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BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1915.

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Tunbridge Wells :
BALDWIN, GROSVENOR WORKS,
1323.16.



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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Royal Tunbridge
Wells.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report upon the work of the Health Department for the year 1915.

It is well known to you that a large amount of extra work has fallen upon my staff owing to special duties connected with the presence of troops in the Borough. It gives me great pleasure to report to you that every member of the staff has met this strain cheerfully and admirably, and I desire to refer in particular to the invaluable aid derived from the Chief Sanitary Inspector's profound local knowledge; a knowledge built upon many years of intelligent observation and experience. To Mr. Cave, and to Miss Smith, who has so ably discharged the duties of Matron of the Isolation Hospital, and to the remaining members of my staff my best thanks are due, and also to the members of the Committee who have given me their support in the discharge of many responsible duties.

I am,

Yours obediently,

F. C. LINTON.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Health Committee:*

Mr. Alderman CARPENTER (Chairman).

The MAYOR (Mr. Councillor C. W. Emson).

Mr. Alderman CALEY.

Mr. Alderman GOWER.

Mr. Councillor STAMFORD.

Mr. Alderman SNELL.

Mr. Councillor EDWARDS.

Mr. Councillor WILLMOT.

Staff of the Public Health Department:

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

JAMES CAVE, A.R.S.I., A.R.I.P.H.

Inspectors:

E. J. WELLS, A.R.S.I.

W. P. CAVE, A.R.S.I.

Clerk:

F. HICKS.

Assistant for Overtime and Laboratory Work:

E. SKILLEN.

Junior Clerk:

P. STEVENS.

School Nurses and Health Visitors:

Miss J. WHYTE.

Miss E. BROCKLEHURST.

Matron of the Isolation Hospital:

Miss J. M. SMITH.

Public Analyst:

A. H. M. MUTER, F.I.C.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, and
Bacteriologist:

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Captain R.A.M.C. (T.)

* The present constitution of the Committee and Staff is given above.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1915.

Population Estimated to the middle of the Year, 33,430*.

Area of the Borough, 3,991 acres.

Rateable Value, £296,502.

CENSUS 1911.	{	Population, 35,703.
		Number of Inhabited Houses, 7,671.
		Average Number of Persons per House, 4·6.
		Density of Population, 8·9 Persons per acre.

Number of Deaths 556 (537 in the Borough, 69 inward transfers, and 50 outward transfers).

Crude Death-rate per thousand, 16·6. Average for previous ten years, 12·2. Death-rate corrected for age and sex constitution, 14·4.

Number of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases, 15. Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases, 0·4 per thousand of the population.

Death-rate from Phthisis, 0·87 per thousand living.

Death-rate from Tuberculosis, all forms, 1·11.

Number of Births Boys, 269; Girls, 287; total, 556.

Birth-rate per thousand, 15·2. Average for the previous ten years, 16·5.

Infantile Mortality, 91·7 per thousand born. Average for the previous ten years, 72·2.

Mean Annual Temperature, 48·8°.

Total Rainfall, 35·15.

Hours of Bright Sunshine, 1467hrs. 12mins. (Lowest figure since commencement of records in 1889).

* This figure, calculated by the Registrar-General from returns received under the National Registration Act, is less than that of the 1901 census and is obviously too small for Tunbridge Wells; it is, however, adopted here for the sake of uniformity with the other records throughout the kingdom based upon similar calculations.

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A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) *Physical Features and General Character.*

The Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells is situated on the ridges and slopes of a series of low hills surrounding the hollow in which the historic mineral springs take their origin, the only outlet being a narrow valley running westward. It lies in the extreme south-west corner of Kent, $34\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London. The Parish of Broadwater Down, with its houses nestling close to the pines of Broadwater Forest, is actually in the County of Sussex, though for administrative purposes it is considered along with the rest of the Borough as belonging to Kent. The altitudes vary from 400 to 500 feet above sea level to as little as 200 feet in the neighbourhood of the Pantiles, where sheltering hills afford protection from all winds save the west. The variations in altitude and aspect in different parts of the Borough are accordingly so great that it is possible without travelling far in any direction to obtain a climate relatively bracing or relatively sheltered.

In any neighbourhood the character of the vegetation is governed by the nature of the soil. In Tunbridge Wells the sub-soil is composed of a layer, known geologically as the Sandstone layer of the Hastings Beds, with here and there a gravelly pocket or a pocket of clay super-imposed. The surface soil is composed of sand, clay and organic matter and is therefore very fertile, as is indicated by the wealth and variety of trees and flowers, both natural and cultivated, which flourish in the neighbourhood. The Common, which is in the midst of the Borough, and its continuation Rusthall Common are gorse-clad and dotted with clusters of pine trees and trees of other varieties. From the ridge of Mount Ephraim, on whose southern slopes the Common lies, a view extends southwards over wide areas of woodlands to Crowborough Beacon and northwards across the flat valley of the Weald to the distant line of the North Downs—a picture not easily equalled. As is usual in a neighbourhood in which

sandy soil predominates there are large pine forests and heath-clad areas: these culminate in the ridges of Ashdown Forest, lying to the Southwest, in the direction from which come the prevailing winds. The climate is a singularly bracing one on account of the considerable elevation above sea-level of the greater part of the Borough, though, as previously remarked, sheltered areas are to be found.

Meteorological Notes. Morning and evening readings have been carefully taken and records kept by Mr. William Cave and Mr. Wells, Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, who have kindly given up much evening time to these duties. The following is a record of the year's observations:—

The total amount of sunshine recorded was 1,467 hours 12 minutes. The average is 1,693 hours 24 minutes. The most sunny day was May 24th, when 14 hours 24 minutes were recorded. There were 76 sunless days, 63 being the average.

The sunshine record in:—

		hrs.	min.			hrs.	min.
January	was	37	18	the average being		55	33
February	„	81	54	„	„	80	28
March	„	100	6	„	„	125	57
April	„	168	6	„	„	178	39
May	„	218	42	„	„	218	5
June	„	192	0	„	„	209	21
July	„	192	24	„	„	222	7
August	„	152	6	„	„	206	51
September	„	174	0	„	„	173	24
October	„	60	18	„	„	108	9
November	„	64	24	„	„	71	3
December	„	25	54	„	„	43	51

10	hours of sunshine were first recorded on	March 21st.
11	„ „ „ „	April 19th.
12	„ „ „ „	April 19th.
13	„ „ „ „	April 29th.
14	„ „ „ „	May 24th.
14	„ „ last „	June 20th.
13	„ „ „ „	June 20th.
12	„ „ „ „	July 28th.
11	„ „ „ „	September 12th.
10	„ „ „ „	September 20th.

The greatest heat in the sun was 138.1 degrees on June 4th.

It first reached 100 degrees on March 12th.				
"	"	120	"	May 1st.
"	"	130	"	May 7th.
last	"	130	"	September 17th.
"	"	120	"	September 20th.
"	"	100	"	October 30th.

The greatest heat in the shade was 81.6 degrees on June 8th.

It first reached 60 degrees on April 16th.				
"	"	70	"	May 5th.
"	"	80	"	June 7th.
last	"	80	"	July 4th.
"	"	70	"	September 8th.
"	"	60	"	October 14th.

The lowest temperature 4ft. above ground was 18.7 degrees on January 23rd.

The hottest night was September 16th, when the thermometer did not go below 61.9.

The Mean Temperature of the Year was 48.8, the average being 48.6 (40 years).

The Mean daily range was 14.5, the average being 14.5 degrees.

The Mean Temperature of each month was:—

January	was	38.5	degrees,	the	average	being	37.1	degrees.
February	"	40.6	"	"	"	"	38.9	"
March	"	41.6	"	"	"	"	41.3	"
April	"	46.0	"	"	"	"	46.2	"
May	"	53.2	"	"	"	"	52.0	"
June	"	57.5	"	"	"	"	57.9	"
July	"	59.6	"	"	"	"	61.0	"
August	"	60.5	"	"	"	"	60.4	"
September	"	56.9	"	"	"	"	57.0	"
October	"	49.1	"	"	"	"	49.3	"
November	"	39.2	"	"	"	"	43.0	"
December	"	43.4	"	"	"	"	38.9	"

The last frost in the air in spring was on April 19th, the last on the grass on June 20th. The first on the grass in the autumn was on September 5th, the first in the air on

October 30th. There were 51 frosts in the air and 94 on the grass, the averages being 65 and 134 respectively.

The temperature of the soil at the depth of one foot was highest, 65.7 degrees on July 5th; and lowest, 36.7 degrees on January 30th. The Mean was 50.3 degrees. The average for 15 years being 50.1 degrees.

It first reached 50 degrees on May 1st.

"	"	60	"	June 6th.
last	"	60	"	September 25th.
"	"	50	"	October 25th.

The Means for the months were:—

January,	40.2	degrees,	the average being	38.8	degrees.
February,	40.0	"	"	38.2	"
March,	41.6	"	"	41.1	"
April,	45.3	"	"	46.5	"
May,	54.2	"	"	53.8	"
June,	60.5	"	"	60.4	"
July,	61.2	"	"	63.8	"
August,	62.3	"	"	63.0	"
September,	58.9	"	"	58.1	"
October,	52.1	"	"	51.9	"
November,	43.7	"	"	44.5	"
December,	43.2	"	"	41.2	"

The temperature at a depth of four feet was highest, 61.0 degrees on August 14th and 15th, and lowest, 41.6 degrees on February 2nd. The Mean was 50.9 degrees.

It first reached 50 degrees on May 10th.

"	"	60	"	August 8th.
last	"	60	"	September 2nd.
"	"	50	"	November 16th.

The Means for the months were:—

January,	43.4	degrees.
February,	42.2	"
March,	42.8	"
April,	44.8	"
May,	50.6	"
June,	56.4	"
July,	58.8	"
August,	60.4	"
September,	59.4	"
October,	55.7	"
November,	49.8	"
December,	45.9	"

The Wind at 9 a.m. was N. 4 days; N.E., 56 days; E., 19 days; S.E., 24 days; S., 45 days; S.W., 86 days; W., 48 days; N.W., 39 days. It was variable on 2 days. One day was calm.

The Rainfall amounted to 35.15 inches, the average being 30.54 inches (40 years). It fell on 162 days, the average being 172. The most rain that fell in 24 hours was 1.62 inches, on both May 13th and 17th.

The rainfall in:—

January	was	3.07	inches,	the	average	being	2.49	inches.
February	„	4.93	„	„	„	„	2.34	„
March	„	0.54	„	„	„	„	2.35	„
April	„	1.45	„	„	„	„	1.92	„
May	„	4.55	„	„	„	„	1.94	„
June	„	0.60	„	„	„	„	2.07	„
July	„	3.62	„	„	„	„	2.21	„
August	„	1.57	„	„	„	„	2.42	„
September	„	2.09	„	„	„	„	2.30	„
October	„	2.17	„	„	„	„	3.69	„
November	„	3.50	„	„	„	„	3.44	„
December	„	7.06	„	„	„	„	3.37	„

- (2) *Social Conditions including the Chief Occupations of the Inhabitants; the influence of any particular occupation on the Public Health; the Amount of Poor-Law Relief and the extent to which Hospital and other forms of gratuitous relief are utilised.*

Factories and Workshops on a large scale do not exist in Tunbridge Wells. Its beautiful surroundings, broad tree-lined avenues, and smoke-free atmosphere, account for the popularity of the Borough with persons in search of health or holiday.

Poor-Law Relief. The cost of Outdoor relief in the Parish of Tunbridge Wells was £1,930 10s. 8³/₄d. during 1915 as compared with £1,860 13s. 6d. in 1914.

Medical Charities. Tunbridge Wells is richly supplied with Institutions for the relief of suffering and sickness;

in the interests of brevity I merely enumerate them, as follows:—The General Hospital, Eye and Ear Hospital, Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary, Provident Dispensary.

These hospitals have all opened their doors to our wounded soldiers, and in addition many temporary hospitals for the soldiers have been established in the Borough and in its immediate neighbourhood. Ladies of the Borough have given their whole time to the administration and nursing in these hospitals, and have thus displayed a practical patriotism deserving of high praise.

Charities which carry out much excellent work are:—The District Nursing Association, the Royal Surgical Aid Society, the Charity Organisation Society, with its useful Invalid Children's Aid Branch.

B.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The water supply of Tunbridge Wells is drawn from springs and Artesian wells, and as these springs are situated in unfrequented woodland areas, in which inhabited buildings are few and distant, the risk of pollution is well guarded against. For roughly one half of the year the supply of water from the springs suffices for the Borough requirements. During the remaining portion of the year artesian borewells, six in number, give an ample and pure supply of water to supplement the flow from the springs. The Artesian wells are situated at Pembury, where there is a large reservoir, capable of holding 42,000,000 gallons. The iron contained in solution in this deep well water is effectively removed by the use of Candy Oxidising Pressure Filters, six in number.

The Artesian wells are bored through the Wadhurst clay and take their water supply from the Ashdown sands; the nearest point at which the Ashdown sands reach the surface

is some miles distant from the bore wells. The water enters six open filter beds at Pembury, having an area of about one acre.

Frequent chemical and bacteriological examinations of samples show the water to be remarkably pure and to be a drinking water of the best quality.

There are approximately 90 miles of water mains in the Borough. The average daily supply per head is 23 gallons, and during the year 6 additional houses were supplied with town water.

In addition to the main water supply in Tunbridge Wells there are the well-known Chalybeate Springs at the Pantiles. Frequent examinations, both chemical and bacteriological, of this water were made during the course of the year, and in all cases the analyses showed that the waters were in a pure and satisfactory state.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—All the water courses in the Borough are small in volume, and periodic inspections of these showed them to be in a satisfactory state.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough sewage drains towards two sewage farms, one at the northern end of the town and the other at the southern. The North Sewage Farm is 187 acres in extent, and the South Farm 197 acres. At the South Farm a portion of the sewage is dealt with by means of percolating bacteria beds. Analyses of the sewage effluents of both farms are frequently made and give satisfactory results.

A portion of the sewage, mainly from the slopes of the ridge Mount Ephraim, is dealt with by pumping across to join the sewage which proceeds to the Southern Farm.

MAIN SEWERS, NEW HOUSES, ETC.—The Borough Surveyor informs me that main sewers in the following streets have either been provided, reconstructed, or repaired:—

Sewers repaired in Goods Station Road, London Road, Camden Road, Quarry Road Yard, Dorking Charity Farm, Harmony Street, Hurstwood Lane, Woodbury Park Road, Southern Outfall Sewer (Eridge Road), Montacute Road, Lower Green Road, Ferndale Road, Pantiles, Hill Street, St. James' Road, Molyneux Park (Renewal of S.W. Sewer), Victoria Road, Grove Hill Road, Prospect Road.

All flat gradients are flushed periodically from manholes.

Twelve new houses have been built, and 15 Road Gullies have been reconstructed and trapped.

Closet Accommodation and Scavenging.

There are no privies in the Borough and a very small number of earth closets, chiefly in connection with gardeners' cottages in outlying districts. Water closets are gradually being modernised, but there is still in existence a large number of the boxed-in type, now being replaced wherever possible by pedestals.

Refuse, both domestic and trade, is collected and removed in covered carts, once in five days. From all premises where more frequent removal is necessary, trade refuse is collected daily. Whilst the troops have been living in considerable numbers in large empty houses, the refuse has been removed from these houses daily. The refuse is conveyed to refuse tips situated at the High Brooms Brick Works Pit, the Forest Brick Works, the Brickworks, Hawkenbury, and near the Rusthall Allotments.

At the best, refuse tips are makeshifts when compared with refuse destructors, in which all rubbish can be incinerated, and the heat utilised for, say, a small cleansing and disinfecting station.

There are a few isolated houses draining into cesspools; these are emptied by the owners at special hours, as required by bye-laws; the emptying and disposal is superintended by the Sanitary Staff.

The drainage of all new buildings is laid down upon sound sanitary lines under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, the water test being applied to drains and the smoke test to sanitary fittings before approval.

Re-constructions of house drains and sanitary fittings are subjected to the same tests under the supervision of the Sanitary Staff, who also take the plan of the house to scale and transfer the same into plan books with full particulars of works done.

There are in the town about 9,800 W.C.'s with water laid on, about 60 hand flushed and about 40 pail earth closets. There are no vault or privy middens or waste water closets. There are about 43 houses whose occupants share W.C. accommodation with others.

Sanitary Inspections of District.

During the year under review 367 houses, drains and sanitary fittings have been inspected, and in consequence 510 interviews with agents and owners have taken place; 3 statutory notices and 93 informal notices have been served and the result of the interviews and notices served is shown by the number and variety of the works carried out and enumerated in appended tables.

These Tables present a summary of the work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1915.

56	Complaints received and investigated.
3	Premises in respect of which statutory notices have been served.
93	Premises in respect of which informal notices have been served.
367	Houses, drains and sanitary fittings inspected.
1690	Visits of re-inspection or to works in course of progress.
27	Drains re-constructed.
32	Drains repaired.
36	Choked drains cleared and cleansed.
36	Inspection chambers constructed.

- 21 Inspection chambers repaired.
- 24 Drain ventilation shafts erected or repaired.
- 6 Soil pipes erected.
- 3 Soil pipes repaired.
- 29 W.C.'s re-constructed and provided with flushing apparatus.
- 21 Flushing apparatus repaired.
- 101 Efficient traps substituted for inefficient ones.
- 71 Rain-water and waste pipes disconnected from drains and made to discharge over properly trapped gullies.
- 62 Yards and areas paved or paving repaired.
- 2 New w.c. buildings and apparatus constructed.
- 5 W.C.'s cleansed and repaired.
- 23 New sinks provided.
- 5 New lavatory basins provided.
- 44 Old sinks provided with new waste pipes.
- 30 Eaves gutters repaired.
- 42 Windows repaired.
- 38 Floors repaired.
- 42 Air inlets under floors provided.
- 29 Roofs repaired.
- 7 Rooms ventilated to the outer air.
- 18 Food cupboards ventilated to the outer air.
- 15 New food cupboards provided.
- 6 Houses provided with sufficient supply of water.
- 9 Samples of water submitted for analysis.
- 164 Rooms cleansed and limewashed.
- 40 Dustbins provided or repaired.
- 41 Various improvements.
- 72 Hours' observation work.
- 241 Special inspections of back yards.
- 109 Chicken, ducks, etc., removed.
- 216 Inspections of stable yards and manure pits.
- 65 Offensive accumulations removed.
- 1 Stable paved and drained.
- 131 Inspections of slaughter houses.
- 96 Inspections of cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops.
- 41 Inspections of common lodging houses.
- 491 Inspections of food shops.
- 601 Parcels of food examined.
- 1474 lbs. food unfit for human consumption seized and destroyed.
- 510 Visits, interviews, etc., re work to be carried out.
- 2 Urinals provided at licensed premises.
- 4 Pigs removed.

Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912.

- 8 Samples submitted for examination.
- 51 Special inspections of urinals at licensed premises.

Works carried out under the Infectious Diseases Acts during 1915.

- 192 Visits to infected houses.
- 363 Rooms disinfected.
- 6677 Articles of clothing disinfected.
- 14 Loads of bedding removed to the steam disinfecter and returned to their respective owners.
- 6 Visits to disinfect public buildings.
- 16 Visits to disinfect St. John Ambulance and private vehicles.
- 7 Visits to disinfect wards at Sanatorium, General Hospital, etc.
- 5 Loads of bedding destroyed.
- 23 Visits to Sanatorium to disinfect clothing, etc.
- 27 Visits to flush W.C.'s and drains.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES.—During the year the drainage and general sanitary condition of properties of an aggregate rateable value of £386 were surveyed and reported upon as a result of applications made for Sanitary Certificates.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—At the end of 1915 there were 77 persons on the register, namely, 16 owners of Cowsheds, 10 of dairies and 51 of milkshops or as purveyors; 96 inspections have been made in order to see that the bye-laws are complied with and we had no cause to complain of neglect in regard to limewashing, etc.

The character and wholesomeness of the milk produced within the district and that coming from farms beyond the district is generally satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are six private slaughter houses, namely, the five old registered ones and one which was built and licensed in 1907. Frequent inspections—131—have been made of the premises both by day and night in order to inspect as far as possible the carcasses of animals slaughtered, to see that offal was promptly removed and cleansing and limewashing carried out according to the bye-laws.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are five on the register (one exclusively for women and children) providing accommodation for 118 persons; 41 visits have been made to see that limewashing and cleansing were carried out. No case of notifiable infectious disease occurred in any house.

Schools.

The drainage of the Elementary Schools of the Borough discharges in sewers with one exception, namely, Rusthall Boys' School, which discharges to cesspools. The water supply of all schools in use is satisfactory. No schools were closed during the year for outbreaks of infectious disease; one

department was closed for one day for the purpose of disinfection. The School Clinic has grown to large proportions, and of the large amount of bacteriological work performed in the Municipal Laboratory much is undertaken directly in the interests of the health of our Borough Schools.

Administration in connection with the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912.

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1915.

1. MILK; and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a) Number of samples examined for the presence of a preserva- tive.	(b) Number in which a preserva- tive was reported to be present.
Milk	60	nil
Cream	3	nil

2. CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct:—

(i.) Correct statement made	5
(ii.) Statements incorrect	nil.
	—
	5
	—

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream:—

(i.) Above 35 per cent.	5
(ii.) Below 35 per cent	nil.
	—
	5
	—

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in article 5 (1) and the proviso in article 5 (2) of the Regulations have not been observed nil.

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with nil.

3. THICKENING SUBSTANCES. Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream nil.

4. OTHER OBSERVATIONS. All the cream samples were procured by a deputy informally and the amount of milk fat and preservatives found were as follows:—

No. of Sample.	Milk Fat.	Amount of Preservative.
1	43.4%	0.31%
2	47.2%	0.25%
3	42.7%	0.28%
4	54.1%	
5	48.8%	0.31%
6	49.5%	
7	53.3%	0.18%
8	61.2%	
Average	50%	

Samples Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7, were labelled as follows:—

PRESERVED CREAM

CONTAINING

BORIC ACID

NOT EXCEEDING

0.5 PER CENT.

Sample No. 1 was obtained from the same source as sample No. 8, commented upon in 1914 Report

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

One hundred and four samples of food were submitted to the Public Analyst, the result of analyses being shown in Table. 96 samples were purchased informally and 8 formally; 92 of the 104 were purchased by deputies.

Thirty-six of the sixty milk samples were procured in the public street.

The average solids of the sixty milk samples (including the nine adulterated) were as follows:—

Milk fat 3.8% Non-fatty solids 8.8%

Taking into consideration that series sampling with cover samples was extensively carried out, the results of the analyses may be regarded as satisfactory.

All the samples were submitted to the Public Analyst by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is the Officer specially appointed to carry out the provisions of the Acts.

Description of Samples.	No. of Samples.	Analyst's Report.	Proceedings.
Milk ...	60 { 51 1. No. 40 2. Nos. 39 & 45 2. Nos. 43 & 72 1. No. 52 1. No. 51 1. No. 53 1. No. 46	Genuine 15% deficient in fat 12% " " 6% " " 5% " " 5% " " & 1½% added water 18% deficient in fat & 18% added water 2% deficient in fat	See note in text.
Butter ...	15	Genuine	Nil
Margarine	15	"	"
Cheese ...	4	"	"
Lard ...	3	"	"
Cocoa ...	2	"	"
Coffee ...	2	"	"
Sausage ...	1	"	"
Jam ...	1	"	"
Ale ...	1	"	"

Nos. 39 and 40 were informal samples obtained from the same source as formal sample No. 45, the vendor of which

was summoned and fined £2 (including costs). The result of the analysis of informal sample No. 53 proved, on investigation, to be due to careless mixing on the part of a small retailer, two further samples obtained under similar conditions to No. 53 proved genuine. Explanations given by the vendors of informal samples Nos. 43, 51, 52 and 72, and formal sample No. 46, were deemed to be satisfactory, and further samples taken in each case were favourably reported on.

Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—This has already been reported upon (see page 17). No action was found to be necessary with respect to tuberculous milk. Nine samples were bacteriologically examined for tubercle and gave a negative result.

(b) OTHER FOODS.—During the year 826 lbs. of beef, 8 lbs. of mutton, 43 lbs. of lamb, 8 lbs. of suet, 42 lbs. of ox liver, 120 lbs. of sheep's kidneys, 7 lbs. of duck, 300 lbs. of mackerel and 120 lbs. of smoked fish (various) were condemned as unfit for food and destroyed. As no attempt had been made to sell the material for human consumption no action was taken beyond confiscation and destruction. Samples of other foods to the number of 79 were examined at the Public Health Office. Of these, 68 were obtained on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings.

Housing.

The number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act, 1909, is 129.

The number of dwelling houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation is nil.

The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders is nil.

There were no closing orders made.

The number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders is 46.

No defects were found in 31 of the 129 inspected. Works are in hand in 52.

Four of the houses closed in 1913 have been demolished. Six of the 16 closed in 1914 have been demolished. The remaining 10 are up for sale for the purpose of demolition.

The general character of the defects found to exist were as follows: defective floors, walls, ceilings, yard pavings, and dustbins, absence of properly ventilated food stores and ventilation under floors.

The number of new houses for working people erected, or in the course of being erected during 1915 was 5.

Factory and Workshops Acts.

The administration of the law in respect of Factories and Workshops is in the hands of two authorities, viz., H.M. Inspector of Factories and the Local Authority.

The following is a report of the work done by the Local Authority's Inspector.

A register is kept of all workshops situate within the district, recording the following information: date of occupation, name and address of occupier, situation of workshop, nature of work carried on and amount of moving power (if any), number and description of workers, cubic capacity, sanitary accommodation and means of escape from fire. To keep this register complete is a somewhat difficult matter by reason of the opening and closing of different premises, the changing of workers and alteration of proprietorship.

During the year 401 inspections have been made in order to secure observance of the provisions of the law in regard to cleanliness, ventilation, overcrowding, drainage of floors, sanitary accommodation and proper means of escape from fire; 19 defects were found and means taken to remedy same.

During the year H.M. Inspector reported particulars in respect of workshops which had been formally reported to him by the occupiers: 19 complaints were received from the Home Office referring to neglect as to limewashing, etc., which received attention.

No certificates for means of escape from fire have been given, there having been no new factory or workshop established employing over 40 persons.

The register of out-workers is always examined when a notification of infectious disease is received, in order if necessary to stop work being taken in by any person who may be in contact with infection.

There have been 28 lists of out-workers sent in during the year and 49 visits have been made in consequence.

The Shop Hours and Seats for Shop Assistants Acts are practically bound up with the Factory and Workshops Acts and the Chief Sanitary Inspector is the Officer appointed to attend to the observance of same, and during the year 32 visits have been made *re* hours of employment and provision of seats. There has been no default found, neither has any complaint been made by any person concerned.

As the Home Office Tables have not been issued this year, these are omitted from the Report, though particulars of the work done have been prepared for reference.

C.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

During the greater part of the year the Chief Sanitary Inspector and three Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances carried out the sanitary work in the manner mentioned in last year's Report. Towards the end of the year a re-arrangement took place, the services of the third Assistant Sanitary Inspector being dispensed with. A man has been appointed, at a smaller

wage, to attend at the office in evening hours and at week-ends, in order to answer telephone messages, and to carry out disinfection when infectious cases are removed out of office hours. This man also prepares the culture media for use in the laboratory and otherwise makes himself useful. Disinfection at the Fever Hospital is now carried out by the resident porter; the re-arrangement has proved very satisfactory.

Hospital Accommodation. The Borough has its own Fever Hospital situated nearly 500 feet above sea level, in the Frant Forest neighbourhood, almost at the southern boundary. The site is an excellent one, airy and open with a southern exposure and a wide view over valleys and woodland. There are 57 beds available for the treatment of infectious diseases, and these fully sufficed for all cases during the year. An enlargement of the administrative block, which is insufficient for the requirements of the staff, has been arranged, and a loan for this purpose has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board, the work, at the instance of the Health Committee, being deferred till after the war. The staff consists of a general trained and fully qualified Matron, a ward Sister and a varying number of Nurses; I act as Medical Officer to the Institution. Two hundred and four cases were treated during 1915, as compared with 236 in 1914. The grounds are seven acres in extent, and fruit and vegetables as well as flowers are grown extensively.

Provision has been made for possible cases of small pox or plague at the Dislingbury Hospital, Capel, which has 20 beds. It is a joint Hospital under the administration of a Board representing Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Southborough.

Chemical and Bacteriological Work. There is a well-equipped laboratory in the Health Office and the work of examining specimens for the presence of Diphtheria, Typhoid, Tubercle, Ringworm, etc., is undertaken by the Medical

Officer of Health. In the course of the year 2,699 specimens were examined. The numbers of specimens of different nature examined were as follows:—

Laboratory Work, 1915.

			POSITIVE.	NEGATIVE.
Swabs (for Diphtheria)	...	2460	468	1992
Blood (for Typhoid)	...	19	3	16
„ (for Para-Typhoid)	...	4	—	4
Sputa (for Tubercle)	...	89	10	79
Hairs (for Ringworm)	...	87	61	26
Other Specimens	...	40	18	22
		2699	560	2139

The number of examinations for Diphtheria is less than in 1914, owing to the diminished incidence of the disease in the Borough. The other forms of examination have greatly increased; all examinations for Ringworm were made by the staining process, as I hold that the extra time and trouble involved are more than compensated for by the greater accuracy attained.

Chemical work has been confined to the examination of specimens of water and of sewage effluent, and analyses of milk, etc. These examinations of specimens made by the Public Analyst are reviewed either under the Food and Drugs Act, or have already been referred to under the remarks upon water and sewage effluent.

D. — PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Of the notifiable acute infectious diseases, 129 cases occurred in 1915, as compared with 237 in 1914. Cases notified were as follows:—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	5
Diphtheria	...	...	83
Scarlet Fever	...	...	18
Enteric Fever	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	9
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	8
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	3
Total	...	...	129

The Zymotic Death Rate. That is, the number of deaths per thousand of the population due to the seven Zymotic diseases mentioned in the following Table: the rate was 0.4 as compared with 0.9 in 1914.

Of the Diphtheria patients 96% were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and of the Scarlet Fever Patients 100% were removed.

MORTALITY FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES FOR TEN YEARS.

	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
Scarlet Fever ...	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever ...	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup ...	0	6	1	3	0	8	10	4	1	5
Diarrhœa & Dysentery	9	1	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa & Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	18	2	2	4	4
Small-pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles ...	0	16	3	7	1	3	1	0	8	1
Whooping Cough ...	0	17	3	3	3	8	0	2	21	3
Total number of deaths from Zymotic Diseases	10	42	10	20	8	38	14	9	34	15
Percentage upon deaths from all causes ...	2.4	8.7	2.4	4.2	1.9	9.1	3.5	2.4	6.7	2.7
Zymotic Death-Rate per thousand living ...	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.4

Seasonal Incidence of Acute Infectious Diseases.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas	Ophthal- mia Neona- torum.	Puerperal Fever.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Acute Pollo- myelitis.
January ...	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
February...	3	3	1	2	—	1	1	—
March ...	2	9	—	2	1	1	1	2
April ...	1	15	—	—	1	—	4	—
May ...	3	6	—	1	—	—	1	—
June ...	4	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
July ...	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
August ...	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	10	—	—	1	—	—	1
October ...	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
November	—	7	—	—	1	—	1	—
December	1	12	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total ...	18	83	1	9	5	2	8	3

It will be noticed in the above Tables that the remarkably small incidence of Scarlet Fever continued throughout the year; that Diphtheria decreased greatly, but was still more prevalent than other notifiable infectious diseases; that the mortality from whooping cough, high in 1914, was small in 1915.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis. The number of deaths due to these conditions was four. The season, considered generally, favoured a low death rate from Diarrhoeal causes.

Small Pox. There have been no cases in the Borough since the year 1903.

Erysipelas. This disease was not so prevalent as in the year preceding.

Scarlet Fever was throughout the year almost absent from the Borough, the largest monthly number of cases being 4 in June. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria. This disease which was extensively prevalent during 1914, declined during 1915, the number of cases only slightly exceeding half the number occurring in 1914. The number of deaths from the disease was five; two being children belonging to the Borough, one being the child of a soldier from Lancashire who came with the disease commencing but unrecognised; the two remaining children, belonging to one family, were infected from an outside source and exhibited remarkably low powers of resistance, the third and only remaining child having survived with difficulty. All three were born in the tropics and lived there most of their lives, a circumstance which may partly account for their feeble powers of resistance to the disease. The number of Diphtheria carriers also decreased; in 36 instances where the environment rendered it desirable, carriers were removed to the Sanatorium and isolated and treated until free from infection.

Whooping Cough. Three deaths from this disease occurred in 1915, as compared with 21 in 1914.

Measles. One death occurred as compared with 8 in the previous year.

Enteric Fever. Only one case occurred early in the year; the exact source of infection was not traced.

Puerperal Fever. Two cases occurred, one of which proved fatal.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Five cases occurred, one of which caused permanent injury to the child's eyesight.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. Eight cases occurred, seven of which were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The eighth,

a fulminant case, died within 12 hours of the commencement of the illness.

Infectious Diseases. Whenever disinfection is considered necessary, it is carried out by the staff of the Health Department. Specially constructed vans are used for the conveyance of bedding and clothing to and from the steam disinfector.

Notifications are sent to the various week-day and Sunday school Superintendents, informing them of infection in the cases of children attending the schools, and requesting them not to allow the attendance of scholars from the house for a stated period. Notices are also sent to public libraries so as to obviate infection by means of books returned from infected houses.

Notifications are again sent to schools and libraries when it is presumed the houses are free from infection.

A thorough inspection is made of all premises that may have been infected, and tests are applied to drains and sanitary fittings and steps are taken to remedy defects.

Other duties associated with the sources of milk supply and with out-workers in connection with factories and workshops receive due attention.

Arrangements have been made for receiving daily notice of cases of illness amongst school children with a note of the reported or suspected cause.

A school Nurse visits each house where infection is suspected and excludes from school the actual sufferer from the disease, and such contacts as it is desirable to exclude.

The procedure with regard to the milder infectious diseases is to exclude from the Infant Department all other children in the house, and from the Senior Departments such children as have not had the disease.

County of Kent—Notifications of Infectious Disease and Attack Rates, 1915.

	Estimated Civil Population in the middle of 1915.	SCARLET FEVER.		DIPHTHERIA.		ENTERIC FEVER.		PUERPERAL FEVER.		ERYSIPELAS.	
		Cases.	Rate.	Cases.	Rate.	Cases.	Rate.	Cases.	Rate.	Cases.	Rate.
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY...	985,147	2,823	2·87	2,076	2·11	214	0·22	32	0·03	603	0·61
COUNTY BOROUGH— Canterbury ...	24,595	94	3·82	119	4·84	6	0·24	1	0·04	20	0·81
BOROUGH & URBAN DISTRICTS—											
Beckenham ...	31,569	53	1·68	32	1·01	3	0·10	1	0·03	12	0·38
Bromley ...	32,768	109	3·33	115	3·51	3	0·09	4	0·12	24	0·73
Chatham ...	39,248	119	3·03	96	2·45	4	0·10	1	0·03	26	0·66
Dartford ...	22,337	174	7·79	23	1·03	8	0·36	—	—	23	1·03
Dover ...	38,571	136	3·53	37	0·96	59	1·53	1	0·03	20	0·52
Erith ...	35,232	231	6·56	104	2·95	3	0·09	1	0·03	21	0·60
Folkestone ...	33,209	79	2·38	71	2·14	8	0·24	2	0·06	21	0·63
Gillingham ...	45,058	132	2·93	86	1·91	5	0·11	3	0·07	32	0·71
Gravesend ...	27,808	62	2·23	91	3·27	7	0·25	—	—	28	1·01
Maidstone ...	32,128	81	2·52	28	0·87	15	0·47	—	—	28	0·87
Margate ...	25,278	51	2·02	47	1·86	6	0·24	—	—	10	0·40
Penge ...	22,218	49	2·21	24	1·08	—	—	—	—	7	0·32
Ramsgate ...	25,899	44	1·70	66	2·55	11	0·42	1	0·04	60	2·32
Rochester ...	31,125	75	2·41	72	2·31	3	0·10	2	0·06	21	0·67
Royal Tunbridge Wells ...	33,430	18	0·54	82	2·45	1	0·03	3	0·06	9	0·27

The above table gives an interesting comparison of the attack-rate of infectious diseases in all the Boroughs or Urban Districts of Kent, whose population exceeds 20,000; also the rate in the County generally.

E.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

As will be seen from Table II. there were notified during the year 51 fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 17 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis. It is interesting to note that only five cases occurred amongst children under five years of age and none amongst persons of 65 years and upwards. As is usual, the vast majority of cases occurred during the ages at which the sufferers should be at the summit of their powers as active workers. The loss in wage earning capacity to the community is for the above reason much greater in the case of Tuberculosis than in other diseases.

The death rate, 1.11, is slightly in excess of the average for the preceding five years, 1.00 per thousand; the bad climatic conditions in the early part of the year no doubt hastened some cases to a fatal end.

The arrangements for dealing with cases of tuberculosis are under the control of the Kent County Council. A Tuberculosis Dispensary has been established in the Borough to act as a centre to which all Tuberculosis patients may be referred for examination by the Tuberculosis Officer.

The functions of the Tuberculosis Dispensary are summed up in the Report of the Departmental Committee on Tuberculosis as follows:—

- (a) A receiving house and centre of diagnosis.
- (b) A clearing house and centre of observation.
- (c) A centre for curative treatment.
- (d) A centre for examination of all "contacts."
- (e) A centre for "further care," and
- (f) Information bureau and educational centre.

In continuance of the arrangements for treating all persons, the County Council has established both Sanatorium and Hospital beds in different parts of Kent.

The procedure adopted by this Department on receipt of a primary notification is, in the first place to send a leaflet recommending precautions to prevent the spread of infection, and subsequently a member of the staff calls at the house to intimate that in the event of any change of address, immediately on notice being given, the room, which has been occupied by the patient, will be disinfected. Personal visits are paid by the Medical Officer of Health in the event of cases occurring in neighbourhoods in which it seems desirable to investigate the surroundings, and where circumstances seem to demand it, further visits are paid from time to time. In the event of death occurring, disinfection is undertaken, and further measures are recommended if necessary, *e.g.*, the stripping of the walls of the room, etc.

F.—INVESTIGATION OF OTHER DISEASES.

There appears at first sight to be a high death rate from cancer, which accounted for 11.15% of the total deaths. This is in reality not above the average, if the unusual number of deaths of old people is taken into account, as cancer is notably a disease which takes toll of the old relatively much more than the young and middle-aged. Over half the deaths from cancer occurred amongst persons of 65 years and upwards.

G.—MEANS TO PREVENT MORTALITY IN CHILDBIRTH AND INFANCY.

The County Authority administers the Midwives Act in the Borough. The Notification of Births Act, adopted in the Borough early in 1914, has since become compulsory throughout the kingdom; through it this Department is in immediate touch with all births of infants.

Visits which have been paid by the Health Visitors in order to give advice on the general hygiene of infancy have been much appreciated by the mothers. These visits now constitute a very important branch of the work of the two nurses attached to the Department. 1,623 visits were paid, of which

474 were first visits and 1,149 were re-visits. Where circumstances demanded special supervision, the calls made by the Health Visitors at individual houses were frequent, particularly during the warm summer months when most danger is to be apprehended from any carelessness on the part of the mother. The Infant Consultation Centre, which made a modest beginning on November 1st, 1914, has during the year 1915 swelled to great proportions. It is held at the Public Health Office on Friday afternoons, and now occupies the whole of an afternoon. No fewer than 544 visits were paid for advice and consultation by the mothers and guardians of 117 different babies. This work is an interesting and useful branch of Public Health Service, and tends as time goes on to become increasingly important, as it is realised that true preventive medicine must make its beginning at the beginning of life. An immediate and gratifying return is obtained for good treatment, and the mother has the great pleasure of watching her child's growth and increase in weight and contentment, when she has once learned the prime importance of the suitable feeding, clothing, and general hygiene of her infant.

H.—VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

The Registrar-General has estimated the population of the Borough, from figures obtained under the National Registration Act, to be 33,430, a figure which is smaller than that obtained as long ago as the census of 1901. No doubt a large number of men are absent on military service, and this must be taken into account in arriving at the figure stated. Naturally the death rate calculated on this small population appears relatively high, and the birth rate, which at the Registrar-General's recommendation is calculated on the 1914 population, works out at a figure considerably lower than that of the death rate. This, in the case of Tunbridge Wells, is all the more striking because the actual number of births and of deaths in the Borough exactly tallies. There have been 556 of each. The area of the Borough is 3,991 acres, the

number of persens per acre is 8.4. From figures obtained in the census of 1911, the total population of all ages was 35,703, the number of inhabited houses was 7,671, the average number of persons per house being 4.6.

Births. The total number of births registered in the district was 544, and the number after inward and outward transfers is 556, the rate being 15.2 per thousand as compared with the rate of 13.8 per thousand in 1914, which was the lowest figure ever recorded. 269 boys were born and 287 girls.

Deaths. 537 deaths were registered in the Borough, and after correction for inward and outward transfers, the number of deaths of inhabitants was 556; this, calculated upon the Registrar-General's new figure for the population, gives a death rate of 16.1 per thousand as compared with the death rate of 13.8 in 1914. The figure for correction supplied by the Registrar-General, in order that it may be compared in age and sex constitution to the death rate in the kingdom generally, is 0.8683. Applying this correction, the Tunbridge Wells death rate, 14.4 per thousand, is thus unusually high.

I append some remarks as to the causes of the 556 deaths occurring amongst the inhabitants of the Borough. 43.4% were deaths of those who had already passed the allotted span of 70 years, while 332, or 60%, were deaths of persons aged 60 years and upwards. The deaths for the year considerably exceeded the average number, and the number in the first quarter, 194, was over one-third of the total. The rainfall during the winter months, taking the period from November 24th, 1914, to February 19th, 1915, was 19.29 inches, and was much in excess of anything previously recorded. I am of opinion that the damp and chilled condition produced by the soaking ground accounted for the large number of deaths from lung trouble, and taken in conjunction with the worries associated with the war, was responsible for the lowered vitality which resulted in the unusual number of deaths from "old age." A Table is enclosed showing the

number of deaths at ages beyond 60 years, separated into age groups, also a Table showing the quarterly death rate per thousand per annum over a period of five years. In the Table showing the quarterly death rate I remarked in my Report of 1914 upon the high death rate of 18.8 per thousand in the first quarter of the year. This has increased during 1915 to a rate of 23.2 per thousand, the highest on record for that quarter in the Borough.

Population, Birth and Death Rates from 1905 to 1915.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Birth-rate per 1,000.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Infantile Mortality.	Zymotic Death-rate.
1905	34,673	18.4	12.4	73.5	0.2
1906	34,973	19.3	11.8	82.8	0.2
1907	35,273	16.8	13.6	73.9	1.1
1908	35,573	17.3	11.7	81.4	0.3
1909	35,873	17.2	13.2	59.8	0.5
1910	36,173	16.3	11.3	75.8	0.2
1911	35,778	15.8	11.5	86.4	1.0
1912	36,038	15.8	11.0	43.8	0.3
1913	36,298	15.0	12.1	66.0	0.2
1914	36,460	13.8	13.8	79.2	0.9
10 Years' Average		16.5	12.2	72.2	0.5
1915	33,430	*15.2	†16.6	91.7	0.4

* Estimated on 1914 population figure. † Estimated on new population figure supplied by Reg. Gen.

Quarterly Death-Rate per thousand per annum for a period of Five Years.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
1st Quarter ...	14.2	13.2	14.6	18.8	23.2
2nd Quarter ...	11.4	10.9	11.4	10.3	16.0
3rd Quarter ...	12.0	9.5	10.0	13.0	11.9
4th Quarter ...	8.6	10.3	12.2	13.0	15.4

Number of Deaths :—

First Quarter	...	194	} Quarterly death-rates worked out on a population of 33,430 for all the year.
Second Quarter	...	134	
Third Quarter	...	99	
Last Quarter	...	129	
		556	

Showing the Number of Deaths at Ages beyond Sixty years.

Over 90 years of age	...	...	21
Under 90 and over 80	...	...	89
Under 80 and over 70	...	...	131
Under 70 and over 60	...	...	91
Total			332
(Deaths at all ages 556).			

Showing the Mortality at Several Ages for a period of Five Years.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
Deaths at under 1 year	49	25	36	40	51
„ 1 and under 2	8	1	3	13	7
„ 2 and under 5	9	6	7	13	11
„ 5 and under 15	15	15	12	18	20
„ 15 and under 25	14	10	8	14	12
„ 25 and under 45	29	41	48	55	43
„ 45 and under 65	86	95	104	103	121
„ 65 and upwards	205	205	222	248	291
Totals ...	415	398	440	504	556

Infant Mortality. 51 deaths of infants below one year of age occurred, giving a mortality rate of 91.7 per thousand as compared with a rate of 79.2 per thousand in 1914. As this rate has also somewhat increased, an investigation of the causes of death shows that only under two headings is

there an increase of deaths, namely, Premature Birth and Pneumonia. Under the heading of Premature Births there is a considerable increase in mortality due to the exceptional number of twin births which occurred. Seven of the eleven deaths from causes associated with premature birth were deaths of twins. Under the heading Pneumonia nine deaths are recorded, these, with one exception, occurred in the first quarter of the year during the period of extreme wet already referred to. The total number of births, though an increase upon that of the previous year, is still considerably below the average for the past ten years, and it is to be hoped that the improved birth rate will continue to rise to a figure more in keeping with the prosperity of the community.

Causes of Infantile Mortality 1906—1915.

	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	Total Deaths, 10 years	Rate per 1000 Births.
Marasmus ...	7	9	6	5	7	2	3	11	6	3	59	10.1
Premature Birth ...	17	10	10	9	15	9	7	5	6	11	99	17.0
Bronchitis ...	4	1	5	1	4	6	...	1	2	3	27	4.6
Pneumonia ...	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	9	30	5.1
Convulsions ...	3	3	2	5	1	2	1	...	2	5	24	4.1
Congenital Defects ...	...	2	5	2	1	3	5	1	3	5	27	4.6
Diarrhoeal Diseases ...	12	1	4	2	5	11	...	1	3	3	42	7.2
Whooping Cough ...	...	5	2	1	3	5	...	...	8	1	25	4.3
Overlying ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	3	0.5
Measles ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	0.5
Non-Tubercular Meningitis ...	...	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	6	1.0
Tubercular Meningitis ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	5	0.9
Tubercular Peritonitis ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.1
Syphilis ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	7	1.2
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes ...	8	7	11	9	4	6	6	12	6	6	75	12.9
Total Deaths below 1 year ...	56	44	50	37	45	49	25	36	40	51	433	...
Rate per 1,000 Births...	82.8	73.9	81.4	59.8	75.8	86.4	43.8	66.0	79.2	91.7	74.1	...

The number of Births during the 10 years (1906—1915) was 5,840.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

Notifiable Disease.	No of Cases Notified.						Total Cases Notified in each locality (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the District.				Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.		
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.						45 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox
Cholera (C) Plague (P)
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	83	15	62	4	2	1	19	24	17	23	80	
Erysipelas	9	...	...	2	2	1	6	...	2	1	...
Scarlet Fever	18	3	10	1	4	...	2	9	1	6	18	
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	8	1	4	2	1	...	3	2	...	3	6	
Poliomyelitis	3	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	...	...	11	25	11	1	15	1	15	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	51	...	4	11	2	...	15	15	6	15	15	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	17	5	7	2	2	1	5	5	2	5	4	
Totals	197	5	25	89	22	38	53	57	30	57	125	

The Accommodation provided for the treatment of Infectious Diseases is as follows:—

THE SANATORIUM (The Tunbridge Wells Isolation Hospital) situate in Tunbridge Wells...	Scarlet Fever	40 Beds.
THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, situate in Tunbridge Wells (the Authorities are under an Agreement at a contract price to treat cases of Enteric Fever)	Diphtheria	17 Beds.
THE DISLINGBURY HOSPITAL for Small-pox and Plague, situate at Capel in the Tunbridge Rural District, belonging to the Joint Hospital Board of the Tunbridge Wells Corporation, the Tunbridge Urban District Council, the Southborough Urban District Council, and the Tunbridge Rural District Council	All Beds required.	20 Beds.

TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1915.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District. (a)									Total Deaths whether of residents or non-residents in Institutions in the District (b).
			All Ages.	Und'r 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
(1)			(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
All Causes	Certified (c)	...	543	49	6	11	19	11	43	117	287	...
	Uncertified	...	13	2	1	...	1	1	...	4	4	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	5	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	5
Influenza	...	...	20	3	1	1	...	...	1	1	13	1
Erysipelas	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	29	...	...	...	3	3	10	12	1	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	5	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	62	...	...	...	1	...	4	25	32	11
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1
Meningitis (See note (d))	...	...	6	1	1	1	2	...	...	1	...	6
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	57	...	...	...	1	1	8	17	30	4
Bronchitis	...	...	37	3	...	1	...	...	...	8	25	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	33	9	2	2	...	1	2	4	13	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	6	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (See note (e))	...	...	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	...
Alcoholism...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	1	3	7	10	4
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	20	19	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	13	2	...	1	...	1	...	3	6	5
Suicide	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other defined Diseases	...	...	204	9	...	2	3	2	10	33	145	18
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1
Totals			556	51	7	11	20	12	43	121	291	70
SUB-ENTRIES, included in above figures—												
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	3	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2
Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	19	2	1	1	...	1	2	3	9	...

NOTES TO TABLE III.

- (a) All "Transferable Deaths" of residents, i.e., of persons resident in the District who have died outside it, are to be included with the other deaths in columns 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 to be excluded from these columns. For the precise meaning of the term "transferable deaths" see footnote to Table I.
- The total deaths in column 2 of Table III should equal the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- (b) All deaths occurring in institutions for the sick and infirm situated within the district, whether of residents or of 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) Exclusive of "Tuberculous Meningitis" (10), but inclusive of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.
- (e) Title 19 should be used for deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis at all ages. (In the "Short Lists" deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years are included under Title 19; those at 2 years and over being placed under Title 28).

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1915. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

See Note (a).

CAUSE 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 1 Year.
All causes { Certified ...	17	4	1	4	26	8	3	4	8	49
{ Uncertified	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diphtheria and Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis (b) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Convulsions ...	2	1	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	5
Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	4	9
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying) ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations (c) ...	3	1	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	5
Premature Birth ...	9	—	—	—	9	2	—	—	—	11
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Other causes ...	1	1	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	4
Totals ...	18	4	1	4	27	9	3	4	8	51

NETT BIRTHS IN THE YEAR—

Legitimate ... 532
 Illegitimate ... 24

NETT DEATHS IN THE YEAR OF—

Legitimate Infants ... 43
 Illegitimate Infants ... 7
 Unknown ... 1

NOTES TO TABLE IV.

- (a) The total in the last column of Table IV. should equal the total in column 10 of Table I., and in column 3 of Table III.
- (b) Under Abdominal Tuberculosis are to be included deaths from Tuberculous Peritonitis and Enteritis and from Tabes Mesenterica.
- (c) The total deaths from Congenital Malformations, Premature Birth, Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus, should equal the total in Table III. for ages under 1 year, under the heading Congenital Debility, and Malformation including Premature Birth. Want of Breast Milk should be included under Atrophy and Debility.
- (d) For references to the meaning of any other headings see notes attached to Table III. In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.



