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BOROUGH OF STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Stoke-upon-Trent

Urban Sanitary Authority.

ANNUAL REPORT


OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STOKE-ON-TRENT :

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STOKE-UPON-TRENT,

FEBRUARY, 1907.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough
of Stoke-upon-Trent.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Seventh
Annual Report.

In reporting for purposes of the Enquiry in connection
with the Federation of the Towns of Stoke, Fenton and
Longton, I was struck with the improvement that had taken
place in recent years, in the condition of the town. With a
very little more activity during the next five or six years the
condition of the district would be made highly satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Population.

The estimated population of the Borough at the middle of 1906, was 34,496, and the statistics in this report are based upon that estimate. At the end of 1906 the Population was estimated at 34,914.

In addition to the increase of Population, due to excess of births over deaths, there is an annual increase of 250 due to immigration.

Births.

The total number of Births registered in the Borough in 1906 was 1066—512 males and 554 females, equal to an annual birth-rate per 1,000 of the population of 30·8.

The number of children born in the Workhouse, and included in the above was :—

Belonging to Hanley 19—viz. 11 males, 8 females.

"	Longton	...	17	"	6	"	11	"
"	Fenton	...	6	"	4	"	2	"
"	Stoke	...	14	"	6	"	8	"
"	Stoke Rural		0	"	0	"	0	"

TOTAL ... 56 of which 42 did not belong
to Stoke.

The corrected number of births was therefore 1024—491 males and 533 females, and the corrected birth-rate 29·7.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1906 was 27·0.

The average Birth Rate for the Borough is 31 per 1,000 of the Population.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1906 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.					Number	Rate
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	Rate					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	26960	774	28.7	131	163	652	24.1	280	227	2	427	15.8
1897	27561	808	29.3	155	191	660	23.9	266	222	1	435	15.9
1898	28176	892	30.5	148	166	759	26.9	291	241	7	525	18.6
1899	28546	872	30.7	196	224	809	28.3	318	260	5	554	19.2
1900	29439	977	33.1	161	164	793	26.9	314	264	15	544	18.5
1901	30639	970	31.6	181	186	750	24.4	309	260	13	503	16.3
1902	31374	1030	32.8	166	162	787	25.8	374	310	7	484	15.4
1903	32127	994	30.9	136	137	749	23.0	362	304	5	450	14.0
1904	32898	1080	32.8	160	148	836	25.3	383	328	16	524	15.9
1905	33688	970	28.8	150	155	845	25.8	425	352	9	502	14.8
Averages for years 1896-1905	30140	936	30.9	158	170	764	25.3	332	276	8	495	16.3
1906	34496	1024	29.7	140	136	818	23.4	438	366	7	459	13.3

Total population at all ages, 30,458
 Number of inhabited houses, 6012
 Ave age number of persons per house, 5.06

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1832.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES)				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Stoke less Institutions	Bucknall Hosp.	N.S.I	Work-house	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1												
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	9	...	5	4	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	5	2	3	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	4	...	3	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	6
Epidemic Influenza	7	...	...	...	1	4	2	7	...	...	...	3
Diarrhoea	32	31	1	...	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	10	4	5	...	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1
Other Septic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Phthisis	17	...	...	...	5	11	1	15	...	...	2	26
Other Tubercular Diseases	19	2	4	5	...	6	2	16	...	3	...	14
Cancer, Malignant Disease	23	...	...	...	...	16	7	15	...	3	5	28
Bronchitis	38	7	1	...	...	15	15	35	...	...	3	38
Pneumonia	33	9	7	...	1	9	7	29	...	2	2	11
Pleurisy	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	...	...	...	4
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Premature Birth	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	2	3
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Heart Diseases	39	...	...	...	...	29	10	31	...	...	8	65
Accidents	15	1	3	3	2	5	1	9	...	...	...	38
Suicides	6	...	...	...	...	5	1	5	...	...	1	2
All other causes	175	68	2	6	6	46	47	141	...	13	21	178
ALL CAUSES	459	140	34	21	15	154	95	380	7	27	45	438

N.S.I.—North Staffordshire Infirmary.

Deaths.

The number of Deaths registered in the Borough in 1906 was 818—468 males and 350 females: this gave a Death Rate of 23·4 per 1,000 of the population at the middle of the year.

Of the total deaths, 366 (219 males and 147 females) were deaths of non-residents dying in the district, and having the deaths registered here. Of the foreign deaths, 155 occurred at the North Stafford Infirmary, and 211 at the Workhouse. The Workhouse serves the districts of Longton, Fenton, Hanley, and Stoke Rural, as well as Stoke Urban.

Particulars of the 366 deaths of non-residents were sent monthly to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts to which they belonged.

Seven deaths of residents were registered beyond the district, they occurred at the Bucknall Isolation Hospital, which is in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent.

The corrected number of deaths in the Borough was therefore 459 (males 253, females 206), and the corrected Death Rate 13·3 per 1,000 of the population.

Corrected number of Deaths	...	...	...	459
Death Rate of the Borough for 1906	...	...	...	13·3
Death Rate of the Borough for 1905	...	...	...	14·8
Average Death Rate for 10 years, 1896-1905	...	...	...	16·3
Death Rate for England and Wales in 1906	...	...	...	15·4
Death Rate for 76 large towns of England and Wales in 1906	...	...	...	16·0
Death Rate of 142 smaller towns in England and Wales in 1906	...	...	...	14·4
Death Rate for England and Wales <i>less</i> the 218 towns in 1906	...	...	...	15·0

The Death Rate for the year is the lowest in the history of the Borough, and is a highly satisfactory one.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total under 1 Month										Total Deaths under One Year					
	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months		7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months
All Causes } Certified, 130.																
Uncertified, 10.																
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	3	5	3	2	...	1	2	6	2	1	2
Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	31
Enteritis, Muco-Enteritis, Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4
Premature Birth	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Congenital Defects	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	8	7	2	5	11	3	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	45
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	2	1	7
Pneumonia	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	9
Other Causes	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	9
	28	9	8	6	51	18	12	5	5	4	4	8	7	11	5	140

Births in the Year { legitimate, 988.
illegitimate, 36.

Population, estimated to middle of 1906, 34,496.
Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 459.

Infantile Mortality.

The Deaths under one year in 1906 numbered 140.

Number of deaths under one year	...	...	...	...	140
" " per 1,000 Births in 1906	...	...	...	...	136
" " under 1 year per 1,000 Births in	76				
larger towns in 1906	...	...	...	...	146
" " under 1 year per 1,000 Births in	142				
smaller towns in 1906	...	...	...	...	138

The Infantile Death Rate is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough.

The distribution of leaflets on infant feeding which was introduced four years ago has been regularly carried out by the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

The question of the appointment of a Female Sanitary Inspector to devote special attention to matters affecting infantile life in the Borough might usefully occupy the attention of the Committee.

Seven Principal Epidemic Diseases.

Number of Deaths in 1906	...	...	...	...	52
Zymotic Death Rate in 1906	..	...	...	...	1.50
" " " 1905	...	...	...	...	2.34
" " " for England and Wales, 1906	...	...	...	...	1.73

The Zymotic Death Rate in the 76 large towns of England and Wales in 1906 was 2.24, and in the 142 smaller towns, 1.70.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

					Number of Deaths, 1906	Rates per 1000 living 1906
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	32	0·92
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	5	0·15
Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup	...			...	4	0·11
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	9	0·26
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	2	0·06
Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0·00
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	0	0·00
TOTAL					52	1·50

The Zymotic Death Rate for the Year is much below the average for the Borough and is satisfactory.



Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT							No. of Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and Upwards	
Diphtheria...	77	...	18	32	11	16	...	30
Erysipelas ..	40	1	...	3	1	27	8	...
Scarlet Fever	170	1	58	95	12	4	...	68
Enteric Fever	29	...	1	15	6	7	...	11
Continued Fever ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever ..	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
TOTALS	320	2	77	145	30	58	8	

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—The Bucknall Isolation Hospital in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Notification of Infectious Diseases.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, has been in force in the Borough since February 1st, 1890.

The Diseases which are notified in the Borough are those scheduled in the Act, together with Bubonic Plague, added by order of the Local Government Board at the end of 1900, Measles is not included in the diseases notified.

The following notifications of cases were received during the year :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	170
Diphtheria	...	...	...	77
Membraneous Croup	...	...	...	0
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	70
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	48
Continued Fever	...	...	...	1
Small-pox	...	...	...	0
				369

Included in the above are 49 foreign cases, so that the total number belonging to the Borough was 320.

In 1905 the number of cases notified belonging to the Borough was 271, so that there were 49 cases more in 1906.

The actual number of notification certificates received was 379, or 36 more than the previous year.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act entailed a charge of £39 9s. 6d.

Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup.

Number of cases belonging to the Borough ...	...	77
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population ...	...	0·11
Case Mortality (deaths per 100 cases) ...	...	5·1
Removed to the Isolation Hospital ...	...	...30 = 38%

The following is an outline of what was done during the year to combat the disease :—

In addition to Notification by Medical men, post cards, ready printed, were supplied to all Schools and Attendance Officers for the immediate notification of any cases of suspicious illness, such as sore throat, that might come to their knowledge, and where no medical man was in attendance.

The County Council has continued the arrangements with the Birmingham University, for Bacterological Examination, free of charge, of swabs from the throats of suspicious cases. About seven swabs were sent for examination during the year, and positive results obtained in two. In the previous three years positive results were obtained in one-third of the cases, out of 42, 21, and 17 swabs sent.

As in previous years, all cases were visited within a few hours of receipt of notification by the Sanitary Inspector, and enquiries made and noted on printed forms, and steps taken to secure isolation. Printed sheets with directions as to precautions to be taken, and also extracts from the Public Health Acts, were left at each house.

Post cards were regularly sent to Schools notifying the presence of the disease in houses, and requesting the exclusion of all children from such houses till further notice. In such cases the children have been excluded from School until a fortnight after disinfection of the house. Post Cards are now being sent to the Schools stating when the children might be admitted.

Post Cards are sent each week to every medical man in the Borough, notifying the presence of the disease in the different streets where it has occurred during the week. This is done in the case of all the notified diseases.

Since 1900, the Health Committee have supplied antitoxin, free of charge, for prophylactic use in the Borough, and pay a fee for its use.

The cost to the Borough of antitoxin and fees for its use for preventive purposes was £5 7s. 6d.

On removal of a case to the Hospital, the walls, ceilings, &c., of the room have been sprayed with Izal solution.

All bedding and clothing have been regularly disinfected in the Borough Disinfector.

Attention was always given to the Sanitary condition of the premises where cases occurred, and any defects found, dealt with, special examinations being made when necessary.

It was not found necessary to close any Schools on account of the prevalence of this disease.

As in previous years, the disease seemed to be spread chiefly by personal contact, or to be conveyed by clothing or bedding.



Measles.

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	0
Death Rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	...	0.00

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM MEASLES IN THE BOROUGH

AT DIFFERENT AGES :—

Year		Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 and upwards
1896	...	10	29	...	...
1897	...	...	1	...	...
1898	...	5	30	...	...
1899	...	...	...	...	...
1900	...	3	9	1	...
1901	...	2	...	...	...
1902	...	1	4	...	...
1903	...	...	3	...	...
1904	...	...	...	...	...
1905	...	7	16	...	...
1906	...	...	...	...	...

Measles is not a disease which is notified in the Borough.

Our chief sources of information are the School Attendance Officers and Teachers.

I have not advised that the disease should be made notifiable.

The Borough has been entirely free from this disease during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

Number of Cases...	...	...	...	...	170
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	9
Death Rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	...	0.26
Case Mortality per 100 Cases	...	...	...	...	5.3
Number of Cases removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	68	=	40%	

Seven Deaths occurred amongst the cases removed to the Isolation Hospital, while Two occurred amongst those which remained at home.

121 Houses were infected with Scarlet Fever excluding Institutions, so that there were 49 secondary cases.

A larger number of these cases should be removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Whooping Cough.

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	5
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	0.15

Enteric Fever.

Number of Cases in the Borough in 1906	...	...	...	29
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	2
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	...	...	...	0.06
Case Mortality per 100 Cases	...	...	...	6.8

Special pails were supplied to all infected houses, with disinfectants to receive the excreta. These pails were removed twice weekly, and the contents burned at the Destructor. In all cases careful examination was made of the premises, and disinfection carried out at the termination of each case.

Arrangements exist with the University of Birmingham, through the County Council, for Bacteriological diagnosis of Enteric Fever cases: it was made use of in five cases, with negative results.

Phthisis and other Forms of Tuberculosis.

Number of Deaths from Phthisis	...	...	...	17
Death Rate	...	...	...	0.49
Number of Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	19
Death Rate (per 1000 living) from other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.55

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1905 there were 14 deaths due to forms of Tuberculosis other than Phthisis; in 1904 there were 12; in 1903 there were 16; in 1902 there were 16; in 1901 there were 10; in 1900, 15; in 1899, 17; in 1898, 24; in 1897, 13; in 1896, 16.

Through the arrangements made by the County Council with the University of Birmingham, medical men in the Borough have facilities for Bacteriological diagnosis in doubtful cases; they have been taken advantage of on Eight occasions, with Three positive and Five negative results.

No special measures have been adopted by the Council to combat this disease.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.

	NUMBER OF DEATHS				
Bronchitis	38
Pneumonia	33
Pleurisy	2
Other Diseases	1
TOTAL					74

Death Rate per 1,000 living, 2.14.

Of the total deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia no less than 24, or only a little less than half, occurred in children under five years of age. The importance of protecting children of these ages from the effect of cold and damp and changes in the temperature should be realised and the prompt treatment of Catarrhs and Colds insisted upon.

Vaccinations.

				1905	Half year ending June, 1906
Births Registered	...	...	...	1015	530
Successfully Vaccinated...	..	...	...	808	408
Insusceptible	...	...	...	2	0
Had Small-pox	...	...	...	0	0
Died	...	...	...	109	52
Postponed	...	...	..	33	33
Removals Certified	...	...	...	11	9
Removals Unvaccinated	...	...	...	47	14
Unvaccinated	...	...	...	2	2
Conscientious Objections	...	..	...	3	6
Number of Vaccinations per 100 Births	...	...	...	83	0

Small-pox.

The Borough has remained free from this disease.

Small-pox Hospital Accommodation.

The Joint Small-pox Hospital Board has now made provision for the isolation of Small-pox cases. This has cost the Borough £166 9s. 3d. during the year.

Isolation Hospital.

The Contagious Diseases Hospital at Bucknall, in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, serves the Urban Districts of Hanley, Fenton, Stoke-upon-Trent and Longton, and the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, it is under the management of a Joint Hospital Board. There are in the Hospital about 166 beds and cots. Beds are now set apart for cases of Enteric Fever. The buildings are permanent ones, pavilions connected by covered ways.

The Staff of the Hospital consists of :—

A Visiting Medical Officer.

A Female Resident Medical Officer.

A Master and Matron.

Nurses and Probationers to the required number.

The population of the Joint District now exceeds 165,000.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

Adopted by the Board on the 10th day of June, 1892, and 3rd day of June, 1898, for maintenance and care, &c., of patients admitted by order of a Medical Officer of Health within the District of the Board :—

Patients under 14 years of age	...	1/4 per day.
Patients 14 years of age and upwards	...	1/9 per day.
Medical Attendance, in each case attended by the Board's Medical Officer	... ..	£1 1s.
Contribution to Common Fund, per patient	... ..	£3 10s.

PRIVATE PATIENTS.

Patients treated in Private Wards	...	5/- per day.
Medical Attendance, in each case attended by the Board's Medical Officer	... ..	£2 2.
Contribution to Common Fund, per patient	... ..	£2 10s.

The cubic space allowed per patient at the Hospital is about 1,150 feet. I have in previous reports pointed out that the space allowed is less than is usually considered necessary.

This Hospital has cost the Borough about £1,213 7s. 11d. during the year.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the district One Fellmonger's establishment, One Tripe Boiling Business, and Two Rag and Bone Stores.

There are no Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades.

Regular inspections have been carried out; complaints have been received on several occasions of nuisance caused by Tripe Boiling.

Calcining of Bones is carried on on Two Factories in the Borough. Considerable nuisance has at times been caused by one of these.

Slaughter Houses.

There are in the Borough Four licensed Slaughter Houses and Five registered ones.

There are Bye-laws for their regulation, they ought to be brought up-to-date.

Under the present Bye-laws dogs may be kept in the Slaughter Houses. The Slaughter Houses may be used as Stables, and the boundaries of the Slaughter Houses need not be defined. These deficiencies require attention.

150 inspections of these premises have been made during the year.

Some of the Slaughter Houses are used as Stables, horses being kept in the lairs.

The removal of Offal and Manure is not always satisfactorily done.

Under present conditions it is impossible to efficiently inspect meat sold in the Borough.

There is no Public Slaughter House.

Dairys, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops.

There are in the Borough Twelve Dairies and Cow-sheds, and 43 Milk-shops. During the year 1909 inspections were made.

The Regulations of the Local Government Board came into force in the Borough in November, 1901.

Milk-shops are, as a rule, well kept by the aid of an occasional verbal notice.

In 1905, on the request of the Committee, a special inspection was made of the Cow-sheds in the Borough and a report made. Notices were served by the Town Clerk on the instruction of the Council on all those occupiers found to be not complying with the Bye-laws warning them that proceedings would be taken unless the defects were at once remedied. There is still room for improvement in matters of cleanliness and ventilation.

Water Supply.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Works Company supplies the Borough with water. The quality is good and the supply constant and adequate. The water supplied to Stoke-upon-Trent is derived from the deep wells in the Bunter Sandstone at Hatton, From these wells the water is pumped to a reservoir 775 feet above the sea level, and from thence the mains run through Trentham, Hanford, and Trent Vale to Penkhull, the highest point in the Borough (550 feet above the sea level), and from these it is distributed throughout the town. The pressure in the mains is very considerable.

There are still some instances in the Borough of very insufficient water supply.

A large number of Water Closets in the Borough are without Flushing Cisterns. In several instances the water supply to the houses is deficient, and this deficiency is much increased where there are Water Closets without Flushing Cisterns.

All houses in the Borough, except one, are now supplied from the public water supply.

Smoke Nuisance.

Great nuisance still exists from excessive emission of smoke from Chimneys in the district. The Chimneys in connection with Steam Boilers are apparently the chief offenders at any rate in the day time. The nuisance from these could without any difficulty be very much lessened,

Canal Boats.

Stoke-upon-Trent is the Registration Authority for the whole of the surrounding district. There are over 540 boats on the Register.

In 1906, 316 inspections were made, and 49 infringements detected.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year. The custom is to serve a notice when infringements are detected.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are Two Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, and there are Bye-laws in force for their regulation. In one there are twenty-five beds in the house available for single lodgers, and three for married couples. This House is an old one ; it is as well kept as it can be.

It would be a distinct advance to have it replaced by a Municipal Model Lodging House.

The second one is also an old house, and has ten single beds. It has not always been very well kept.

Both the Houses have been regularly inspected.

Mortuary.

During the year a Mortuary has been built and is in every way satisfactory.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and other Matters.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PREMISES	Inspec- tions	NUMBER OF Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	33	9	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	116	11	0
Workplaces	6	4	0
TOTAL ...	155	24	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness ...	3	3	0	0
Want of Ventilation ...	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding ...	0	0	0	0
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	0	0	0	0
Other Nuisances ...	10	9	0	0
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient ...	3	3	0	0
Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	0	0
Not Separate for Sexes ...	0	0	0	0
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse ...	0	0	0	0
Breach of Special Sanitary Require- ments for Bakehouses ...	0	0	0	0
Other Offences ...	0	0	0	0
	20	19	0	0

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT END OF THE YEAR.

	NUMBER
Dressmakers	39
Tailors	15
Blacksmiths	6
Boot Repairers... ..	34
Saddlers	4
Bakehouses	20
Plumbers, Painters and Builders...	13
Milliners and Drapers	8
Miscellaneous	27
TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKSHOPS ON REGISTER	166

4.—OTHER MATTERS.

	NUMBER
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	0
Notified by H.M. Inspector	4
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	0
Other	0
Underground Bakehouses :	
Certificates granted during the year	0
In use at the end of the year	0

Housing of the Working Classes.

Twenty Houses in Penkhull Square are being dealt with under the Housing of the Working Classes Act.

Removal of Nightsoil and Ashpit Refuse.

This work is done directly by the Council throughout the whole district.

Nightsoil is removed only between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5-30 a.m. A small quantity is disposed of directly to farmers in the district, but most of it is taken to the Sewage Farm, and there mixed with ashes, and sent away as manure by canal boat.

The Borough now possesses a Destructor; and the Refuse is being burnt there. It is built in conjunction with the Electric Lighting Works.

The Cesspools and Ashpits are now emptied twelve times a year.

It is satisfactory to note that all new houses are now supplied with Ashbins; there are over 3,500 in the Borough, and these are emptied once weekly, and in some cases more frequently. There are also 300 shops in the main streets where there is a daily collection of refuse.

There is now in the Borough 5,210 water-closets with and without flush, about 250 slop water-closets, 1,822 cesspit-closets, 632 open ashpits, 3,137 covered ashpits and 3,520 ashbins.

In 1906 there were 96 cesspit-closets converted into water-closets.

Nightsoil Tips in the Borough.

1. At Sewage Farm, Sideway.
2. At Trent Vale, in Field south of Scotchman's Hole.
3. At Lower Hartshill, on Gorton's Farm Land.
4. At north of Knapper's Gate, Woolliscroft's Land.

Drainage and Disposal of Sewage.

As a rule, in the larger houses, and where Water Closets are situated in the houses, the Drains are ventilated by a pipe continued upwards from the soil pipe, but only in houses specially re-drained within the last few years are the Drains disconnected by a trap and inspecting chamber from the Sewer. In smaller houses, with the Water Closets outside, there is no disconnection of Drains from Sewers, and in those that have the Drains ventilated, it is done by means of the rain-water fall pipes.

All houses, under the New Bye-laws, have the Drains disconnected. The Clauses of the New Bye-laws, with reference to ventilation of Drains, are not enforced.

A more systematic effort is being made, I am glad to note, to disconnect the rain-water fall pipes from the Drains and Sewers, and provide proper ventilation, but at a small cost this work could be expedited very much, and ought to be.

All Sewage of the Borough, except in the case of a few isolated houses, is dealt with at the Sewage Farm at Boothen. It is all pumped both day and night. The average amount of Sewage in 24 hours is over 1,000,000 gallons.

The Farm is 45 acres in area. The Sewage is treated by subsidence, and by land filtration and irrigation. The Effluents pass into the River Trent. The Sludge is dried by exposure in the open air, and spread on the land. Sewage from one of the mains can be used to irrigate the Boothen Farm, adjoining the Sewage Farm. The whole question of Sewage disposal in the Borough is being considered by the Council under the guidance of a special expert.

Back to Back Houses.

No. 7 Albert Street and back of same.

" 15 " " " " "

" 17 " " " " "

" 12 " " " " "

Nos. 7 and 9 Hulme Street.

Bye-laws.

Bye-laws for the prevention of nuisances are needed, and especially those regulating the Storage and Removal of Manure, and the keeping of Animals.

Staff.

There is one Inspector of Nuisances, one Assistant Inspector, and an Office Boy.

HEALTH OFFICE,

STOKE-UPON-TRENT,

FEBRUARY 12th, 1907.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

DEAR SIR,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of work done in my department during the past year.

Scavenging.

During the past year I have received complaints as follows:—

	Full Ashpits, 93.	Full Cesspools, 337.	Total, 430
Previous year:	" " 121.	" " 290.	" 411.

The following is a Summary of Work done during the fifty-two weeks ending December. 1906 :—

Ashpits cleared	...	...	...	20,313
Dustbins cleared (weekly)	...	...	...	203,231
Loads removed	...	...	...	10,070
Cesspools cleared	...	...	...	12,827
Tubs of Nightsoil removed	...	...	...	3,697
Number of Horses employed	...	...	...	9
Number of Men employed...	...	...	...	20
Amount of Wages paid	...	...	...	£1,239 6s. 0d.

The following are the figures for the previous year :—

Ashpits cleared	...	...	...	20,291
Dustbins cleared (weekly)	...	..	...	181,205
Loads removed	..	...	...	9,956
Cesspools cleared	...	..	...	14,859
Tubs of Nightsoil removed	...	...	...	4,287
Number of Horses employed	...	...	...	10
Number of Men employed	...	...	...	22
Amount of Wages paid	...	£1,324	12s. 6d.	

Ashbins and Weekly Dustbins.

During the year a good many open ashpits have been removed and weekly dustbins provided instead; the number of uncovered ashpits stand at present at 632. Wherever they are found to be dilapidated, notice is served for their removal, and galvanised iron dustbins are used instead.

We are now getting round the Borough in little over a month; thereby nearly reaching the ideal, for long aimed at, of removing ashpit refuse at least once a month, in fact, all ashpits were cleared monthly during the months of August, September, October, November and December. At times during the Summer months it is difficult to keep pace with the supply of refuse required at the Destructor to keep the Engines going.

Cesspool Closets.

At the end of 1905 there were 1917 cesspool closets in the Borough: at the end of 1906 there were 1824.

Although the number of complaints have increased slightly under this head, it is satisfactory to know that the average times of attendance is about the same; although one horse and two men have been taken off this work.

We still find in the Summer months a difficulty in arranging suitable tips for nightsoil.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
T. STAKE.

Summary of Sanitary Work.

	NUMBER OF		ABATEMENT NUISANCES ABATED			
	Inspections and Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority
Dwelling-houses and Schools—						
Foul Conditions ...	33	33	33	1	32	1
Structural Defects ...	43	43	43	0	43	0
Overcrowding ...	5	5	5	0	5	0
Unfit for Habitation ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lodging-houses ...	72	2	2	0	2	0
Dairies and Milkshops,						
Cowsheds...	199	3	3	0	3	0
Bakehouses ...	95	4	4	0	4	0
Slaughter-houses ...	143	0	0	0	0	0
Canal boats ...	316	49	37	0	35	0
Ashpits and Privies ...	197	202	197	22	161	13
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	1	1	1	1	1	0
Water Closets ...	18	18	18	0	27	0
House Drainage—						
Defective Traps ...	26	26	25	0	33	5
No Disconnection ...	18	18	11	0	28	0
Other Faults ...	107	107	107	1	103	0
Water Supply ...	2	2	2	0	2	5
Pigsties ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Animals improperly kept ...	1	1	1	0	1	0
Offensive Trades ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smoke Nuisances ...	1	1	1	0	1	0
Other Nuisances ...	1	1	1	0	1	0
TOTALS ...	1278	516	491	25	482	24

UNWHOLESOME FOOD.

	CWTS.	QRS.	LBS.
Fish condemned by request of owner...	5	2	14

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	232
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	... ..	238
Schools " " " " "	... ..	3
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	... ..	0
Convictions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	... ..	0
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things		0
Convictions " " " "		0

