	..	..	..	..

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	25	35	45	55	65	
				-1	to 2	to 3	to 4	to 5	to 10	to 15	to 20	to 25	to 35	to 45	to 55	to 65	& over
XVIII.																	
Osteomalacia.....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other diseases of Osseous System..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
XIX.																	
Pemphigus.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dermatitis exfoliativa.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
XX.																	
ACCIDENTS :—																	
In Vehicular Traffic.....	12	6	18	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	1	1	3	1	4	4
By Weapons and Implements	3	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Burns and Scalds.....	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Drowning.....	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Falls from a height.....	6	2	8	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	5	1
Falls, otherwise.....	1	5	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5
Other Accidents.....	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	1
XXI.																	
SUICIDES :—																	
By Poison—Gas.....	3	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	1	1	..
" —Other.....	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	2
By Hanging and Strangulation.....	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
By Drowning.....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
By Cut or Stab.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
XXII.																	
Other and Ill-defined Diseases.....	1	4	5	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	728	842	1570	142	27	13	7	7	19	13	21	31	65	125	177	282	641

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority.

A. (1)—**Fever Hospital.**—Your Council maintains the Borough Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport, at which there is accommodation for 78 patients suffering from Acute Infectious Disease. During the year under review the accommodation at your Isolation Hospital was not so heavily taxed as in 1926.

(2)—**Smallpox Hospital.**—Your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Borough Smallpox Hospital. In the event of a serious epidemic of Smallpox in Stockport, it would be necessary to utilise Whitehill Hospital for the purpose of isolating cases of this disease. At Whitehill Hospital there is normally accommodation for twenty-six patients.

B. (1) **Tuberculosis.**—At Whitehill Hospital your Council provides, with the consent of the Ministry of Health, accommodation for 26 cases of Tuberculosis (of both sexes). This institution is utilised mainly for the treatment of advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Institutional provision for Tuberculosis cases is secured for Stockport patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria elsewhere as follows :—

- (a) Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Burntwood—16 beds.
- (b) Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands—10 beds.
- (c) Wensleydale Sanatorium, Aysgarth, Yorkshire—7 beds.
- (d) Barrowmore Hall Training Colony, Chester. } For Ex-Servicemen
- (e) Preston Hall Training Colony, Kent. } as required.
- (f) Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry—3 beds.
- (g) Special School, West Kirby (George Fearn Trust)—1 bed.
- (h) Ormerod Home, St. Annes-on-Sea (pre-tubercular children)—10 beds.

The last mentioned is under the administration of the George Fearn Trust to which the Corporation subscribe the sum of £150 per annum.

A certain number of cases of Tuberculosis are treated by the Board of Guardians at their Institution at Stepping Hill Hospital.

Cases of tuberculosis of the skin are treated at the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases under arrangements made by the Corporation with the Hospital Board.

B. (2) **Maternity.**—Your Council maintains the Municipal Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall, Stockport, with accommodation for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

Accommodation is provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians for maternity cases in a wing of the Board's Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

(3) **Children.**—There is no Hospital within the area of the County Borough of Stockport used exclusively for children.

(4) Other.

- (a) The Stockport Infirmary provides accommodation for 130 Medical and Surgical cases and has a well equipped and adequately staffed Out-Patient Department, with Specialist Services in the various branches of medical and surgical work.
- (b) The Poor Law Infirmary, Stepping Hill, Stockport, is maintained by the Stockport Board of Guardians and provides 450 beds for the reception and treatment of cases sent by the Union's Medical Officers.
- (c) Six privately owned Maternity Homes are registered with the Local Authority—total accommodation 33 beds.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, &c.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.—This Home, which is situated in Chatham Street, Stockport, deals with unmarried mothers and others who are brought to the notice of the officers of the Institution either by the Poor Law Authorities or by intimation from private sources.

STOCKPORT POLICE AID ASSOCIATION.—The object of this Association is to provide necessitous children with clothing. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have placed at the Association's disposal the Great Portwood Street Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which is used occasionally for the storage and the distribution of the clothing.

BARNES' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The situation of this Industrial School for Boys is in the Heaton Mersey portion of the Borough.

ALICE BRIGGS HOME (OPEN-AIR SCHOOL).—This Home, which is in close proximity to the Barnes' Home Industrial School, is entirely under the control of the Manchester Corporation.

COTTAGE HOMES.—Various homes for destitute children are provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians.

Ambulance Arrangements.

The Borough is well provided with ambulances, the Corporation having at their disposal six motor ambulances, and the Stockport Board of Guardians one motor ambulance.

FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—During the year the Corporation purchased a new 20-H.P. Austin motor ambulance for infectious cases, and there are now three motor ambulances stationed at the Isolation Hospital and used exclusively for the removal of infectious cases and bedding.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENT CASES.—The three other Corporation ambulances are stationed at the Fire Station and are available for accident cases and for the removal of patients to Hospital in emergencies. In the latter cases a fee is charged which can be remitted with the sanction of the Watch Committee if the patient be in necessitous

circumstances. The motor ambulance provided by the Poor Law Authorities is used in connection with the conveyance of patients to the Stepping Hill Poor Law Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<i>Name and Situation.</i>	<i>By Whom Provided.</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.	Town Council.
Ante-natal Clinic, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.....	”
School for Mothers & Babies' Welcome, Churchgate House, Stockport.....	Stockport School for Mothers & Babies' Welcome.
Branch : Stanhope Street, Reddish..	” ”
Central School Clinic, 108, Wellington Road South, Stockport.....	Town Council.
Branch Clinic at Reddish.....	”
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	”
Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	”

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association.
(President, Sir Thomas Rowbotham, J.P.).

The Headquarters of the District Nursing Department of this Association known as the Barnsley Home for Nurses, is situated in Greek Street, Stockport. The Staff consists of a Matron and seven Nurses. The nursing of all classes of sickness is undertaken with the exception of certain cases of infectious disease, i.e., Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, etc. Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Committee of the Association for the provision of home nursing facilities in cases of Measles, Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pemphigus Neonatorum on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. For this purpose your Council made a financial grant of 50 guineas during the year under review.

Arrangements have been made with the Stockport Insurance Committee for the nursing of sick insured persons approved of by the Committee at a rate of 1/- per visit.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Matron of the Barnsley Home for her kindly consideration at all times and for her promptitude in attending to the cases referred to her by this Department. The excellent work carried out in the homes of the people by the members of the Local District Nursing Association is of inestimable value to the patients and is much appreciated by the Doctors in the town.

In connection with the Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association there is the Annie Walthew Nursing Home, Meadow Bank, Didsbury Road, Stockport, in which there is accommodation for Maternity, Surgical, and Medical Cases. Your Medical Officer of Health has the honour to be a member of the Sub-Committee responsible for the management of this Home.

Midwives. Full particulars of the arrangements of the District Midwifery Service are given in the section of the report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Chemical Work. The Public Analyst for Stockport is Mr. James P. Shenton, and details of the results of his analyses are given in tabular form in the section of this report dealing with Food and Drugs.

Local Powers Relating to Public Health.

(1) Acts of Parliament adopted by the Council.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Housing of the Working-Classes Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
 Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907.

(2) Local Acts.

Stockport Corporation Act, 1899.
 Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.

(3) Byelaws.

Regulation of Markets, 1862.
 Prevention of Nuisances, 1865.
 Cleansing Footways, Privies, &c., 1865.
 Regulation of Public Baths, 1886.
 Common Lodging Houses, 1900.
 Houses Let in Lodgings, 1900.
 Tents, Vans, &c., used for Human Habitation, 1902.
 For the good rule and government of the Borough, and for the
 Prevention of Nuisances, 1903.
 Slaughter Houses, 1906.
 New Streets and Buildings, 1913.
 Water, 1915.
 Maternity Homes, 1926.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The Stockport Water Area covers about $80\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and has a population of 198,600. The average daily consumption of water for this area during 1927 was 6,350,000 gallons. The water was analysed at intervals and was found to be satisfactory.

During the year under review there was no material change in the sources of supply, particulars of which are as follows :—

<i>Site.</i>	<i>Reservoir.</i>	<i>Capacity.</i>
Disley ..	Horse Coppice Reservoir ..	73,000,000 gallons
„ ..	Bollinhurst Reservoir ..	85,000,000 „
Hayfield ..	Kinder Reservoir ..	515,500,000 „
Wilmslow ..	Two Boreholes ..	Supply 750,000 „ per day.

By agreement a total quantity of about 1,500,000 gallons of water per day is available from the Manchester Corporation Longendale Works.

Rivers and Streams. During the year a few instances of pollution of rivers and streams have been discovered by the Inspectors during the course of their routine work and the necessary action has been taken to have the defects remedied. After a careful survey had been made by your Chief Inspector of the source and course of the Tin Brook, with special reference to the question of the pollution of the brook with sewage, trade effluents, etc., a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee inspected the brook and decided to adopt all possible measures to free this brook from pollution. The necessary action is being taken by the officials of the Department with the individuals and firms concerned and it is hoped that considerable improvement in the condition of this brook will be secured in the very near future.

Drainage and Sewerage. The routine work of extension of drainage and sewerage rendered necessary by the erection of new houses has been proceeded with. In addition, the many schemes of re-drainage in consequence of the conversion of a very large number of privies to water-closets have received the careful attention of this Department. Further particulars of these conversions, the supervision of which has been admirably carried out by the Chief Inspector and his staff of District Inspectors during the year 1927, are given in a separate section of this report, vide page 31.

Closet Accommodation. The question of the conversion of closets from conservancy systems to the water-carriage system has received special attention from the Health Department during the year under review. The results of this action are highly satisfactory and no less than 469 water-closets with cistern flush have been provided during the year. This gigantic task has thrown a very heavy burden of work upon Mr. Butler, your Chief Inspector, and upon your District Inspectorial Staff. I would

take this opportunity of thanking them for the efficiency and tact they have all displayed in carrying out these onerous duties and of congratulating them upon the results achieved.

The work of conversion of the closet accommodation from that insanitary abomination, the privy midden, to the hygienic water-closet has been steadily pursued throughout the year and in only a few instances has it been necessary for the Department to carry out the work in consequence of default on the part of the owners.

During 1927, 342 Privies were converted to W.Cs. The numbers of conversions of this nature carried out in recent years are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Privies converted to Water-Closets.</i>
1923.....	195
1924.....	238
1925.....	200
1926.....	619
1927.....	342

During the year under review, 55 Pail Closets and 6 Waste-Water Closets were converted to W.Cs., and 66 additional W.Cs. were provided.

469 W.Cs. were thus provided during the year.

Full details of this work are given in the following table :—

CONVERSIONS, ADDITIONAL WATER-CLOSETS, &c., PROVIDED DURING 1927.

District.	Privies converted to W.Cs.	Additional W.Cs. provided.	Pail Closets converted into W.Cs.	Waste Water Closets converted into W.Cs.	Privy Middens abolished.	Dustbins provided where Middens abolished.	Dry Ashpits abolished.	Dustbins provided where Dry Ashpits abolished.
No. 1.....	83	15	16	2	45	86	24	77
No. 2.....	31	16	22	—	34	45	15	17
No. 3.....	81	5	—	3	66	108	3	16
No. 4.....	137	12	16	1	92	158	6	15
No. 5.....	10	18	1	—	19	29	140	241
Total....	342	66	55	6	256	426	188	366
			469					

Scavenging. During the year there have been no material alterations in the methods of scavenging or refuse disposal, which are carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation. I understand that experiments are about to be made locally upon a new method of stacking refuse in the town's tips, and I hope to be able to report later upon the results of these experiments. The substitution of dustbins for the large number of privy middens abolished during the year has meant greater rapidity and increased efficiency in the removal of domestic refuse from the properties concerned.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The routine work of sanitary inspection of the area has been efficiently carried out by your five District Sanitary Inspectors under the able supervision of your Chief Inspector, Mr. Wm. Butler, to whom I am indebted for the following statistical summary of the work of the Inspectors during 1927 :—

District Sanitary Inspectors' Work.

The following is a Summary of the Work carried out by the District Inspectors during the Year :—

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
SPECIAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.....	86	49	47	25	23	230
INSPECTIONS MADE :—						
For Housing Purposes.....	409	300	620	266	221	1816
Re-visits during progress of work...	739	296	288	298	435	2056
Courts and Yards.....	635	393	55	316	378	1777
Re-inspections respecting Conversions	880	234	406	1065	576	3161
Dry Ashpits.....	79	102	13	71	390	655
Drainage.....	564	383	354	733	321	2355
Water Closet Inspections.....	647	401	158	566	491	2263
Water Courses.....	—	—	—	18	—	18
Picture Houses.....	76	108	15	5	12	216
Miscellaneous.....	993	427	244	968	986	3618
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc., re Sanitary Alterations.....	214	223	89	427	226	1179
INFECTIOUS DEASES :—						
Cases inquired into.....	166	103	226	185	61	741
Cases removed to Hospital.....	143	88	187	135	36	589
Houses Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	693
Schools and other Public Institutions Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	3
Out District Disinfections.....	—	—	—	—	—	12
Re-visits to Cases isolated at home..	78	19	52	54	113	316
Pneumonia cases inquired into.....	32	28	30	38	10	138
Malaria cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica cases in- quired into.....	1	1	2	3	—	7
Cerebro-Spinal Fever cases inquired into.....	1	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis cases inquired into.....	2	—	1	—	1	4
WATER CLOSETS, ETC. :—						
Water Closets cleansed (by Owners)...	78	67	24	33	22	224
Water Closets cleansed (by Occupiers).	5	4	—	—	2	11
Water Closet Pedestals, etc., re- newed or repaired.....	134	47	24	248	46	499
Water Supply Pipes or Cisterns to Water Closets repaired.....	175	67	22	143	55	462
Water Courses Cleansed.....	—	—	—	1	—	1

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Houses Cleansed, Re-papered, or Lime-washed.....	6	4	—	2	12	24
Overcrowding Abated.....	—	4	1	1	—	6
Sink Waste Pipes Renewed or Repaired.	63	53	12	21	78	227
Downspout or Eaves Gutters Renewed or Repaired.....	218	167	175	227	348	1585
House Drains Tested.....	—	—	—	—	1	1
House Drains and Drains to Water Closets Reconstructed or Repaired..	180	177	165	232	82	836
Soilpipes and Ventilating Shafts Erected	58	48	33	68	36	243
Yards, Courts or Passages Drained or Drains Repaired.....	83	78	10	85	10	266
Yards, Courts or Passages Paved or Repaired.....	154	170	7	71	135	537
Yards, Courts or Passages Cleansed by Occupiers.....	15	2	—	6	1	24
Animals Improperly Kept—Removed.	7	7	1	1	—	16
Accumulations Removed.....	18	23	8	16	6	71
Notices (Informal) Served.....	239	196	362	211	245	1253
Miscellaneous Nuisances.....	85	118	60	264	80	607

The following Table gives the Statutory Notices served during the year in respect of the Districts :—

<i>Notice.</i>	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875.....	5	6	7	2	2	22
Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875.....	6	5	3	1	—	15
Section 25, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	5	6	6	1	2	20
Section 58, Stockport Corporation Act, 1899 ; and Section 23, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	—	—	—	3	—	3

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. The following statistical table is compiled from the Annual Report for the year 1927 of the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Stockport on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces :—

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
Factories.....	83	—	—
Workshops.....	399	—	—
Workplaces.....	33	—	—
Total.....	515	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were Instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of Cleanliness.....	3	3	—	—
Other Nuisances.....	3	3	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective Sanitary Accommodation.	3	2	—	—
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	9	8	—	—

There were no instances in which the attention of the Department was called to outworkers working in unwholesome premises during 1927.

515 visits of inspection were paid by your Inspectors to the various workplaces during the year,

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work	Outworkers' List. Section 107.						Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108.				
	Lists received from Employers.			Number of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils.	Number of Addresses of Out-workers forwarded to other Councils.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.			
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.								
	Lists.	Out-workers Con-tractors	Work-men	Lists.	Out-workers Con-tractors	Work-men					
Wearing Apparel :—											
(1) Making, etc...	26	14	192	3	...	4	12	46

Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.....135

<i>Female Out-workers.</i>		<i>Male Out-workers.</i>	
NATURE OF WORK.	NO.	NATURE OF WORK.	NO.
Hat Trimming.....	90	Planking.....	2
Shirt Making.....	2	Boot and Shoe Repairing.....	3
Children's Clothing.....	1	Tailoring.....	4
Hosiery.....	1		
Tea Cosy Making.....	1		
	—		—
	95		9
	—		—

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

9 notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of the following matters :—

Unsuitable and Defective Sanitary Accommodation.....	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation.....	1
Accommodation not separate for sexes.....	3
Defective Ventilation.....	1
Limewashing W.Cs.....	3

In all instances the defects were remedied.

515 visits of inspection have been made to the various workplaces during the year.

Smoke Abatement. Pollution of the atmosphere with smoke, due to the incomplete combustion of coal, is one of the most serious questions that we in the industrial areas of England have to face. It is impossible to estimate the harmful effects of a smoke-laden atmosphere upon the health of those of us who live and work in our industrial areas. For prolonged periods the health-giving rays of the Sun are cut off from us by the dense pall of smoke which hangs over our towns. This smoke, heavily charged with the products of incomplete combustion of coal, causes extensive damage to buildings and fabrics—in Manchester and Salford this has been estimated at £1 per head of the population per annum. This smoke is also responsible for much wastage of energy and materials in the extra cleaning it necessitates. It throws a heavy burden of extra work upon the long suffering and already overburdened housewife.

For the production of this smoke nuisance the works chimney and the domestic chimney are both responsible, and measures of smoke abatement must be directed against both sets of offenders. Much has been done to solve the problem of the emission of smoke from the factory chimney, but no serious attempt has been made to cope with the evil of the smoky domestic chimney. The more extensive use of gas and electricity for heating, lighting, and cooking would go far towards a solution of this problem, but there is an urgent need for the production of a cheap and efficient smokeless fuel the use of which would enable us to retain the, to us, indispensable open fire.

The Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926 came into operation upon 1st July, 1927.

The routine work of Smoke Observation was interfered with during the year by the coal stoppage. However, during 1927, 59 smoke observations, each of two hours' duration, were taken of smoke from factories, and from railway engines during shunting operations. In 13 instances the amount of smoke emitted was excessive and notices were sent to the owners requiring them to abate the nuisance. Legal proceedings were taken in 3 instances. The Court made an Order to abate the nuisance in two cases, and the nuisance was abated before the hearing in the other case.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Bye-Laws are in operation in the Borough with regard to Common Lodging-Houses and Houses Let in Lodgings.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are six Common Lodging-Houses in the Borough with adequate accommodation for the needs of the district.

During the year 243 visits were paid to Common Lodging-Houses.

Bakehouses.

96 visits were paid to bakehouses during the year, and the premises were generally found to be in good condition as to cleanliness.

There are three underground bakehouses remaining in the Borough.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the Borough 20 premises in which one or other of the offensive trades is carried on, and 164 visits were made to these during the year.

The premises were found to be clean and well-kept and the trades carried on in such a manner as to avoid any cause for complaint.

Fairs and Wakes. Travelling Vans.

In connection with Fairs, every caravan used as a dwelling-house was inspected and in all cases the vans were found to be in a clean condition and no sickness was discovered.

Shops Acts.

The number of shops on the Register on the 31st December, 1927, was 3,486.

The closing of shops is still regulated by the Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920, as amended by the Shops (Early Closing) Act (1920) Amendment Act, 1921.

The work in connection with the early closing of shops is still carried out by the Watch Committee. This arrangement has been found to work extremely satisfactorily.

The Shops Inspector was also engaged as Ambulance Attendant during the year.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

One renewal of licence was granted during the year to a seed merchant to sell poisonous substances to which Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, applies, for use exclusively in connection with agriculture and horticulture, subject to his complying with the provisions of the Arsenic Act, 1851, the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and the Regulations made by Order in Council under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

37 visits of inspection were made under the above Act and advice was given to the persons concerned as to the safest means of destruction in the various cases. It is known that some hundreds of rats were destroyed.

Schools.

There are thirty-two Public Elementary Schools in the Borough. The sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory and the water supply is pure and adequate.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

I have drawn attention to School Hygiene in my Annual Report for 1927 upon the School Medical Service as follows :—

Mr. Mellor, School Buildings' Surveyor, favours me with the following report :—

The undermentioned improvements to Elementary School buildings have been carried out during the past year, viz. :—

SOUTH REDDISH COUNCIL SCHOOL.

The dilapidated floor in the large room on the first floor has been taken up and reconstructed with Maple T. & G. boards, secret nailed.

EDGELEY R.C. SCHOOL.

(a) The dilapidated floors in the Boys' and Infants' Departments have been taken up and reconstructed with Maple T. & G. boards, secret nailed.

(b) The worn out steps forming the stone staircase have been re-modelled and put in a safe condition.

ST. THOMAS'S C.E. SCHOOL, MARRIOTT STREET.

(a) The dilapidated floors in the Mixed School have been taken up and reconstructed with Maple T. & G. boards, secret nailed.

(b) A decided improvement has been carried out in the classrooms by re-modelling with the use of fixed screens, and the heating installation has been overhauled and improved.

In addition to the above, the premises in Higher Hillgate, formerly known as the Mitre Coffee Tavern, have been converted into a Practical Centre, and a new Feeding Centre, and the erection of a new Elementary School in the Lancashire Hill district is proceeding.

Dual desks and dual tables and chairs for infants are constantly replacing the older school furniture. Blackboards and other furniture are replaced by modern forms as found necessary.

Stockport being a town area, few children bring meals to School, and most Schools have gas appliances.

Your Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer to the Education Committee and is thus able to secure close co-operation between the various Departments concerned. In this way delay is avoided in dealing with cases of infectious disease amongst our school population. Isolation of Infectious Cases, Quarantine and Supervision of Contacts, and Disinfection of Premises receive prompt attention.

During 1927 it was not found necessary to recommend School Closure for infectious disease, but School Closure was carried out in the following instance in consequence of breakdown of the heating apparatus in the School concerned.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Cause of closure.</i>	<i>Percentage of children present.</i>	<i>Period of Exclusion.</i>
Lancashire Hill Council, . . . (Infant Department)	Breakdown of heating apparatus	—	11 April (1 day).

Public Wash-house.

During the year your Baths and Wash-houses Committee have had under consideration the establishment of a Public Wash-house in the area. A suitable site was acquired in Bann Street and, upon 13th May, 1927, an Inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health when the following particulars were submitted by your Medical Officer of Health :—

I am of the opinion that there exists the need for a Public Wash-house in Stockport and that the situation of the proposed building is suitable for the district to be served. There is no Public Wash-house at present within the area of the County Borough.

The major portion of the houses in the area are four-roomed houses of the cottage type placed in rows.

Within a radius of a quarter-of-a-mile of the proposed site of the Public Wash-house in Bann Street there are 1,746 houses as follows :—

150	Two-roomed houses.
971	Four-roomed houses.
625	Other houses.
<hr/>	
1746	Total.
<hr/>	

It must be remembered that within the quarter-mile radius from Bann Street there is an area of approximately twelve acres comprising Hollywood Park and there is also a large area used as Railway Sidings.

The area referred to occupies part of No. 7, or Spring Bank Ward, and part of No. 8, or Hollywood Ward.

The population of these two Wards are as follows :—

(1921 Census) No. 7, Spring Bank Ward	4335.	Area, 81 acres.
No. 8, Hollywood Ward	8820.	„ 346 „

The Public Wash-house would, of course, serve a much wider area than that selected in view of the fact that the site is within easy reach of the tram route in Chestergate.

In some 90 per cent. of the smaller houses in the area mentioned above the household washing is done in the living-room—a very unsatisfactory arrangement—and there is no drying accommodation apart from the living-room in inclement weather.

The average population of these houses is 4.3 persons per house.

I am convinced that the facilities for the washing and drying of clothes at a Public Wash-house would be very acceptable to the people in these small dwelling-houses and that the health of the people would be materially improved if the household washing and drying were no longer undertaken in the unsuitable and unsatisfactory accommodation which exists in these houses.

N. GEBBIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

HOUSING.

The majority of the population in the Borough are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, “two up and two down,” placed in rows. In the older parts of the Borough a certain number of courtyards have been formed by the interposition of dwellings between rows of cottage property.

Overcrowding exists, as elsewhere throughout the country, but no case of dangerous overcrowding has been brought to my notice during the year. 330 houses have been built during the year but there exists a serious shortage of houses. The number of houses erected by the Municipality and by private enterprise since the war has only touched the fringe of the problem, and the arrears in house-building consequent upon the war and upon the abnormal conditions of the post-war period have not been overcome.

Overcrowding is a serious matter not only for a community but also for its individual members and especially for the children. Where two or perhaps three families are huddled together in one small cottage it is impossible to rear children who will be strong and healthy in a physical, mental, or moral sense.

Where overcrowding exists it becomes exceedingly difficult to control epidemics of infectious disease.

The work of inspection for housing purposes has been ably carried out by your District Inspectors under the supervision of Mr. Butler. The policy of the Department has been to secure that wherever possible houses shall be kept by the owners in such a state as to be reasonably fit for human habitation. Only essential repairs have been insisted upon and little difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the co-operation of property owners to secure the remedying of defects.

In view of the housing shortage it is essential that as many as possible of the existing houses shall be kept in a reasonable state of repair.

The following Table summaries the statistical findings in connection with housing work during 1927 :—

HOUSING CONDITIONS. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres).....	7,059
Population (Census 1921, and estimated 1927), 125,500.....	125,200
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	30,160
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921).....	30,225
Rateable Value.....	£800,062
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£3,047

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	330
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :—	
(1) By Local Authority.....	20
(2) By other Bodies or Persons.....	203

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection. (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..	1678
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.....	532
(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 dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	309

2. Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	601
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3. Action under Statutory Powers.**A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	18
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners.....	14
(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.....	4

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	} Included in previous sections.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.....	
(a) By Owners.....	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	

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

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	Nil

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit..... | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... | Nil |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... | Nil |

Unhealthy Areas.

During the year your Housing Committee considered an official representation by the Medical Officer of Health, under the Housing Acts, 1890 to 1925, that a portion of No. 11, or St. Thomas's Ward, is unhealthy, and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with it is by an improvement scheme. The Council have approved of the representation and have instructed the Committee to have the necessary steps taken to put the scheme into effect.

The necessary survey is being made and plans prepared by the Borough Surveyor and it is hoped that the scheme will be ready for your further consideration at an early date.

Paving, Sewering, &c.

I am indebted to H. Hamer, Esq., the Borough Surveyor, for the following information with regard to the amount of paving, sewerage, etc., carried out by his Department during 1927 :—

Back Passages paved and seweraged.....	3	
Length of sewers laid.....	5053	lineal yards.
Vertical shaft ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Surface sewer ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Old sewers taken up and re-laid.....	Nil	
Cellar dwellings closed for street improvements.....	Nil	
Cellar areas closed.....	21	
Houses demolished for street improvements.....	7	
Water-closets erected in connection with new buildings	360	
Houses built during the year.....	330	
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year....	148	

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

The greater part of the milk supplied to Stockport comes from farms in Cheshire and the milk is generally of good quality.

It is of the utmost importance to secure for a community an adequate supply of pure wholesome milk, which is one of our staple articles of diet and which is indispensable for invalids and young children.

Milk makes an excellent medium for the growth of organisms of all kinds and is liable to contamination by disease producing germs. It is therefore necessary that the most scrupulous cleanliness be exercised by all those who are engaged in its production, storage, transport and distribution.

The farms and dairies in the area have been regularly inspected, and samples of milk have been examined chemically and bacteriologically at regular intervals.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.

These Regulations make it an offence to sell cream containing preservative unless the jar or bottle containing the cream has a label attached declaring the amount of preservative, and in addition stating that the cream is not suitable for infants and invalids.

There are no premises in the Borough where cream is prepared and bottled for sale. 22 samples of cream were taken during the year, all of which came within the prescribed limits as regards preservatives.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

Your Inspector has made 307 visits of inspection to these places during the year when the cattle were inspected and observations as to general cleanliness were made. Minor repairs to drains, ventilators, etc., have been carried out in several instances.

Eight tuberculous animals were surrendered and destroyed.

In ten instances when infectious disease was reported in connection with Milk Purveyors the necessary isolation, disinfection, etc., was promptly carried out.

569 visits have been made to the various Milkshops.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

Twenty-four samples of milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination, representing the mixed milk from eighteen farms. In three instances the samples contained tubercle bacilli. The cases were followed up with the result that three cows were surrendered and destroyed. Five samples of milk were submitted for bacterial count with satisfactory results.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

On page 96 is found a statement of the administration of the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, with details as to the quantity of milk supplied to infants and to expectant and nursing mothers, in necessitous cases, either free or at less than cost price.

B. MEAT, &c.

There are twenty-four Slaughter-houses in the Borough to which 729 visits of inspection have been made, and it was found necessary to serve notices to cleanse, repair drains, etc., in ten instances.

There is no Public Abattoir in the Borough. Inspection is carried out by the Food Inspector at the private slaughter-houses.

The various shops where food is stored, premises where sausages, etc., are made, and the Market, have been regularly visited. The following is a summary of the unsound food dealt with by your Inspector and subsequently destroyed :—

44 carcasses of Beef.	219 tins of Fruit, etc.
7 Sheep.	423 lbs. of Fish.
4 Pigs.	29 sets of Offal.
3 Calves.	14 Chickens.

C. ADULTERATION, &c.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Nine samples have been found to be adulterated as compared with 11 in the previous year.

Of the 360 samples submitted for analysis, 221 were samples of milk, and of these six were found to be adulterated.

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration, as compared with other years, and the Analyst's reports thereon :—

Analysis of Food and Drugs.

Articles Analysed.	Number Analysed.	Result of Analyses.		Extent of Adulteration.	Action Taken.
		Genuine.	Adulterated.		
Milk.....	221	215	6	Formal Samples. 10.3% deficient in milk fat. 5.0% " " 7.0% added water 5.9% " " 2.6% " " 2.6% " "	Prosecuted. Prosecuted. Prosecuted.
Coffee.....	6	6	—		
Malted Vinegar...	12	12	—		
Milk.....	4	3	1	Informal Samples. 9.0% deficient in milk fat.	
Condensed Milk..	10	10	—		
Cream.....	22	22	—		
Butter.....	10	10	—		
Margarine.....	6	6	—		
Cheese.....	4	4	—		
Lard.....	4	4	—		
Preserved Peas...	6	4	2	0.7 grain per lb. (bottled peas) with Copper. 0.4 grain per lb. (tinned peas) with Copper.	
Coffee.....	4	4	—		
Apples.....	1	1	—		
Jam.....	4	4	—		
Mincemeat.....	6	6	—		
Sausage.....	16	16	—		
Malt Vinegar.....	1	1	—		
Cake.....	6	6	—		
Corn Flour Meal.	1	1	—		
Quinine Wine....	4	4	—		
Ground Almonds..	6	6	—		
Ground Ginger...	6	6	—		
Totals.....	360	351	9		

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1918	..	362	..	24	6.63
1919	..	359	..	19	5.29
1920	..	360	..	8	2.22
1921	..	360	..	16	4.4
1922	..	361	..	26	7.2
1923	..	326	..	12	3.68
1924	..	360	..	19	5.28
1925	..	360	..	17	4.72
1926	..	361	..	11	3.05
1927	..	360	..	9	2.50

Analysis of *milk samples* compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1918	..	257	..	22	8.56
1919	..	269	..	17	6.32
1920	..	239	..	6	2.51
1921	..	223	..	9	4.04
1922	..	233	..	10	4.3
1923	..	187	..	7	3.74
1924	..	243	..	13	5.35
1925	..	211	..	10	4.74
1926	..	226	..	8	3.54
1927	..	225	..	7	3.11

Your Public Analyst, James Porter Shenton, F.I.C., F.C.S., has carried out his work during the year under review with his customary care and promptitude, and his report, dated 11th January, 1928, is of special interest. He writes :—

“In sending you my Report for the last quarter of 1927, I can hardly do so without noting that it is the first occasion since I held the appointment of Public Analyst for Stockport when there has been no adulterated sample during the quarter.

It may interest the Public Health Committee and yourself to know that, whatever the causes, they do not appear to be local, for an experience of an unusually low proportion of adulterated samples for the quarter has

led a number of Public Analysts mutually to exchange notes to ascertain whether that experience was individual or general. The samples examined during the quarter include one of Ground Ginger which, strictly speaking, contravened the Regulations with respect to the presence of Preservatives, in that it contained 790 parts of Sulphur Dioxide per million. It seemed better not to treat it as an adulterated sample, as I am aware that the attention of the Ministry of Health and the wholesale trade is at the moment being directed to the presence of Sulphur Dioxide in one source of Ginger, the former with a view to securing a discontinuance of the treatment by which it is introduced and the latter to the diverting of the stocks of the treated article from the food supply channels of distribution. This is a case where the operation of the new Regulations has revealed a previously unchallenged local manufacturing practice and an allowance of time for re-adjustment is necessary.

The year's record for adulterated samples is also very low, second only in the last 27 years, to 1920, when for the same total number of samples examined, there was one less total adulterated sample, and one less adulterated milk sample. Milk still forms the most frequently, because the most easily adulterated food. Apart, however, from the question of adulteration, it is satisfactory to note the quality of the samples of milk submitted during the year, as judged by their composition. Apart from a few samples which, while giving results above the minimum standards, are so near to them as to arouse suspicion that they were to some extent watered or skimmed, the quality has been distinctly good.

The two adulterated samples other than milk were 'Coppered Peas.' These, I understand, were found to be old stock which had escaped attention when the prohibiting regulation came into force. The detection of these 'painted beauties' may have involved the removal of a little local colour but its loss could hardly be deplored."

Local Proceedings during the Year 1927.

OFFENCE.	RESULT.	FINE.
SELLING ADULTERATED MILK :—		
10.3% deficient in fat.....	Convicted	£1, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
7.0% added water.....	„	£10 „
5.9% „	„	£2 „
Selling milk from unregistered premises.....	„	£2 and 7/6 daily penalty from April 3rd to 29th.
Failure to give one month's notice before occupying Dairy.....	„	
For an offence against the Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920.....	„	£2.
„ „	„	10/-
„ „	„	10/-
„ „	„	10/-
„ „	„	5/-
„ „	„	5/-
„ „	„	5/-
„ „	„	5/-
„ „	„	5/-
For an offence against "The Stockport Butchers' Half-Holiday and Closing Order, 1921".....	„	10/-
„ „	„	5/-
For an offence against "The Stockport Barbers' Half-Holiday Order, 1921".....	„	£1 and 5/- witness fee.
„ „	Dismissed	
Keeping unregistered Common Lodging House.....	Convicted	£3, 10/- daily penalty for 5 days, and 5 guineas costs. Place closed.
Smoke Nuisance.....	„	2 guineas costs and order to abate.
„ „	„	Costs and order to abate.
„ „	Dismissed	Costs and Advocate's fee.

Ice Cream Vendors.

These places have been visited 175 times during the year, and in 4 instances notices were served to cleanse the premises, and 3 owners were requested to inscribe their names and addresses on the vehicles used for the sale of this commodity.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified to your Medical Officer of Health during 1927 was 1,498, as compared with 1,219 during the previous year.

Included in the 1,498 notifications received were 564 notifications of cases of Chicken-pox which was compulsorily notifiable from February 17th, 1927, to August 16th, 1927, inclusive, by order of the Council and with the consent of the Minister of Health.

During the year under review, 6 cases of Small-pox were notified, as compared with none in the previous year. Notifications of cases of Scarlet Fever showed a welcome decline from the high figure of 840 in 1926 to 545 in 1927. This disease had been prevalent in various parts of the town in 1925, and became widespread in its incidence during 1926, when the available accommodation at your Isolation Hospital was severely taxed. Fortunately, during this epidemic period, the disease was of mild type and continued so during 1927. The fact that so many of the cases were of mild type made the work of control of the epidemic most difficult. Many of the patients suffered so little inconvenience at the onset of the attack that they were not confined to bed nor did they seek medical aid until desquamation had commenced. Notifications of Diphtheria during 1927 numbered 109, as compared with 104 in 1926. Of the 545 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 463, or 85 per cent. were removed for isolation and treatment to your Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane. Of the 109 cases of Diphtheria notified, 104, or 95 per cent., were similarly dealt with.

Your Medical Officer of Health has been available for consultation upon doubtful cases of infectious disease, and during the period under review his services in this connection have been utilised by his medical colleagues upon 52 occasions.

Measures taken to control epidemics of infectious disease depend for their efficiency upon the receipt of early information of the occurrence of cases. Prompt notification is of great value, delayed notification is useless. In this connection I would express my thanks to my medical colleagues for their loyal co-operation and their valuable help. The removal of suitable cases to the Isolation Hospital, the investigation of home conditions by the Sanitary Inspectors and the disinfection of premises, bedding, etc., have been promptly and efficiently carried out by the officers of this Department.

The following table contains information as to the age incidence of, and mortality from, cases of notifiable infectious diseases during 1927 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES THE YEAR 1927.

Disease	At Ages				Cases admitted to Fever Hospital	Cases treated in Sanatoria, etc.	Total cases notified	Total cases
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45 & over				
Scarlet fever	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Enteric fever	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
*Chicken-pox	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Typhoid fever	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Prophylactic Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Acute primary	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Acute tubercular	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Malaria	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Trench fever	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Optic atrophy	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Pharyngitis	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Acute Bacterial Meningitis	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	4
Total	1498	1498	1498	1498	0	0	1498	1498

* Compulsory

The seasonal prevalence of these various diseases is indicated in the following table which shows the notifications received in the various months of the year 1927 :—

DISEASE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Smallpox.....	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6
Scarlet Fever.....	66	45	39	48	59	40	47	30	39	51	37	44	545
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	12	13	12	5	8	6	4	8	4	11	13	13	109
Typhoid Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	4
*Chickenpox.....	..	110	118	79	125	89	36	7	..	..	..	..	564
Puerperal Fever.....	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	10
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	1	..	..	3	2	..	1	3	..	4	..	15
Erysipelas.....	5	7	8	2	9	5	1	5	5	7	4	7	65
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	27
Pemphigus Neonatorum.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	7
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	4
Tuberculosis—													
Pulmonary.....	10	14	12	14	15	8	10	10	6	9	19	12	139
Other Forms.....	3	2	3	5	10	4	3	6	9	1	8	4	58
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia.....	13	12	13	2	6	4	5	5	5	7	9	9	90
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	2	21	11	..	1	3	..	..	1	2	2	5	48
Totals.....	116	237	221	158	241	166	111	75	77	94	101	98	1695

* Compulsorily notifiable from February 17th to August 16th, inclusive.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Smallpox.

The County Borough had been free from this disease since 1909.

During 1927, 6 cases of Smallpox were notified to your Medical Officer of Health. Of these cases, 1 occurred in January, 4 in February, and 1 in December. This disease had been prevalent in many parts of the country notably in the County of Durham, in Derbyshire and elsewhere during 1926. The type of the disease throughout the country has been mild and, in consequence, the measures for its control have been difficult to put into operation. In this mild type of Smallpox the sufferer is little inconvenienced by his illness and refrains from seeking medical aid. He may feel able to attend to his daily duties at work or at school and so the risk of possible spread of the disease is enormously increased, and all attempts to trace the source of infection are rendered difficult. The risks of spread of the infection are materially increased in a community of individuals who are imperfectly protected by vaccination, and especially is this the case in the industrial centres where the majority of the people are compelled to live in close proximity to one another and where overcrowding is prevalent. In Stockport, as elsewhere, there is ample evidence of widespread apathy towards the question of vaccination. The increase in the number of successful primary vaccinations at all ages from 953 in 1926, to 1,530 in 1927, reflects the response of a proportion of our citizens to the propaganda undertaken by the Health Committee on the occurrence of the cases of Smallpox at the beginning of the year. I am indebted to H. Barlow, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians, for his kindness in furnishing the following information with regard to vaccination returns for the County Borough from 1917 to 1927 :—

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Births.....	1883	1782	1959	2890	2567	2197	2210	2067	2077	2017
Successfully vaccinated...	817	847	847	1287	1136	976	1046	970	898	922
Insusceptible of vaccination.....	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	12
Died unvaccinated.....	154	134	137	205	173	135	139	108	130	104
Exemptions.....	730	653	812	1179	1051	938	748	745	832	804
Postponement by Medical Certificate.....	78	53	37	92	68	42	66	90	74	61
Removed: Address unknown.....	76	75	52	73	57	45	49	72	67	49
Had Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Removed to other districts Vaccination Officer notified.....	10	10	12	32	47	46	53	72	56	52
Unaccounted for.....	17	10	62	22	37	13	27	8	18	13
*Successful primary vaccinations at all ages	930	729	988	1410	1354	1063	1125	1088	1012	953

* The number of successful primary vaccinations at all ages during 1927 was 1530.

For the isolation of cases of this disease your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital, and the accommodation thus provided proved ample to meet our requirements as the epidemic, fortunately, did not reach serious proportions.

The following is a brief summary of the cases :—

- CASE 1. E.B.—male—67 years—unemployed works watchman—had been vaccinated in infancy. Onset of illness, resembling mild Influenza, on 19th January ; onset of rash on 22nd January ; case diagnosed as Smallpox and was removed to Hospital on 28th January. The source of infection could not be traced.
- CASE 2. J.L.—male—32 years—Railway Parcel Porter—no marks of vaccination visible. Onset of illness “ Gastritis ” on 26th January ; rash appeared on 2nd February ; case was diagnosed as Smallpox and was removed to Hospital on 4th February. Special precautions were taken as to contacts at his place of employment.
- CASE 3. F.H.—male—41 years—employed at Bleachworks—unvaccinated. Onset of illness “ Indefinite pains in the stomach,” on 31st January. Onset of rash on 3rd February. Case was diagnosed as Smallpox and was removed to Hospital on 7th February, 1927. This case was discovered in his Doctor’s Surgery. The contacts were immediately re-vaccinated.
- CASE 4. S.S.H.—female—55 years—Housewife—had been vaccinated in infancy. Onset of illness resembling Influenza on 28th January ; rash appeared on 3rd February ; case was diagnosed as Smallpox and was removed to Hospital on 7th February.
- CASE 5. H.H.—male—58 years—Traveller—husband of case 4. Patient had been successfully vaccinated, as a contact of case 4 on 8th February, but he sickened on 12th February and had a mild attack of Smallpox with onset of rash on 17th February. The case was removed to Hospital on 18th February. He made a successful recovery from his attack of Smallpox but while still a patient at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital he had an acute attack of old standing Cardiac trouble which proved fatal.

This case proved to be the last of the epidemic which was characterised by the occurrence of cases in various parts of the town. Except in cases 4 and 5 no direct connection was traced between the patients nor was the source of origin of the epidemic discovered. I am of opinion that missed cases probably of an extremely mild character were responsible for the outbreak.

Measures taken to deal with the Epidemic.

1. Your Health Committee appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Aldermen T. Allcock, and C. Sharples, to deal with the emergency. The Sub-Committee met at frequent intervals, made provisional arrangements for dealing with the epidemic, and prepared a scheme for institutional treatment of the cases at your Whitehill Hospital, should the epidemic prove to be serious.

2. Patients were removed to the Hyde Smallpox Hospital.
3. Contacts were removed to your Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane for disinfection of their persons and clothing.
4. Bedding, etc., was removed to your Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.
5. Infected Premises were disinfected by the Staff of the Department.
6. By Order of the Council, dated 10th February, 1927, and with the approval of the Minister of Health Chickenpox was made compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough for six months from 17th February to 16th August, 1927.
7. The Clerk to the Guardians, the Public Vaccinators and all General Medical Practitioners were informed of the outbreak.
8. Cases, as they occurred, were reported to the Ministry of Health.
9. The General Public were advised to get vaccinated or re-vaccinated, and notice as to facilities for vaccination was secured by posters, handbills, and through the medium of the press.

The occurrence of Smallpox threw an additional burden upon the staff of the Department but all concerned undertook the extra work with enthusiasm. The Sub-Committee have already placed on record their appreciation of the work of the Department in dealing with the outbreak and I would take this opportunity of adding my personal thanks to all who played their part, especially in the early period of the epidemic when my absence from duty on sick leave, meant that the responsibility for the administrative arrangements devolved upon Dr. H. Richmond.

There remains to be considered the sixth case which occurred in December. The case was that of T.M.—male—57 years—a Tramp from the Midlands who spent one night—25th December—at a Common Lodging House in Stockport. On 26th December he entered a public house in the town. The proprietor had his suspicions aroused and communicated with the police. On the same day I saw the case in consultation with the Res. Surg. Officer of Stockport Infirmary, confirmed the diagnosis and arranged for the removal of the case to Hyde Smallpox Hospital. Vaccination of the contacts at the Common Lodging House was carried out by the Public Vaccinator, and I communicated with the Medical Officers of Health of the various places visited by the patient during the previous fortnight. This proved to be an isolated case, no further cases being reported in Stockport during the quarantine period. The prompt action on the part of the proprietor of the public house undoubtedly lessened the risk of the spread of infection in this case, and merited the thanks of the Committee which he duly received.

Re-vaccination of the Staff was carried out by your Deputy Medical Officer of Health, under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

The following table shows the number of cases of diphtheria in the city of New York, from 1880 to 1890, and the number of deaths from the disease in each year.

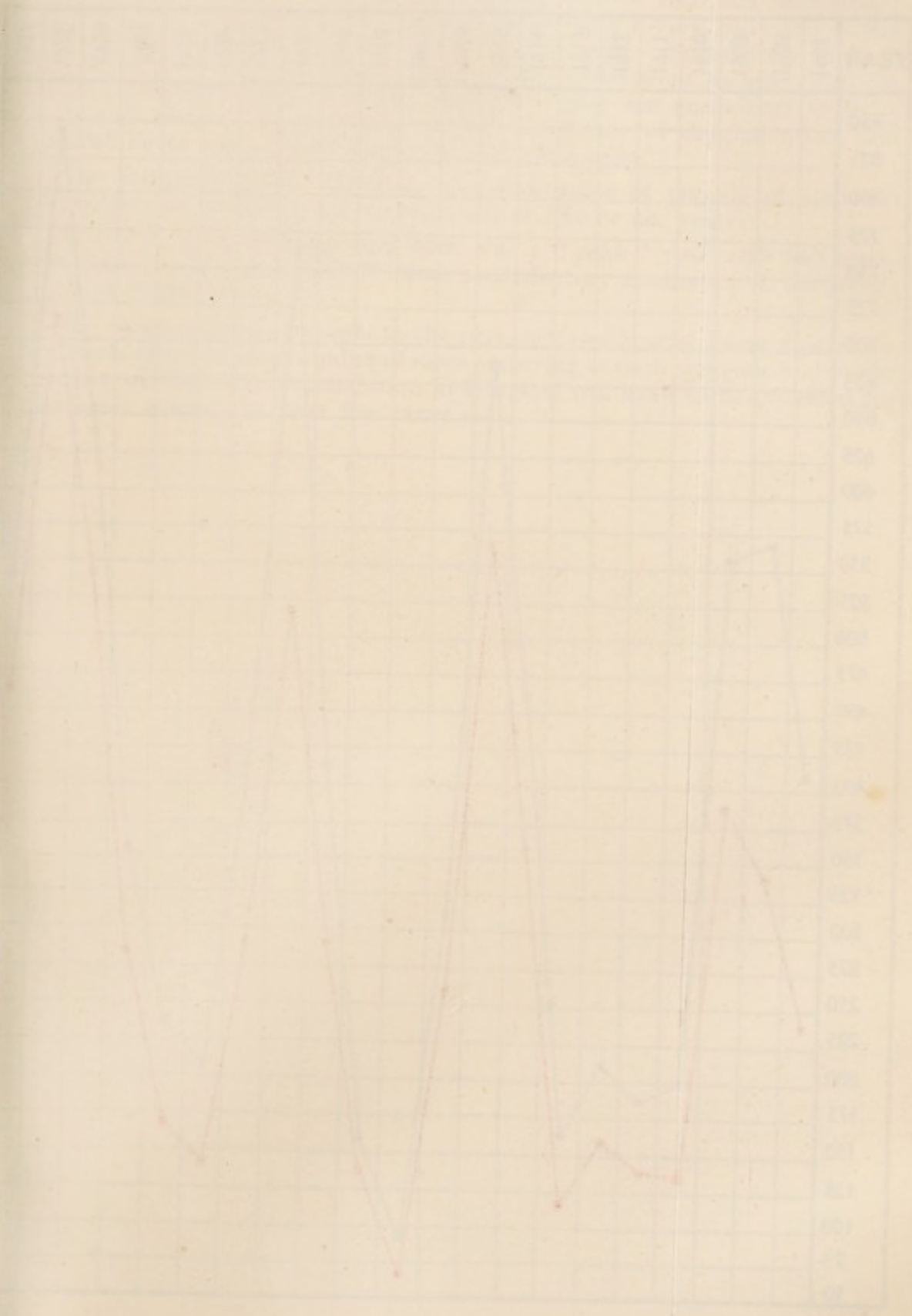
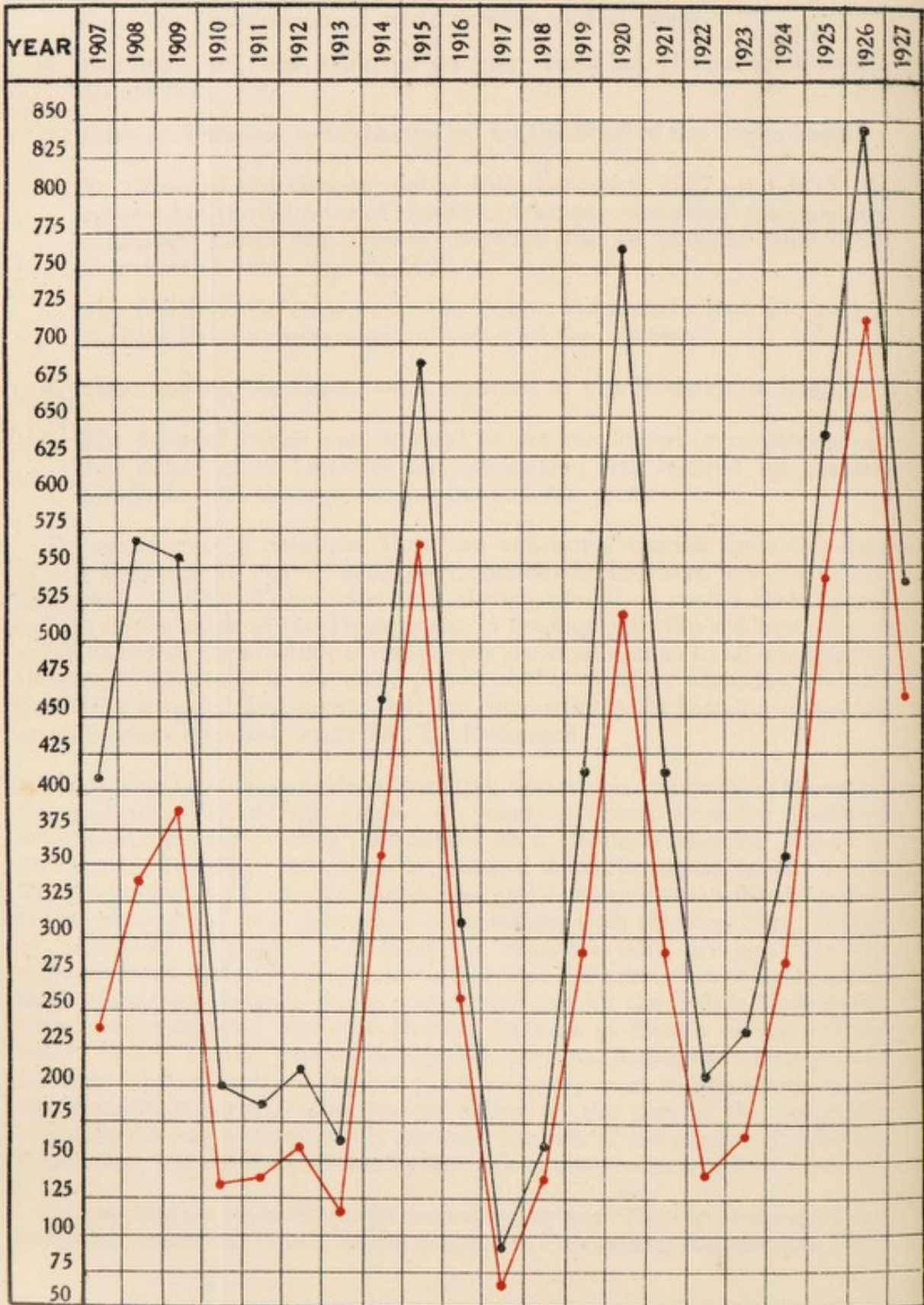


Chart shewing the number of cases of Scarlet Fever for the past 21 years.

No. of cases notified in black.

No. of cases removed to Hospital in red.



Scarlet Fever.

The epidemic of Scarlet Fever which was noted in 1925 and 1926 abated during 1927 and, during the twelve months under review 545 cases of this disease were notified to your Health Department. Fortunately most of the cases were of mild type. Many of the cases were so mild, and the initial symptoms were so slight, that the illness was considered to be of a trivial nature. It was only on the occurrence of desquamation that Scarlet Fever was suspected and medical aid sought.

The foregoing chart illustrates the recurrence of periods of epidemic prevalence of Scarlet Fever at intervals of five or six years.

It will be seen that the year 1926 was a "peak" year with 840 cases. The figure of 545 cases in 1927 shews a satisfactory diminution in the prevalence of Scarlet Fever.

The chart referred to points to the periodicity of Scarlet Fever epidemics, indicates an increasing number of cases occurring at each epidemic and warns us that additional accommodation in Hospital will have to be provided for the cases within the next few years :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 1927</i>	<i>Estimated Population.</i>	<i>Percentage of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population</i>
Lancashire Hill.....	21	5700	90	3.68
Heaton Lane.....	31	6115	84	5.07
Old Road.....	33	5950	97	5.55
Portwood.....	17	8120	100	2.09
St. Mary's.....	10	2960	100	3.38
Vernon.....	24	6425	83	3.73
Spring Bank.....	13	4265	100	3.05
Hollywood.....	37	8970	92	4.12
Edgeley.....	81	11050	89	7.33
Shaw Heath.....	49	10750	86	4.56
St. Thomas's.....	10	5180	100	1.93
Hempshaw Lane.....	32	5650	91	5.66
Cale Green.....	24	6430	80	3.73
Heaviley.....	44	11080	75	3.97
Reddish North.....	40	9655	85	4.14
Reddish South.....	27	6000	89	4.50
Heaton Norris North.....	16	5060	6	3.16
Heaton Norris South.....	20	5840	60	3.42
Infirmary.....	11	..	100	..
Union Workhouse.....	1	..	100	..
Union Hospital.....	2	..	100	..
Isolation Hospital.....	..	..	..	..
Barnes' Home Industrial School.....	2	..	100	..

Diphtheria.

109 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year as compared with 104 cases during 1926. The cases were of a sporadic nature and were distributed throughout the town.

The home conditions in each case were carefully investigated by your Sanitary Inspectors and preventive measures were adopted.

The Medical Attendant of each case notified was requested to examine all contacts and to take swabs from the throats, etc., of contacts for bacteriological examination if necessary. Materials for taking cultures from the throat, nose, etc., for bacteriological examination are provided for the use of medical practitioners on application to the Stockport Infirmary.

Outfits containing Diphtheria Antitoxin and syringe are kept at the Town Hall and Police Stations for the use of medical men as follows :—

- (1) At Town Hall.—Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units.
- (2) At Police Station, Vernon Street.—3 Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units.
- (3) At Police Station, Reddish.—Outfit containing phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units.
- (4) At Police Station, Heaton Moor.—Phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units are kept in stock.

Outfits after use are returned to the Town Hall and after the contents have been replenished and the syringe, etc., sterilised at the Isolation Hospital they are re-distributed for use. I have to thank the Matron of the Isolation Hospital for making the necessary arrangements for the careful sterilization of these outfits.

Typhoid Fever.

Four cases of Typhoid Fever were reported during the year as compared with five cases in 1926. All the cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Upon 1st October, 1926, the "Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations" came into operation. Prior to that date only Puerperal Fever was compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health. Under the new Regulations Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as "Any febrile condition (other than a condition which is required to be notified as Puerperal Fever under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts) occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period."

The information now obtainable as a result of the operation of these Regulations will be valuable in securing early notification of the occurrence of Fever during the puerperium. Greater accuracy as to the type of case notified will be obtained and this will enhance the value of the statistics of various areas for purposes of comparison.

During 1927, 10 cases of Puerperal Fever and 15 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. Institutional treatment where necessary was secured for most of the cases at Stepping Hill Hospital. 6 cases of Puerperal Fever and 8 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia received institutional treatment. 2 cases of Puerperal Fever proved fatal.

Each case notified has been made the subject of special investigation by your Health Visitors and the midwife concerned in each case has been disinfected, together with her equipment, at your Isolation Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

27 cases of this disease were notified during the year as compared with 24 cases in 1926. This disease which is an inflammation of the eyes of a newly-born child is one of the commonest causes of blindness.

Full particulars of the action taken with regard to these cases is given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide page 89.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

In consequence of the occurrence of an epidemic of this disease in June, 1926, and subsequent months, Pemphigus Neonatorum was made compulsorily notifiable for a period of six months from 2nd September, 1926. During the period under review this disease was notifiable during the period from 1st January, 1927, to 2nd March, 1927, and 3 cases were notified. There has been no recurrence of epidemic prevalence of this disease during the year, but information reached the Department, from Midwives, Health Visitors, and others, as to the occurrence of 9 sporadic cases. Each case had been made the object of special visits to the homes by the Health Visitors and the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the infection have been taken. The Midwife concerned in each case has been sent to your Isolation Hospital for disinfection of her person, and equipment and has been withdrawn from attendance upon the case. The District Nursing Association have undertaken the care of the mother and child in each case.

Particulars of the occurrence of the cases and of the action taken are given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide page 90.

Erysipelas.

65 cases were notified during the year as compared with 57 in 1926. Of these cases 16 received institutional treatment and 7 proved fatal.

Pneumonia.

Two forms of Pneumonia are compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health :—

- (1) Acute Primary Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1927—90.
- (2) Acute Influenzal Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1927—48.

Of these cases 35 of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 23 of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia proved fatal.

Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.

No information reached the Department as to the occurrence of fresh cases of Malaria, Trench Fever, or Dysentery.

Tuberculosis.

During 1927, 139 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified; of these 80 were males and 59 females.

58 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during the same period, 29 males and 29 females.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Seven cases of this disease were notified as compared with 6 cases in 1926. Of these 7 cases 1 proved fatal. Special reports were received from the Doctors in attendance upon these cases. I would take this opportunity of thanking my medical colleagues for their kindness in furnishing particulars of their cases of this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica is a very fatal disease and in a proportion of the survivors serious alteration in the mental condition and in the moral outlook is met with. This disease is believed to be communicable from one person to another, and in Stockport your Health Committee has arranged for cases in the acute stage of the illness to be isolated and treated at your Isolation Hospital and for disinfection of the premises, etc., to be carried out.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

One case of this disease was notified during 1927.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

Four cases of this disease were notified during 1927. Special Reports were received from the Doctors in attendance.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough of Stockport, but information as to the occurrence of cases is obtained from the School Medical Officers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, and from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitations.

Measles and Whooping Cough are really serious diseases of childhood because of the tendency for the occurrence of complications affecting the respiratory organs, e.g., Bronchitis, Broncho-Pneumonia, and Pneumonia.

During the year 7 deaths were ascribed to Measles and 6 to Whooping Cough. Cases of Measles and Whooping Cough are visited and the parents are advised as to the need for medical assistance and as to measures for the prevention of complications.

Bacteriological Examinations.

The routine Bacteriological work is carried out at the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department, under arrangements made by your Health Committee with the Infirmary Board, and at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

The results of the examinations carried out during the year were as follows :—

	<i>Positive.</i>	..	<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	103	..	810
Typhoid.....	2	..	8
Other Bacteriological Examinations :			
Milk (Bacterial Count).....	—	..	6
Water.....	—	..	1
Uterine Contents.....	2	..	2

During the year the following specimens were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester :—

	<i>Positive.</i>	..	<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	—	..	4
Typhoid.....	—	..	3
Bovine Tuberculosis in Milk.....	4	..	20
Tuberculosis Sputum.....	1	..	1

The examination of sputa in suspected cases of phthisis is carried out at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, 443 examinations being carried out there during 1927, of which 78 were positive and 365 negative. In addition 1 specimen was examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and proved to be positive.

Particulars of the examination of Pathological material in connection with Venereal Disease, which is mainly carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, are given on pages 82, 83 and 84.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises after infectious diseases is carried out by the Staff of your Health Department.

Infected materials, bedding, etc., are removed to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection.

During the year 14,000 articles were thus disinfected.

The disinfection of infected materials and the cleansing of persons would be considerably facilitated if a Cleansing Station were established in a central position in the town. It is hoped that a scheme for such a station will be submitted for your consideration at an early date.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Your Isolation Hospital situated in Cherry Tree Lane, has accommodation for 78 cases and is utilised for the isolation and treatment of cases of acute infectious disease occurring within the County Borough.

Your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital and has been ably assisted in the conduct of the Hospital by Dr. James Worthington, the Deputy Medical Superintendent; Miss T. P. Cranmore, the Matron; and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs. I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and members of the Hospital Subcommittee for their keen personal interest in the Hospital and their kindly consideration at all times for the welfare of the patients. I am deeply indebted to Dr. Worthington, not only for his willing co-operation and able help in the medical work at the Hospital, but also for his personal kindness to me during my recent illness.

The work of the Hospital has been arduous during the year under review, but the accommodation has been sufficient to meet the demands made upon it. The widespread epidemic of Scarlet Fever was responsible for the severe strain upon the accommodation at the Hospital which reached its climax on 16th October, 1926, upon which date it was found necessary to utilise your Whitehill Hospital for the reception of convalescent cases of Scarlet Fever. Whitehill Hospital was re-opened for Tuberculosis cases on 20th April, 1927.

The results of treatment at the Hospital have been highly satisfactory. Of the 463 cases of Scarlet Fever and 104 of Diphtheria admitted during the year only 5 cases of Scarlet Fever and 6 of Diphtheria proved fatal.

Each case prior to discharge was carefully examined as to freedom from infection, and the number of "return" cases was comparatively small.

Serum Treatment has been used, with excellent results, in early cases of Scarlet Fever of severe type.

The accompanying table sets forth the statistics of the work of the Hospital and of the results of treatment of the cases during 1927 :—

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL, CHERRY TREE LANE, STOCKPORT.

<i>Name of Disease.</i>	<i>In Hospital 1st Jan., 1927.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Recovered and Discharged</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>In Hospital 31st Dec., 1927.</i>
Scarlet Fever..	138	†464	535	5	62
Typhoid Fever.	1	4	4	1	—
Diphtheria.....	8	104	90	6	16
Other Causes....	2	*12	12	‡2	—
Totals.....	149	584	641	14	78

† Including 1 case removed from the area of the Hazel Grove and Bramhall Urban District Council.

* 3 notified as Diphtheria and 9 as Scarlet Fever.

‡ Both cases notified as Diphtheria.

CASES TREATED FROM 1908 TO 1927 INCLUSIVE, IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	
Smallpox.....	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Scarlet Fever....	386	438	175	150	199	132	374	626	355	92	146	314	597	365	184	187	338	611	808	602	
Typhus.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric.....	18	14	8	7	6	21	17	23	15	24	17	11	3	2	5	1	4	1	2	5	
Diphtheria.....	3	7	14	14	17	44	27	57	55	26	69	73	167	145	112	99	55	86	92	112	
Other Diseases...	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	7	13	2	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	30	14	
Totals.....	409	461	197	171	223	198	418	709	432	155	234	401	767	512	304	287	399	698	932	739	

During the year 1927 it has not been possible to use systematically the Schick Test for Diphtheria and the Dick Test for Scarlet Fever in the routine work of the Hospital. These tests, now used extensively in the United States of America, are of value in the diagnosis of certain doubtful cases, but so far their use in this country has been limited.

"Return Cases" are essentially a Hospital question. When a case of Scarlet Fever has been discharged from Hospital to his own home, and within a certain period, i.e., 28 days, another member of his family contracts Scarlet Fever and is admitted to the Hospital, the second case is referred to as a "Return Case." Such cases have been the subject of special investigation by the Officers of your Department, and the following table shews the results of these investigations.

On discharge from your isolation Hospital the parents of each child receive written instructions as to the measures to be adopted to prevent the occurrence of such cases, but, of course, it is difficult to ensure that these instructions will be carried out. I am convinced that such articles as toys and books which have been hidder away during the child's absence from the home, and which are brought into use on the child's return, are responsible for many "Return Cases."

During the year under review I have continued to interview the relatives of patients who are undergoing treatment at the Isolation Hospital. The times set aside for this purpose are 9-30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and interviews are given at my office at the Town Hall.

The patients' relatives are thus enabled to obtain a personal report upon the progress of the cases which is supplemented by the daily progress reports published at the Town Hall, at the Reddish Police Station, and in the columns of the daily Press.

The arrangements referred to are much appreciated by the patients' relatives as are the kindly consideration and devoted service of the Hospital Matron and her Staff.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF "RETURN CASES" OF SCARLET FEVER.

No. in Register.	Age.	Sex.	DISCHARGED PATIENTS.				Notes as to any abnormality.		Onset and number of Return Case.	Interval between Discharge of Patient and onset of Return Case.
			Date of Discharge.	Days in Hospital	Length of Illness.	On Discharge.	After Discharge.			
219	13½	M	10/ 5/27	46	77	..	..	27/ 5/27 (376)	17 days
587	3½	F	1/11/27	41	44	..	..	6/11/27 (690)	5 "
616	3½	F	15/11/27	41	44	..	..	25/11/27 (736)	10 "
650	17	M	25/11/27	35	39	..	..	5/12/27 (764)	10

Tuberculosis.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

197 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with 195 in the previous year.

Of the 197 cases thus notified 139 were cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs and 58 were cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition to the above, there were 17 cases, 4 Pulmonary and 13 Non-pulmonary, which ended fatally and which had not been notified in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations. The ratio of deaths of non-notified cases to total deaths from Tuberculosis was thus four in twenty-five. In these non-notified cases the attention of the Medical Practitioner in attendance is drawn to the fact that the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations have not been complied with.

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis during the year was 105 as compared with 92 in the previous year, giving a death-rate of 0.84 per thousand of the population.

In the following table of New Cases and Mortality during 1927 all primary notifications are included together with other new cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year :—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				TOTAL DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.....	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	3
1-5.....	1	—	13	7	—	—	8	4
5-10.....	3	—	9	9	—	—	—	2
10-15.....	3	2	2	4	—	2	—	1
15-20.....	8	7	2	3	3	2	—	1
20-25.....	7	10	1	—	4	1	—	2
25-35.....	15	23	1	5	10	9	1	—
35-45.....	27	11	1	3	14	6	2	1
45-55.....	15	7	1	—	13	2	—	—
55-65.....	5	5	1	1	6	2	1	—
65 and upwards..	3	—	2	2	2	—	1	1
Totals.....	88	65	33	37	53	24	13	15

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the 139 cases notified, 84 occurred between the ages of 20 and 45 years, 31 were over 45 years of age, 14 were between the ages of 15 and 20, and 31 cases were under 15 years of age. There were 77 deaths during the year from Tuberculosis of the Lungs as compared with 70 in 1926. Of these 77 fatal cases, 53 were males and 24 females. The death-rate was .62 per 1,000 of the population, which is the second lowest rate on record for the County Borough of Stockport. The rate for 1926 was .56

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

58 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 29 in males and 29 in females.

The number of deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis was 28 as compared with 22 in 1926. The death-rate was therefore .22 per 1,000 of the population in 1927, .18 in 1926 and .20 in 1925.

18 of the fatal cases were amongst children under 15 years of age.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1927, was :—

Pulmonary	{	Males	383
		Females	314
Non-Pulmonary	{	Males	194
		Females	201

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during 1927 under these Regulations which relate to tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1927 under this Section of the Public Health Act, 1925, which relates to the compulsory removal of cases to Hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS during the period from 2nd January, 1927, to 31st December, 1927, in the County Borough of Stockport.

Age Periods.	NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM A.												NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM B.			NO. OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM C.		YEAR 1927.		
	Primary Notifications.												Primary Notifications.			Total Notifications on Form B.	Poor Law Institutions.		Sana-toria.	
	Under 5						5 to 15						5 to 10	10 to 15	Total.					
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over	Total.				Under 5	5 to 10		10 to 15	Total.
<i>Pulmonary</i> —	1	1	3	3	7	7	13	25	35	45	55	65	2	80	90	.	.	16	64 (1)	
Males.....	.	.	.	2	7	9	20	10	7	4	.	.	.	59	67	.	.	13	57 (2)	
<i>Non-Pulmonary</i> —	11	8	2	2	1	1	1	1	.	.	1	2	2	28	33	.	1	2	2 (3)	
Males.....	1	4	8	4	2	.	5	2	.	1	1	1	1	28	30	.	1	1	10 (4)	
Females.....																				

(1) includes 28 admissions to Whitehill Hospital.

(2) " " " " " "

(3) " " " " " "

(4) " " " " " "

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health or Chief (Administrative) Tuberculosis Officer during the period from the 2nd January 1927, to the 31st December, 1927, otherwise than by notification on Form A or Form B under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.

Age Periods.	65 and upwards.										Total Cases.
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	
Pulmonary Males.....	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	2	-	1	8
" Females.....	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	-	6
Non-Pulmonary Males..	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	5
" Females..	2	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	9

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Death Returns.....	4	13
" Inward " Transfers	10	1

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Each case notified as Tuberculosis is visited by one of your Health Visitors who inquires into the home conditions of the case and ascertains what treatment the patient's doctor has recommended. During the year 1,194 visits were thus paid to the homes of cases of Tuberculosis. Facilities for the examination and supervision of cases have been provided by your Health Committee at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport. Cases are sent by their own Doctors to the Dispensary for purposes of consultation, observation, classification and supervision. The Dispensary thus fulfils the functions of a Central Information Bureau and of a Central Clearing House for tuberculosis cases in the area.

I am indebted to Dr. H. Richmond, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and to the Dispensary Staff for the following information with regard to the work at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during 1927 :—

STOCKPORT TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of Patients.

The total number of patients attending the Dispensary during the year was 1044 and the total of attendances made was 5,937. Owing to an increase in the number of available beds at Sanatoria, etc., it has been found possible, practically, to dispense with the list of cases awaiting admission to such Institutions, but the need for additional accommodation for patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has been felt from time to time during the year.

238 new patients were dealt with during the year. 97 of these cases were children under 15 years of age, 120 were civilians and 21 were discharged soldiers.

<i>Nature of Disease.</i>	<i>Discharged</i>		<i>Civilians.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Soldiers.</i>			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	10	..	48	.. 58
Bronchitis, &c.....	6	..	39	.. 45
Tuberculosis of Bones, Joints and Skin.....	1	..	21	.. 22
Tubercular Glands.....	—	..	8	.. 8
Other Diseases.....	4	..	101	.. 105
Totals.....	21	..	217	.. 238

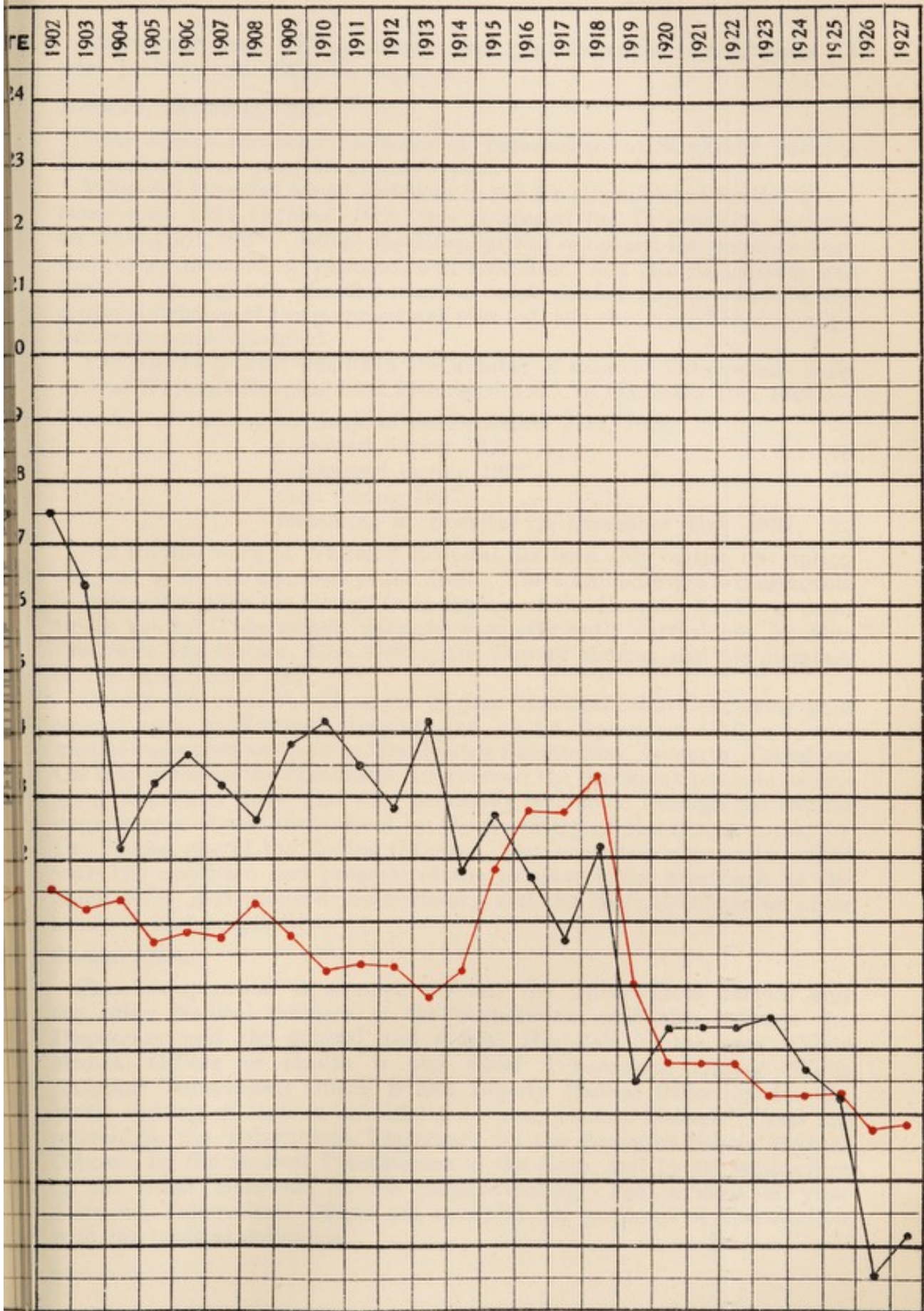
Contacts.

Contacts of cases of Tuberculosis are examined and kept under observation at the Dispensary. During the year 44 contacts were examined and 6 of these were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis. Several others were under observation at the end of the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Specimens of Sputa are examined for Tubercle Bacilli at the Dispensary by Dr. Richmond, and reports of the results of these examinations are sent to the doctors concerned.

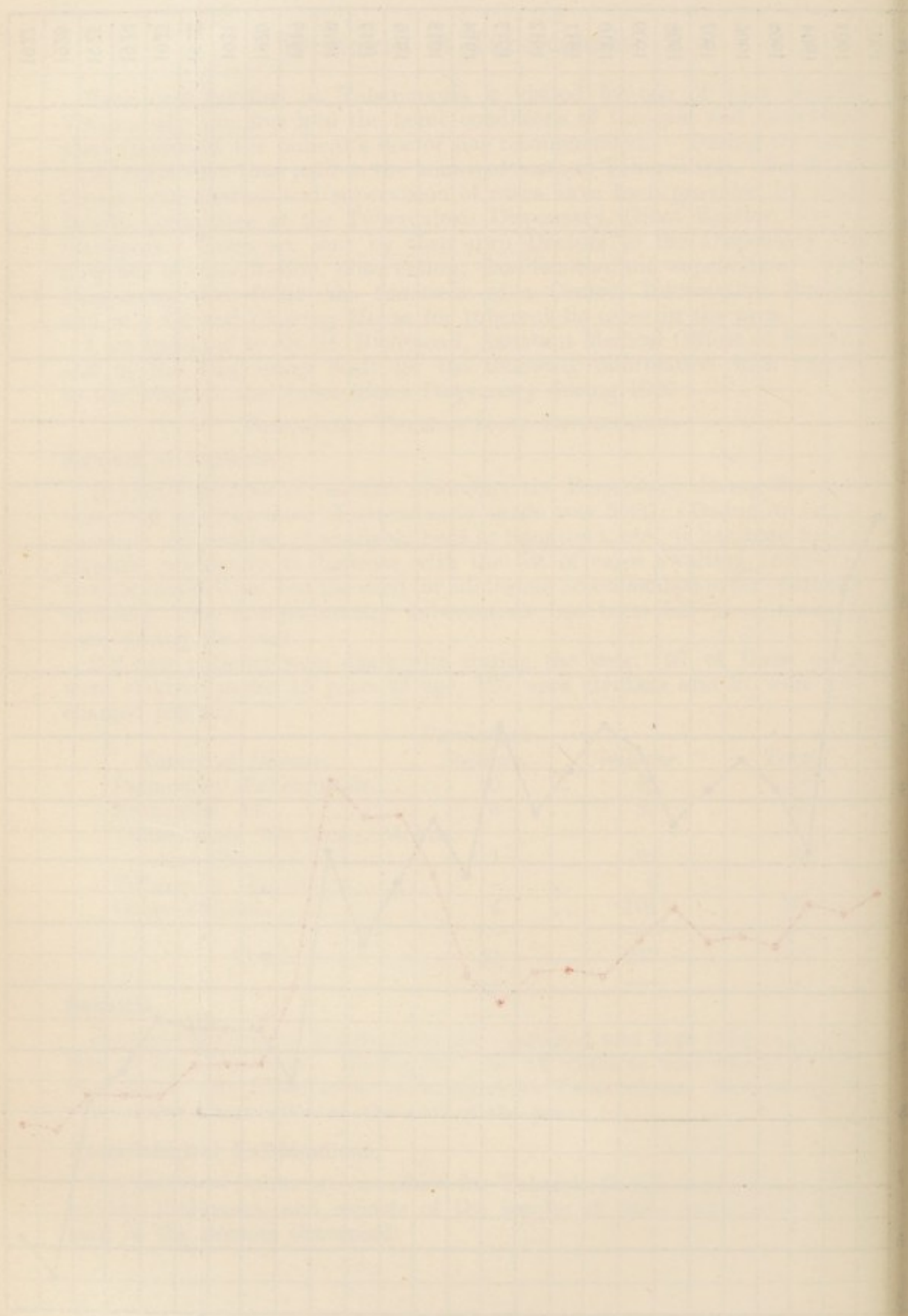
The following Chart shows the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 10,000 of the Population in England and Wales and Stockport, (1902-1927.)



England and Wales in Red.

Stockport in Black.

The following Chart shows the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 10,000 of the Population in England and Wales and Scotland (1902-1927)



During the year, 443 specimens were thus examined and of these 78 were positive and 365 were negative.

Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.

Institutional provision for cases of Tuberculosis in Stockport patients is referred to on page 26 of this report.

Whitehill Hospital which had been in use for Convalescent Scarlet Fever cases since 16th October, 1926, was re-opened for Tuberculosis patients on 20th April, 1927. Before the Hospital was re-opened the premises were thoroughly disinfected, repaired, and renovated, and electric lighting was installed throughout. In this way, a much needed improvement in the artificial lighting of the premises was effected, and the expenditure entailed has been amply justified.

The following table sets forth the number of cases of Tuberculosis dealt with at Whitehill Hospital from 20th April, 1927, to December 31st, 1927 :—

Number of patients in Hospital on December 31st, 1926.....	—
" " admitted during 1927.....	70
" " discharged during 1927.....	48
" " died during 1927.....	7
" " remaining in Hospital on December 31st, 1927.	15

The routine work of Whitehill Hospital has been ably carried out during the year by all the members of the Staff. The administrative arrangements in connection with the change from the use of the Hospital for Fever cases to its use for Tuberculosis patients were efficiently carried out by Miss Cranmore, the Matron, Miss Wilson, the Deputy Matron, and the members of the subordinate staff.

During the year, the Members of your Sanatoria Sub-Committee paid several visits to Whitehill Hospital, and, on 1st September, 1927, a special visit of inspection was paid to Wensleydale Sanatorium, Aysgarth, Yorkshire. On that occasion the Committee interviewed the Stockport patients undergoing treatment there, and were personally conducted through the various departments of the Sanatorium by the Secretary of the Hospital, and by Dr. Pickles, one of the Medical Officers. The Committee were well satisfied with the condition and progress of the patients under treatment at the Sanatorium, and thanked the Secretary and the Medical Officer for their kindness and hospitality.

Co-operation.

Close co-operation is secured between the Tuberculosis Service and the other Medical Services of the Corporation, and also between the Dispensary and the general and special Hospitals in the area. Your Medical Officer of Health is also Chief Tuberculosis Officer. Your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Home visiting of cases is carried out by your Health Visitors. Cases are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by the Assistant School Medical Officers, by the Medical Practitioners in the town, and by the authorities of the other Hospitals in the neighbourhood. The services of your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer are available for purposes of consultation with his medical colleagues.

X-Rays.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Management of the Stockport Infirmary for X-rays examinations to be made of cases sent by your Tuberculosis Officers at a cost of 10/6 per examination.

Skiagrams are of great value to your Tuberculosis Officers in the diagnosis of early and doubtful cases of Tuberculosis, and also in assessing the results of treatment at Sanatoria, &c. It is essential that a definite diagnosis be made as early as possible in every case and your Sanatoria Sub-Committee have approved the more extensive use of X-Rays examinations for this purpose.

Dental Treatment.

Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Authorities of the Meathop Sanatorium for Dental Treatment to be available for Stockport patients in that Institution. Financial assistance has been given by your Health Committee for Dental Treatment of Stockport patients when recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers.

Extra Nourishment.

Arrangements are made for the supply of extra nourishment, e.g., Milk, Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, Malt and Oil, etc., to necessitous cases.

After-Care.

No special organisation exists locally for finding employment for patients nor are any arrangements in force for the supply and supervision of shelters at the homes of patients.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The arrangements made in the previous year whereby cases of crippling due to Tuberculosis are treated at the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary have been continued during 1927.

The following is a summary of the work of this Department during 1927 :—

22	Cases treated.
120	Out-patient attendances made.
25	{ Attendances for Massage.
	{ Attendances for medical exercises.
94	In-patient days.
16	X-Ray examinations.
596	Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers are dealt with at the Stockport Infirmary by Mr. E. S. Brentnall, Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon, and the administrative arrangements have been made by Mr. Pearce, Secretary-Superintendent of the Infirmary.

In connection with the scheme valuable financial assistance has been given by the Trustees of the late Miss Maria Leigh in defraying the whole or part of the cost of surgical appliances in necessitous cases.

Patients requiring prolonged Hospital treatment have been sent to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Oswestry, when beds have been available, and in this connection I have to thank the Trustees of the George Fearn Trust for financial assistance in certain cases which have been referred to them.

Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Arrangements have been made under the Orthopaedic Scheme at Stockport Infirmary for cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers to receive this special form of treatment at a charge of 1/6 per treatment. The treatment is under the supervision of a Medical Officer with special experience in this work—a necessary precaution in view of the weakly and debilitated condition of some of the patients recommended from the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

TABLE I.
Annual Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1927.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	27	24	—	1	7	8	11	4	34	32	11	5
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	8	6	8
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	14	18	22
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	11	11
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as												
(a) Cured.....	1	4	—	—	3	3	2	1	4	7	2	1
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error.....)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60	45	104	93
D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st:—												
(a) Diagnosis completed....	177	116	6	8	29	35	50	32	206	151	56	40
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	46	51	62

1. Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st.....	800
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned.....	6
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"...	30
4. Died during the year.....	40
5. Number of observation cases under A (b) and B (b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months.....	40
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts).....	5937
7. Number of attendances of Non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Out-stations for treatment or supervision.....	757
8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for	
(a) "Light" treatment.....	447
(b) Other special forms of treatment.....	213
9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary.....	37
10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners :—	
(a) At Homes of Applicants.....	25
(b) Otherwise.....	195
11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes.....	10
12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes.....	1194
13. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined.....	443
(b) X-Ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work..	23
14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register 31st December....	280
15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December.....	5
16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons :—	
(a) Form G.P. 17.....	10
(b) Form G.P. 36.....	6

TABLE II.—RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Average Number of Beds available for Patients during the year 1927.

	Observation.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Total.
		"Sanatorium" Beds.	"Hospital" Beds.	Disease of Bones and Joints.	Other Conditions.	
Adult Males.....	—	22	9	—	—	31
Adult Females.....	—	17	17	—	—	34
Children under 15....	—	—	—	3	—	3
Total.....	—	39	26	3	—	68

(B) Annual Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment during the year 1927.

		In Institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.	In Institutions on Dec. 31.	
Number of Patients	Adults	M	28	63	62	5	24
		F	18	62	56	4	20
	Children	M	2	5	5	—	2
		F	2	8	7	—	3
Number of Observation Cases	Adults	M	—	2	2	—	—
		F	—	3	3	—	—
	Children	M	—	1	1	—	—
		F	—	6	5	—	1
Total.....		50	150	141	9	50	

TABLE III.

Annual Return showing the immediate results of treatment of patients and of observation of doubtful cases discharged from Residential Institutions during the year 1927.

	Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.														
			Under 3 months.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months			Total		
			M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.			
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Class T.B. minus	Quiescent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Improved.....	4	8	-	10	3	4	8	4	2	1	-	-	-	44	
		No material improvement.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Died in Institution.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Class T.B. Plus Group 1	Quiescent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Improved.....	5	2	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	13	
		No material improvement.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
		Died in Institution.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Class T.B. Plus Group 2	Quiescent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Improved.....	-	6	-	5	10	-	5	5	-	1	1	-	-	33	
		No material improvement.	2	5	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	
		Died in Institution.....	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Class T.B. Plus Group 3	Quiescent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Improved.....	-	1	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	6		
	No material improvement.	5	3	-	5	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	15		
	Died in Institution.....	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Bones & Joints	Quiescent or Arrested....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Improved.....	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4		
		No material improvement.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Died in Institution.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Abdominal	Quiescent or Arrested....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Improved.....	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
		No material improvement.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
		Died in Institution.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	Other Organs	Quiescent or Arrested....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Improved.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		No material improvement.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Died in Institution.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peripheral Glands	Quiescent or Arrested....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Improved.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
	No material improvement.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Died in Institution.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Observation for purposes of diagnosis																	
	Tuberculous.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Non-tuberculous.....	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	8		
	Doubtful.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3		

PART IV.

Venereal Diseases.

Venereal Diseases.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Venereal Diseases in Stockport is under the control of a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee.

During the year, Dr. Quine, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Ministry of Health, inspected the Venereal Diseases' Department and recommended certain alterations in the Administrative arrangements and in the clinical work. These questions have received the careful consideration of your Venereal Diseases Sub-Committee and have been the subject of prolonged negotiations with the Ministry of Health.

The result of the negotiations is that at an early date in the new year the following alterations in the existing arrangements will become operative :

1. The number of Clinics will be reduced from four to three weekly. For this purpose the two Clinics for Females will be merged into one Clinic which will be held on Thursday evenings from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
2. An investigation into the working conditions of the men attending on Friday mornings will be undertaken to ascertain the possibilities of reducing the Clinics for Males from two to one weekly, at some future date.
3. Dr. Reid will become Clinical Venereal Diseases Officer in full charge of the clinical work at all the Clinics.
4. Dr. Richmond will continue to assist in the administrative and clinical work and will attend all Clinics.

As in previous years Nurse Smith has assisted at the Clinics for Females, and Mr. Lees, Male Orderly, has been in attendance at the Clinics for Males.

Borough Dispensary

Four clinics are held weekly as follows:—

MALES :	Tuesday Evenings :	5-30 to	7-30
	Friday Mornings :	10-30 „	12-30
FEMALES :	Tuesday Mornings :	10-30 „	12-30
	Thursday Evenings :	5-30 „	7-30

In addition to the above Clinics the Centre is open for the Irrigation of cases of Gonorrhœa at the following times:—

MALES :	Wednesday	} 5-30 to 7-30 p.m.
	Saturday	
FEMALES :	By arrangement.	

329 persons, of whom 223 were males and 106 females, attended for treatment during the year, making a total number of attendances of 4860.

In addition to the above, 62 new Stockport patients attended approved Treatment Centres in other towns, making a total number of attendances of 735.

During the year 365 specimens of blood in respect of Stockport patients were examined for the Wassermann Reaction at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and elsewhere.

90 examinations for the detection of Gonococci were made at the Borough Dispensary, and 52 for the detection of Gonococci in respect of Stockport patients were carried out at other Centres.

The following tables, compiled from Form V.D. (R) of the Ministry of Health, give the details of the treatment at the various Treatment Centres:—

TABLE OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT AT VARIOUS TREATMENT CENTRES.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester Centres.</i>
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
(A) OUT-PATIENT CLINIC : Attendances.....	4860	735
(B) IN-PATIENT TREATMENT : Number of days.....	—	131
(C) SALVARSAN SUBSTITUTES : Doses.....	822	89
(D) EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL MATERIAL : For detection of Spirochetes.....	—	—
„ Gonococci.....	90	52
„ Wassermann Reaction.....	*311	54

* Including 184 specimens sent in by Private Practitioners and Institutions.

VENEREAL DISEASE—TREATMENT.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester Centres.</i>
A. Number of persons dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from Syphilis.	76	19
Soft Chancre.....	—	1
Gonorrhœa.....	70	27
Conditions other than Venereal.....	46	15
Total.....	192	62
B. Number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic.....	4860	735
C. Aggregate number of "In-Patient" days.....	—	131
D Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given in the—		
(1) Out-Patient Clinic.....	822	73
(2) In-Patient Department.....	—	16

The arrangements for the treatment of cases of these diseases appear to be adequate and patients continue to avail themselves of the facilities offered. The co-operation of the members of the Medical Profession in the town is sought by your Staff and assistance in the diagnosis and treatment of cases referred to your Medical Officers is readily given to the Practitioners concerned.

Apart from the Medical Staffs at the Stockport Infirmary and the Poor Law Infirmary there are three Medical Practitioners in the town qualified to receive free supplies of Arsenobenzol Compounds. During the year 1927 one case was treated by a Practitioner under this arrangement.

No action was taken during 1927 under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

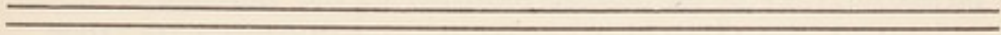
Maternity and Child Welfare

Infantile Mortality

The year of infant mortality is reported from the number of deaths of infants under one year of age and the number of live births in the same year in the population of a community.

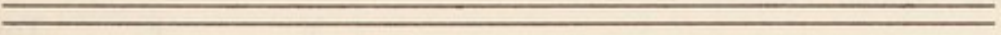
The infant mortality rate is calculated by multiplying the number of deaths of infants under one year of age by 100 and dividing the result by the number of live births in the same year.

The infant mortality rate for the year 1913 was 10.5 per 100 live births in the United States.



PART V.

Maternity and Child Welfare.



Maternity and Child Welfare.

Infantile Mortality.

The rate of Infant Mortality is calculated upon the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per thousand registered births and is a sensitive index of the healthiness of a community.

The whole country has experienced a markedly rapid fall in the rate during the last twenty-five years and the experience of Stockport in this matter is well illustrated in the Chart on page 11 of this report.

The fall in this rate in Stockport has been from 203 in 1900, and 183.9 in 1903, to 76.7 in 1922, and 81.9 in 1926, and 77 in 1927. With the exception of the low rate recorded in 1922, viz., 76.7, the rate of 77.4 per 1,000 births for 1927 is the lowest recorded in the Borough.

The principal causes of Infant Deaths in Stockport in 1927 were Prematurity, Respiratory Diseases, Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus, and Congenital Malformations.

The subject of the care and management of infants has come into prominence within recent years and there is little doubt that the excellent work undertaken by the various Organisations in the interests of child welfare has played an important role in securing a considerable diminution in the amount of sickness amongst infants and a marked reduction in the rate of infant mortality. Many of the ailments from which infants still suffer are of a preventable nature. Much could be done in this direction by more thorough Ante-natal care, by an improved Midwifery Service, and by the spread of knowledge of the subject of Infant Care and Nurture.

Each case of infantile death is made the subject of a special investigation by your Health Visitors.

		M.		F.		Total.
Nett Births in the year	{	Legitimate	875	..	875	.. 1750
	{	Illegitimate	45	..	40	.. 85
						1835
		M.		F.		Total.
Nett Deaths in the year of	{	Legitimate Infants	62	..	73	.. *135
	{	Illegitimate Infants	4	..	3	.. 7
						142

*This number includes 2 children (1 male and 1 female) found abandoned.

The majority of these deaths fall under three groups, viz. :—

Congenital malformations, prematurity, atrophy, debility, and marasmus.....	68
Diarrhoea, enteritis, and convulsions.....	25
Respiratory and tubercular diseases.....	24

TABLE IV.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1927. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 8 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified.....	50	10	6	5	71	23	18	17	11	140
	Uncertified....	1	1	1	2
Smallpox.....
	Chickenpox.....
Measles.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Scarlet Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough.....	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	4
Diphtheria and Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Phthisis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Tuberculosis Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3
Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous diseases.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Convulsions.....	6	1	..	1	8	1	..	..	3	12
Laryngitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	1	9
Pneumonia (all forms).	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	4	11
Diarrhoea.....	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3
Enteritis.....	..	3	..	..	3	1	3	3	..	10
Gastritis.....	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Syphilis.....	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Rickets.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at birth.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations.....	8	2	1	..	11	3	1	..	..	15
Premature Birth.....	25	1	2	1	29	5	..	..	..	34
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.....	10	..	1	2	13	4	1	1	..	19	
Other causes.....	2	1	1	1	5	3	2	1	2	13	
Totals.....		51	10	6	5	72	24	18	17	11	142

Notification of Births.

Under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, I have received during the year 2073 notifications. It is satisfactory to record that 99.3 per cent. of the total births occurring in the Borough were notified under these Acts.

The total number of births registered during the same period was 1,863.

The Births were notified as follows :—

By Midwives.....	1571
„ Medical Practitioners.....	392
„ Other Persons.....	110
Number of cases not notified.....	14
	14
Total.....	2087
	2087

The discrepancy between the number of births notified and the number registered is due to the fact that whereas births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of their occurrence, a period of six weeks is allowed under the Births, &c., Registration Act, 1836, for registration with the District Registrar.

Your Health Visitors visit the homes of all babies upon receipt of the birth notification. During these visits advice is tendered to the mother as to the future care of the infant, and assistance is given where necessary. These visits are of an intimate personal character and afford excellent opportunities for education and propaganda in Infant Welfare. The mothers continue to shew an increasing appreciation of the help and advice thus given and the number of instances where such visits are not desired has become very small.

Your Health Visitors have carried out their arduous and difficult duties with skill and tact and by their sympathy and their devotion have won the confidence of the mothers.

During the year your Health Visitors paid 13,647 visits, of which 8,209 were in connection with births notified. Visits to cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases, e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, etc., numbered 405.

The number of visits to expectant mothers was 288, of these 189 were first visits and 99 re-visits. Printed instructions are given to the prospective mother concerning herself and the baby.

69 Lectures on Infant Hygiene were given by your Health Visitors during the year to the elder girls in attendance at the Public Elementary Schools, as compared with 91 in the previous year.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS, 1927.

Total Visits.....	13647
Births, First Visits.....	1873
,, Re-visits.....	6336
Schools Visited.....	87
Midwives.....	123
Outworkers.....	123
Lectures.....	69
Deaths from all causes.....	128
Visits to Ante-natal Cases.....	288
,, Children, 1-5 years.....	2839
Attendances at Welfare Centres.....	1056

Still-Births.

Information as to the occurrence of Still-Births is obtained from Midwives, from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitation, and from the Registrars of the various Cemeteries in the town.

During 1927, 105 Still-born children were buried within the Borough.

29 Still-births were notified to the Health Department by Midwives as occurring within their practice, in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board. The Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926, came into operation on 1st July, 1927. Under this Act the birth of every still-born child shall be registered with the local Registrars.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The number of cases of this disease notified during the year was 27, as compared with 24 for 1926.

Notified.	Cases.		Vision un- impaired.	Vision im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
27	23	4	26	1	—	—

Of the 27 cases notified 23 were reported to the Matron of the Barnsley Home in order that a nurse should visit and give treatment.

The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926.

These new Regulations of the Ministry of Health in connection with the notification and treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum came into operation on 1st October, 1926. The responsibility for notification to the Medical Officer of Health of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum now rests upon the Medical Practitioner in attendance upon the case, but, in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board, midwives are

still required (1) to summon medical assistance in all cases, however slight, of inflammation of, or discharge from, the eyes of a child, and (2) to send notice immediately to the Local Supervising Authority that such assistance has been sought.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has decided to refrain in future from exercising their power of recovery of expenses incurred by Midwives in calling in medical help for this condition under Section 14 (4) of the Midwives Act, 1918. This measure will ensure that each case shall receive prompt attention.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Full particulars of the measures undertaken to combat an epidemic of this disease were given in my report for 1926. During the year under review the attention of the department was drawn to the occurrence of certain sporadic cases. Prior to 1st March, 1927, this disease had been compulsorily notifiable for a period of six months, and during that period 28 cases had been notified.

During the period from 1st March, 1927, to 31st December, 1927, 9 cases were reported by Midwives, Health Visitors, etc., as follows:—

	<i>Cases.</i>
March.....	1
April.....	1
May.....	1
June.....	2
September.....	1
October.....	1
December.....	2
	—
	9
	—

On receipt of information as to the occurrence of cases the homes were immediately visited by one of your Health Visitors. The Midwife concerned in each case was advised to summon medical aid, and as soon as the diagnosis was made by the patient's own Doctor the Midwife was withdrawn from attendance on the case and was sent to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection of her person and equipment. The Matron of the District Nursing Association was informed and was requested to arrange for one of her Nurses to undertake the care of the mother and child.

I am convinced that the measures thus undertaken have materially helped to prevent the spread of infection. As in the case of all infectious diseases so in Pemphigus Neonatorum it is essential to have early information of the occurrence of cases in order to put into operation, without delay, the various measures for prevention. Prior to the epidemic of this disease in 1926, it was rare for Midwives to report to the Department cases of suspicious "spots" in newly-born children, with the result that some little delay occurred in putting preventive measures into operation. Subse-

quent to the epidemic the arrangements for dealing with cases of this disease have been more satisfactory, but I am of opinion that it is advisable to have Pemphigus Neonatorum added to the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases.

Of the nine cases reported, eight made a satisfactory recovery, but one case proved fatal. The circumstances of the fatal case were of interest.

Baby (W.) was born before the arrival of the Midwife (P.) on 8th December, 1927. On arrival at the house the Midwife found the baby on the floor, the baby being apparently uninjured. Spots resembling blisters appeared on baby's left shoulder and left Axilla on 13th December, 1927, and later spread to other parts of the body. The spots on the left shoulder coalesced to an area, one-and-a-half inches in diameter, and became pustular within 24 hours. The patient's own Doctor attended on 14th, and had the case removed to Stepping Hill Hospital where the patient died on 22nd December, 1927. The Midwife called in to attend this patient had not been attending any other cases of this disease in her practice. Disinfection of her person and equipment was carried out at the Isolation Hospital on 14th December, 1927, and no further cases have occurred amongst her patients.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES :—

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The Ante-natal Clinic which was commenced last year at the Portwood Welfare Centre has been continued during 1927. Commencing on 2nd May, 1927, Ante-natal Clinics have been held weekly on Monday afternoons and have been conducted by Dr. Richmond and Dr. Slater. It is hoped that this important branch of the work will be extended at an early date. Midwives continue to bring their cases to the Clinic in ever-increasing numbers, and the mothers readily avail themselves of the facilities thus provided.

During 1927, 380 expectant mothers attended this Clinic for advice, as compared with 130 in 1926. The total number of attendances was 573.

Child Welfare Clinics.

(1.) Great Portwood Street Child Welfare Centre.

During the year valuable work has continued to be carried out at the Great Portwood Street Child Welfare Centre.

The following is a summary of the work :—

New Cases.....	496
Total weighings.....	6,738
Medical consultations.....	2,722
Total attendances.....	10,087

From July, 1927, a considerable number of mothers and babies from this Centre have been transferred to the Centre at Churchgate House to be nearer their homes.

Rachitic children receive special attention (e.g., massage, etc.) for which purpose 162 special attendances have been made, and the advice given to the mothers is proving extremely valuable; many mothers are ignorant of the elementary principles of rearing their children, especially in the case of the first child.

It is gratifying to learn that the infantile mortality amongst the babies attending the Welfare Centres is only 16.2 per 1,000, which compares very favourably with 77.4, the rate for the Borough generally.

The work of a Child Welfare Centre is chiefly for purposes of Education and Propaganda. Advice is given as to Baby Feeding and the general hygiene of mother and child, e.g., Regular Habits, Cleanliness, Clothing, &c.

Only trivial ailments are treated at the Clinics. Cases of illness are referred to their own Doctors. The babies are weighed accurately and regularly and a record is kept of each child's weight. Mothers who attend the Centres regularly have the privilege of purchasing dried milk, &c., when ordered, at a price considerably lower than the usual retail price.

Your staff have received valuable assistance in the work of the Portwood Child Welfare Centre from a number of lady helpers and to them I would tender the thanks of the Committee and my personal gratitude for their help.

The Clinics have been very well attended. In fact, so great has been the rush of work that it has been impossible to carry out talks on health matters to groups of mothers. Your staff have had to confine their attention to instructions to individual mothers.

(2). Stockport School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome.

The Voluntary Welfare Organisation at Churchgate House, and the branch Centre in connection with it at Reddish, have also done a large amount of excellent child welfare work during the year.

The following is a summary of the work done at these Centres :—

	<i>Churchgate House.</i>		<i>Reddish.</i>
New children attended.....	332	..	156
Total number of weighings.....	4887	..	2524
Number of medical consultations.....	2065	..	1022
Total attendances.....	5936	..	2763
Massage.....	737	..	—

Arising out of a circular from the Ministry of Health recommending a contribution from the Local Authority to Voluntary Centres which co-operate with Municipal schemes, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee granted during the year £200 towards the cost of administration of Churchgate House and £100 for the Reddish Centre.

In the medical work at the Ante-natal and Child Welfare Clinics, I have had the valuable assistance of Dr. Richmond and Dr. Slater. At Churchgate House and at Reddish Centre the medical consultations have been undertaken as in previous years by Dr. Lakin. Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have reviewed the present position of maternity and child welfare work in this area, and especially the means for closer co-operation between the Municipal and Voluntary Schemes in operation. It was decided to request the Voluntary Committee to continue their work at Churchgate House and at Reddish for twelve months from 1st April, 1927, and, for this purpose, (a), the grant from the Corporation towards the expenses incurred by the Churchgate School for Mothers was increased to £300, and (b) the Health Visiting services at Churchgate House and at Reddish were taken over by the Corporation. Accordingly, Nurse Holland was appointed to the Health Visiting Staff of the Corporation and commenced duty on July 18th, 1927, and, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, an extra Health Visitor was appointed.

The following recommendations were made by your Medical Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as essential towards securing a comprehensive and efficient Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Recommendations of the Medical Officer of Health with regard to the Maternity and Child Welfare work at the Municipal and Voluntary Child Welfare Centres :—

1. That an Assistant Medical Officer of Health for maternity and child welfare work be appointed and in the meantime temporary arrangements be made for medical consultations at the Centres.
2. That the Nursing Staff employed by the Committee of the Stockport School for Mothers be taken over by this Committee.
3. That Churchgate House be retained by the Committee of the Stockport School for Mothers and that the premises be hired for purposes of Municipal Centres for maternity and child welfare work at terms to be arranged. Churchgate House would thus remain as the Headquarters of the Voluntary Organisation.
4. That the hut at Reddish be acquired by this Committee.
5. That a scheme be drafted for work at *all* the Child Welfare Centres in Stockport by members of the Voluntary Committee, e.g., weighings, classes for knitting, sewing, and mothercraft, and assistance in the routine work of the Centres, including the keeping of records, etc.
6. That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval of such a scheme and that the Ministry be asked to continue financial assistance on the same basis as at present.

7. That the question of the appointment of an Obstetric Consultant for Mile End Maternity Hospital be held in abeyance pending the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare.
8. That the scheme for the provision of isolation accommodation at the Mile End Maternity Hospital be expedited as the need is urgent.

The above recommendations have been circularised to all Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

By Order,

(Signed), N. GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Stockport.
14th March, 1927.

Medical Officer of Health.

The question of the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare work has received the attention of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and at the time of writing this report the arrangements are complete for proceeding to carry out this recommendation. The need for additional Centres in various parts of the town is also realised by all the Members of the Committee and of the Council. Various premises are being inspected and at an early date they will be the subject of special reports by your Medical Officer as to their suitability for the purpose.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

(1.) Great Portwood Street.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS : Mondays, 2-5 p.m.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

Tuesday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Wednesday, Nil

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. " "

Friday, 2-5 p.m. " " and Massage.

(2.) Churchgate House.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

Monday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Tuesday, 2-5 p.m. " "

Wednesday, 2-5 p.m. " "

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. Mothers' Class.

(3.) Reddish.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.:

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

Assistance in the supply of milk and other nourishments is provided by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to applicants who are in necessitous circumstances. Careful enquiry is made by your staff into the financial position of each applicant for assistance, and a report is submitted upon each case to a Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee specially appointed for this purpose, and consisting of the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (Councillor Helen Henderson), and Councillor J. W. Fidler.

The cases dealt with together with the cost of this service are as follows :—

DRIED MILK.

Number of cases dealt with.....	222
Quantities supplied :—	
Total.....	14450½ lbs
Free.....	3821 lbs.
Half-cost price.....	400 lbs.
Total Cost.....	£306 8s. 7d.

10,229½ lbs. of Dried Milk were supplied at cost price, which is considerably lower than that at which it may be obtained elsewhere.

Orthopaedic Cases.

Children under five years of age who are suffering from crippling defects are referred by your Medical Officers to the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary. Full particulars of the Organisation, which is under the Honorary Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Stockport Infirmary (Mr. E. S. Brentnall) are given on page 76 of this report.

Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the scheme the following work was carried out at the Stockport Infirmary for non-tuberculous children under five years of age :—

No. of cases treated.....	16
Out-patients attendances.....	44
Attendances for Massage.....	42
Attendances for medical exercises.....	33
No. of In-patient Days.....	8
No. of X-Ray Examinations.....	4
Attendances for Ultra Violet Rays.....	220

Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital.

There is accommodation at your Council's Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall for 15 mothers and 15 babies. The administration of the Hospital is carried out by the Maternity Home Sub-Committee of your Maternity

and Child Welfare Committee. Your Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

The premises at Mile End Hall were opened as a Maternity Home on 13th June, 1925, as the accommodation previously provided at "Glebe House," proved to be inadequate for the needs of the community.

Applicants for admission are interviewed by the Matron and full particulars of the financial position of each applicant are submitted to the Maternity Home Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee fixes the charge to be made in each case.

Nurses are trained by the Matron and her Permanent Staff at the Hospital for the examination of the Central Midwives Board, the district work being undertaken by Mrs. Barr, at No. 1, Caistor Street, Stockport.

The Matron, Miss B. L. Scott, and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs of the Hospital have carried out their duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

I have to thank my medical colleagues in the town for their co-operation in sending cases to the hospital.

The average duration of stay in Hospital of each patient was fourteen days.

During the year the following cases were dealt with at the Hospital :—

Number of mothers remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1927.....	5
" " admitted during year.....	163
" " discharged during year.....	164
" " died during year.....	Nil
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1927.....	4

Number of babies remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1927.....	5
" " born during year (live-births 160, still-births 7).....	167
" " discharged.....	160
" " died (still-births 7).....	9
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1927.....	3

Number of Miscarriages..... Nil

One case of Puerperal Fever occurred in the Home during 1927.

The provision of isolation accommodation at the Hospital has been under consideration by your Maternity Home Sub-Committee during the year, and a scheme for the provision of this accommodation has been prepared and approved by your Council and by the Minister of Health. The work will be undertaken as soon as practicable in the new year.

Mile End Maternity Hospital.**Annual Statistics—Year 1927.**

- (1) Number of cases in the Home on 1st January, 1927 : 5.
- (2) Number of cases admitted during 1927 : 163. (160 Births).
- (3) Average duration of stay : 2 weeks.
- (4) Number of cases delivered by—
 (a) Midwives : 127.
 (b) Doctors : 33.
- (5) Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the Midwife with reasons for requiring assistance : 50.
- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|----|
| (a) Induction..... | 3 | (c) Ruptured Perineum..... | 14 |
| (a) Pyelitis | 1 | (c) Pyrexia..... | 2 |
| (a) Albuminuria..... | 9 | (c) Illness of Patient..... | 3 |
| (b) Obstructed Labour..... | 6 | (d) Dangerous Febleness of | |
| (b) Contracted Pelvis..... | 2 | Infant..... | 2 |
| (b) Uterine Inertia..... | 3 | (d) Inflammation of Eyes..... | 3 |
| (b) Malposition..... | 2 | | |
- (a) Ante-natal : 13.
 (b) During Labour : 13.
 (c) After Labour : 19.
 (d) For Infant : 5.
- (6) Number of cases notified as—
 (a) Puerperal Fever : 1. Pelvis Cellulitis.—Recovery.
 (b) Puerperal Pyrexia : 1. Intestinal—Stasis treated medicinally.—Recovery.
- (7) Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum : Nil.
- (8) Number of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum with result of treatment in each case : 2 transferred to Manchester Eye Hospital.
- (9) Number of cases of "Inflammation of the Eyes," however slight : 3.
- (10) Number of Infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution with reasons why they were not breast-fed. 5 entirely : Adoption 2. Deformed Nipples, 1. Inability of mother 2. Partially, 2 (twins).
- (11) Number of maternal deaths with causes : Nil.
- (12) Number of foetal deaths (a) still-born, and (b) within 10 days of birth and their causes : Still-births 7. Foetal deaths 2. (Convulsions).

Supervision of Midwives.

During the year 57 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. These include 8 at the Union Hospital, 1 at the Union Workhouse, and 15 at the Maternity Homes, 5 of these Midwives reside outside the Borough but as they attended certain cases within the Borough they were requested to give notice of their intention to practice within this area.

The qualification of the Midwives who practise in the Borough are as follows :—

Possessing Certificates from the Obstetrical Society of London.....	3
Possessing Certificates from a recognised Hospital....	2
Having passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board.....	47
Enrolled by virtue of having been in bona-fidè practice as Midwives a year prior to the passing of the Act..	5
	—
Total.....	57
	—

The extent of their practice may be seen from the following numbers :—

Number of cases attended by Midwives alone.....	1028
Number of cases attended by Midwives together with a Doctor.....	667
	—
Total.....	1695
	—

During the year no midwife attended more than 100 cases alone, and 5 midwives attended more than 100 cases each, in some of which a Medical man was also in attendance. 10 Midwives did not attend any cases except in co-operation with a Doctor.

In every case of difficulty the Midwife must summon medical assistance and notify the Medical Officer of Health that this has been done.

During the year the number of notifications of sending for medical assistance and the conditions for which help was required were as follows :—

Post-partum Hæmorrhage....	10	Condition of Eyes.....	28
Ante-partum Hæmorrhage... ..	12	Abortion.....	6
Adherent Placenta.....	11	Uterine Inertia.....	5
Placenta Prævia.....	1	Premature Birth.....	7
Delayed Labour.....	48	Still-birth.....	2
Obstructed Labour.....	45	Pemphigus (suspected).....	23
Ruptured Perineum.....	98	Death of Child.....	3
Contracted Pelvis.....	5		
Mal-presentation.....	25		—
Condition of Child.....	34	Total.....	419
Condition of Mother.....	56		—

In accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board the following notices have also been received from the Midwives :—

Artificial Feeding.....	13
Still-births.....	29
Deaths occurring in practice.....	6
Liability to be a source of infection.....	6
Having laid out a dead body.....	12
	—
Total.....	66
	—

There has been an increase in the number of cases in which Midwives have sought medical aid, owing to complications arising, in connection with the confinements they attended, 419 calls on medical men being made during the year, as compared with 383 calls in the previous year. 259 accounts have been rendered by the Doctors in respect of these services amounting to £349 10s. 0d. During the year £56 8s. 0d. has been recovered from patients for whom the medical services were provided.

The Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.

Part I. of the above-mentioned Act came into operation during 1926 and amends the Midwives Acts, 1902 to 1918, as regards unqualified practice, suspension from practice, and the payment of Doctors' accounts for emergency cases.

Part II. of the Act, which relates to Registration of Maternity Homes, came into operation upon 1st January, 1927.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee considered certain suggestions made by your Medical Officer of Health as to a Course of Lectures for Midwives practising in this area, and approved the following syllabus of lectures for the Session 1927-28.

These Lectures have been well attended by the Midwives and have been much appreciated :—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Lecturer.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
Nov. 2, 1927. ..	N. Gebbie, M.D., D.P.H. ..	" Infant Feeding."
Nov. 16, 1927. ..	J. F. Ward, M.D., M.R.C.P. ..	" Abnormalities and Injuries of the Newly Born."
Nov. 30, 1927. ..	C. P. Brentnall, M.C., M.B. ..	" Gynaecological Cases from the point of view of the District Nurse."
Dec. 7, 1927. ..	H. Richmond, M.B., D.P.H. ..	" Venereal Disease."
Dec. 14, 1927. ..	M. Young, M.D., D.P.H. ..	" Maternal Mortality."
Jan. 11, 1928. ..	W. H. Rowell, M.D., D.P.H. ..	" Orthopaedics."
Jan. 25, 1928. ..	K. K. May-Atkinson, M.B. ..	" Diarrhoea in Infants."

On October 14th, 1927, the first Annual Meeting of the Midwives Association was held at Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital, by kind permission of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The following Officers were appointed :—

President : Dr. N. Gebbie (Medical Officer of Health).

Chairman : Mrs. Pickford.

Hon. Treasurer : Miss Jones.

Hon. Secretary : Miss Faulkner.

Representative Members : Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. Titterton.

Under the auspices of the Stockport Midwives Association several social evenings have been held and in addition a syllabus of lectures has been arranged for 1928.

The Meteorological Observations at the Borough Meteorological Station are omitted from this report consequent upon the fact that during the greater part of the year some of the instruments were out of order. The site for the observatory, in close proximity to the Town Hall having proved to be unsuitable the meteorological station has been moved to the grounds of the Isolation Hospital, Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport. The instruments have been repaired and all is in readiness for readings to be taken from 1st January, 1928.

INDEX.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.....	55, 63	Inquests.....	15
Acute Polio Encephalitis.....	55	Institutional Provision for Un-	
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	55, 63	married Mothers, etc.....	27
Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws, etc..	29	Introduction.....	5-6
Ambulance Facilities.....	27-28	Isolation Hospitals.....	26, 65-67
Ante-natal Clinics.....	28, 91	Lectures on Infant Hygiene....	88
Area of Borough.....	7	Legal Proceedings.....	51
Bacteriological Examinations...	64	Local Powers relating to Public	
Bakehouses.....	39	Health.....	29
Births and Birth-rate7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 88		Malaria.....	55, 63
Births notified.....	88	Marriages and Marriage-rate....	12-13
Births visited.....	88-89	Maternal Deaths.....	8, 21
Bye-Laws.....	29, 39	Maternity & Child Welfare Com-	
Cancer.....	17	mittee.....	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.....	55, 63	Maternity and Child Welfare	
Chemical Work.....	29	and Infantile Mortality.....	86-101
Cherry Tree Lane Hospital..	26, 64-67	Maternity and Child Welfare	
Child Welfare Centres.....	28, 91	Work—Special Report.....	94-95
Churchgate House.....	92, 95	Maternity Home.....	26, 96-98
Clinics and Treatment Centres..	28	Maternity Home Sub-Committee	3
Closet Accommodation.....	30	Measles.....	8, 63
Common Lodging Houses.....	39	Meat Inspection.....	46-47
Consumption.....	7, 26, 55, 63, 70-80	Meteorological Station.....	101
Dairies, Cowsheds, &c.....	46	Midwives.....	29
Deaths & Death-rate.....	7, 8, 13, 14-25	Midwives, Supervision of.....	98-100
Diarrhoea.....	8	Midwives & Maternity Homes	
Diphtheria.....	55, 61	Act, 1926.....	100
Diphtheritic Serum.....	61	Midwives' Institute, Stockport	
Disinfection.....	64	Branch.....	100
Dispensary, Tuberculosis.....	28, 74-80	Mile End Maternity Hospital..	26, 96-98
District Inspectorial Work.....	34-35	Milk and Cream Regulations....	46
Drainage and Sewerage.....	30	Milk and Dairies (Amendment)	
Dysentery.....	55, 63	Act, 1922.....	46
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	55, 63	Milk, Distribution of.....	96
Enteric Fever.....	55, 61	Milk Distribution Sub-Committee	3
Erysipelas.....	55, 62	Milk (Mothers and Children)	
Factories and Workshops.....	36-38	Order, 1919.....	46, 96
Fairs, Wakes, &c.....	39	Milk Samples.....	45, 47
Food—Adulteration, etc.....	47-51	Milk Shops.....	46
Food—Inspection and super-		Milk Supply.....	45
vision of.....	45-47	Mortality Statistics.....	17
Food and Drugs, Summary of		Natural and Social Conditions	
Analyst's Reports.....	48	of the District.....	10
Health Committee, Members of.	2	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	7, 26, 55
Health Services for the Area....	26		63, 70-80
Health Visitors' Work.....	89	Notifiable Infectious Diseases...	54-80
Hospital Sub-Committee, Mem-		Notification of Births Act.....	88
bers of.....	2	Notification of Tuberculosis....	55
Hospitals, Isolation.....	26, 64-67	Nursing Arrangements.....	28
„ List of.....	26	Offensive Trades.....	39
Housing.....	42-45	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	55, 62, 89-90
Housing Committee, Members of	3	Orthopaedic Scheme.....	76, 96
Ice Cream Vendors.....	51	Outworkers.....	37, 38, 89
Illegitimacy.....	12	Pathological Examinations....	82-84
Infant Hygiene, Lectures on....	88	Paving, Sewering, etc.....	45
Infantile Mortality & Maternity		Pemphigus Neonatorum.....	55, 62, 90-91
& Child Welfare Work.....	7, 86-100	Phthisis.....	7, 20, 55, 63, 70-80
Infectious Diseases.....	54-63	Pneumonia, Primary & Influenzal	55,
Influenza.....	55, 62		62-63

Continued on page 103.

INDEX.—Continued.

PAGE.	PAGE.		
Poisons and Pharmacy Act.....	40	Slaughterhouses.....	46
Poliomyelitis, Acute.....	55, 63	Smallpox.....	26, 56-58
Polio Encephalitis.....	55	Smoke Observations.....	39
Population.....	7, 11	Staff.....	4
Premises and Occupations controlled by Regulations.....	39-40	Statistical Memoranda.....	7
Privy Middens: Conversions to W.C's.....	30-32	Statutory Notices served during year.....	35
Professional Nursing.....	28-29	Still-births.....	89
Prosecutions.....	51	Transferable Deaths.....	16
Public Wash-house.....	41-42	Trench Fever.....	55, 63
Puerperal Fever.....	55, 61	Stockport Sick Poor Nursing Association.....	28-29
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	55, 61	Tuberculosis:	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...7, 26, 55, 63, 70-80		Pulmonary.....7, 26, 55, 63, 70-80	
Rateable Value.....	7	Non-Pulmonary.7, 26, 55, 63, 70-80	
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	40	Tuberculosis, Treatment of.....	74-80
"Return Cases" of Scarlet Fever	68	Tuberculosis Hospitals.....	26
Rivers and Streams.....	30	Typhoid Fever.....	55, 61
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts...47-50		Uncertified Deaths and Inquests	15
Sanatoria Accommodation.....	26-27	Unhealthy Areas.....	45
Sanatoria Sub-Committee, Members of.....	2	Vaccination.....	56
Sanitary Accommodation in		Veneral Diseases.....	82-84
Factories, etc.....	38	Veneral Diseases Sub-Committee Members of.....	2
Sanitary Circumstances of Area	30-33	Vital Statistics, Extracts from.8, 13-16	
Sanitary Inspection of Area....	33	Ward Mortality.....	18
Scarlet Fever.....55, 59-60, 65-68		Ward Populations.....	11
Scavenging.....	33	Water Supply.....	30
Schools Closure, etc.....	41	Water Closets:—	
School Hygiene.....	40-41	Inspection of.....34, 35	
School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome, Churchgate House.	92-95	Number Newly Erected.....	31
Sewering, Paving, etc.....	45	Whitehill Hospital.....26, 75	
Shops Acts.....39, 51		Whooping Cough.....	8, 63
		Workshop Inspection.....	36
		Zymotic Diseases.....7, 13, 14, 18	

CONTENTS—Continued

.....	103
.....	104
.....	105
.....	106
.....	107
.....	108
.....	109
.....	110
.....	111
.....	112
.....	113
.....	114
.....	115
.....	116
.....	117
.....	118
.....	119
.....	120
.....	121
.....	122
.....	123
.....	124
.....	125
.....	126
.....	127
.....	128
.....	129
.....	130
.....	131
.....	132
.....	133
.....	134
.....	135
.....	136
.....	137
.....	138
.....	139
.....	140
.....	141
.....	142
.....	143
.....	144
.....	145
.....	146
.....	147
.....	148
.....	149
.....	150
.....	151
.....	152
.....	153
.....	154
.....	155
.....	156
.....	157
.....	158
.....	159
.....	160
.....	161
.....	162
.....	163
.....	164
.....	165
.....	166
.....	167
.....	168
.....	169
.....	170
.....	171
.....	172
.....	173
.....	174
.....	175
.....	176
.....	177
.....	178
.....	179
.....	180
.....	181
.....	182
.....	183
.....	184
.....	185
.....	186
.....	187
.....	188
.....	189
.....	190
.....	191
.....	192
.....	193
.....	194
.....	195
.....	196
.....	197
.....	198
.....	199
.....	200