

**Annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Penge Urban District
in the County of Kent for the year ending 31st December, 1905.**

Contributors

Penge (Kent, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

[1905]

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

PENGE URBAN DISTRICT,

IN THE

COUNTY OF KENT,

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1905.



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TOWN HALL,

ANERLEY ROAD,

ANERLEY, S.E.

To the Chairman and Members of the Penge Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the honour to present to you my report for the year ending December 31st, 1905.

The principal features of the Vital Statistics for the year are as follows :—

Total Population of all ages, Census of	
1901	22,468
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census of	
1901	3,811
Average number of Persons per House,	
Census of 1901	5·89
Population, estimated middle of 1905 ...	23,440
Area of District in Acres	770
Density of Population per Acre	30·44
Birth Rate	19·5
Corrected Death Rate	12·8
Zymotic Death Rate... ..	·68
Infantile Mortality Rate (under one year)	126·36
Under 5 years. Death Rate per cent. ...	24·5

POPULATION.

The Census was taken on the 31st of March, 1901, and shewed that the population of the district was 22,468, an increase of 2,093 since 1891. This population was accommodated in 3,811 inhabited houses, which gives an average of 5.89 persons per house. I estimate that the population in the middle of the year would be 23,440, and it is upon these figures that my statistics are based. The area of the district is 770 acres and the density of population 30.44 per acre.

BIRTH RATE.

The births during the year numbered 459, of which 243 were males and 216 females. This gives a birth rate of 19.5 per 1,000.

DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths registered in the Urban District of Penge during the twelve months was 254, and to these have to be added 47 which occurred in Public Institutions outside the district. The death rate for the year worked out on these figures is 10.8 per 1,000 for deaths registered in the district, but, with the number of deaths in Public Institutions added, the corrected death rate for the year is 12.8 per 1,000. Of these deaths 58 were under 1 year of age (25 were under 1 month), giving an Infantile mortality rate of 126.36 per 1,000 of births registered.

The death rate of 12.8 compares with 13.40 for 1904, 10.9 for 1903, 12.5 for 1902 and 13.48 for 1901, the only four years for which I am able to give returns.

The Infantile Mortality of 126·34 compares with 128·36 for 1904, 117·64 in 1903, 140·75 in 1902, and 131·29 in 1901.

Seventy-four of the deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age, this being a mortality of 24·5 per cent. of the total number of deaths registered.

The death-rate shews a small reduction on that of the former year and is very satisfactory, but I feel sure that there is no reason why our present low figures should not be maintained and even reduced. The work that is being done in the district must have a good effect. Sanitary defects that are discovered in the house-to-house inspection or in the ordinary routine of work are now thoroughly eradicated and I am certain that the efficient supervision by my inspectors of the works that are carried out ensures a high standard of work in the District. Naturally the death-rate must vary from year to year, being influenced by other than local reasons, but in the long run I am certain that the efforts made by the Council in improving the standard of sanitary efficiency will be rewarded. During the year several of our most thickly populated streets and courts have been laid with Tar Macadam, which ensures a cleaner and comparatively non-absorbent surface. It is much more easily scavenged and will, I believe, help the health of these parts, especially in the hot weather. Another point that will, I believe, help the general health of the district, is the abolition of the old brick catch-pits which were used to receive the surface water and detritus from the roadways, and the substitution in their place of stoneware street gulleys. The Infantile Mortality shews a very small decrease, but is still very high. In my last report I alluded to the appointment of a special visitor, and I am now delighted to know that before long one or more district nurses may be working in the Council's area, and I am very hopeful that we may through them be able to reach the mothers and educate them in the better rearing of their infants.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

During the year, 16 deaths have been referred to the following Zymotic diseases:—

Measles	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria	..	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	8
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	1
					16

This gives a Zymotic death rate of '68 per 1,000, but if the one case of Influenza is omitted, it only amounts to '63 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year under the Infectious Disease Notification Act of 1889 was 80, which compares with 79 in 1904, 69 in 1903, and 133 in 1902.

Disease.	Treated at Home.		Removed to Hospital.		Total.
Diphtheria ...	...	11	...	12	23
Erysipelas ...	...	8	...	—	8
Scarlet Fever	...	5	...	34	41
Enteric Fever	...	4	...	1	5
Membranous Croup	—	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever	...	2	...	—	—
		30			50
					80

This works out at 3·4 notifications per 1,000 of the inhabitants.

SMALL-POX.

No work has arisen under this heading. I have several times alluded to the danger of "tramps" disseminating this and other infectious diseases, and it is good news that the Government are now contemplating action in this matter.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 41 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, as against 47, 30 and 74, in the previous three years; one of them died. I am again glad to note that 36 of these 41 cases were removed to hospital, a step which I am certain is for the good of the individual removed, as it is for friends and neighbours of the diseased person. The type of the disease has been very mild.

DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria gives 23 notifications, as against 18, 25 and 17 the previous three years. Of this number only 12 were removed to hospital.

The notifications of Diphtheria are about the average, but although 5 more than last year, the mortality has been less, only two deaths as against six in 1904, and 3 in 1903.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Five Cases only of Typhoid Fever were notified, as against 4, 11 and 2, the previous three years; and one died.

Each case was thoroughly investigated without any definite cause being discovered. In all the drains were afterwards perfected, and while the cases were under treatment, daily disinfection of all house drains was carried out by our own staff.

EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

In my last year's report I recommended that steps be taken to undertake the bacteriological examination of swabs from throats and other pathological products, and I am now pleased to be able to report that this question was taken into consideration by the Sanitary Committee, and after submission to the Council was adopted and has been acted upon. The following letter, which was issued to all the medical men practising in the District, explains fully the formation of the scheme and the means adopted for carrying it out :—

TOWN HALL,

ANERLEY ROAD,

ANERLEY, S.E.

June 23rd, 1905.

DEAR SIR,

I have the pleasure to inform you that my Council have decided to assist you in the diagnosis of suspected cases of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever by arranging for the bacteriological examination of Diphtheria Swabs and the blood where Enteric is feared.

To carry this out they have made arrangements with the Clinical Research Association, Ltd., of 1, Southwark

Street, London Bridge, S.E., and during the next few days you will receive from the Association the necessary apparatus.

On any suspected case occurring in your practice you should at once take a specimen from it and forward the Swab or Widal Apparatus direct to the Clinical Research Association. Immediately they have arrived at a decision they will let you know the result by telegram, and the case should be notified to me in the usual way and the necessary steps be taken for its removal or treatment at home.

A fresh supply of Diagnostic apparatus will be forwarded to you by the Association, so that you will be kept supplied with all that is necessary.

I am also instructed to inform you that the Council have made arrangements with Mr. Tompsett, Chemist, 127, Anerley Road, for the free supply at any hour, day or night, of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

The Council trust that in taking these steps they will assist you in the early diagnosis of these diseases, and in return, they will expect that every case of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever should be verified, as such, by bacteriological diagnosis.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY J. PRANGLEY.

The following table shows the work done :—

There were 30 specimens of serum and blood submitted to the Clinical Research Association since the 17th July, 1905, when the Council sanctioned these bacteriological examinations in cases of Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever. The results were as follows :—

	Bacillus found.		Bacillus not found.		Total.
Diphtheria secretion ..	7	...	15	...	22

	Reaction obtained.		Reaction not obtained.		Total.
Typhoid (blood) ...	2	...	6	...	8

Four bottles, each containing 2,000 units of anti-diphtheritic serum, were supplied for use by Medical Practitioners in the treatment of Diphtheria.

DISINFECTION.

We still have had to take all our articles for Disinfection to Croydon, and although the Authorities there have been very kind in helping us to meet our difficulties, yet it will be a great relief when we have a Disinfector under our own control, and it is satisfactory to know that this object will be attained during the next few months, as an improved Washington Lyons apparatus has been ordered and the building for its reception is in a very forward condition. The amount of disinfection has increased considerably : 2,063 articles against 935 last year, and 83 rooms as against 57. Six requests have been received to disinfect after fatal cases of Phthisis and Cancer, and we are anxious to let everyone know that such disinfection will be carried out without any cost. I can report, and I do so with pleasure, that there seems to be a growing feeling amongst all classes of the desirability of disinfecting in the various necessary diseases.

INQUESTS.

There have been 17 Inquests during the year, and were as follows :—

Cause of death.		Males.		Females.		Total.
Natural Causes	...	5	...	7	...	12
Accidental causes	...	4	...	—	...	4
Suicides		—	...	1	..	1
		—		—		—
		9		8		17
		—		—		—

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

With respect to House-to-house Inspection I will only say, as I did last year, that it is still progressing, and I am perfectly satisfied with the thoroughness with which it is carried out. Permanent records are kept, and I hope as time goes on every house in the district will be examined and its sanitary condition recorded.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

The Common Lodging Houses are the same as last year numbering 7 (of which 2 belong to the Council), the Houses let in Lodgings amount to 22 (of which 6 belong to the Council). All are situated in Arpley Road. They have been frequently inspected by day and night, and as the results of midnight inspections four cases of overcrowding were detected and the landlords were summoned and fined. I would again point out that the Common Lodging Houses are maintained at a higher standard of cleanliness than the Houses let in Lodgings, over which it is impossible to keep as strict a supervision.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Workshops registered number 95 as against 94 last year. Bakehouses and all workshops, work places and home workers' premises have been regularly inspected, and we have experienced no difficulty in getting all necessary requirements carried out without having recourse to summary proceedings, but although all places where out-workers are likely to be employed have been circularised to send in the half-yearly list of such out-workers as provided for in the Factory and Workshops Act of 1901, the response has been very meagre, as shown by the tables at the end of the report, and I cannot help feeling that there must be many more out-workers employed in the district than these lists contain.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

I have gone through all the dairies, cowsheds and slaughterhouses frequently during the year, they have all been measured up as to their cubic capacity so that each cow has not less than eight hundred cubic feet of air space as necessitated by the new regulations. One cowshed has been entirely redrained.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

During the year the following properties have been purchased under the above Act :

Thicket Wood Chambers, consisting of 28 tenements. These have been put into perfect order and the road leading to them will shortly be made up with tar macadam.

35 to 49 (inclusive), Arpley Road ; 64 to 74 (inclusive),

Arpley Road. So far only absolutely minor and necessary repairs have been carried out, but when sanction is obtained, these, which are at present in a very unsatisfactory condition, will also be put into thorough order.

CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE ACTS.

One application, relating to 12 to 66 and 19 to 91 (all inclusive), Vineleigh Road, has been received under these Acts, but is standing over for the premises to be put into a satisfactory state of repair.

WATER SUPPLY.

The District is served by the Metropolitan Water Board, and south of the railway the supply is supposed to be constant, whilst on the north it is only intermittent, or the pressure is so reduced that the houses in the higher parts of the District are without water. I would repeat what I said last year, that I am strongly of opinion that every endeavour should be made to ensure a constant and plentiful supply over the whole District.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

During the year the rainfall has been registered at the Penge Recreation Ground, and the following table shews the results thus obtained and compared with the rainfall at Greenwich.

RAINFALL.

Recorded at PENGES Recreation Ground.				Recorded at GREENWICH.			
Week ending Saturday				Week ending Saturday			
Jan.	7	..	0.30	Jan.	7	...	0.42
	14	...	0.17		14	...	0.08
	21	...	0.50		21	...	0.47
	28	...	None		28	...	None
			0.97				0.97
Feb.	4	...	0.03	Feb.	4	...	0.03
	11	...	0.18		11	...	0.12
	18	...	0.12		18	...	0.12
	25	...	0.35		25	...	0.25
			0.68				0.52
Mar.	4	...	0.29	Mar.	4	...	0.30
	11	...	0.98		11	...	1.08
	18	...	1.81		18	...	2.25
	25	...	0.12		25	...	0.09
Apl.	1	...	0.05	Apl.	1	...	0.06
			3.25				3.78
Apl.	8	...	0.29	Apl.	8	...	0.27
	15	...	0.78		15	...	0.83
	22	...	0.28		22	...	0.25
	29	...	0.18		29	...	0.15
			1.53				1.50

RAINFALL (*Continued*).

Recorded at PENGÉ Recreation Ground.					Recorded at GREENWICH.				
Week ending Saturday.					Week ending Saturday.				
May	6	...	...	0.72	May	6	...	...	0.85
	13	...	...	None		13	...	...	None
	20	...	...	0.22		20	...	...	0.22
	27	...	...	None		27	...	...	None
June	3	...	...	0.47	June	3	...	...	0.50
				1.41					1.57
June	10	...	...	3.07	June	10	...	...	2.86
	17	...	...	1.15		17	...	...	0.95
	24	...	...	None		24	...	...	0.02
July	1	...	...	0.52	July	1	...	...	0.54
				4.84					4.37
July	8	...	...	0.03	July	8	...	...	0.03
	15	...	...	0.08		15	...	...	0.26
	22	...	...	0.10		22	...	...	0.02
	29	...	...	0.37		29	...	...	0.53
				0.58					0.84
Aug.	5	...	...	0.38	Aug.	5	...	...	0.65
	12	...	...	0.07		12	...	...	0.16
	19	...	...	0.27		19	...	...	0.03
	26	...	...	0.39		26	...	...	0.48
Sept.	2	...	...	1.35	Sept.	2	...	...	1.21
				2.46					2.53

RAINFALL (Continued).

Recorded at PENG Recreation Ground.				Recorded at GREENWICH.			
Week ending Saturday.				Week ending Saturday.			
Sept. 9	...	...	0.72	Sept. 9	...	...	0.68
16	...	...	0.19	16	...	...	0.32
23	...	...	0.02	23	...	...	0.01
30	...	...	0.94	30	...	...	1.27
			1.87				2.28
Oct. 7	...	...	0.22	Oct. 7	...	...	0.16
14	...	...	0.03	14	...	...	0.16
21	...	...	0.24	21	...	...	0.13
28	...	...	0.20	28	...	...	0.05
Nov. 4	...	...	1.37	Nov. 4	...	...	1.60
			2.06				2.10
Nov. 11	...	...	1.13	Nov. 11	...	...	0.65
18	...	...	0.40	18	...	...	0.64
25	...	...	0.15	25	...	...	0.17
Dec. 2	...	...	0.58	Dec. 2	...	...	0.61
			2.26				2.07
Dec. 9	...	...	0.25	Dec. 9	...	...	0.31
16	...	...	0.01	16	...	...	0.02
23	...	...	None	23	...	...	None
30	...	...	0.25	30	...	...	0.24
			0.51				0.57
TOTAL	...		22.42	TOTAL	...		23.10

A Sunshine Recorder is on order and will be fitted up as soon as possible, so that we shall also be able to compare the number of hours of sunshine here and elsewhere.

In concluding my report for the year I should also state that the ordinary inspections have been carried out as usual and all important drain work has come under my notice. The necessities for consultation with other Medical Men as to the diagnosis of doubtful cases of infectious disease have not been as numerous as usual during the year.

At the end of the Report will be found the Tables relating to the Vital Statistics of the District for the last ten years.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. PRANGLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

PENGE URBAN DISTRICT

IN THE

COUNTY OF KENT

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1905.

TOWN HALL,

ANERLEY ROAD,

ANERLEY, S.E.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Penge Urban District
Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1905.

I have pleasure in calling attention to the number of defective drains that have been removed, and to the interest, not to say anxiety, that is displayed by both owners and occupiers, especially the latter, as to the condition of the drains belonging to their premises.

The builders, too, display much more care in the work they do, and concern themselves that the work done will not in the future reflect discredit, which I regret to say has happened in the past, to the annoyance and cost of present-day owners.

Eighty-five premises have had entirely new drains; 5,980 feet of glazed stoneware pipes, with water-tight

joints, were laid on a bed of cement concrete; 79 inspection chambers have been constructed; 110 water-closets, 201 gullies, and 94 soil-pipes fixed. This has involved upwards of 1,200 inspections.

The work in connection with infectious diseases has been about the average, although there was a large increase in the amount of disinfection carried out.

Workshops came in for a larger share of attention than formerly, and, owing to recent legislation, more time still will have to be devoted to this work.

The House-to-house inspection is still progressing. This is certainly a factor for good in the health of the district. Although the larger property is now being included in the inspection, yet the poorer property has the first consideration.

The Somali encampment at the Crystal Palace caused some anxiety, owing to the dirty habits of these people, but by careful vigilance, the co-operation of the Palace officials, the use of disinfectants and liberal cleansing, no illness of a serious nature occurred.

Details of the work will be found under the various headings and tables.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year eighty cases of infectious disease have been notified, as against seventy-nine last year.

No case of Small-pox was notified, but one case of Membranous Croup and two cases of Puerperal Fever occurred; diseases which were absent from the report of 1904.

The notifications work out at the low rate of 3·4 per 1,000 of the population.

Total cases notified in District :—

Disease.	Treated at home.	Removed to Hospital.	Total
Diphtheria ...	11	12	23
Erysipelas ...	8	—	8
Scarlet Fever ...	5	36	41
Enteric Fever ...	4	1	5
Membranous Croup	—	1	1
Puerperal Fever ...	2	—	2
	—	—	—
	30	50	80
	—	—	—

In the following table it will be seen how many cases of infectious disease were notified in each month.

	Membranous Croup.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Total.
January ...	1	1	—	2	—	1	5
February	—	1	—	2	—	1	4
March ...	—	4	—	1	—	—	5
April ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
May ...	—	5	1	—	—	—	6
June ...	—	4	—	1	—	—	5
July ...	—	1	2	3	1	—	7
August ...	—	1	2	2	—	—	5
September	—	3	1	2	—	—	6
October...	—	2	1	10	2	—	15
November	—	—	—	8	1	—	9
December	—	—	1	9	1	—	11
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	1	23	8	41	5	2	80
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DISINFECTION.

The work of disinfection gradually grows. 2,063 articles have been disinfected, as against 935 last year. 83 rooms were fumigated, compared with 57 in 1904.

The people now welcome the disinfection of their homes after infectious disease, as a preventative of further trouble, whilst formerly it had to be done under pressure.

Six requests have been received to disinfect after fatal cases of Phthisis and Cancer, which were duly carried out.

The Croydon Authorities have kindly met us when bedding, etc., were wanted quickly, and they have many times during the year disinfected for us on days which were not usual for them to do so.

Although so many articles have gone through the disinfector, yet we have not received one complaint of any damage done.

The following list shows the number of rooms fumigated and of beds and other articles disinfected during the year.

Number of rooms fumigated	...	...	83
„ „ beds disinfected	...	...	125
„ „ blankets „	...	...	189
„ „ pillows „	...	...	257
„ „ sheets „	...	...	108
„ „ miscellaneous articles	...	...	1,300
Total			2,062

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

During the year the Secretary of State has extended the previous orders relating to certain classes of work,

where the employer, engaged in the various trades enumerated, must send to the Council lists of persons engaged by him, but doing the work at their own homes or workshops.

These lists should be sent in on or before the first day of February and the first day of August in each year.

I regret to state that these lists are not sent in as they should be, but we are now circularising the various employers in the district, calling attention to the requirements of the Act.

"Out-workers lists" must be kept in the following classes of work :—

"The making, cleansing, washing, altering, ornamenting, finishing, and repairing of wearing apparel and any work incidental thereto.

"The making, ornamenting, mending and finishing of lace and of lace curtains and nets.

"Cabinet and furniture making and upholstery work.

"The making of electro-plate.

"The making of files.

"Fur-pulling.

"The making of iron and steel cables and chains.

"The making of iron and steel anchors and grapnels.

"The making of cart gear, including swivels, rings, loops, gear buckles, mullin bits, hooks, and attachments of all kinds.

"The making of locks, latches, and keys.

“The making of covers for, and the covering, finishing, altering or repairing of, umbrellas, sunshades, parasols, and articles of similar character, and any work incidental thereto.

“The making of paper bags and of paper boxes.

“Brushmaking ; and

“The making of stuffed toys.”

Factories, *i.e.*, broadly speaking, places where mechanical power is used, are not directly supervised by us with respect to sanitation, etc. The Government Inspector is mainly responsible for these premises, but the Council are responsible for the means of escape in case of fire, and with respect to closet accommodation. Premises have been altered in the one case, and extra accommodation has been provided in the other.

WORKSHOPS.

The Workshops come in for the greatest amount of supervision, as the Council are responsible, with but few reservations, for “all places where work is carried on for gain without the aid of mechanical power.”

There are 95 workshops on the register. The trades or works carried on in such workshops are as follows :—

Bake-houses	...	...	...	23
Boot making	...	...	...	6
Bottling ...	...	...	...	1
Carpentering	...	...	...	4
Cycle making	...	...	...	4
Dress making	...	...	...	12
Harness making	...	...	...	1
Laundry work	...	...	...	9

Mantle making	...	...	...	1
Metal working	...	...	...	3
Millinery	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	5
Packing	...	...	...	1
Scale making	...	..	...	1
Smithy	...	...	...	3
Tailoring	...	...	...	5
Tie making...	...	...	...	1
Upholstering	...	...	...	5
Wheel making	...	...	...	4
				95

A detailed list giving particulars of inspections, defects found and remedied, will be found at the end of the report.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of Common Lodging Houses remains as last year, seven being registered in Arpley Road. Owing to the fact that the By-laws regulating these are more stringent than those regulating Houses let in Lodgings, the Common Lodging Houses are kept in a more cleanly condition, and I am sure will compare very favourably with similar registered premises in other districts.

Recently the Council have become the owners of two of these houses.

The landlords control many of the furnished rooms, which they work in conjunction with the Common Lodging Houses.

No case of overcrowding was found to exist during the past year.

Landlord.	No. of Houses.		Registered No. of Lodgers.	
Buckingham, J. G.	...	3	...	35
Dunbar, Alexander	...	2	...	26
Stitchman, Mrs. C.	...	2	...	19
		—		—
		7		80
		—		—

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There are 22 houses in Arpley Road registered as "Houses let in Lodgings." These have been regularly inspected both by day and night.

The Council have now become the owners of six of these premises, and I hope to be able to state in my next report that an example has been set to the other owners.

On four occasions proceedings were taken before the Magistrates for overcrowding. Fines were imposed in each case, viz. :—

James Osborne

- (1) £5 fine and 45s. costs.
- (2) £5 fine and 12s. costs.

Mrs. Stitchman

- (3) £5 fine and 32s. costs.

A. Dunbar

- (4) 20s. fine and 31s. costs.

Landlord.	No. of Houses
Buckingham, J. G.	3
Stitchman, Mrs. C.... ..	9
Dunbar, Alexander	3
Osborne, George	1
Osborne, James	3
Marshall, F. F.	1
Howard, J.	1
Plumb, R.	1
	22

It may be of interest to insert here the report I made to the Sanitary Committee at their December meeting :—

GENTLEMEN,

I think that the following facts relating to a recent legal decision as to the definition of a Common Lodging House are of sufficient importance to the Council to warrant a special report being made thereon.

In my Annual Reports for the years 1903-4 I spoke of the difficulty experienced in getting the same sanitary condition in the Houses let in Lodgings, as obtains in the Common Lodging Houses, the reason being that the By-laws referring to the latter were better and more comprehensive than in the former, for instance: a Common Lodging House must be registered before being used as such, on the other hand "anyone" may open a "House let in lodgings" and this does not come under any supervision until it is discovered.

A Common Lodging House must be cleansed twice a year, the others only once, but perhaps the greatest defect

experienced in the Houses let in Lodgings is that no authority is given to have dirty bedding and clothes replaced by clean.

The summons as to a case of over-crowding at 20, Arpley Road, was heard at the Police Court on the 5th inst., and the Landlord was fined 20/- and 31/- costs, but this overcrowding was the least insanitary and deplorable condition of all. The first floor front room and the ante-room were let to a woman with 5 children, for which she paid 1/6 per night.

In the ante-room was a filthy mattress on the floor, with only a dirty sheet and some old clothes to cover the three children. No furniture was in the room. The front room contained a bedstead with an extremely dirty mattress and bed-clothes thereon. The woman and 2 children were in bed. For furniture there were 2 broken chairs and table.

The Houses Let in Lodgings are certainly, as regards cleanliness and morality, much below the Common Lodging Houses, and although the rooms of the former are said to be let by the week, yet without doubt they are let by the night, and this, I think, will not be difficult to prove.

Mr. William Dommett kindly brought to my notice a case recently decided by the Court of Appeal, in which the Lords Justices decided that the meaning of the term "Common Lodging House, shall mean a House in which persons are harboured or lodged for hire FOR A SINGLE NIGHT OR FOR LESS THAN A WEEK at a time, or any part of which is let for any term less than a week."

Previous to this there was no legal definition of a Common Lodging House, but it was held to mean "that class of lodging-house in which persons of the poorer classes are received for short periods, and though

strangers to one another, are allowed to inhabit one common room." So that up till now we could not class these Houses Let in Lodgings as anything else, because the lodgers therein did not inhabit one common room. The recent decision has altered this, and all that would now have to be proved is the fact that persons are lodged for hire for less than a week.

It is therefore open for the Committee to decide whether :

- (1) The Houses Let in Lodgings remain as they now are.
- (2) To close them, as being unregistered Common Lodging Houses, or
- (3) Register them as Common Lodging Houses.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A. J. WILLETT,
Sanitary Inspector.

8th December, 1905.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.

	No. of Houses Inspected during the Year.		Defects discovered.	
Anerley Vale	...	47	...	43
Arpley Road	...	79	...	51
Brunswick Place	...	14	...	13
Clifford Grove	...	20	...	18
Crampton Road	...	25	...	25
Hadlow Place	...	6	...	6
Hamilton Place	...	12	...	12
Heath Grove	...	3	...	3
Hartfield Grove	...	7	...	7
Green Lane	...	11	...	6
Vineleigh Road	...	78	...	51
		302		235

Although there appears to be a large number of defects found, a large percentage are small items. The principal defects discovered were 129 dirty premises, 20 leaky roofs, 45 defective flushing apparatus, 30 insufficient ashpits, 50 defective water closets, and in 44 cases the drains were so defective as to require new drains throughout. This entailed 1,320 re-inspections and a large amount of clerical work.

The accompanying illustration is of a defective drain found through the House to House Inspection in Brunswick Place, which Mr. H. W. Longdin kindly took a photograph of.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are now 23 bakehouses in the district, six of these are underground. The underground bakehouses



CONNECTIONS OF DEFECTIVE DRAIN.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A From sink gully. | D 9 inch pipe from one gully. |
| B 6 inch pipe from W.C. | E 6 inch pipe from 3 houses. |
| C 6 inch pipe from 3 houses. | F 9 inch pipe main drain. |

were altered so as to comply with the Council's requirements, and subsequently certificates were in six cases granted. In one case the bakehouse was closed, but during the year a new one was built in substitution above ground level. Another bakehouse has been re-opened, so that the year closes with two additional bakehouses.

All the bakehouses have been cleansed twice during the year and regularly inspected.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 21 persons registered as purveyors of milk.

Four persons are registered as Cowkeepers.

The lime-washing of the cowsheds was carried out in conformity with the Regulations, and more care is taken to keep the cowsheds and cows clean than was sometimes the case.

The three slaughter-houses have been cleansed four times during the year, in March, June, September and December.

The Licensee of one of the slaughter-houses asked me to look at a cow he had just slaughtered, and upon examining the carcase I found that it was tuberculous. It was subsequently examined and condemned by a Magistrate, after which it was destroyed. This is the only case of diseased meat I have found in the slaughter-houses.

UN SOUND FOOD.

I am pleased to note that the tradesmen in the district now make it a practice to call my attention to any

unsound food they may have from the markets, so that I may give a certificate to enable them to get back the money they have paid. This food is destroyed in my presence, and in this way a large quantity of fish, shell-fish and fruit have been prevented from being offered for sale for food.

In the matter of the diseased carcase mentioned in the former paragraph, there was a loss to the buyer of £13. This says much for the integrity of the tradesman.

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Two new licences and six renewed licences for the sale of petroleum have been granted, viz. :—

Messrs. Spicer & Orford	...	50	galls. of petrol
W. Verinder,	250 galls. of petrol,	5	galls. benzoline
E. Searle & Co.	...	5	" "
A. Olby	...	10	" "
C. Paffard	...	150	" petrol
Messrs. Chambers & Co.	...	250	" benzoline
G. Turner	...	5	" petrol
L. G. Brown	...	20	" "

Six samples of petroleum were purchased from shops in different parts of the district, and tested as to the flash-point, *i.e.*, the temperature at which the spirit or oil gives off inflammable vapour. All the samples were above the minimum (73 degrees Fahrenheit) prescribed by the statute.

Nos.	SAMPLE.	FLASH-POINT.
19	Tea Rose (Russian)	89 ° F.
20	White Rose (American)	98 ° F.
21	Crown Diamond (Russian)	79 ° F.
22	Crown Diamond	85 ° F.
23	Imperial	85 ° F.
24	Rocklight	78 ° F.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

In addition to the four summonses taken out under the By-laws relating to the Houses let in Lodgings, two were taken out for recovery of costs and expenses for work done under Section 41, Public Health Act, 1875. In both cases the whole of the claim was allowed.

The costs of other drainage works done by the Council (in default of owners) under this Section, were paid by the owners without the cases being taken to Court.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

The table referring to this enumerates under the various headings the work accomplished during the year. This work has entailed 6,712 inspections, the writing of 621 letters, serving of 548 Intimation Notices and 354 Statutory Notices ; we have also dealt with about 800 communications.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given by the officers of the Council in the working of this Department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED J. WILLETT,

*Diploma Municipal and County Engineers.
Member Royal Sanitary Institute.*

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Cases of infectious disease	...	80
Inspections through complaints received	...	390
House to House inspection	...	302
Houses let in Lodgings	}	...
Common Lodging Houses		
Trades Inspections (including bake-houses, cowsheds, slaugh- ter-houses, etc.)...	...	349
Factories and Workshops (ex- cluding inspections included in previous item)	...	180
Re-inspection of works in hand...		4,731
		—
Total number of inspections		6,721
		—

TABLE OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Number of houses, premises, &c., cleansed, repaired, whitewashed, &c.	285
Roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes, &c., repaired	47
HOUSE DRAINS—	
Repaired, cleansed	53
Ventilated	50
Stoneware syphon gullies provided ...	201
Houses provided with new drains ...	85
Inspection Chambers constructed ...	79
Interceptors fixed	31
Aggregate length of 4 in., 6in., and 9in. glazed stoneware and iron pipes laid ...	5980
Sink and bath waste pipes renewed or repaired	65
WATER-CLOSETS—	
Lighted and Ventilated	28
Repaired, &c.	63
Additional provided	3
New water-closet basins and traps ...	110
Soil pipes and ventilation shafts re- constructed	94
Ditto, ditto repaired	24
Flushing apparatus renewed or repaired	116
WATER SUPPLY—	
Water supply to houses re-instated ...	26
Cisterns cleansed, repaired or covered ...	53
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Galvanized iron dust bins provided ...	162
Overcrowding in rooms abated	12
Yards and Forecourts to houses paved or amended	77

Removal of accumulation of dung, stagnant water, animal or other refuse ...	27
Receptacles for dung erected or improved	12
Animals removed, being improperly kept	8
Smoke nuisances abated	2
Other defects remedied	106

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORK-PLACES AND HOME-WORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	39	6
Workshops and Work-places (Including Workshop Laundries)	391	92
Homeworkers' Premises ...	17	—
	447	98

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of defects Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>		
Want of cleanliness	63	63
Want of ventilation	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1
Want of drainage of floors ...	2	2
Other nuisances	18	18
<i>Sanitary accommodations—</i>		
Insufficient	1	1
Unsuitable or defective ...	9	9
Not separate for sexes ...	1	—

Particulars.	Number of defects		
	Found.	Remedied.	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>			
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (S. 101)...	—	...	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (S.S. 97 to 100)	—	...	—
Failure as regards lists of outworkers (S. 107)	3	...	3
Giving out work to be done in premises which are			
unwholesome (S. 108)	—	...	—
infected (S. 110)	—	...	—
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or small-pox (S. 109)	—	...	—
Other offences	1	...	1
	99		98

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	2
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	1
Other	—

Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—

In use during 1903	...	...	...	...	8
Certificates granted in 1903	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ 1905	...	..	...	...	—
In use at the end of 1905	...	...	...	...	7

Homework :—

Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—

				Number of Lists.	Outworkers.
Lists received	...	...	...	16	17
Addresses of outworkers :—					
Forwarded to other Authorities	—				
Received from other Authorities	15				

Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :—

				Number of Wearing Apparel.	Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in un- wholesome premises (S. 108)	...	...	...	—	—
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	...	...	...	1	—
Orders prohibiting homework in in- fected premises (S. 110)	...	...	...	1	—
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of					
1904	...	...	...	...	72
Workshop Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	23
Total number of workshops on Register					95

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of District during 1905 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
		Rate.*		Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
1895	—	488	—	—	—	281	—	—	—	—	—	—
1896	—	414	—	—	—	238	—	—	—	—	—	—
1897	—	500	—	—	—	237	—	—	—	—	—	—
1898	—	439	—	—	—	277	—	—	—	—	—	—
1899	—	465	—	—	—	289	—	—	—	—	—	—
1900	—	481	—	—	—	256	—	—	—	—	—	—
1901	22,468	457	20.3	60	131.29	271	12.0	—	—	32	303	13.48
1902	22,822	476	20.8	67	140.75	250	10.9	—	—	37	287	12.5
1903	22,965	476	20.7	56	117.64	214	9.31	—	—	37	251	10.92
1904	23,206	483	20.8	62	128.36	254	10.9	—	—	57	311	13.40
Averages for years 1895-1904	—	467	—	—	—	256	—	—	—	—	—	—
1905	23,440	459	19.5	58	126.36	254	10.8	2	1	47	301	12.8

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

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

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

The "Public institutions" taken into account for the purpose of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made are given in the following table.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	Total population at all ages...	...	...	22,468	At Census of 1901.
	Number of inhabited houses...	...	...	3,811	
	Average number of persons per house	...	...	5.89	

TABLE II.

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Brooklyn Institute.	1. Workhouse Infirmary, Croydon.	
	2. Borough Hospital, Croydon.	
	3. Croydon Borough Isolation Hospital.	
	4. Small-Pox Hospital, Cheam.	
	The Union Workhouse is not within the District.	

TABLE III.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	Deaths Registered.	At Ages—Years.						
			Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	23	2	—	8	11	4	—	—	12
Membranous Croup ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	8	1	—	—	1	—	7	—	—
Scarlet Fever	41	1	—	12	24	3	2	—	36
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	5	1	—	1	1	—	3	—	1
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	80	7	—	22	37	8	13	—	50

Isolation Hospitals { Croydon Isolation Hospital.
Croydon, Wimbledon and Penge Joint Small-pox Hospital, Cheam.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJUGED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND 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.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3	1	2	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	3	4	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever-Enteric	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other continued	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Septic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	27	—	—	1	4	22	—
Other Tubercular Diseases	9	—	6	2	1	—	—
Cancer (Malignant Disease)	36	—	—	—	—	15	21
Bronchitis	22	2	—	—	—	5	15
Pneumonia	13	5	1	—	1	4	2
Pleurisy	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	1	—	1	—	1	1
Alcoholism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Veneral Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	11	11	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Heart Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents	4	1	—	1	—	1	1
Suicides	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
All other causes	148	32	—	—	1	42	73
All causes	391	58	16	9	8	95	115

NOTES.—(a) The deaths of residents occurring beyond the limits of the district are included in this Table, and deaths of non-residents occurring in the district are excluded. See note on Table I, as to meaning of "Residents" and "Non-Residents."

(b) Under the heading of "Diarrhoea" are included deaths certified as from Diarrhoea alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths as certified from

Epidemic Enteritis;
Zymotic Enteritis;
Epidemic Diarrhoea; Summer Diarrhoea;
Dysentery and Dysenteric Diarrhoea;
Choleraic Diarrhoea, Cholera, Cholera Nostris (in the absence of Asiatic Cholera).

Under the heading of "Enteritis" are included those certified as from Gastro Enteritis, Mucro-Enteritis and Gastric Catarrh; unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health has had reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term "Diarrhoea."

Deaths from Diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease are included under the latter. Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal Fever" are included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

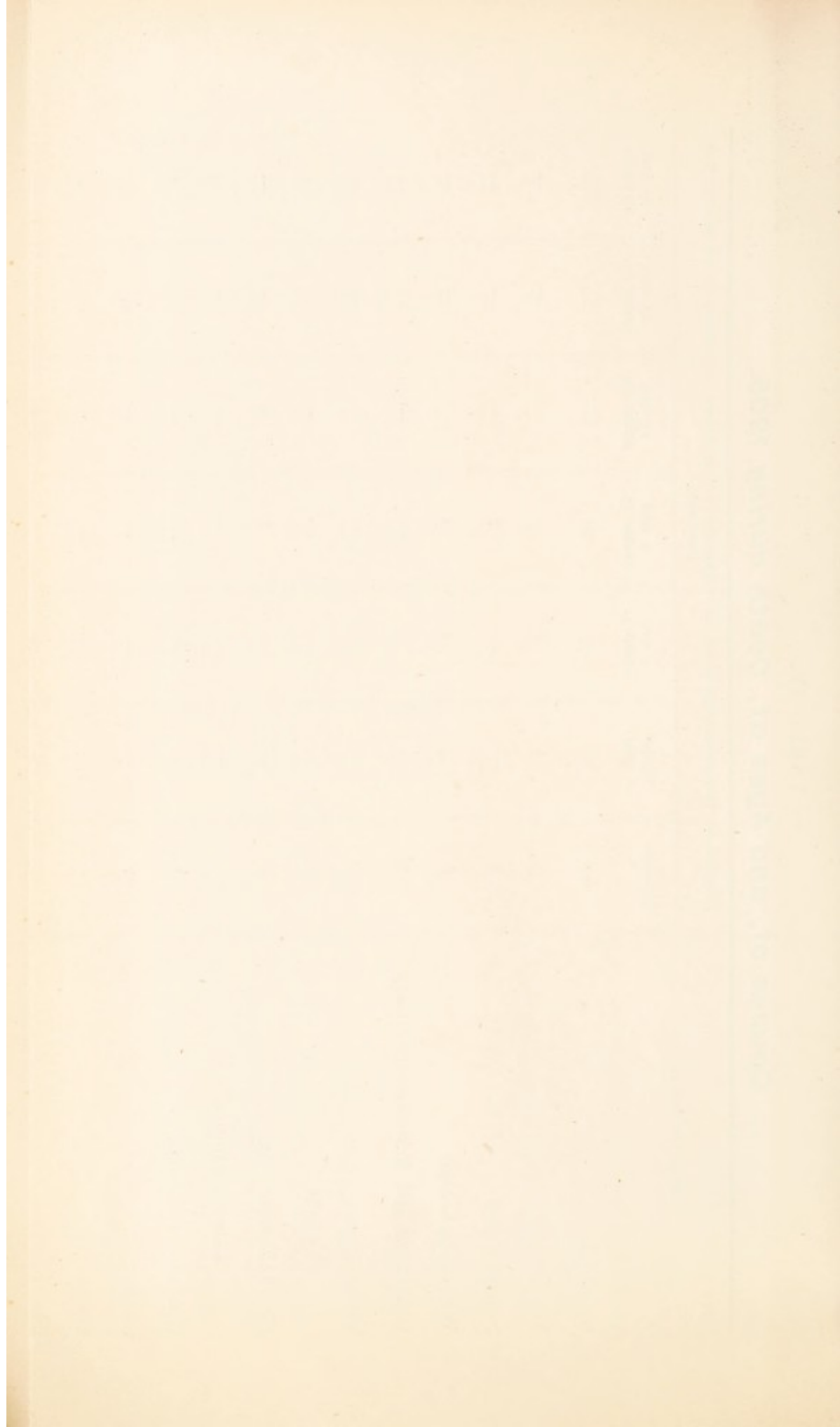


TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1905.

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

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes—																	
Certified ...	14	4	3	4	25	4	10	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	4	2	58
Uncertified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Infectious Diseases—																	
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria; Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	3
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																	
Diarrhoea, all forms ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Enteritis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wasting Diseases—																	
Premature Birth ...	9	—	1	1	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Congenital Defects ...	3	1	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Injury at Birth ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Want of Breast-milk ...	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	—	—	1	1	2	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	12
Tuberculous Diseases—																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tubes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mesenterica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, overlaying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes ...	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
	14	4	3	4	25	4	10	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	4	2	58

Population, estimated to middle of 1905 ... 23,440.

 Births in the year (legitimate ... 446)
 (illegitimate ... 13) 459

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 301.

