

**[Report 1898] / Medical Officer of Health, Wantage U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Wantage (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1898

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1898

To the Sanitary Authority  
Urban Sanitary District  
Wantage  
Berks

Gentlemen

It is again my duty, to present for your consideration, a report statistical and general, for 1898 dealing with the Sanitary District of which I am Medical Officer of Health

### Vital Statistics

The area is 2296 acres

The population at the last Census was 3669

The Deaths registered, including the Workhouse, numbered 71 viz Wantage 53 Workhouse 18 which is equal to 19.3 per 1000 for the entire district, and 14.4 for Wantage alone -

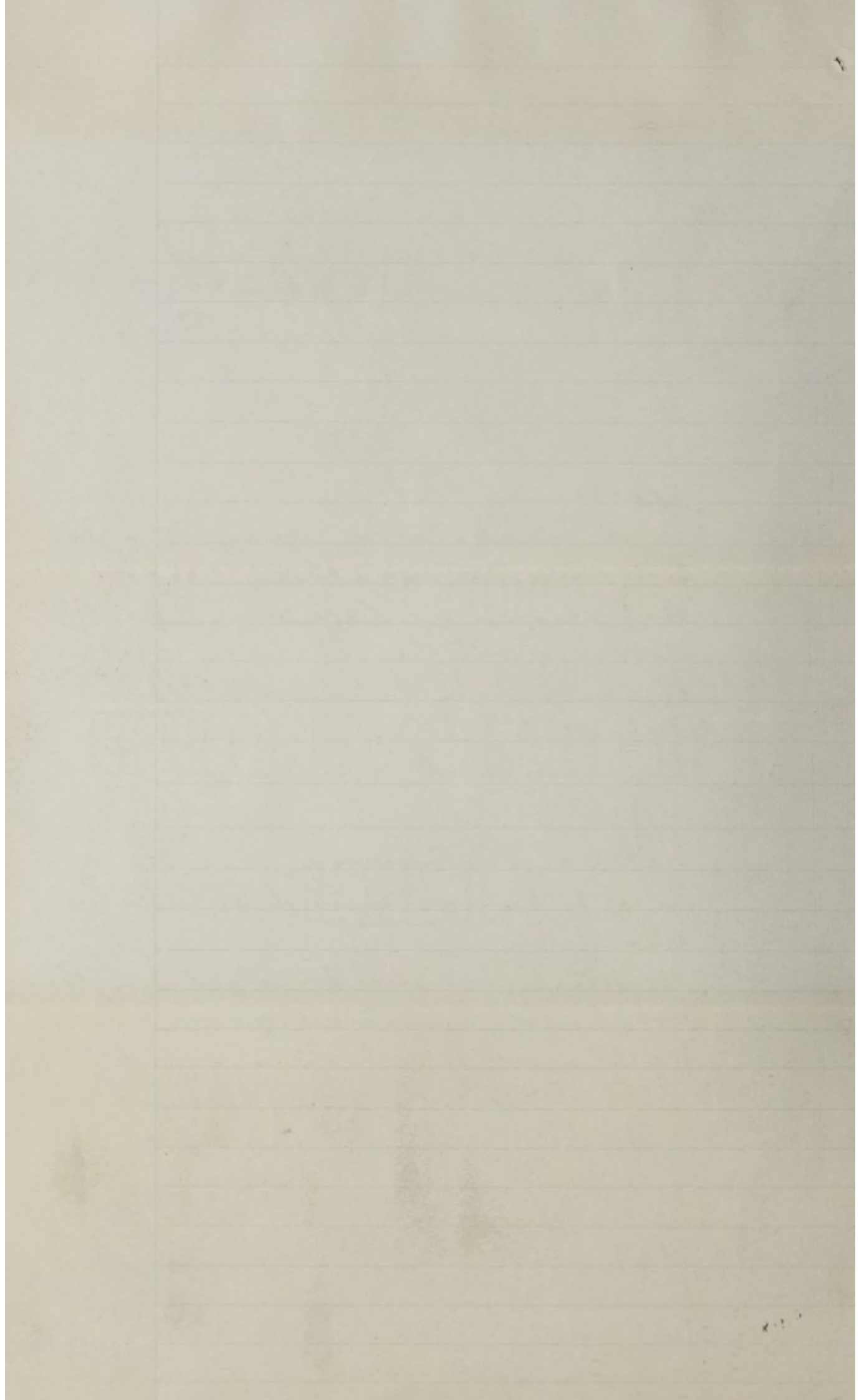
The Births were 90 being at the rate of 24 per 1000 of the population

Deaths from (so-called) Zymotic Diseases  
Four were registered, viz: one from Typhoid

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Fever, and three from Measles -  
 Compared with the last six years the  
 figures are

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
Whooping Cough	1	1	..	6	1	..	..
Typhoid Fever	1	..	..	1	..	..	1
Erysipelas	..	1	1	..	3	..	..
Diphtheria	..	1	..	..	3	2	..
Influenza	8	..	1	..	..	..	2
Measles	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Puerperal Fever	1	1	..	..	2	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

### Typhoid Fever

Only one case occurred during the year, and proved fatal - grave sanitary defects were found in the house, they were promptly attended to, and the disease did not spread.

### Diphtheria

17 Cases were notified to me, during the first six months of the year, when the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act was in operation.

During the last six months, some 10 cases came under my notice - all the cases recovered, and when sanitary defects were found, they were remedied - I can, from personal experience, speak highly of the new remedy, Anti-Diphtheric Serum -



### Influenza

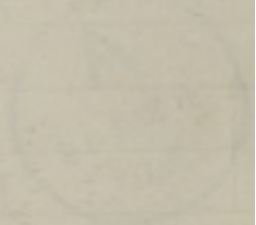
This disease, I regret to say, was very prevalent

Year	Month	Day	Event
1900	Jan	1	...
1900	Jan	2	...
1900	Jan	3	...
1900	Jan	4	...
1900	Jan	5	...
1900	Jan	6	...
1900	Jan	7	...
1900	Jan	8	...
1900	Jan	9	...
1900	Jan	10	...
1900	Jan	11	...
1900	Jan	12	...
1900	Jan	13	...
1900	Jan	14	...
1900	Jan	15	...
1900	Jan	16	...
1900	Jan	17	...
1900	Jan	18	...
1900	Jan	19	...
1900	Jan	20	...
1900	Jan	21	...
1900	Jan	22	...
1900	Jan	23	...
1900	Jan	24	...
1900	Jan	25	...
1900	Jan	26	...
1900	Jan	27	...
1900	Jan	28	...
1900	Jan	29	...
1900	Jan	30	...
1900	Jan	31	...

The first of the year was a very quiet one. The weather was very cold and the wind was very strong. The snow was very deep and the ice was very thick. The people were very busy and the work was very hard. The day was very long and the night was very dark. The people were very tired and the work was very slow. The day was very long and the night was very dark. The people were very tired and the work was very slow.

The second of the year was a very busy one. The weather was very warm and the wind was very light. The snow was very thin and the ice was very thin. The people were very happy and the work was very easy. The day was very short and the night was very light. The people were very happy and the work was very easy. The day was very short and the night was very light. The people were very happy and the work was very easy.

The third of the year was a very quiet one. The weather was very cold and the wind was very strong. The snow was very deep and the ice was very thick. The people were very busy and the work was very hard. The day was very long and the night was very dark. The people were very tired and the work was very slow. The day was very long and the night was very dark. The people were very tired and the work was very slow.



last Spring, directly causing 2 deaths -  
No means, at present known to Medical  
Science, seem to have any effect in  
preventing its spread, to avoid the  
neighbourhood of those who are, or  
have recently been its victims, and  
to keep the standard of health as high  
as possible, seem the best means to  
minimize the risk of infection

### Scarlet Fever

About 20 cases of a mild type, were either  
notified to me, or came directly under my  
own observation, during the year, none  
of the cases were fatal

### Measles

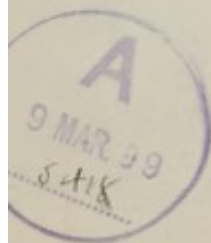
An extensive epidemic broke out in the  
early Spring, resulting in 3 deaths  
The disease was of a particularly virulent  
type

### Small Pox

No case was brought under my notice during  
the year - It cannot be too strongly  
impressed upon the public mind, that  
efficient vaccination is the only known  
means of prevention

### Tuberculosis (so-called Consumption)

The year 1898 showed a considerable  
diminution in the mortality from  
this disease - It ought to be more







generally known that it is infectious, and conveyed from the sick to the healthy

### Water Supply

The water supplied by the Water Company continues of good quality, and is well adapted for domestic purposes -

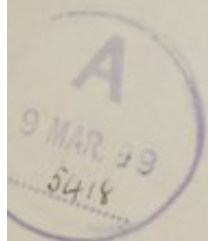
### Food

No complaints as to the fitness of food for consumption, or diseases arising therefrom, have been brought under my notice during the year.


### Sanitary Staff

I can express myself in the highest terms, of the effective and prompt help given me, by your Inspector Mr. Belcher

I have during the year, made systematic inspections of the district, and also when occasion demanded it.







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Summary of work done during the year

Houses Inspected	110
Drains, Sewers etc	45
Wells	20
Samples of Water examined	25

Appended are Tables of Deaths, and  
Infectious Diseases

I remain, gentlemen

Your obedient servant

J. J. Snow

Medical Officer of Health

Wantage  
Berks -

March 1<sup>st</sup> 1899 -



The first part of the paper is devoted to a  
 description of the general character of the  
 country, and to a statement of the  
 principal features of the topography.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a  
 description of the principal features of the  
 geology, and to a statement of the  
 principal features of the mineralogy.

The third part of the paper is devoted to a  
 description of the principal features of the  
 hydrography, and to a statement of the  
 principal features of the meteorology.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a  
 description of the principal features of the  
 zoology, and to a statement of the  
 principal features of the botany.