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BOROUGH OF TORQUAY.



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1925,

BY

THOMAS DUNLOP, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

TOGETHER WITH SUMMARY OF

Reports of the Sanitary Inspectors

AND

Meteorological Observer.

THE YORQUAY PUBLISHING OF UT PRINTERS & BOOKBINDERS, FLELT STREET, TORQUAY



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ANNUAL REPORT

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To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Torquay.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough and the Health of the inhabitants during the year 1925.

The Ministry of Health require that this should be a "Survey Report," dealing comprehensively with the measures of progress made during the preceding five years, in the improvement of the public health. Owing to the regular and constant request for copies of the M.O.H.'s report by intending visitors and prospective residents, it has been customary to make it of such a full nature that a perusal shows the sanitary condition and circumstances of the town, hence it has been found necessary to add little more than some data, showing progress during the period under review.

I have to thank my colleagues and members of the department for their assistance and hearty co-operation.

I have also to express my appreciation of the cordial support afforded to me by the Council, and especially the Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS DUNLOP.

BOROUGH OF TORQUAY.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area of the Borough, 3.996 acres.

Assessable value, £235,763.

,,

,,

Population—Census (1911), 38,772.

,,

(1921), 39,432.

Registrar-General's Estimate for Statistical Purposes for 1925, 35,070.

Number of separate occupiers-Census (1921), 8,882.

Density of population, 10.2 persons per acre.

- Corrected death rate (1925), 15.0 per 1,000. Average for previous five years, 15.8 per 1,000.
- Birth rate, 14.6 per 1,000. Average for previous five years, 15.7 per 1,000.

Infantile mortality (1925), 64. Average for previous five years, 56.

Death rate from zymotic disease, '31 per 1,000.

Mean annual temperature, 51.8.

Hours of bright sunshine recorded, 1,822.02.

Total rainfall, 38.83 inches.

BOROUGH OF TORQUAY.

The area of the Borough is 3,996 acres.

POPULATION.

The population recorded at the 1921 census was 39,432. Assuming the inter-censal increase to have continued, the estimated population at the middle of 1925 would have been 40,664. As many of the new houses which have been built have been purchased and occupied by families coming here from outside areas the population must be considerably higher.

For statistical purposes, the Registrar-General furnishes an estimated residential population equal this year to 35,070, and this figure has been used in the calculation of all birth and death rates.

At the 1921 census there were 7,758 inhabited houses, and the number of families or separate occupiers was 8,882.

The rateable value was $\pounds 235,763$, and the sum represented by a penny rate was $\pounds 918$.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The town is situated on a promontory, being practically surrounded by the sea on three sides. This promontory is formed by hilly ridges, running N.E. and S.W. The principal heights—the Warberry Hill, 448 feet, and the Lincombe Hill, 372 feet—are composed of Lower Devonian grits and slates. The lesser heights, such as the Braddons, Waldon Hill, and Chapel Hill, are formed of Middle Devonian Limestone, which rests above the grits and slates mentioned.

On each side of this central area, viz., at St. Mary-Church and Chelston, rocks higher in the geological scale for the most part prevail. These rocks belong to the Permian formation, and consist of beds of Breccia—a kind of conglomerate—and sand stone of a deep red colour. There is very little clay in any portion of the area, and what does occur is of the nature of marl, and is confined to the lower levels of certain valleys or depressions, so that rain is not detained on the surface, as it rapidly disappears through these rather pervious rocks and soils.

It is on the sides of these hills or ridges that most of the houses are built, the main roads and streets following the lines of the valleys. Thus the largest portion of the district is afforded protection from the cold winds of the North and East, a fact that is strikingly proved by the luxuriant growth of semi-tropical shrubs and plants in both public and private gardens.

Torquay is essentially a residential town and health resort; consequently a large proportion of its inhabitants are villa residents, while the remaining portion may be said to obtain a livelihood by catering for them. There are numerous large hotels and many up-to-date boarding houses for the accommodation of visitors. There are no manufactories in the district.

During the summer and early autumn there is a very large influx of visitors, who are catered for by the inhabitants of the smaller houses.

CLIMATE.

The position of the town, built as it is on a promontory, surrounded on two sides by the sea, accounts to some extent for the mild and equable temperature experienced during winter. The meteorological records show that we enjoy a large proportion of sunshine at this period of the year. There is also an almost complete absence of fog.

The benefit of living under such climatic conditions must be apparent to all, but it is inestimable to those who are asthmatical or who are sufferers from chronic bronchitis. To the aged and infirm, who are extremely sensitive to every change of temperature, life under such conditions is prolonged and made worth living.

The bright sunshine and the possibility of being constantly in the open air, is most advantageous to children, and those who are delicate have every chance of growing up strong and healthy.

THE SUMMER CLIMATE.

It is now an established fact that Torquay has become a most popular holiday resort, and during the season the population more than doubles itself.

It is unquestionable that, during the hottest days, the maximum temperature here is five to ten degrees lower than that recorded in London and the Midlands. It stands to reason, if one considers the position of Torquay, flanked by the sea and with Dartmoor in the rear, it is constantly fanned by cool breezes from one or other directions. It seems difficult to imagine a more delightful spot to spend a holiday in. Boating, bathing and fishing of the best, whilst in the neighbourhood are innumerable places of beauty and interest, which are easily accessible by sea, coach or rail.

METEOROLOGY.

Full details of the Meteorology of the Borough will be seen in the appended Annual Report of the Borough Meteorologist, but the following resumé of the climatic conditions may be of interest :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Highest Maximum Temperature	85.8	75.1	87.0	75.2	86.0
Lowest Minimum ,,	00 1	30.3	28.1	27.0	26.6
Mean Maximum ,,	59.9	56.4	57.7	56.6	57.2
Mean Minimum ,,	48.6	45.9	46.3	46.5	46.4
Mean of Maximum and Minimum	54.3	51.1	52.0	51.5	51.8
Difference from Average		-0.7	+0.7	+0.4	+0.5
Number of days on which rain fell	120	181	188	192	165
Total fall in inches		36.9	31.47	43.92	38.83
Number of Hours of Bright Sun-	2016	1771.5	1827.59	1633.16	1822 02
shine					

MEDICAL BATHS.

In view of the fact that our winter climate is so suitable for invalids, the provision of up-to-date Medical Baths is most important. Here it is possible for patients requiring such to continue their treatments during the winter, which residence in less salubrious districts might preclude or necessitate a tedious journey to some Continental Spa. The bathrooms and fittings are all of the latest type, and the most efficient British and Continental methods of balneological and hydrological treatments are administered by a highly skilled and certificated staff. The bath dressing rooms are very comfortably furnished and equipped. There is plenty of light, and every room in the building is well ventilated and kept scrupulously clean. No expense has been spared to ensure absolute comfort for the weakest invalid requiring the greatest care and attention, as well as for those who undergo the treatment to keep them continually fit and well. Between the two blocks dividing the ladies' and gentlemen's baths is a lofty and beautifully furnished cooling lounge, where light refreshments can be had at a reasonable tariff. It is, without doubt, the finest Spa lounge in the kingdom, and the view of Torbay from the large windows cannot be surpassed. The baths and treatments arranged for are those in general demand, and proved after years of experience to be most efficacious.

VITAL STATISTICS.

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered in 1925 was 533, of whom 70 were non-residents, and whose deaths were transferable to their own sanitary areas, whilst the deaths of 65 residents dying outside the Borough have to be added. The net total is therefore 528, of whom 249 were males and 279 females.

The death rate is equal to 15.0 per 1,000, compared with 15.9 in 1924. The average rate for the previous five years was 15.8. The death rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 12.2, and that for the 157 smaller towns 11.2. As the age and sex distribution of Torquay differs widely from that of the country as a whole, it is necessary to use a factor to remove this inequality. The factor furnished by the Registrar-General is '734, by which our rates must be multiplied. This gives a death rate equal to 11.0 per 1,000 per annum.

Of the 528 deaths

			Deaths
33	were under 1 year of age	 equa	ls 6.25
8	were 1 year and under 2 years	 ,,	1.52
5	were 2 years and under 5 years	 ,,	·94
8	were 5 years and under 15 years	 ,,	1.52
7	were 15 years and under 20 years	 ,,	1.32
55	were 20 years and under 45 years	 ••	10.41
120	were 45 years and under 65 years	 ,,	22.73
292	were 65 years and over	 ,,	55.31
			100.00
528	at all ages		100.00

Percentage of

It will thus be seen that 292, or 55 per cent., were persons aged 65 and upwards.

There were 27 inquests; and 2 uncertified deaths were recorded.

Ward.		Deaths at all ages.	Under 1 year.		
Torre		68	5		
Waldon		36	1		
Upton		75	7		
Ellacombe		92	4		
Strand		43	4		
Torwood		51	2		
St. Mary-Church		67	4		
Babbacombe		62	4		
Chelston		34	2		
Totals		528	33		

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

DEATH FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The zymotic death rate is calculated from the seven principal zymotic diseases. The following table enumerates them and the number of deaths recorded from each :—

Small-pox		 	0
Measles		 	0
Whooping Cough		 	- 8
Scarlet Fever		 	0
Diphtheria		 	0
(Typhu		 	0
Fevers Enterio		 	0
(Contin	ued	 	0
Diarrhœa		 	3
			11

The zymotic death rate is therefore equal to 31 per 1,000, against 08 per 1,000 in 1924.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 513—males 274, females 239. Of these 48, or 9%, were illegitimate :—

	 /0,	0	•
	Males	Females	Illegitimate
First Quarter	 56	65	10
Second Quarter	 72	62	12
Third Quarter	 87	50	14
Fourth Quarter	 59	62	12
m + 1	074		
Totals	 274	239	48

Twenty-two still births were notified, and the conditions investigated.

	Males	Females	Illegitimate
Torre	 20	24	4
Waldon	 14	18	5
Upton	 37	36	5
Ellacombe	 62	46	9
Strand	 28	23	10
Torwood	 16	14	5
St. Mary-Church	 53	44	5
Babbacombe	 26	23	3
Chelston	 18	11	2
Totals	 274	239	48

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

The birth rate for the Borough is equal to 14.6 per 1,000 per annum, against 14.9 in 1924. The average for the previous five years was 15.7. The rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 18.3, and that for the 157 smaller towns 18.3.

In comparing our birth rate with that of the country as a whole or those of other districts, the age sex constitution of the population must be borne in mind. In Torquay we have a high proportion of females to males (1,474 females per 1,000 males), and of the female population some 40 to 50 per cent. are spinsters and are above or below the child bearing age; hence it is unreasonable to expect anything but a low birth rate.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 33 deaths of children under one year of age. This gives on infantile mortality rate of 64 per 1,000 births. That for 1924 was 54, and the average of the previous five years 56. The rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 75, and that for the 157 smaller towns 74.

The following tables are of interest :---

TABLE A. Showing the Births, Infantile Deaths, and Infantile Mortality for a series of eleven years as compared with those of the country as a whole.

u whois.			
Total Births recorded. 490	Infants under 1 year.	Mortality for the Borough.	Infantile Mortality for England and Wales. 110
			90
401	26	65	97
412	31	75	97
531	25	47	89
643	34	51	80
542	44	81	83
490	23	47	77
488	24	49	92
521	28	53	75
513	33	64	75
	Total Births recorded. 490 459 401 412 531 643 542 490 488 521	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

TABLE B. Showing the principal Causes of Deaths among Infants, 1915-1925.

	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915
Measles			1			-		3		1	3
Whooping Cough	4	-			3			1	-	2	1
Diarrhœa	3	1	1	1	8	4	1	2	2	2	3
Tubercular Diseases	1				1				2		1
Bronchitis	3	3	2	1	6	2	5	7	2	2	8
Pneumonia	5	3	1	2	4	2	1	3	4	5	6
Premature Birth Congenital Defects	}10	17	11	14	13	16	10	6	8	18	10
Accidents	3	1			2	1			-	-	
All other cases	4	3	8	5	7	9	8	9	8	13	9
Totals	33	28	24	23	44	34	25	31	26	43	41

The infantile mortality figure of 64 is higher than that recorded for some years, but is still considerably lower than that for England and Wales, or the 157 smaller towns, which was 75 in both instances. The above table shows the causes of death. Four were due to the effect of whooping cough and five to pneumonia, which may have possibly been a sequelae of the previous complaint.

Full particulars, giving exact details of the causes of death, the age stated in weeks and months under one year, are given in Table IV., page 54.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Devon County Council is the supervising authority under the Midwives' Act. There are seven midwives registered as practising in the Borough. Four of these belong to the Q.V.J.N. Association, and the other three to the St. Mary-Church District Nursing Association. There is no doubt that they provide a most efficient midwifery service for women of the working classes. The Town Council make an annual grant to these Associations to cover the loss sustained on the attendance of midwives on necessitous cases.

Any irregularities in carrying out the rules of the Central Midwives' Board which come to our notice are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health. It seems anomalous that a local authority carrying out all the requirements of the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme, should not be the supervising authority for the supervision of midwives. To me, it seems as if one of the supports of the scheme is wanting, and, I fail to see how an authority working from Exeter can keep that supervision which is desirable and know the local conditions which have a bearing on the matter.

CONSERVATION OF INFANT LIFE.

The Notification of Births Act renders it compulsory for the parents, etc., to notify the birth of a child to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of its occurrence.* Each year a number of parents neglect to carry out this requirement. This year the number was 24, exactly the same as in the previous year.

*** .*

Dirths registered—	
(1) Live births, Legitimate 465	(2) Illegitimate 48 (3) Total 513
Births notified -	
(1) Live births 483	(2) Still births 20 (3) Total 503
(1) Notified by midwives	(2) Notified by parents and doctors
(a) Live births · 329	(a) Live births -154
(b) Still births - 14	(b) Still births - 6
	1 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

About ten days after the birth of a child the Health Visitor endeavours to get into touch with the mother in those cases in which a visit is desirable or likely to be appreciated.

*As soon as we ascertain that births have been registered but not notified, a letter is sent to the parents informing them of the neglect, and asking for particulars to be supplied. Enquiries are made concerning the child, information given about our Welfare centres, and the mother encouraged to bring the child. In most cases subsequent visits are paid at increasing intervals; in some until the child comes under the supervision of the School Medical Department. The Health Visitor also investigates the history of still births, and assists the Medical Officer in the work of the Welfare Centres.

There can be no question that this is most valuable work, and must to some extent be credited with the great reduction in the infantile mortality since it was inaugurated. It requires great tact, a wide knowledge of working class conditions, and personal sympathy on the part of the worker. The greatest care is taken that there shall be no interference with the interests of the medical attendant in his patient. Indeed, numerous cases can be cited in which, through the instrumentality of the Health Visitor, infants have been taken to doctors for advice as to illness or defect which, but for her suggestion, would have been allowed to continue until it became urgent or produced permanent disability.

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT, 1925.

Expectant mothers	First visits	84	Total visits	89	
Infants under 1 year	,,	466	,,	1799	
Children 1-5 years	Total individuals	782	,,	1640	
Still births investigated				16	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	First visits	3	Total visits	7	
Tuberculosis	,,	1	,,	6	
Miscellaneous visits				55	
Cases out when visited	the second s			360	
,, removed				133	
		Tota	l visits	4105	

Attendances at Welfare Centres 97.

Insanitary conditions found in 14 instances were referred to the Sanitary Inspectors.

Cases not considered necessary to visit	 	39
Visits considered unnecessary after visit	 	10
Objections raised to visits	 	9

In cases of removals particulars of case are transferred to the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the parents have gone.

Records of 23 such cases were sent to and 27 from other authorities enquired into, whilst 29 cases could not be traced.

PROVISION OF MILK TO NECESSITOUS MOTHERS AND INFANTS.

All applications for free supplies of milk under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919—are enquired into by the Medical Officer of Health. In most instances full details of the faimily conditions are obtained by the Health Visitor; care is also taken to prevent overlapping with other charitable agencies distributing relief. I am fully satisfied that in many cases the provision of this milk has resulted in the saving of infant life in the times of necessity.

All milk supplied is Grade "A" Tuberculin Tested, a fact on which I consider the Maternity and Infant Welfare Committee are to be congratulated—as, indeed, are the Town Council for supplying it in all their refreshment rooms.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The whole of the work is controlled by the Infant Welfare Sub-Committee of the Town Council, and the following three Centres have now been established :—

- Ellacombe Centre meets in the Primitive Methodist Hall, Market Street, on Fridays, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
- (2). Market Street Centre meets as above on Mondays, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
- (3). St. Mary-Church and Babbacombe Centres meet in the Furrough Cross Congregational Hall on Thursdays, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

At each Centre there is a Committee of Voluntary Workers, who meet at regular intervals, and make all the general arrangements. Much of the success of the work must be attributed to their efforts, and it is largely owing to their regular and unselfish activities that the Centres continue to increase and be so deservedly popular.

Tea is provided at the nominal charge of $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per head, and the programmes include health talks, instruction in home nursing and the care of infants, and demonstrations of sewing, cutting out, and preparation of model garments and sets of clothing. Dr. Simpson, Deputy M.O.H., attends each Centre, and is responsible for the medical arrangements. He is always assisted by either the Health Visitor, the Matron of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nursing Institution, or one of the St. Mary-Church District Nurses.

Some idea of the scope of the work may be seen from the following figures for the three Centres combined :---

Admissions for the year		290
Attendances under 1 year	1,955	
Attendances from 1 year to 5 years	2,809	
Total Attendances for the year	in the second second	4,764
Average attendance of children per s	ession	33
Number of sessions (three Centres)		144

When investigating each birth the Health Visitor makes a note of the cases which might reasonably be expected to attend a Welfare Centre, excluding cases living very far from a Centre, mothers working from home, mothers with special home ties, etc.

During 1925, no less than 73.2% of those considered "to be in a position to attend and likely to benefit" came to the clinics. This indeed is very gratifying, as the corresponding figures for the preceding two or three years have been about 40% to 45%.

Coupled with this, there has been a steady and progressive rise in the number of new cases in the past five years, and from 1921 the new admissions have increased from 157, 164, 172, 180 to 290 in 1925. And considering that the number of births in the Borough is not subject to much variation, it is evident that mothers are now realising more and more the immense value of supervision and advice in ensuring that each child has the best possible start in life.

The majority of the babies are seen by the Medical Officer at each visit; any defects are pointed out to the mother, and instructions given concerning diet and infant management in general. Emphasis is laid on the *preventive* nature of this work, and all cases requiring treatment for other than simple disorders are referred to private practitioners. It is not easy to define where this simple advice ends and the treatment begins, and it is only by the hearty co-operation of the local doctors that the most effective benefit of the child will result. Many cases, which would not otherwise reach him, are sent to the private practitioner; but it is not infrequently found that the parents are financially unable to call in their private doctor on all occasions, and would probably buy a patent medicine for the child, or use some other ineffective means of treating the case, until the illness becomes very acute. By advisory treatment at the Clinic in the *early* stage of the illness, much can be done in these cases; and the criticism can scarcely be made with justness that the work of the private doctor is suffering on this score, for surely the one ideal aim of both clinic and practitioner is, after all, "Infant Welfare"—and the benefit of the child.

It is still too often found that for any slight adverse condition, for frequently false reasons and inadequate excuses, weaning is readily started in the infant's life; and it is only when the great difficulties arise (as they so readily do) that the mother seeks the aid of the Welfare Centre. The damage has thus been done by this transition, as it is nearly always impossible to revert to breast-feeding by the time the case attends; and it must be impressed on doctor and midwife, on all possible occasions, to urge every mother to nurse her baby or at least make a serious effort to do so. Some mothers naturally take the easier selfish course, and do not realise or appreciate the great handicap it gives the child until they find out, perhaps much later on when the child is inspected at school, that rickets or a general debilitated constitution is the result. It is often too late then, and the penalty of this handicap, frequently serious, always a disadvantage, is their careless legacy to the child.

When artificial feeding has to be adopted, the infant should be under careful supervision; and the Welfare Centre provides this, and the detailed instructions so often required if the best results are to be obtained. Every case, with one or two exceptions, fed artificially has been most successful with cows' milk diluted in accordance with the weight of the child, and with the other necessary modifications. And in an agricultural county like Devon, this should be encouraged to the full, more especially as in Torquay there are numerous retailers providing the Grade "A" T.T. Milk, which very many of the mothers obtain.

ANTE-NATAL CASES.

The importance of ante-natal supervision does not yet seem to be fully realised, but there are certainly definite signs that this branch of the work is becoming by degrees more understood, more valued, and more appreciated. During the preceding years about 10 or 12 expectant mothers, on an average, were seen and advised; but in 1925 there was a satisfactory increase to 30 cases, which made 81 attendances.

Many of the risks to which the expectant mother is exposed can be minimised or entirely avoided by routine examination and treatment. There is at present no special ante-natal clinic in Torquay, and the cases are seen by appointment at the school clinic. As a result of a visit from an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, the Local Authority was recommended to inaugurate an ante-natal session each week. But in view of the local conditions, it is not yet considered feasible: for it is highly desirable that a part-time medical officer, with expert knowledge of the subject, should be appointed to deal with this work. And owing to the very small number of cases such an extension must be carefully considered as to its expediency. All the cases now seen are referred, if requiring treatment, to private doctors; but it is certainly desirable, when the mothers can be sufficiently educated to appreciate and use it, to extend this part of the child welfare scheme on the lines of the Inspector's recommendations.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

Professional Nursing in the Home. (a) General.—Nurses of the Queen Victoria Nursing Association and St. Mary-Church District Nursing Association are available for this purpose, independently of the Local Authority. (b) For Infectious Diseases.—The Town Council utilises the services of the Q.V.J.N.A., for nursing cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Measles when necessary, on the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health. A retaining fee of ± 10 per annum is paid and 1s. per visit.

Midwives. -- The Council makes a subsidy to the Jubilee Nursing Association of $\frac{1}{4}$ the deficit of the cost of their midwives, less the amount obtained in fees. This is in addition to the grant received by them direct from the Ministry of Health. Similarly to the St. Mary-Church Nursing Association, a subsidy is given of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the deficit between cost of midwife and fees obtained. The reason for this is that no grant is received direct by that Association from the Government.

Lying-in Accommodation.—There is no Institution in the Borough where mothers of the working classes can be received for ordinary confinement. The authorities of the Torbay Hospital, will, however, always receive cases of complication. The Committee having the management of the construction of the new general hospital, now being erected, have incorporated plans for the provision of a maternity block. These plans have received the general approval of the Ministry of Health. When completed there will be ample accommodation for both normal and difficult labours.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were no cases of Puerperal Fever. One maternal death occured from Placenta Praevia.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case was notified and treated at home by the Q.V.J. Nurses. It soon cleared up and the vision was unimpaired. Two other suspected cases were kept under observation by the Health Visitor.

CHICKEN-POX.

In view of the wide spread of mild small-pox in the North of England, the notification of chicken-pox was retained. Thirtyfour cases were notified. One case gave grounds for grave suspicion. The patient came from Bristol, and to be on the safe side he was isolated in hospital. He was seen by the County Medical Officer who confirmed the diagnosis of chickenpox. Within 14 days the patient's sister had a similar attack.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Whooping Cough was prevalent throughout the year and was responsible for 8 deaths. There was also a considerable amount of Measles and Mumps, but no deaths were registered from these diseases.

The Head Teachers have instructions and are furnished with the necessary forms to notify me of all cases, or suspected cases, of any infectious sickness among the school children coming to their notice. Similarly, the Attendance Officers consult me about any suspicious cases.

INFANTILE DIARRHOEA.

There were three deaths of children under two years due to diarrhœa, but there was no definite epidemic of this complaint.

NOTIFIABLE	DISEASES	DURING	THE	YEARS	1920 те	b 1925.
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DISEASE	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Diphtheria Scarlet Fever Enteric Fever (including para-Typhoid) Puerperal Fever Pneumonia *Chicken Pox Encephalitis Lethargica Poliomyelitis Erysipelas Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	 34 42 1 19 	10 14 2 9 	36 51 1 12 	11 110 1 7 105 	10 84 4 1 14 75 2 5 1 5	$ \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ 41 \\ - \\ 7 \\ 34 \\ 1 \\ - \\ 7 \\ - \\ - \\ 7 \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ -$
Ophthalmia Neonatorum Malaria Pulmonary Tuberculosis Other Tubercular Diseases	 10 3 154 12	3 109 6	1 87 11	1 98 19	$ \frac{5}{72} 10 $	1 93 8

* Made notifiable June, 1923.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the Devon County Council—(1) Tuberculosis, "Whitecliffe." This is the old Western Hospital, taken over by the County Council. It accommodates 45 patients. (2) There is no special Maternity Hospital, but the Authorities of the Torbay Hospital will admit urgent cases requiring operative treatment. (3) Rosehill Children's Hospital. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee subsidises one bed, and if vacant can obtain the use of a second, at a cost of one guinea per week. This Hospital is situated on the Lower Warberry Road, and accommodates 30 patients.

The Borough Sanatorium or Isolation Hospital, Newton Abbot Road, consists of the Administrative Building—Scarlet Fever ward block, consisting of two wards, with four beds in each; and a Diphtheria ward block, two wards with four beds in each. There is also a private ward for one patient, with nurse's room attached.

During the year the Health Committee have had under consideration the question of alterations and additions to this hospital, especially as regards drainage. Several conferences have been held with the representatives of the Newton Abbot Rural District Council concerning the method of efficiently dealing with the sewerage of this area, where many new houses are planned for erection, and as the only possible means of drainage at present is to cesspools, it is a matter of urgency. The alternative suggested by the Corporation is to drain the district to a suitable point and then pump the sewage through a rising main to the borough sewers at Lawe's Bridge. This seems the only satisfactory solution of the difficulty, but the authorities concerned have not yet been able to arrive at an agreement as to cost, etc. The drainage and alterations at the hospital is now a matter long overdue and it is to be hoped that a solution of the difficulty will soon be arrived at.

The Committee have visited the Newton Abbot Joint Isolation Hospital and are considering the question of administration, but little can be done until the above subject has been settled.

The financial statement for the year—April 1st, 1924, to March 31st, 1925—shows that the cost amounted to $\pm 1,582$ 6s. 4d. The number of patients treated in the period was 39.

ENTERIC FEVER.

When there is accommodation, the Authorities of the Torbay Hospital admit cases of this disease.

COCKINGTON ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Taken over from the Cockington Urban District at the time of the amalgamation. This Hospital is considerably more than half-a-mile from any inhabitated building, and is kept in readiness for the reception of small-pox, should any arise.

The cost of the Cockington Sanatorium, which was empty during the year, was ± 83 , consisting of rent, rates, etc.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Specimens from suspected cases are examined at the expense of the Town Council by Mr. Quant, of the South Devon Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory, who reports that during the year he examined the following : --

Diphtheria	•		48	Positive Negative	-	:	3 45
Tubercular :		•	58	examinations {	Positive Negative	:	14 44
Enteric			107	Negative		•	1

In the Laboratory attached to the Health Department we have examined specimens from inflamed or suspicious throats of children attending the elementary schools. Some specimens for other pathological conditions were examined.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There are two motor ambulances belonging to the Corporation and under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health—(1) A covered Ford Ambulance, and (2) a Daimler Ambulance.* The former has been utilised for the removal of infectious cases, and the latter for medical and surgical. The ambulances are garaged at the Town Hall, and during office hours can be obtained by communicating with the Medical Officer of Health at his office, Telephone No. 3221. When the offices are closed, application should be made to the ambulance driver at his house, Telephone No. 7106.

Two trained members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade always accompany the ambulance as attendants.

DISINFECTION.

Free disinfection is carried out in all cases of notifiable infectious disease, and also after the removal or death of consumptive patients. Rooms are first fumigated with formaline, and then the bedding is removed to the disinfecting station at the Isolation Hospital and subjected to steam sterilisation. The disinfector is a "Thresh" Current Steam Disinfector.

Full advantage is taken of the facilities, all cases where notifiable disease occurs being fully disinfected, and a very large proportion of non-notifiable cases.

Where information has come to hand of houses, etc., infected with vermin, we offer to spray the rooms with disinfectants, and also to steam sterilise bedding or clothing.

^{*} This ambulance is now very old, and the Council have decided to purchase a new up-to-date ambulance of the same make.

SMALL-POX AND VACCINATION.

No cases were notified. No vaccinations, either primary or re-vaccinations, were performed by the Medical Officer of Health. The accompanying table indicates the position of the district as regards vaccination.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Edwards, the Vaccination Officer, I am able to give the average results of primary vaccination for the years 1900 to 1924 :--

a line in the second									-			
Years.	Total births registered	Successfully vaccinated	Insusceptible of Vaccination	Had Small-pox	Number of Declarations from Conscientious Objectors	Died Unvaccinated	Postponed by Medical Certificate	Removed to other districts the Vaccination Officer of which has been apprised	Removed Address unknown	Percentage successfully Vaccinated	Excluding those who died Unvaccinated. Percentage	
10 Years' Average 1900-1909	578	468	1	_	39	4	6	3	10	82	87	
10 Years' Average 1910-1919	522	219	1		235	33	9	3	15	41	44	
1920	686	271	2	-	340	35	11	2	20	40	41	
1921	561	179	3	-	314	34	6	6	10	32	34	
1922	526	215	-	-	277	22	2	5	2	40	42	
1923	529	238	4	-	234	21	7	10	10	45	47	
1924	549	259	1	-	230	29	7	3	15	47	52	

Thus our population consists of some 57% of persons unprotected from small-pox. In view of the continued prevalence of small-pox in the North and Midlands, its introduction into Torquay is quite possible. An epidemic of this disease would be most disastrous financially and otherwise in a health resort of this character.

As stated on page 21, the Cockington Isolation Hospital is kept in readiness for the reception of small-pox cases.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases were notified. The continued freedon of the town from enteric fever and from diarrhœal diseases is a great satisfaction, and indicates a sub-soil free from sewage contamination.

SCARLET FEVER.

Forty-one cases of scarlet fever were notified, the largest number occurring in the first three months of the year. Of this number, 28 were removed for treatment in the Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths.

As far as possible, I investigate the circumstances of cases myself. There were no return cases during the year. The "Dick" test was not employed.

DIPHTHERIA.

Ten cases were notified, of whom eight were removed for treatment. There were no fatalities.

In September and October five cases were notified from a small area in the St. Mary-Church Ward, all being school children attending St. Mary-Church Schools. On investigation, I found that they were almost certainly traceable to an unrecognised case which attended the same school. This child was attended by a doctor, who had a swab examined with negative results, leading him to the conclusion it was one of Tonsillitis. This throat illness attacked four other members of the family and a child living next door. A swab taken from this latter case during the period of convalescence gave an almost pure growth of Klebs Loeffleur bacilli. An inspection was made of the throats of scholars in the school, and several swabs taken of inflamed throats, but with negative results. The evidence published of the advantages gained by the use of the "Schick" test has not so far satisfied me, nor have suitable opportunities for its application arisen. I have, however, where there are several susceptible individuals present in a household, employed with success prophylactic injections of antitoxin serum.

Antitoxin is supplied by the Town Council through three chemists, so that there is no reason for its non-employment.

ERYSIPELAS.

Seven cases-no deaths.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One case was notified and ultimately recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year, 93 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were received and eight of other forms. The figures for the previous year were 72 and 10. Thirty-one deaths were registered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 10 from other Tubercular diseases. In addition, 23 deaths of non-residents occurred, their deaths were transferred to their own sanitary areas. The deathrate is equal to '91 per 1,000 per annum.

The following table gives the sex and ages of new cases, and deaths of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other forms :---

New Cases.						DEATHS			
Age Periods	Pulm	onary	Non-Pul	monary	Pulm	onary	Non-Pu	lmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Under 1 year 1 to 5 years 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 & upwards									
Totals	50	43	2	6	15	16	3	6	

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1925.

Besides the above there were 9 deaths from other forms of Tubercular disease.

Notifications of this disease received each week are furnished to the Devon County Council, and at the end of each quarter a statement is sent, giving particulars of all new cases and deducting deaths which have occurred, so that a correct number of existing cases in the area is known. The Tubercular Officer furnishes me with particulars concerning the cases seen by him, there is thus fairly close co-operation.

The Devon County Council utilise "Whitecliffe" as a hospital for the reception of cases of tuberculosis which are not suitable for treatment at the County Sanatorium. Many of the transferable deaths occur at this Institution.

Free disinfection of rooms and bedding is carried out after death or removal of patients from houses in the Borough.

Under the Torquay Corporation Act, 1923, the Authority have power to disinfect compulsorily and cleanse infected rooms and articles. It is also incumbent on all those having the management or control of premises where there is or has been a person suffering from Tuberculosis to notify the Medical Officer of Health. Under Section 75 they also have power to prevent persons in an advanced stage of the disease from being employed in the cooking or preparation of food for consumption by persons other than members of his household. No cases have arisen necessitating action under this section, nor under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

CANCER, MALIGNANT DISEASE.

There were 63 deaths registered from the above cause. The age and sex distribution is as follows :—

Age period	Under 30	30—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	Over 75	Totals
Males	-	-	1	2	7	8	5	23
Females	1	-	3	9	8	9	10	40
Totals	1	_	4	11	15	17	15	63

The death rate from cancer is equal to 1.7 per 1,000 per annum.

It must be remembered that in Torquay the population contains a larger proportion of persons of advanced years and of females over males than the country as a whole, hence it is only to be expected that the death rate from cancer would be high.

In any event, there can be little doubt that this disease shows a tendency to increase, as is shown by the following table, which gives the total cancer deaths for the last 10 years :—

Year,	C	ancer deaths.	Year.	С	ancer deaths.
1916		50	1921		56
1917		53	1922		60
1918		49	1923		64
1919		55	1924		71
1920		72	1925		63

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The treatment of this disease is supervised by the County Council. Although that Authority gives every facility for patients to attend the centres at Exeter, even to advancing the cost of railway fare in necessitous cases, yet the want of a local centre militates against successful action in combating this complaint. As mentioned under the paragraph dealing with provision of maternity beds at the proposed new General Hospital, it is hoped that a department will be allotted to the treatment of Venereal diseases.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town supply is derived from upland surface gathering ground on the borders of Dartmoor, about 15 miles from Torquay. The area of the gathering ground is 2,354 acres, and belongs to the Corporation. All inhabited houses and farms have been cleared from the area, thus preventing any menace to the purity of the water. The water is also, as a further precaution, passed through mechanical filters. In this way all suspended material is removed; it is clarified, and the appearance considerably improved. The total amount supplied was 759,475,000 gallons, or 32.6 gallons per head for a population of 63,800. This includes Newton Abbot and a few villages on the line of the mains.

The total rainfall on the catchment area during the year was 50.80 inches. The average is 47.45.

There are now three mains between the storage reservoirs at Tottiford and Torquay, varying in size from 9 inches to 15 inches in diameter. The completion of the latest main enables the house service reservoirs to be kept more fully supplied, a great advantage during periods of drought. Progress is being made with the construction of the new service reservoir at Great Hill, Barton, but it will be some time before it is completed. The water stored here will supplement the town reservoirs and also supply water to houses at the highest levels.

QUALITY OF THE WATER.

It possesses all the qualities of a good upland surface water. The watershed has been so protected as to make the possibility of pollution infinitesimal It is also subjected to mechanical filtration, rendering it doubly safe, and removing any suspended peaty matter. It is extremely soft, yet contains sufficient lime and magnesia salts to prevent any solvent action on lead. It is in all respects one of the best domestic supplies in the kingdom.

Regular monthly analyses of the water are made, samples being taken from different areas in the Borough. The results vary very slightly; the following is a typical result :---

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Physical Characters—Very pale straw colour, clear, no odour or deposit.

			Expres	ssed in parts
Chemical Constituents.			per	100,000.
Total Solids	-	-		7.0
Chlorides		-		1.6
Hardness		-	-	1.5
Nitrites		-	-	nil
Nitrates		-		.13
Free Ammonia				trace
Organic Ammonia	- 11	-	1 1 1	·007
Oxygen absorbed in	4 hours	-		·083

SEWERAGE.

The sewage of the whole district, and most of the stormwater, is conveyed to the main sewer in Fleet Street; that of the Strand, Torbay Road, Vaughan Parade, Victoria Parade, Beacon Hill, George Street, and Swan Street, being pumped into the main sewer. The main sewer is seven feet in diameter, and runs from Fleet Street to Hope's Nose, a distance of about two miles. The outfall is at such a level that the sewage is discharged at all states of the tide. No method of treatment is adopted, as the flow of current is out towards mid-channel beyond Berry Head, and does not under any circumstantes return towards the bay.

During the year, about 2750 six-inch sewers and 3450 nine-inch were laid to serve for the drainage of new houses erected in Barton Road, Old Woods Hill, Westhill Lane, Black's Hill and Ilsham Road.

The flooding of portions of the Babbacombe area during heavy rain has received considerable attention. The Borough Engineer has made an examination of the sewers in the district and has reported on their inadequacy and the necessity for the provision of relief sewers in Anstey's Cove Road and Ilsham Valley. His recommendation was accepted by the Council and application has been made for a loan to carry out the necessary work.

It has also been decided to continue the sewer in Newton Road from the Steam Laundry to Broomhill Cottages, Hele.

DRAINAGE OF HOUSES.

Much attention is devoted to this subject. Most of the villa residences, hotels, and large boarding houses have the best modern sanitary arrangements. The drains, except in a few cases where there are difficulties of levels, are all connected with the sewers.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

House refuse is moved by the employees of the Corporation under the Surveyor's Department. In most parts of the town it is removed once a week, but in certain parts twice. It is carted to the destructor works in Upton Valley, and there consumed, 16,707 tons being dealt with annually. The destructor is a "Warner Perfectus" of six cells. The boilers are heated from the furnaces, and the steam generated can be used to drive donkey engine, vertical engine for running blower, 25 horse-power engine for running mortar mill and electrical installation. The clinker produced is ground and used for mortar.

Owing to the difficulty in disposing of the refuse during the period required for the annual boiler inspection, and on account of the great increase in the amount of refuse required to be collected, the Health Committee have under consideration the question of extension of the destructor.

THE STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible to the Public Health Committee for the proper working of the department. He is also the Administrative School Medical Officer, in which capacity he is responsible for the medical inspection and treatment of elementary school children to the Education Authority, thus co-ordinating the two offices.

For the efficient carrying out of these duties he has the assistance of the following :---

An Assistant and Deputy Medical Officer of Health, the present official is Dr. J. V. A. Simpson. His principal duties are the medical inspection and such treatment of school children as is carried out at the school clinics. For this purpose he has the assistance of the School Nurse. He is also responsible for the conduct of the Infant Welfare Centres, in which work he has the assistance of the Health Visitor.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is Mr. G. E. Body, who has under his direction a staff of three district inspectors and a clerk. For the routine work of inspection, the town is divided into three districts—Mr. Loveless having charge of the S.W. district, Mr. Thompson the S.E., and Mr. Jump the N.E. They all hold the certificate of the R.S.I. The supervision of food and meat is under the direct charge of Mr. Body, although the other inspectors visit both slaughter-houses, butchers', and other shops.

FOOD.

Although we have had alterations in our staff of inspectors, two having gained more lucrative appointments, yet the number of visits paid to slaughter-houses, butchers' shops, Market Hall, railway siding and other premises where food is prepared, shows a considerable increase on previous years.

We endeavour to keep up a high standard of meat inspection. Although there was an increase in the amount of unsound food destroyed, it does not show any lowering of the high quality of meat sold by local traders, but was probably due to the natural increase in the population and a record number of visitors during the summer months. A further reason is the supervision of the slaughtering in the slaughter-houses just outside the borough belonging to Torquay Traders.

The adoption of meat marking has not been found to be practicable, as according to the Meat Regulations the Examining Officer must be present at the time of slaughter. If this could be amended so that, if inspection is carried out a short time after slaughter, the internal organs being kept till the carcase is passed, it would be, I think, advantageous to the trade to have this system of marking.

A large proportion of the meat sold in Torquay is collected ready dressed in country areas in North Devon and Cornwall, being transported by motor and disposed of to various butchers according to their requirements. We have no knowledge that such carcases are examined; indeed, our evidence points to the contrary, as we often find portions affected with Tuberculosis. It is the usual practice for a butcher to purchase, say, a side of pork; if, on inspection in the shop, we discover diseased glands, we at once institute enquiries as to where the other side has gone, a proceeding which probably entails a considerable amount of time and unnecessary labour searching all over the town. If all such meat was conveyed to a central depôt, examined, and if free from disease, marked prior to distribution, it would greatly facilitate the work of inspection and be of value to the butchers. Another difficulty due to want of a system of marking arises through one Inspector seeing the carcase at a slaughter-house, passing it, and another Inspector examining the same carcase in the shop.

During the year, the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, came into force. The effect of the provisions was fully discussed by the Master Butcher's Association and your officials, which had the effect of removing many difficulties anticipated. On the whole, the members of the trade have endeavoured to comply with the requirements; but what is meant by the protection of meat from dust, dirt and flies, has been very widely interpreted. Some difficulty was experienced in convincing butchers that meat can be kept without having it exposed outside or in the open shop window. This shibboleth and the ruling of the Ministry of Health, that in order to comply with the regulations dealing with the contamination by dirt and flies, did not of necessity entail glass windows, have raised some difficulty. The line taken by us is that if exposed meat is found to be contaminated, proceedings for breach of the regulations will be taken. Several butchers have already been cautioned. In these days when road surfaces are of impervious material, and there is such a vast amount of motor traffic, it is hardly possible to prevent exposed meat from being covered with road dust. Those traders who have had glass windows put in are, not only assured of the beneficial effect from a hygienic point of view, but must see that the thinking public appreciate these precautions and are likely to patronise such establishments. A similar effect was noticeable in the early days of meat inspection. Then the presence of an inspector in a shop was dreaded by the butchers, but they soon learnt that the public were re-assured when they knew meat was being inspected. The covering of carcases during transit still leaves much to be desired, sacking does not show dirt in the same manner as white material, and I am afraid it is used much longer than it would be possible if the dirt showed. It also retains much dust.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The following is the number of private slaughter-houses in use in the area at the dates mentioned :—

		In 1920	In January 1925	In Decem- ber, 1925
Registered	 	2	1	1
Licensed	 	4	4	4
Total	 	6	5	5

The premises are visited daily, and on the whole are kept in a satisfactory condition, the quarterly lime-washing and the periodic cleansing of the slaughtering cradles giving most trouble.

The lack of cooling accommodation, necessitating the slaughter of animals in close proximity to those hanging up, is a great drawback and a strong argument in favour of the provision of a public abattoir.

Early in the year, a request was received that Mr. Body should undertake the work of inspection, as required by the Meat Regulations, at six slaughter-houses, situated outside the Borough, but occupied and used by traders in the Borough. With the consent of the Newton Abbot Rural District Council, this was agreed to, and with great benefit to all concerned. As practically all the animals slaughtered there, are sold in the Borough, it enables the Inspector to examine the carcases in the way it should be done, that is, the internal organs are examined at the same time as the carcase, and the occupiers of the slaughter-houses are subject to the same inspection as those slaughtering in the town. This has worked very smoothly, the owners affording every assistance to the Inspector, but it has entailed numerous visits in the evenings and early mornings, so as not to interfere with or delay the trader in his business.

Up till now no definite action has been taken to provide a public abattoir, the prominence now given to meat inspection intensifies the question. The Health Committee did inspect a site which might have been suitable for the purpose.

The following Table summarises the amount of diseased or unsound food condemned, the number of carcases examined and premises visited :—

TABLE A.

DISEASED OR UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

								Dı	BEAS	ES.					
Organs, etc. Destroyed.			Tuberculosis.	Flukes.	Cirrhosis.	Abscess.	Cysts	Strongyli.	Inflammation.	Pleurisy.	Injury.	Actinomycosis	Unsound.	Others.	Totals.
Beasts :	Lungs Livers Tongues Heads Carcases		7312	87	55	13	1	1111	1 I	1	1111	1111	11111		12 148 1 2 —
Cows :	Lungs Livers Tongues Heads Carcases		9544		23	5		1	1	1	 	- - 1 1 -		2 10 2 1	16 116 5 8 2
Heifers :	Lungs Livers Tongues Heads Carcases			79 	34	33		1	2		2	2	3 1 		14 119 3 2 —
Calf Care	ase		1	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sheep :	Lungs Livers Heads Carcases	•••	1111	402	5	34 343 1	18 58 —	1184	68 26 —	17 29 —	2 2 2 1			1 1 1 1	1324 866 3 3
Pigs:	Lungs Livers Heads Carcases		59 44 314 5		56	8 5 4 1	8	94	102 6 1	62 1 		1111	12 	8 8 1 5	353 120 322 12
Other Or	gans : Mesenterie Spleens Stomachs Miscellanee		51 35 13 23	111		3 7 2 4			1 9 3 17	1 	2			10 12 8 26	66 65 26 99
Other Fo	ods		-	-	-	1	1		-	1	4	-	151	18	176
Frozen M	Ieat		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	338	1	369
	Totals		586	641	173	428	91	1280	238	126	54	4	514	118	4253

TABLE B.

Carcases Examined.

-

1924.	Curcus	68 Linumen	<i>cu</i> .	1925.
805	Bullocks			1072
281 888	Cows Heifers			305 694
9263	Sheep and L			11834
4339	Pigs			4866
1493	Calves			2075
17069				20846

TABLE C.

Carcases Destroyed.

2 Cows	1 Injury, 1 Johne's Disease
1 Calf	Tuberculosis
16 Sheep	15 Frozen, Mildew and Unsound,
	1 Pleurisy
13 Pigs	5 Tuberculosis, 1 Pleurisy, 1 Unsound,
	1 Sceptic Pericarditis, 1 Jaundice,
	4 Swine Fever.

TABLE D.

No. of Carcases Examined in the different Slaughter-houses in the Borongh.

No.	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Calves	Total
1 2 3 4 Abattoir	5 4 63 131	25 17 50 42	17 15 27 136	219 89 542 2843	67 66 36 76 1675	1 27 13 107 1109	68 359 174 865 5936
Totals	203	134	195	3693	1920	1257	7402

TABLE E.

	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Calves	Total
A B C D E F	 8 11 30 11 10 —	2 545	7 4 34 24 1 	133 164 327 293 62 10	8 75 110 32 38 —	2 18 102 	160 272 608 364 119 10
Totals	 70	16	70	989	263	125	1533

No. of Carcases Examined in the different Slaughter-houses outside the Borough.

TABLE F.

Total number of Carcases Examined in different Slaughter-houses and Shops.

Slaughter-houses			8935
Shops		•••	11921
	Total		20856

TABLE G.

Diseased or Unsound Food Destroyed.

	1923	5.				192	4.	
Tons 2	cwts. 13	$\frac{\mathrm{qrs.}}{\mathrm{3}}$	^{1bs.} 25	Voluntarily surrendered	4	ewts. 7	rs.	lbs. 151/2
6	2	2	13	Surrendered (after inspection)	2	17	1	201
0	1	0	11	Seized	0	9	2	173
8	17	2	21	Totals	7	14	1	253

TABLE H.

Percentage of Animals Inspected found affected with Tuberculosis.

Buliocks	 8	in	1072	=	0.74%
Cows	 11	in	305	===	3.6 %
Heifers	 3	in	694		0.43% 0 [.] 09%
Calves	 2	in	2075	-	
Pigs	 329	in	4866	=	6.76%

DISPOSAL OF DISEASED AND UNSOUND FOOD.

All diseased and unsound food is, after condemnation, burnt in the Corporation's Refuse Destructor,

MILK SUPPLY.

Registered dairymen and cowkeepers in the Borough number 85. Their premises are inspected once a quarter, and on the whole we find them in a satisfactory condition. Sufficient protection from dust for milk and cream exposed for sale is difficult to attain.

A very large proportion of our milk comes from farms situated outside the Borough, and in accordance with our scheme of registration we have inspected these. They approximately number 110. It is very advantageous to know the sources of supply to each town dairy, and one has a knowledge of the conditions under which the milk is produced. When visiting, one has an opportunity to do a little propaganda work and in this way endeavour to forward the production of clean milk.

In the Borough there are only 11 producers of milk. Besides the visits of the Inspectors, arrangements have now been made with the Veterinary Surgeon to make a quarterly inspection of all milch cows—more especially as regards tuberculosis. During the year we have had no reason to believe that milk from a tuberculous cow was sold in the Borough, nor have any cattle been dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, we have

- (a) One producer and one distributor of "Certified" milk.
- (b) Nine licensed distributors of "Certified" and Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) milk.

Regular Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are made in our laboratory of samples of "Certified Milk" taken and examined under the instructions of the Ministry of Health, and the results reported to them. Sixteen samples were examined, and in almost every instance they complied with the requirements of the regulations.

Fourteen samples of Grade "A" milk were also examined, and the results reported to the distributors concerned. If any were not up to standard the producers were also communicated with. We also examined 24 samples of ordinary milk taken from various dealers. In these the number of organisms found was generally high, and in a considerable number the B. Coli was demonstratable even in high dilutions. During the latter part of the year the Devon County Council conducted a "Clean Milk" competition in the south of the County, and it was remarkable the amount of improvement noticeable during the course of the competition. If this can be accomplished at little cost, surely the time has arrived when it should be made compulsory and a bacteriological standard enforced for all milk. There is no doubt the demand for Grade "A" milk is increasing, as is evidenced by the increase in the number of licensed distributors.

The Town Council and the Borough Education Authority have given a useful lead in their decision to have only this quality of milk supplied at the various refreshment rooms under their control, also at the Open-Air and Secondary Schools.

Fifty-four samples were examined bacteriologically. Of these

- 16 were "Certified." The number of colonies ranged from 140 to 7,600, and only one sample showed B. Coli in 1-c.c.
- 14 were Grade "A" (T.T.). The bacteria ranged from 620 to 336,000; 4 showed B. Coli in 1/10-c.c. dilution, and 2 in 1/100-c.c.
- 24 were ordinary milks. Number of colonies ranged from 600 to 22,800, but 7 were uncountable; 16 showed B. Coli in 1/10-c.c. dilution.

Fifteen of the 24 ordinary milks were taken in connection with a "Clean Milk" competition in the area.

The percentage of butter fat present ranged from 3.2% to 6.0%.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No cases arose in which interference was deemed necessary.

ICE CREAM.

Section 71, Torquay Corporation Act, 1923, gives very full powers to inspect and control premises utilised in the manufacture and storage of ice cream. During the year 80 inspections were made. On the whole the places were clean, but in some instances objections had to be raised to the positions of the rooms used for the purpose. Six samples were examined bacteriologically. Five samples contained the B. Coli in high dilutions. I hope to extend this investigation in the coming year.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

These Regulations are enforced by the County Police, who also take samples. Through the courtesy of Superintendent Eddy I am enabled to give the following results :--

Semale to ben	No.	Re	sult of Analysis.	Result of Proceedings		
Sample taken.	NO.	Genuine	Not Genuine.	(if any).		
			The string willkoors	investigated, and one		
New Milk -	46	45	1 (9% added water)	Case dismissed		
Cream -	-	-	-	and the second sec		
Butter -	7	7	-	desta - injola od as		
Margarine -	8	8		- *		
Lard -	6	6				
Cocoa -	2	2	-	2000		
Arrowroot -	1	1		- Martin - Marken		
Baking Powder -	1	1		ercun requirements		
Oatmeal -	1	1		teres and - show and		
Ground Ginger -	1	1		A south_ shites		
Cheese -	1	1				
Coffee -	1	1	ando il a- fairgone	will of out y the output		
Sponge Cake -	3	3		in the second se		
Vinegar -	1	1		Profession In eviden of		
Pepper -	3	3	An IL ALA	omino add al		

OTHER FOODS.

During the course of their district inspections the Sanitary Inspectors keep observation on foods, etc., exposed in shops and hawkers' barrows. Occasionally specimens of food alleged to be unsound are brought to the department for examination. If necessary the dealer's premises are visited, and inspection made of other articles of food exposed for sale. During the course of inspecting a bakehouse, where the making of meat pies is a speciality, some unsound sausage meat was found. As the premises were in a dirty and neglected condition a prosecution was instituted. The magistrates held that the evidence was insufficient to show that the meat was intended for human consumption, but the defendants were fined for keeping the bakehouse in the condition found.

Regular visits are paid in the early morning to the Fish Quay to inspect fish before distribution. Cargoes of potatoes and other vegetables are often landed at the harbour, being brought over from Northern France. Their condition is investigated, and occasionally parts of their cargoes have been found to be unsound and are destroyed.

The practice of selling damaged fruit to young children is to be deprecated.

No case of illness or death was attributable to food poisoning.

KITCHENS OF HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, ETC.

Section 70 of the Torquay Corporation Act lays down certain requirements for the maintenance of kitchens of the above being kept in a thoroughly hygienic condition. Owing to the pressure of other work and changes in the Inspectorial staff, the number of visits made have not been as numerous as desirable. These requirements are only the essentials which every well conducted kitchen should show, and I believe that some system of furnishing certificates after inspection would prove of value to the proprietors in obtaining the confidence of their customers. With this end in view, we propose obtaining the views of the Hotels and Caterers' Association.

In the course of inspection the kitchen of one small restaurant was found in a very dirty and neglected state. The proprietors were prosecuted and fined.

FISH AND CHIP SHOPS.

There are 19 fish and chip shops on the register. One new premises was registered during the year, and two changed hands. Except from the usual and to many people the objectionable smell of frying, we have had no ground for complaint. The necessity for frequent removal of offal and the condition of the receptacles is the worst feature of the business.

OTHER OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One tripe boiler and five marine store dealers are on the register. Except for occasional accumulation of bones and rabbit skins, they cause little trouble.

ARSENIC IN APPLES.

No illness in the district was attributable to this cause, but samples of Jonathan apples were taken and examined for arsenic with negative results.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACTS.

The diseases scheduled under this Act are Foot and Mouth Disease, Swine Fever, Epizootic Abortion, etc., etc.

We have examined bacteriologically the following specimens:—Actinomycosis, one; two of parasitic mange; one Johne's disease; three of swine erysipelas; and fourteen of tuberculosis.

SWINE FEVER.

One outbreak was notified, being discovered during the course of meat inspection. Four animals died or were destroyed owing to the disease.

PARASITIC MANGE.

There were no definite notifications; the bacteriological examinations of the suspected cases being negative.

INSECT PEST ACTS.

No cases were reported or discovered.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT.

In connection with complaints, 193 premises were visited and investigations made. An organised campaign was carried out during Rat Week in October, and we have reason to consider it was a success, but the department is constantly dealing with the trouble by the laying of baits and other methods.

In one case it was necessary to serve a legal notice for the abatement of the nuisance caused to surrounding property by the neglect to deal with the pests.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES.

During the year 34 premises were inspected and drains tested, while 29 Certificates have been granted. The practice of granting Certificates where the requirements laid down by the Health Committee have been carried out is of considerable benefit to the many hotels and boarding houses in the town, whilst many visitors require such certificates before taking possession of furnished houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK.

Houses inspected				342
Houses visited				1267
Special visits re insanitary area				12
Dirty premises limewashed and c				175
Rooms disinfected				117
Cases of overcrowding abated				4
Defective floors repaired				22
Water supply laid direct from ma				15
Defective yards re-paved				24
Lighted and ventilated rooms				1
External plastering repaired				35
Intornal				1
Stoves repaired ,, ,,				10
Coppers repaired				6
R.W.P.'s and gutters repaired				60
Nuisances from keeping fowls an	d animals			18
Ashbins provided for house refus				316
Roofs repaired	ic.		•••	45
Handrails fixed				6
				24
Door and door frames repaired of				
Windows repaired or renewed			•••	17
Yards and outbuildings cleansed				41
Smoke tests applied				984
Water ,, ,,				225
New sets of house drains laid		• • •		128
Defective house drains repaired				90

-				
Intercepting traps with fresh-air in				83
Old "Mason's" and other old type	of traps al	bolished		49
Inspection chamber to drains built				176
Drains ventilated at head of system	n			76
New sanitary conveniences with wa	ater supply	7 fixed		116
Soil pipes fixed outside buildings a	nd ventila	ted		85
Iron and brick traps removed and e			red	177
Waste pipes from baths, lavatories				86
Choked drains cleared				89
Defective w.c. cisterns repaired or	new provid	ded		76
W.C.'s repaired and cleansed	F			41
Glazed sinks fixed				41
Lavatory basins fixed				23
Housemaid's sinks fixed				4
Houses closed as unfit for human h	abitation			7
Workshops visited				254
Workshop notices				25
				329
Houses repaired			•••	34
Sanitary certificates granted			•••	
Visits to piggeries				29
,, stables				50
,, common lodging houses				12
,, public elementary schools				64
Offensive accumulations removed				58
Nuisances from stables and manure	pits abate	ed		5
Miscellaneous repairs				10
Inspections, Rats and Mice Act				193
Re-visits in connection with above	work			2729
Legal notices				59
Preliminary notices served				577
Letters and communications in con		with the wo		
of the department				1362
Verbal notices				130
Written and verbal complaints				275
Slaughter-houses visited				1500
Butchere' chone				2560
Butchers' shops ,,				49
Butchers' carts ,,		•••		
Fish Quay ,,		•••		84
Railway siding ,,	•••			29
Market ,,		•••		67
Other shops ,,				94
Fish and chip shops ,,				50
Marine stores ,,				6
Ice cream shops ,,				80
Tripe boilers ,,				32
Places of entertainment visited				4
Cafes, etc., visited				8
Carcases inspected				20,846
Weight of food destroyed				19,901 lbs.
Number of vessels inspected				98
Visits to dairies and cowsheds				277
Disinfectants supplied				160 galls.
Conveniences inspected				93
Caravans and tents inspected				3
Samples of milk for analysis, % of	fat			52
Samples of milk bacteriologically e				52
ioo aroam				6
,, ice cream ,, Redding etc. disinfected	"	•••		
Bedding, etc., disinfected				2429

PORT SANITARY INSPECTION.

As far as possible all trading vessels are boarded and inspected on arrival, special attention being paid to those from foreign ports as to the freedom of illness among the crews and presence of rats and other vermin.

During the year it was reported that plague had broken out in Northern France, and a vessel with potatoes and vegetables was notified to arrive from there. I arranged for her to be detained at the quarantine buoy till I had examined the crew. They proved to be all in good health. Subsequently I learnt that the rumour arose through several deaths from small-pox.

Another case of illness on a sailing ship from the Baltic with timber was notified to me by the Harbour Master. I visited and found nothing of an infectious nature, and had the patient removed to the Torbay Hospital.

No cases of rat-infected ships were found.

During the year 1925 the amount of shipping entering the Harbour was as follows :---

Foreign—		
Šteamers 7	Tonnage 2,1	121
Sailing 13	,, 4	404
Motor 60		917
Total ships 80		442
Inspected—		
Steamers 7	Sailing and Motor	
	Ships	26
Coastwise_	L	
Steamers 14	Tonnage 4,0	051
Sailing 21	" … 1,	745
Motor176	" 7,8	881
211	13,0	377
Inspected—		
Steamers 27	Sailing and Motor	
	Ships	38

The vessels inspected have generally been found clean and in a satisfactory condition. The few defects found—such as slight leakage around combings of hatchways and cleanliness of firemen's quarters—were at once attended to when brought to the notice of the Captain.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

During the year 301 Factories and Workshops were inspected. On the whole they were found in a satisfactory condition, and any defects were soon remedied when the occupier's attention was drawn to them.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors of Nuisances.

	Number of									
Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.							
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries) -	18		Nil							
Workshops (including Workshop ,,) -	176	24	1							
WORKPLACES (other than Outworkers' Premises)	60	1	1							
Total	254	25	2							

		Number of Defects.								
	Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.						
*Nuisances	ander the P.H. Acts-	14.								
Want of	Cleanliness	10	10	-						
Want of	Ventilation	-	-	-						
Overcro	wding	-	-	-						
Want of	Drainage of Floors -	1	1	-						
Other N	uisances	9	9	_						
	Insufficient	2	2	_						
Sanitary Accommo-	Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	_						
dation	Not Separate for Sexes	4	4	-						
Tota	al	28	28	_						

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

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

LOCAL AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

Practically all the Adoptive Acts and Regulations have been put in force by the Council, and where necessary bye-laws framed. The Local Acts are the Torquay Harbour and District Act, 1886, and the Torquay Corporation Act, 1923.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year-

<i>(a)</i>	Total (inclu	uding	number	given	separately	
	und	der (b))				432

- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—
 - (1.) By Local Authority ... 31
 - (ii.) By other bodies or persons 401

I.	UNFIT	DWELLING	HOUSES.

Inspection-

II.

III.

	(1)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	342
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or Housing Consolidated Regula- tions, 1925	43
	(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation -	7
	(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	322
R	EMED	Y OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.	
	Nu	umber of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	329
A	TION	UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.	
a.	Pro	ceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925	
	(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit— (a) by owners	6 0
	(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations of owners of intention to close	_
<i>b</i> .	Pro	ceedings under Public Health Acts :	
	(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	20
	(2)		
		(a) by owners (b) by Local Authority in default of owner	20 0
с.	Pro	ceedings 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	7
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	7
	(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	1
	(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0000
	(5)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	11311

In their inspections of districts, the Sanitary Inspectors have had to exercise the greatest discretion in dealing with defective houses. Some landlords are only too ready to seize on the excuse that to remedy defects, necessitated structura repairs, and to request that a Closing Order be made. This would enable him to overhaul the house and then sell it with vacant possession. Also, some houses were so bad that the only method of dealing with them was by the issue of a Closing Order, but as little was to be gained by this procedure when there was no accommodation for the tenants, it was considered best to get what repairs were possible by acting under the Public Health Acts.

The completion of 406 houses during the year seems to point to satisfactory progress, but in reality it barely touches the fringe of the trouble, and the problem of housing those persons living under bad conditions is still unsolved.

Practically all private enterprise has been devoted to providing houses for sale, and it is only a negligible number of the above who could obtain the amount of deposit required before a purchase could be effected. To any working man this is a big undertaking. It is usual to require a deposit of from £50 to £100; the house agent's fees are in many cases £25, and a similar amount is required by the solicitors for the conveyance of the property. The annual interest would be a severe drag. Then a weekly rental of 18/- to 25/- a week, plus rates and taxes, makes the task almost impossible. Many feel the responsibility is too great when they consider the possibility of severe illness occurring or of being thrown out of work.

The occupation of new purchased houses seems to do little to ease the situation for others; it only allows the remaining inmates of the old house to spread out, or if all the tenants leave, the owner usually sells the house, or if the price asked is high, it remains vacant for long periods.

During the year all applicants for houses have had to submit particulars of their circumstances to me, so that they can be verified and thus enable the Housing Committee to consider them on their merits, and decide which were the most necessitous.

As no one but the Council was building houses to let, naturally there were a large number of applicants. The only houses available were the twelve maisonette flats completed on the St. Mary-Church Road and three or four of the Council's first erected houses on Westhill which became vacant. In submitting lists of cases to the Committee it soon became apparent that there would be many cases of hardship, with little chance of amelioration. For example, the case of a disabled pensioner with one or two children living in one or two rooms, the difficulties being aggravated by the fact that the children were of different sexes and possibly nearing puberty. Or possibly the family may be living in very defective property, for which the only remedy is closure.

Again, there seems to be little chance for the young married couple, who often start married life with the parents of either the husband or wife. In nine out of ten cases this ends in disaster. Possibly they obtain a part furnished room, and when babies come along their landlords give them notice, and because of the fact that there is a child it is with the utmost difficulty they find accommodation again. If they delay in removing, or are living in an unfurnished room, things are made so hard and difficult for them that they are glad to clear out.

Then we have the case of the family where there have been several children, but some have died, alleged to be due to the housing conditions under which they lived. I made strong representations to the Housing Committee, who were extremely sympathetic and anxious to do all in their power to meet these troubles, and it was decided to purchase land at Hele and erect 189 houses. When this is carried out it ought to go far to deal with the housing difficulty.

PIMLICO INSANITARY AREA.

This scheme has had the almost continuous consideration of the Health Committee and officials throughout the year, but many difficulties and decisions have had to be met. I now feel that before another year the clearance of this area will be an accomplished fact. Twenty-five houses have been erected on the Stentiford's Hill site, and have been occupied by families from the most tumbled down houses. The other twenty-five at Westhill are now well under way. The "Scheme" will soon be ready for presentation to the Ministry of Health.

	YEARS.
	PREVIOUS
	AND
	1925
TABLE I.	DURING
	DISTRICT
	MHOLE .
	OF
	STATISTICS
	VITAL

			Brorne		TOTAL DEATHS	DEATHS	TRANSFERABLE	CRABLE	Nett Dea	ths belong	Nett Deaths belonging to the District.	District.
	Population estimated to		OINTHO.		REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.	ED IN THE	DEATHS.	HS.	Under 1 year of age	ear of age	At all ages.	ages.
YEAR.	Middle of each	;					of Non-	of Resi-		Rate nor		
	Year.	corrected	Neut.		Number.	Rate.	0 20	dents not registered	Number.	1,000 Nett	Number.	Rate.
	1	.iaominut	Number	Rate.			In the District.	District.		Births		
1	2	3	4	5	9	7	00	6	10	11	12	13
1915	32520	482	490	12.4	543	16.6	59	92	41	83.6	576	17-71
1916	31540	449	459	13.3	554	17-2	65	53	43	93-7	542	17-2
1917	30685	389	401	11.7	562	18.3	88	80	26	64-8	554	18.0
1918	30710	407	412	12.0	262	19.4	85	110	31	75	622	20.2
1919	33374	517	531	15.2	501	15.0	60	63	25	47	504	15.1
1920	34703	643	657	18.6	505	14.5	57	62	34	53	510	14.7
1921	33660	533	542	16.1	529	15.7	73	69	44	81	533	15.8
1922	33690	495	490	14.5	581	17-2	99	77	23	47	592	17-5
1923	34100	503	488	14.3	532	15.6	68	52	24	49	516	15.1
1924	34940	514	521	14-9	548	15.6	75	84	28	53	557	15-9
1925	35070	508	513	14.6	533	15-2	70	53	33	64	528	15-0
								-				-

TABLE II.

CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1925.

1	.[.84	posbi	1																		1
		T'otal e		1	00	- 86	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	- 10	39
	Torwood Bt. M'U'h. Babbac'be Chelston			•	•	• 4	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		00		•	•	• •	12
in each locality.			1.	•	-	c4 LC	, ,		•	•	•	•	•		•	5	-		•	• •	17
				•	00	07-		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	13	2		• •	4 ·	40
			1.	•	,							,	•	•	•	5				4 .	=
		Busud	1.	•		• 4	• •	•	•	•			•	•	• •	9		б		n .	16
Total cases notifie	pe	Ellac'm		1		۰ in		•			•	,	•	-	-	16	-	-		φ,	31
cases		notqU		•	1	. 00	•			•	•	,	•	•	•	10	•	-	• ;	. 14	34
[otal	-	moblaW				c7 .				•		,			•	5	-	-	. :	. 10	=
	Torre			•		- 4	•	•	•	•			•			21	м		. ,	- ·	30
	-	sbaswqu 86 and	1	1	1	-		1	1	1			1	1	1	63	1	2			2
d.		29 of 24	1	1	1	5	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17	c1	2	1		26
otifie	Years.	25 to 45	1	1	1	0	1	I	1	1			1	1	1	48	63	M	1.	-	56
Number of Cases notified.	s-Ye	15 to 25	1	1	1	14	1	1	1		1		1		1	24	62	1	1.	, 1	36
of Ca	Ages-	SI of B	1	1	-00	24	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1;	9	50
nber	At	5 01 I	1	1	-	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	19	31	24
Nur		Under 1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	01	5
	'S9	96 [[6 th	-	1	10	41	1	1	1	1		1	1	-	-	93	00	-	-		202
				• •	20 24				•						• 2		÷ •		-		. 20
		Notifiable Disease	Small-pox .	Cholera	us ero	Erysipelas . Scarlet fever .	Muteric fever .	Typhus fever .	Relapsing fever .	Continued fever.	Cerebro-spinal	Meningitis .	oliomyelitis .	Uputuatuna Neonatorum Encenhalitis	Lethargica		Tuberculosis	Pneumonia .	Malaria .	Measles .	Totals .

TABLE III. CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1925. (see Notes next page).

		Net d	Total Deaths whether of Residents or								
	CAUSES OF DEATH.	All ages	under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 & under 35.	35 & under 45.	45 & under 65.	65 & up-	non Residents in Institutions in the District
		2	-3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 11
-	All (Certified	526	33	8	5	-8	- 36	26	119	291	
e	auses Uncertified	2	-	-	_	-	-	-	1	1	-
1	Enteric Fever		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
23	Small-pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Measles Scarlet Fever	_	-	-	-	_			-	_	_
5	Whooping-cough	8	4	3	1	_	-		=	_	_
67	Diphtheria & Croup		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Influenza	6	2	-	-	-	1		2	1	-
0	Encephalitis Lethargica		1	800	1.11			-	1		
9	Meningococcal		-	-	-		-		_		
	Meningitis		-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Phthisis (Pulmonary						17	-			07
11	Tuberculosis) Other Tuberculous	31	-	-	-	-	11	5	9	-	23
	diseases	9	1	1	2	-	3	-	1	1	1
12	Cancer, malignant			-		1 Star			Freedow		
17	disease	63	-	-	-	1	-	4	26	32	8
13 14	Rheumatic Fever Diabetes	4	-	-	-		-	1	1	2	1
15	Cerebral	4	-	-	-		-	-	1	-	1
	Hæmorrhage	37	-		-			-	9	28	2
16	Organic Heart			an			0	7	07		
17	Disease Arterio-Sclerosis	107 54		-	1]	2	3	27	73 48	7
18	Bronchitis	34	3	_	_	1		_	3	27	$1 \\ 2$
19	Pneumonia, all forms	15	5	1	-	-	1	1	5	2	3
20	Other Diseases of				-		1				
21	Respiratory Organs Ulcer of Stomach or	6		-		-	1	1	-	4	2
	Duodenum	_	-	-	-		-		- 1		-
22	Diarrhœa, etc.										
23	(under 2 years)	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
25	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2		1	1	1	1				2
24	Cirrhosis of liver	3	1	-	_	-	-	-	2	1	-
25	Nephritis and		1	1			1			-	
26	Bright's Disease	7	-	-	-		-	-	5	2	1 -
27	Puerperal Fever Other accidents and	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	diseases of Preg-								-		
	nancy and Partu-						1		1		
28	rition	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
40	Congenital Debility and Malformation,							1			1
	including Prema-								1		
-	ture Birth	10	10	-	-		-	-	- 1		-
29 30	Suicide	1 4	-	-	-	-	-	1	3		-
50	Violent Deaths, ex- cluding Suicide	00	1	2			4	2	3	8	5
31	Other Defined Dis-	20	1	2			4	4	5	0	5
	eases	103	4	1	1	4	5	8	17	63	16
32	Diseases ill-defined					-			1		
	or unknown	1	-	-		-		-	1		1
		528	33	8	5	8	36	26	120	922	77
-	and the second se										

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NOTES TO TABLE III.

- The classification and numbering of Causes of Death are those of the "Short List" on page XXV. of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Death.
- (a) All "transferable deaths" of residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident in the district who have died outside it, are *included* with the other deaths in column 2—10. Transferable deaths of non-residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident elsewhere in England and Wales who have died in the district are in like manner *excluded* from these columns.
- The total deaths in column 2 of Table III. should equal the figures for the year in colums 12 of Table I.
- (b) All deaths occurring in institutions for the sick and infirm situated in the district, whether of residents or non-residents, are to be entered in the last column of Table III.
- (c) All deaths certified by registered medical practitioners, and all inquest cases, are to be classed as 'Certified;" all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."
- d) Deaths from Enteritis are included under Title 22, "Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)."

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

1 Contraction of the local data and the local data		_	-	-	STREET, STREET	A REAL PROPERTY.	-	-	-	No. of Concession, Name
CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL (Certified	10				11	6	8	8		33
CAUSES. Uncertified		(L	-			0		0	-	33
CAUSES. (Uncertified	-	-		-	-	1	-		-	-
	-	-	-	-	_		-	-		
a provide the state of the state of the state of the					1000					CONTRACTOR OF
(Small-pox				-	Sec. 1					1
Chicken-pox										
	1.5	18			100					
1 Qualit France	1	-	-		_		-		-	
	-	1-	-					-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-		-	-	-	1	-	3	•	4
Uphtheria and Croup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Erysipelas		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
(Tuberculosis Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Abdominal Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-		-	-	1	-	1
Other Tuberculosis										
Diseases			-	-			-		-	
Meningitis										
(not Tuberculous)		-	-		1.112		1			
Convulsions					_					-
		-			T	-	-	-	-	-
Laryngitis	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-		2	1	•	3 5
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-			-	-	4	1	•	5
Diarrhœa	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
'Enteritis	-	-	-	-		1	1	1	-	3
Gastritis	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilis	-			-	-	-	-			-
Rickets	-		-	-			-		-	-
Suffocation, overlying	-		-	-	_		-	1	-	1
Injury at Birth	2			-	2					2
Atelectasis	-			-	_		-			
(Congenital Malforma-										
41.000	1				1.000	1		. n		1
Durana tama Diath	6	i	-		7	1		-	-	8
	0	1	-		1	T	-	-	•	0
Debility, Atrophy,	1				1					
and Marasmus		-			1	-	-		•	1
Other Causes	1	-	-		1	2	1	-		4
					1					
	-	-	-			-	-		-	
TOTALS	10	1			11	6	8	8		33
	-									
		-	-	-	_	-	-		-	_
(Le	git	im	ate					465
Nett Births in the year			-							
		Ill	egi	tin	nate					48
			0.	1					100	
ſ		Le	git	im	ate					29
Nett Deaths in the year			0							
June 1 and June 1		TII	ear	itin	mate					4

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Illegitimate .. ., 4

BOROUGH OF TORQUAY.



Meteorological Report

FOR THE YEAR 1925,

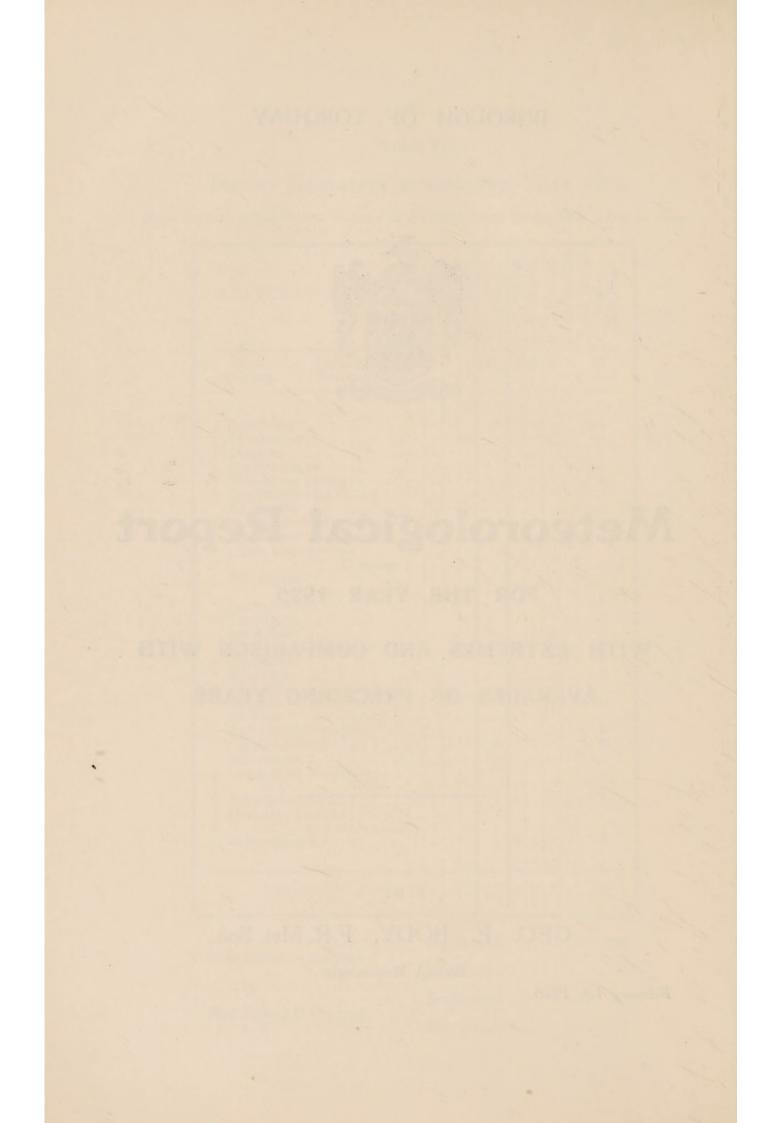
WITH EXTREMES AND COMPARISON WITH AVERAGES OF PRECEDING YEARS.

BY

GEO. E. BODY, F.R. Met. Soc.,

Borough Meteorologist.

February 1st, 1926.



BOROUGH OBSERVATORY,

PRINCESS PIER,

TORQUAY.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Torquay.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following Meteorological Repor for the year 1925.

Observations have been taken twice daily throughout the year, at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Local Time), and at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during Summer Time. The Readings at 9 a.m. have been posted each morning at the Observatory, Princess Pier, and various stations in the town; also at St. Mary-Church Town Hall. The Evening Readings have been telegraphed, as usual, in code to the Meteorological Office, London, from whence they are distributed to the various Press Agencies for publication in the morning papers. During the Summer Season, morning telegrams were also sent to the Meteorological Office, giving particulars of the weather at 9 a.m. This information was published in several of the evening newspapers.

Press telegrams are forwarded to the "Western Morning News and Mercury" and "Torbay Herald and Express" every morning. The Weekly Reports, besides being sent to the Meteorological Office, are also forwarded to the "Torquay Times" and "Torquay Directory," as well as several private individuals.

A weekly and monthly review of the type of weather experienced is published in the "Torquay Directory," "Torquay Times," and "Torbay Herald and Express."

As in past years, the Monthly Report, which shows comparison with previous years, is published in the local papers; also posted up at the Observatory and other places in the town. Copies are also forwarded to the Royal Meteorological Society, British Rainfall Organisation, and the Torquay Natural History Society. A separate Monthly Report, giving our twenty-seven instrumental and other readings twice daily, is sent to the Meteorological Office, London.

The daily, weekly, and monthly records exhibited at the Observatory with the self-recording Thermograph and Barograph, are a source of considerable interest to visitors, for it is quite a common sight during the summer months to see fifteen to twenty persons reading the records displayed and commenting on the amount of sunshine and temperature experienced here compared with other places. Many visitors, before planning their daily itinerary, wait for the daily forecast to be posted.

The scheme of insurance initiated by the Pluvias Insurance Company and various newspapers and journals leads to a careful study of the daily rainfall, and many applications have been received for copies of our rainfall statistics.

The observations are also published, with others relating to the County of Devon, in the Annual "Climate of Devon" Report by the Devonshire Association.

Numerous private enquiries, newspaper articles, etc., concerning the climate here have also been replied to during the year.

Considerably over a thousand telegrams, reports and communications have been despatched.

I am, Gentlemen, Yours obediently, GEORGE E. BODY.

OBSERVATORY AND INSTRUMENTS.

Torquay is situated in North Latitude, 50°28, and West Longitude 3°31. The town faces south-west, being situated on the shores of Torbay. Many parts of the town lie on hills 200 to 250 feet above sea level, from which magnificent views of Torbay and Dartmoor can be obtained.

The geographical position of these hills is so situated as to protect the town from the cold winds of the north and east, whilst the River Dart to the west and southwest, the River Teign to the north, and the Bay to the south, have such a steadying effect on the climate that extremes of temperature are rare.

The Observatory is organised and maintained by the Town Council, and is under the supervision of the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, London.

The several Barometers, Thermometers, and Rain Gauges have been verified at Kew Observatory, and are regularly examined by an Inspector on the staff of the Meteorological Office. Readings are all corrected for instrumental errors.

The Hygrometrical Results are deduced from the daily morning readings of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers by means of Glaisher's Tables.

The averages for Sunshine are the result of 26 years, for Temperature and Rainfall of 49 years, and for Pressure of 41 years' observations.

The following are the instruments and appliances in regular use, those being marked by an asterisk being the property of the Torquay Natural History Society, and lent by them to the town :—

*The **Barometer** is a Fortin standard, and is read twice daily. All readings are corrected for Temperature and reduced to sea level. Two **Barographs.** One is placed in the window of the Observatory, and the one presented by the late Sir Thomas Bazley, Bart., is exhibited at the entrance to the Pavilion.

Two sets of **Stevenson's Screens**, each containing **Dry** and **Wet Bulb**, and **Maximum** and **Minimum Thermometers**. One of these sets is at Cary Green where the official Temperatures for the Meteorological Office have been taken.

Rain Gauges are of the Snowdon pattern. They are placed, one on Cary Green, where official records are taken, and one in the Princess Gardens.

Grass Minimum Thermometer placed in Cary Green.

Sunshine Recorder is a Curtis improved Campbell-Stokes instrument. This is situated on the cover shelter at the Southern end of the Princess Pier deck. The Sunshine Cards are forwarded at month ends to the Meteorological Office for examination and verification.

A 4ft earth Thermometer is placed in the Princess Gardens Station.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1925.

JANUARY.

Wet, cloudy, and generally unsettled weather; sunshine was below normal, and rainfall considerably in excess.

The mean maximum temperature was 49.5° F., mean minimum 41.7° F., giving a mean temperature of 45.6° F. These were 2.3°, 3.3°, and 2.7° respectively above the average of 49 years. The highest day temperature was 54.2° on the 30th, and the lowest 32.6° on the 12th. The mean daily range of temperature was only 7.6°F.

There were six readings with a grass temperature below 32°F., and three readings below 30°F. Wind was West to South and generally light in force, only two gales being recorded. Humidity was slightly above normal. There was an absence of snow or sleet.

Rainfall, like the previous year, was excessive and at times very heavy; the total of 6.19 inches exceeded the average of 48 years by 2.92 inches and last year by 1.93 inches. Rain was recorded on 19 days, and a trace on two days. The heaviest falls were 1.5 inches on the 1st and 25th. Previous Januarys with a high rainfall were 1906, etc., to 1924 4.27 inches.

Barometric pressure was fairly high, the mean for the month exceeding the average of 41 years by 0.174 inches. The month was one of the dullest on record, the total duration of sunshine was only 42.9 hours. This was 18 79 hours less than last year, and 20.74 hours below the average of 26 years. The 9th was the sunniest day, when 6.8 hours were recorded. There were 12 sunless days during the month. Past dull Januarys were 1914 with only 28.5 hours and 1917, 40.7 hours.

The Air Ministry's remarks were : "Windy and very mild, wet in the South. During the first few days there was a continuance of the rough weather which prevailed towards the end of December, and gales were experienced in many parts of the country. Heavy rain occurred widely during the first two days of the month, the greatest falls being in Wales and Westmoreland. "Snow lying" was recorded in Scotland and Northern England during the first week, a depth of 5½ inches being noted at Balmoral on the 3rd. On the 4th cold weather set in which, except for the passage of a V-shaped depression, caused rain generally, lasting nearly a week. Six or seven hours of bright sunshine were experienced on several days, notably at stations in England, S.E., and some low minimum temperatures were recorded.

"Mild weather with local rain and strong south-westerly winds spread over the whole of the country by the 13th. Severe gales were experienced on the night of the 13th to 14th. There was a subsequent change to sunny and drier conditions, with local mist and fog, but after the 22nd, which was wet and stormy in Scotland, the weather again became unsettled. There was much rain on the 25th and 26th, especially in South-West England, a fall of 48mm was recorded at Ipplepen (Devon) on the first of these days. Sunshine was in excess in five Districts and deficient in the remaining seven Districts. The largest mean daily excess, 0.29 hours, was experienced in Scotland N. and the largest deficiency, 0.41 hours, in England S.W."

FEBRUARY.

A wet and wild month, with frequent showers of hail and sleet, but temperatures and sunshine were above the average.

The mean maximum temperature was 50.1° F., mean minimum 39.6° F., and mean temperature 44.9° F. These temperatures were : Maximum 4.2° , minimum 3.6° , and mean 3.8° respectively above last year, and 2.0° , 1.0° , and 1.4° above those for 49 years. The highest temperature recorded was 55.4° F. on the 3rd, and the lowest 32.3° F. on the 20th, whilst the mean daily range of temperature was 10.5° F. There were 12 nights with a grass temperature below 32° and six nights at or below 30° .

Atmospheric pressure was low throughout the month, the mean reading being 0.272 inches below the average of 41 years.

The total rainfall for the month was 4.59 inches, thus exceeding last February by 3.24 inches, and the average of 49 years by 1.70 inches. The heaviest fall of the month occurred on the 25th, when 0.82 inches were registered. There were only seven days without measurable rainfall. Sunshine totalled 99.96 hours. This is 13.25 hours above ast year, and 14.67 hours above the average of 26 years. The sunniest day was the 28th, when 8.9 hours were recorded, whilst there were only three sunless days.

The prevailing winds were West, North-West and South-West. On twenty-one days wind was fresh to strong, reaching to gale force on the 11th and 24th. Mist occurred on five days, thunder at 14 hours on the 26th, and hail or sleet showers on eight days, but no snow.

The Air Ministry describes the weather as "Unsettled throughout the greater part of the month, with a normal temperature, except at the latter part of the month, when day readings were rather low. High wind and gales prevailed between the 8th and 13th, with heavy rain in the S.W. on the 11th. Slight snow or sleet fell in many parts and thunder was heard locally."

MARCH.

An exceptionally dry month, with a good sunshine record, absence of gales and strong wind, a normal temperature, and a high and steady pressure.

The mean temperatures for the month were: Maximum 49.6° , minimum 37.8° , giving a mean temperature of 43.7° F. The mean maximum temperature was 0.3° , mean minimum 0.9° , and mean 0.5° below the average of 49 years. The highest temperature for the month was 56°F. on the 15th and 17th, and the lowest day temperature 43.8° on the 12th, and the lowest night temperature 29.6° on the 13th. The mean daily range of temperature was 11.8° . Nine ground frosts were recorded, the lowest grass temperature being 22.5 on the 12th.

Rainfall was much below the average, only 0.39 inches being recorded; this was 1.67 inches below last March, and 2.35 inches below the average of 49 years. The heaviest fall was 0.08 inches on the 31st. Rain fell on seven days. Previous years with a low rainfall were 1893 0.17 inches, 1899 0.76 inches, 1907 0.66 inches, 1910 0.86 inches, and 1915 0.96 inches.

The total duration of sunshine was 127.1 hours. This was 51.6 hours below last year and 9.48 hours below the average. The 9th was the sunniest day, when 9.48 hours were registered. There were only three sunless days during the month.

Barometric pressure was high and steady, the mean corrected reading being 30.231 inches, which is 0.301 inches above the average.

Wind was Northerly, light in force, but rather keen at times. Snow showers occurred on the 9th and 21st, and hail or sleet on the 8th, 21st, 23rd, and 25th. Four frosts were recorded and thunder and lightning on the 25th. Humidity was low, the mean for the month being only 69% compared with the average of 82%.

The Air Ministry's Report on the weather was "The outstanding feature was the scarcity of rainfall. Strong North-Westerly winds and gales in the Channel occurred on the 3rd, 4th and 8th. Showers of snow and sleet occurred in many places, whilst the mean temperature for the week, 8th to 14th, was the lowest since the beginning of the year."

APRIL.

Generally unsettled, but temperatures, sunshine and rainfall, compared favourably with the average. The mean maximum temperature was 53.9°F., mean minimum 42.3°F., giving a mean temperature of 48.1°F. The mean maximum temperature was 0.5°, mean minimum and mean temperature 0.3° below the average.

Barometric readings were unsteady and lower than normal, the mean reading for the month being 29.874 inches, which is 0.044 inches below the average of 41 years.

Rainfall was above the average to the extent of 0.36 inches, whilst humidity was 4% below the average. Wind was West to South, strong at times and on many days unusually cold for the time of the year.

Sunshine was below the average, the total for the month was 176.70 hours, or 7.9 hours below the average.

The Air Ministry's remarks on the weather were : "The weather was generally unsettled, with rainfall above the normal in many districts. Snow fell in many parts of Scotland on the 1st—3rd, whilst local thunderstorms were also experienced. On the 15th high winds and gales occurred in many parts. During the latter half of the month temperature was frequently below normal, especially on the 20th."

MAY.

A month of unsettled weather, with an excess of rain, a deficiency of sunshine and temperatures a little below the normal.

The mean maximum temperature was 58.1°F., mean minimum 48.1°F., and mean 53.1°F., the latter being 0.4° below last year and 0.7° below the average. The maximum day temperature was 65.3°F. on the 14th, and the minimum night temperature 39°F. on the 1st. The mean daily range was 10°.

The total sunshine for the month was 187.55 hours, or a difference of 24.76 hours below the average. Previous years, with a low sunshine record during May, are 1916 200.6 hours, 1919 203.1 hours, 1923 209.1 hours, and 1924 with 177.01 hours.

Rainfall amounted to 3.54 inches; this was 1.49 inches below last year, but 1.62 inches in excess of the average.

Barometric pressure was low and unsteady; the mean reading for the month was 29.803 in., which is 0.181 in. below the average.

The prevailing winds were West, South-West and South-East, fairly light, but at times chilly. Humidity was slightly above normal. Sea mists occurred on the 11th and 16th. Hail showers on the 7th, thunder on the 18th, and a thunderstorm on the 22nd, and exceptionally heavy rain on the 26th.

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The Air Ministry's remarks on the weather are : "During the first ten days the weather was, on the whole, rather cool and dull, with considerable rain at times, and thunder in several places on the 6th and 10th. From the 11th an improvement in the weather generally was experienced, although some thick fog occurred on the S.W. coast. Temperatures rose above 65°F. inland on the 12th, exceeding 70°F. on the 14th, and touched 80°F. on the 16th. Thunderstorms were particularly general in England on the 18th—19th, and were associated with heavy rain in some places. Mean temperatures were above the normal at Kew and Aberdeen, while nearly all the stations showed a deficiency of sunshine and an excess of rain."

JUNE.

An unprecedented dry month, with a comparatively high day temperature and a total duration of bright sunshine, many hours in excess of any June in the past.

The mean maximum temperature was 70.4°F. mean minimum 53.7°F., and mean temperature 62.0°F., the latter being 3.3° in excess of the average. The maximum day temperature for the month was 86.0°F. on the 12th; this exceeds the reading of July 19th, 1921. by 0.2°, so is thus the highest day temperature ever recorded here so far as is known.

The month was one of the sunniest Junes on record, for, with a total of 349.20 hours, it was above the average to the extent of 122.10 hours.

Previous Junes with good sunshine records are 1918 285.3 hours, and 1911 with 382.7 hours. The 15th was the sunniest day, when 14.65 hours were registered.

The Barometer throughout the month was high and steady, exceeding the average of 41 years by 0.113 inches, the mean for the month being 30.387 inches.

The month was the driest June since 1876, the total rainfall for the month being only 0.01 inches. Previous dry years were; June, 1908, 0.31 inches, 1913 0.51 inches, 1918 0.91 inches, and 1923 0.22 inches.

Humidity was below the average, the prevailing winds were North East, West and South, light in character, and for the most part warm. No fog, thunder or lightning was experienced.

The Air Ministry's notes for the month are : "The outstanding feature of the month was the scarcity of rainfall. Not a single measurement was made throughout the month in some places. During the first few days temperatures over the greater part of the British Isles remained generally below 70°F. By the 4th temperature rose considerably for a fortnight, warm sunny weather prevailing, whilst readings above 80°F. occurred in many places."

JULY.

The warm, sunny weather which prevailed throughout June continued well into the month, after which conditions were more or less unsettled.

The mean maximum temperature for the month is 68.8°F., mean minimum 56.9°F. and mean temperature 62.9°F. These temperatures are 0.6°, 1.7°, and 1.1° above the average of 49 years. The highest day temperature of the month is 77.3°F.

Rainfall for the month totalled 2.50 inches, which is 0.26 inches in excess of the average. There were 13 days with falls of 0.04 inches or more, and three days with falls of 0.01 inches. The heaviest fall occurred on the 21st, when 0.61 inches were registered.

Sunshine for the month totalled 223.85 hours, or 11.53 hours below the average. The 18th was the sunniest day with 14.65 hours.

Barometer readings were low; the mean for the month was 29.971 inches, which is 0.033 inches below the average.

Prevailing winds were West, South and North, light and warm. Humidity was below the average. Sea mists or fogs were registered on three, and thunder and lightning on three, occasions.

The Air Ministry's notes on the weather were: "Very little rain fell in the London area during the first half of the month. Temperatures rose to about 80°F. in many instances, and sunshine records exceeded 14 hours in the S.E. districts. By the 17th weather deteriorated generally and rain fell in many districts, including the S.E. During the night of the 22nd severe thunderstorms, accompanied by heavy rain, visited the S.E. and midland counties. The last week was marked by a cooler type of unsettled weather."

AUGUST.

On the whole the weather was unsettled, with a good deal of cloud, but temperatures were above normal and, except for the heavy rain during the night of the 5th, the days were comparatively dry.

The mean maximum temperature was 67.9° F., mean minimum 58.3°F. and mean temperature 62.1° F. The highest day temperature of the month was 77° F. on the 31st and the lowest 51°F. on the 26th.

Rainfall was below the average, the total for the month being 2.5 inches. The heaviest fall occurred during the night of the 5th, when 1.07 inches were registered ; rain was recorded on 16 days, 0.04 inches or more falling on 9 days.

The month had a deficiency of sunshine, only 191.58 hours being recorded, compared with the average of 211.51 hours. Previous low sunshine records were 1894 with 154 hours, 1902 177.1 hours, 1912 96.3 hours, 1922 138.5 hours. The sunniest day was the 16th, when 11.65 hours were registered.

Wind was S.W., West and North, light, and for the most part warm. Humidity was below the average; mist or haze was registered on five occasions. There was one thunderstorm, but thunder was recorded on three occasions, and lightning on one occasion.

The Air Ministry's report on the weather was: "The general character of the weather for the first thirteen days was unsettled. There were bright periods when occasional good sunshine records were obtained, but rain fell almost daily in some places, and thunderstorms occurred in many places on the 1st, 5th, 6th, and again on the 10th and 11th. Temperatures rose above 75°F. at many places on the 17th. Thunderstorms occurred somewhere in the British Isles each day until the 25th, whilst rainfall was heavy locally in the South on the 23rd."

SEPTEMBER.

The first seventeen days were fairly sunny and dry, but conditions were more or less unsettled. Like the preceding year there was an absence of bright moonlight nights.

Temperatures were slightly below the average, the mean maximum was 63.2°F., mean minimum 50.2°F. and mean temperature 56.7°F. These temperatures are 1.1°, 2.1°, and 1.6° respectively below the average.

Total sunshine was 179.70 hours, which is 15 hours above the average and 41.4 hours above last year. The 13th was the sunniest day, when 10.45 hours were registered.

Rainfall for the month was again excessive, the total of 3.36 inches, being 1.09 inches above the average. The average fall for September is 2.27 inches. The heaviest fall of the month was 1.31 inches on the 19th. On only one occasion in the past has this amount been exceeded, viz., September 22ud, 1901, when 1.62 inches were recorded. Past years with an excessive rainfall for the month were 1896 with 5.45 inches, 1901 4.42 inches, 1918 5.68 inches, and 1924 4.38 inches.

Barometric readings were generally steady and normal, the mean for the month was 30.027 inches, or 0.008 inches below the average.

Wind was Northerly and Westerly, and on the whole light in force, except on the 19th and 22nd, when gale force was reached. Humidity was below the average, visibility good, but sea mist or haze prevailed on five occasions. No thunder or lightning was recorded.

The Air Ministry's summary of the weather was: "The hot weather at the end of August was followed by a marked drop in temperature in September. Ground frosts occurred in many districts between the 4th and 12th. Rain fell frequently, though the amounts were often small; thunderstorms occurred on several dates, sometimes accompanied by hail, while on some mountains in Scotland snow was lying a few inches deep about the 10th. On the 19th the wind rose to gale force in some parts of the Channel and North Sea coasts. High winds were experienced inland. On the 21st thunderstorms occurred in several parts of England, including London. On the 22nd gales occurred locally on our S.W coasts."

OCTOBER.

The month was generally mild and sunny, and for the first seventeen days exceptionally dry.

The temperatures were mean maximum 60°F., mean minimum 50.4°F. and mean temperature 55.2°F.; these exceeded the average by 2°, 3.2° and 2.6° respectively.

Sunshine amounted to 101.37 hours, being 13.58 hours below the average. The maximum sunshine on one day was 9.5 hours on the 9th.

Rainfall was slightly above the average, the total for the month amounting to 4.01 inches, but this is only 0.08 inches above normal. Rain fell on eleven days, compared with 15 last year.

The mean barometric pressure for the month is 29.945 inches, or only 0.007 inches below the average.

Wind was West to East, light at first, reaching to gale force on the 22nd, with high winds on the 23rd, 24th and 29th. Humidity was normal, mist or light fog was recorded on six occasions, and a white frost on the 15th No thunder, lightning, snow, or sleet occurred.

The Ministry's resumé on the weather is: "Apart from some cold weather in the second and third week, October was predominatingly mild. Maximum temperatures exceeded 70°F. in several districts, but by the 8th North-Easterly winds caused a marked drop in temperature in the S.E. districts. Snow, sleet and hail showers were experienced in Scotland during the next few days. Local thunderstorms occurred in Southern England on the 24th. Sunshine was deficient in several districts, but well above the average in some places."

NOVEMBER.

The month opened mild with heavy rain and high wind, but from the 7th onwards temperatures fell considerably, resulting in an abnormally cold month, with an exceptional number of ground frosts. Sunshine and rainfall were slightly above the average, although the latter part of the month was comparatively dry. Temperatures were low, the mean maximum being only 48.7°F., mean minimum 39.1°F., and mean temperature 43.9°F. These show a difference from the average of maximum 3.4°, minimum 3.2°, and mean temperature 3.3°F. The number of ground frosts were also unusual for Torquay, there being no less than 14 readings below 30°, whilst the reading of 20.1°F. on the 30th appears to be the lowest on record. Previous low grass temperatures are 24.8°F. in November, 1896, 22.6°F. in 1904 and 19.9°F. in 1905.

The highest day temperature was 60.2°F. on the 2nd, and the lowest 40.5°F. on the 26th and 28th, whilst the lowest night temperature was 30.1°F. on the 29th, and the highest 54.1°F. on the 3rd.

The total duration of sunshine amounted to 82.4 hours, which is 2.1 hours above the average. The sunniest day was the 12th, when 7.6 hours were registered.

Rainfall was above the average by 0.42 inches. Atmospheric pressure was a little below the average; the mean reading for the month was 29.932 inches, which is 0.015 inches below the average.

Sea mists or light fogs occurred on several occasions; a little snow fell during the morning of the 28th, and sleet during the evening of the 30th, whilst a gale was recorded during the night of the 1st. The prevailing wind was North, generally light, but at times rather keen. Humidity was below the average.

The Ministry's remarks on the weather were : "The month opened with mild, unsettled weather; after the 3rd there was an appreciable fall in temperature, although it was not until the second week that the weather became definitely cold. Gales in the Channel and Irish Sea occurred on the 7th. Cold North-Easterly winds spread over England during the night and marked the beginning of the cold spell, which was one of the outstanding features of the month. Snow or sleet showers, which had been experienced earlier in Scotland, fell in the South-Eastern counties, including London on the 10th. Fog occurred in many places, notably in London, on the 14th, but it was in some parts of Northern England and Scotland that thick fog was so persistent. Renfrew reported fog, morning, afternoon and evening for nearly a week. By the 25th the cold became more intense; snow fell in many places and lay on the ground for some days in the London District. Rainfall was below the average in many parts, while there was a marked excess of sunshine."

DECEMBER.

An exceptionally cold month, with an unusual number of frosts.

The mean maximum temperature was only 46.4°F., mean minimum 39.1°F., giving a mean temperature of 42.8°F. These temperatures fell below the average by maximum 2.3°, minimum 0.7°, and mean 1.4°. The number and severity of the frosts were unique for Torquay, the reading of 18.2°F. on the grass on the 15th appears to have established a record.

Like the preceding month rainfall was in excess to the extent of 1.4 inches above the average, but 0.59 inches below last year. But while the rest of the country were experiencing heavy snow, rain was the prevailing feature here.

With a total of 59.85 hours of sunshine there was an excess of 2.03 hours above the average.

Barometric readings were low, falling to 28.624 inches on the 22nd. Gales were experienced on the 29th and 30th, with thunder and lightning at 22 hours on the latter. Snow fell on the 2nd, sleet on the 23rd and 24th, and wet mist or fog on the 25th.

The Air Ministry summarises the weather as : "Cold during the first week, with many bright periods and severe frosts, the screen minimum falling below 20°F. in several parts, while 14°F. and 13°F. were registered at Buxton. Fog occurred in many places, notably on the 4th, when it persisted throughout the day in London. Snow, sleet and hail fell locally, and lying to a depth of 4" at Norwich on the 8th. On the 5th Southerly winds spread over the British Isles, and by the 8th maximum temperatures at many stations throughout the country reached or slightly exceeded 50°F. Subsequently snow and sleet occurred locally in most parts of Great Britain, and night temperatures were again very low. On the 27th mild, rough South-Westerly winds set in, with local gales, and day temperatures rose to 55°F., or above in many parts on the 29th."

SUMMARY FOR YEAR 1925.

JANUARY-Wet, cloudy and unsettled. Temperatures normal.

- FEBRUARY—Exceptionally wet and mild, with frequent showers of hail and sleet. Temperatures and sunshine above the average.
- MARCH—A very dry month, a good sunshine record, absence of gales or strong winds. A normal temperature.
- APRIL—Unsettled; sunshine temperatures and sunshine about normal.

MAY—Unsettled; an excess of rain, deficiency of sunshine, and temperatures a little below normal.

- JUNE—An exceptionally dry month, fairly high temperatures, and a total duration of bright sunshine in excess of past June records.
- JULY-Warm and sunny at first, unsettled towards the end. Temperatures slightly above, and sunshine below normal.
- AUGUST-Unsettled and cloudy; temperatures above, and rainfall and sunshine below the average.
- SEPTEMBER—Generally unsettled; but temperatures, rainfall and sunshine, above the average.
- OCTOBER—Generally mild; sunny and dry at first, but wet towards the end.

NOVEMBER-Cold; rainfall and sunshine above normal.

DECEMBER-Exceptionally cold at times; heavy rain and gales towards the end of the month.

The mean temperature was slightly above 1924, but only 0.2° above the average of 48 years. Summer temperatures were comparatively high. The absolute maximum was 86°F. on June 12th; this is 10.8 higher than the absolute maximum last year, but 1° lower than the record temperature of 87°F. on July 12th, 1923.

Rainfall was above the average, but 5.09 inches less than 1924. Previous years with an excess of rainfall are 1894, with 43.23 inches; 1897, 37.52 inches; 1914, 38.30 inches; 1915, 41.43 inches; 1916, 41.53 inches; and 1924 with 43.92 inches.

The total duration of sunshine showed an increase of 47.84 hours over the average of 26 years, exceeding last year by 188.86 hours, and 88 hours above the mean for 10 years. Former years, with an abundance of sunshine, are 1899, with 2038 hours; 1900, 1857.88 hours; 1901, 1876.5 hours; 1909, 1938.7 hours; 1911, 2111.9 hours; 1918, 1856.6 hours; 1919, 1860.3 hours; and 1921 with 2016.2 hours.

Other matters of note during the year were the heavy rainfall during January, the exceptionally dry and sunny period during June, and the number of frosts during November and December, and the record grass temperature of 18.2°F. on December 15th,

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

Taken at 9 a.m. (Local Time).

In inches and thousandths.

Reduced to 32° F. and Sea Level.

1925.	Mean of Month.	Difference from Mean of Month.	Highest Reading.	Date.	Lowest Reading.	Date.	Extreme Range of Pressure.
January	30.241	+0.174	30.654	19th	29.243	2nd	1.411
February	29.710	-0.272	30.593	2nd	28.551	26th	2.046
March	30.231	+0.301	30.590	16th	29.617	lst	0.973
April	29.874	-0.044	30.207	21st	29.398	5th	0.809
May	29.803	-0.181	30.264	13th	29.376	24th	0.888
June	30.145	+0.113	30.387	10th	29.945	21st	0.442
July	29.971	-0.033	30.345	12th	29.584	2nd	0.761
August	29.993	+0.055	30.454	30th	29.438	21st	1.016
September .	30.027	-0.008	30.442	13th	29.208	22nd	1.234
October	29.945	-0.002	30.517	9th	28.707	22nd	1.810
November	29.932	-0.012	30.497	19th	29.117	8th	1.380
December	29.762	-0.185	30.511	4th	28.624	22nd	1.887
Year	29.969	-0.011	30.654	Jan. 19th	28.551	Feb. 26th	2.103

SHADE TEMPERATURES

Taken at 9 a.m. (Local Time)

AT CARY GREEN.

1925.	Maximum mean.	Minimum mean.	Max. & Min. mean.	Difference from Average.	Range mean.	Highest.	Date.	Lowest.	Date.	Grass.
		o	•	0		0		0	- Incount	0
Jan	49.5	41.7	45.6	+2.7	7.6	54.2	30th	32.6	12th	29.1
Feb	50.1	39.6	44.9	+1.4	10.2	55-4	3rd	32.3	$20 { m th}$	26 [.] 6
March .	49.6	37.8	43.7	-0.2	11.8	56.0	15th&17th	29.6	13th	22.2
April	53.9	42.3	48.1	-0.3	11.6	57.9	11th	38.5	4th	30.0
May	58 [.] 1	48.1	53-1	-0.2	10.0	65.3	14th	39.0	1st	35.0
June	70.4	53.7	62.1	+3.3	16.7	86.0	12th	44.6	2nd & 3rd	39.0
July	68.8	56.9	62.9	+1.5	11.9	77.3	12th	50.9	9th	46.0
Aug	67.9	58.3	62.1	+0.2	9.6	77.0	31st	51.0	26th	42.5
Sept	63•2	50.2	56.7	+0.5	13.0	70.0	30th	43.0	13th	36.8
Oct	60.0	50.4	55-2	+2.6	9.6	67.2	4th	37.1	15th	30.6
Nov	48.7	39.1	43.9	-3.3	9.6	60.2	2nd	29.1	14th	20.1
Dec	46.4	39.2	42.8	-1.4	7.3	54.0	29th	26.6	3rd	18.2
Year	57.2	46.4	51.8	+0.5	10.8	86.0	June 12th	26.6	Dec. 3rd	18·2 Dec.

DURATION OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE

In hours and tenths of an hour,

As recorded by the Campbell-Stokes' Standard Instrument.

In the second	and the second				
1925.	Total Bright Sunshine.	Difference from Average.	Greatest Amount in one day.	Date.	Sunless Days.
	Hours.	Hours.	Hours.		
January	42.78	- 20.86	6.8	9th	14
February	99.96	+14.67	8.9	28th	3
March	127.10	- 9.48	9.4	8th	3
April	176.70	- 7.90	11.8	11th	3
May	187.55	-24.76	13.0	20th	2
June	349.20	+122.10	14.65	15th	_
July	223.85	-11.28	14.65	18th	-
August	191.58	-19.93	11.65	16th	2
September	179.70	+ 15.0	10.45	13th	2
October	101.37	- 13.58	9.2	9th	6
November	82.40	+ 2.1	7.6	12th	7
December	59.83	+ 2.03	6.45	4th	12
					0
Year	1822.02	+47.81	14.65	June 15th July 18th	54

RAINFALL

(In inches and hundredths)

Taken at CARY GREEN STATION.

		and the second s				
1925.	Total Amount. Difference from Average.		Rainy Days Days of 0.01 and upwards Days of 0.04 and upwards		Greatest fall in 24 hours.	Date
January	6.16	+2.89	4	15	1.2	1st & 8th
February	4.59	+1.71	3	15	0.85	25th
March	0.39	-2.35	4	2	0.08	25th
April	2.55	+0.36	5	12	0.66	5th
May	3.54	+1.62	4	14	0.97	26th
June	0.01	-1.92	1	-	0.5	23rd
July	2.50	+0.56	3	13	0.61	21st
August	2.20	+0.24	16	9	1.07	5th
September	3.36	+1.09	4	9	1.31	19th
October	4.01	+0.08	-	11	1.13	22nd
November	3.86	+0.45	1	9	1.32	6th
December	5.66	+1.40	4	17	1.12	29th
				_		
Year	38.83	+ 5:30	49	116	1.32	Nov. 6th

HUMIDITY, CLOUD, OZONE, AND WIND.

	H	UMIDIT	Y.	CLOUD	OZONE. Percentage of possible.	WIND.	Тем	GRASS PERAT	
1925.	Dry Bulb mean.	Wet Bulb mean.	Relative Humidity.	Cloud mean 1 to 10.	Mean Daily Amount.	Prevailing Quarters.	Mean.	Lowest.	No. of days at or below 30°
			1 hite						
January	46.6	44.6	88	7	50	W., S., & S.W.	38.7	29.1	3
February	45.7	42.9	80	6	65	W., N.W., & S.W.	34.7	26.6	6
March	45.3	41.3	71	6	35	N., N.N.W., &	32.8	22.5	9
April	48.9	45.2	75	6	53		36.6	30.0	1
May	53.7	50.2	78	6	52	W., S.W., & S.E.	44.4	35.0	-
June	63.7	57.7	63	2	23	N., E., & S.	49.5	39.0	-
July	63.4	59.1	77	5	31	W., S., & N.	53.3	46.0	-
August	62.7	59.0	79	6	53	S.W., W., & N.	52.4	42.5	-
Sept	57.1	52.9	75	5	35	N., W., & N.W.	44.8	36.8	-
October	54.4	53.2	78	6	40	W., E., N.E., &	45.7	30.6	-
Nov	44.8	41.8	78	6	25	S.W. N., N.E., & W.	33.2	20.1	14
Dec	43.2	41-2	86	6	60	N., W., & N.W.	33.4	18.2	12
Year	52.4	49.1	77%	5	43	W., N., & N.W.	41.6	18·2 Dec.	45

MONTHLY MEANS FOR THE TEN YEARS

	TEMP	ERATU	RE OF	AIR.	у.	shine.		RAIN.		
MONTHS.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean daily range.	Mean.	Humidity	Hours of Sunshine.	Cloud.	Days it fell.	Inches.	
January February March April June July August September October November December	$\begin{array}{r} 48\cdot 4\\ 50\cdot 3\\ 54\cdot 9\\ 61\cdot 5\\ 64\cdot 8\\ 68\cdot 0\\ 68\cdot 3\\ 64\cdot 4\\ 58\cdot 2\\ 54\cdot 1\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 39.4\\ 39.5\\ 42.6\\ 49.0\\ 52.2\\ 55.6\\ 55.2\\ 52.9\\ 48.1\\ 42.1 \end{array}$	$9.0 \\10.8 \\12.3 \\12.5 \\12.6 \\12.4 \\13.1 \\11.5$	$\begin{array}{r} 43.9\\ 45.0\\ 48.8\\ 55.3\\ 58.5\\ 61.9\\ 62.3\\ 58.4\\ 53.2\\ 47.1\end{array}$	76 74 73 74 76 80	$57.8 \\ 73.1 \\ 121.2 \\ 189.8 \\ 220.6 \\ 231.5 \\ 223.3 \\ 200.7 \\ 160.4 \\ 113.0 \\ 76.5 \\ 66.1 \\ \end{cases}$	7 7 5 5 5 5 5 6 5 5 6 6 6 6	$ \begin{array}{r} 17 \\ 16 \\ 18 \\ 13 \\ 10 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 14 \\ 12 \\ 18 \\ 15 \\ 21 \\ \end{array} $	3.37 3.33 5.38 1.65 1.60 1.60 1.66 2.07 2.99 2.27 3.29 3.03 5.71	
Year	57.5	46.2	11.3	51.9	79	1734	5.6	179	36.32	

1911-21.

DIRECTION OF WIND, FOR 1925.

MONTHS.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	s.w.	w.	N.W.	Calm.
Lauran			3		6	5	15		0
January February	$\frac{2}{4}$			1	1	4	$ \begin{array}{c} 15 \\ 26 \end{array} $	56	8
March	21	6	5	_	_	2	1	6	5
April	6	3	5	3	7	3	14	5	1
May	2		7	7	5	7	19	3	2
June	11	2	8	5	6	2	7	6	1
July	7	2	7	1	8	2	13	6	1
August	8	5	1		4	12	10	5	3
September	16		1	1	4	3	13	7	1
October	3	6	10		3	5	16	2	10
November	18	7	5		3	-	6	1	3
December	16	1	3	5	5	3	14	6	4
Year	114	32	55	24	52	48	154	58	39

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE DURIN 1925 AT VARIOUS STATIONS, MOSTLY HEALTH RESORTS.

(From the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry Returns).

Town.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Top
TORQUAY	42.9	99.9	127.0	176.7	187.4	349.3	223.9	191.7	179.8	101.5	82.2	59.8	182
Bath	41.4	72.8	100.6	145.2	163.2	390.4	197.5	147.6	143.1	96.2	84.1	50.5	155
Bournemouth	57.8	76.0	134.0	168.9	207.2	313.3	216.4	168.0	154.7	116.7	100.7	77.1	183
Brighton	57.3	74.4	144.2	128.4	230.1	290.7	215.5	176.8	156.8	131.2	98.7	69.5	177
Buxton	31.3	52.2	68.8	125.4	139.2	218.5	159.0	123.1	112.2	71.7	62.8	25.5	1188
Douglas	47.5	62.5	141.3	213.1	162.4	285.1	195.0	149.7	147.1	106.8	96.0	53.3	165
Eastbourne	62.6	90.2	149.4	159.9	254.2	303.2	220.7	202.5	150.7	134.2	93.9	77.4	1899
Falmouth	47.1	100.9	156.8	188.0	151.6	375.5	173.4	171.6	173.9	125.6	94.3	60.5	183
Folkestone	56.8	69.8	115.9	138.0	249.5	284.0	223.6	173.6	143.2	132.7	101.2	73.2	170
Guernsey	68.8	106.2	153.7	189.7	220.7	378.6	246.1	181.5	178.1	136.8	77.8	60.7	199
Harrogate	42.7	73.2	102.4	138.8	140.9	201.0	185.2	130.3	119.6	103.4	85 9	51.8	1.3%
Hastings	58.2	81.9	136.0	140.0	240.2	284.0	213.3	193.0	148.3	132.9	100.8	77.1	180
Ilfracombe	30.4	69.5	130.4	161.7	153.3	328.2	169.2	167.1	133.9	115.4	83.0	56.8	155
Llandudno	52.5	69.6	108.7	194.0	143.5	283.2	200.6	150.0	113.1	76.5	86.7	50.9	155
Margate	59.4	85.2	117.8	156.7	251.8	259.0	222.4	169.6	146.7	107.3	85.2	63.6	172
Paignton	45.4	101.1	131.1	183.0	195.9	358.3	230.2	204.8	185.3	114.9	88.6	66.2	193
Plymouth Hoe	39.9	89.5	146.8	179.5	165.7	371.9	209.4	166.6	152.1	118.5	90.6	62.5	1799
Sandown	70.9	85.0	134.8	149.5	240.6	324.7	227.4	172.6	160.5	138.1	101.1	76.4	1888
Scarborough	33.5	69.7	100.3	133.0	186.1	183.7	169.3	148.4	106.0	107.5	72.6	57.0	136
Southport	30.4	65.1	116.6	192.8	155.4	295.3	193.3	154.3	137.1	78.6	81.2	50.8	155
Teignmouth	45.4	110.9	137.4	187.7	184.4	358.6	228.5	186.3	189.0	114.6	97.1	66.2	190
Tunbridge Wells	55.9	69.7	96.1	145.7	231.7	281.4	198.9	171.2	138.3	124.4	89.6	59.7	166
Ventnor	70.1	85.0	153.1	145.0	214.8	309.2	215.0	163.1	148.1	130.7	102.6	75.9	183
Weston-S-Mare	32.6	78.9	108.3	176.1	157.1	293.3	186.7	155.9	140.3	98.9	89.3	53.2	15
Weymouth	51.5	92.8	131.7	180.2	197.9	326.0	194.6	162.0	124.5	96.7	84.9	67.3	177
Worthing	68.6	86.6	155.3	158.7	251.4	318.8	240.3	179.9	159.7	143.8	110.8	81.9	195

METEOROLOGICAL ABSTRACT, 1925.

Highest Shade Temperature			86.0°F.
Lowest Shade Temperature			26.6°F.
Mean Maximum Temperature			57·2°F.
Mean Minimum Temperature			46•4°F.
Mean Temperature			51 [.] 8°F.
Mean Range of Temperature			10·8°F.
Total Rainfall			38 [.] 83 inches
Hours of Bright Sunshine			1822.02
Sunny Days			311
Mean Humidity (percentage of p	possible 100)	77%
Mean Ozone			44%
Prevailing Winds	V	V., N	I., and N.W.

i.

