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THIRTY-EIGHTH

Annual Report

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Urban District of Watford,

FOR THE YEAR

1910,

BY

DR. ARTHUR KING, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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REPORT

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Urban District of Watford

For the Year 1910.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE WATFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition of the Watford Urban District for the year 1910.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Watford Urban District for 1910 is according to my estimate, 41,720.

The following figures give the population of the Wards as compared with the year before :

	1909.	1910.
King's ...	12,377	12,850
Queen's	9,693	9,676
St. Andrew's	4,648	4,639
Callow Land	9,615	10,200
Oxhey	4,229	4,355
	40,562	41,720

The unoccupied houses in the District were 307, which compares with 200 in 1909 and 150 in 1908.

Plans were received during the year for 205 houses. Of these 159 were built before the close of the year, but 40 out of this number were not occupied. Consequently there were 119 new houses built and occupied out of the 205 plans approved by the Council during 1910. If we add to this 131 houses completed and occupied as a surplus of the plans passed the year before we shall get the total of 250 new houses occupied and ranking as a source of new population. We must however deduct 107 from the 250, as there was an increase of that number of empty houses amongst those already built at the beginning of 1910. The final figures will accordingly be 143 additional occupied houses over the previous year.

The following table will, I believe, make this quite clear:

TABLE SHOWING NEW HOUSES OCCUPIED FOR THE YEAR 1910.

	Wards.					
	King's	Queen's	St. Andrew's	Callow Land	Oxhey	Total
Plans passed 1910	112	5	20	46	22	205
Houses unbuilt or not completed 1910 ...	32	3	3	0	8	46
Houses built 1910	80	2	17	46	14	159
,, ,, but not occupied 1910	25	1	6	1	7	40
,, ,, and occupied 1910	55	1	11	45	7	119
Houses completed and occupied from 1909 plans	42	4	5	72	8	131
Total new houses occupied 1910	97	5	16	117	15	250
Additional empty houses over returns of 1909	38	26	21	23	1	107
Total number of houses which count for increase of population	59	21	5	94	16	143

From the above number of houses we may calculate to gain 644 new inhabitants.

The excess of Births over Deaths is 514, and these two sources of increased population are distributed in the different Wards as under :

	King's.	Queen's.	St. And.	C. Land.	Oxhey.	
Increase of New Residents	266	94	23	423	72	= 644
Increase of Births over Deaths	207	77	14	162	54	= 514
	473	17	9	261	18	1158

This shows an increase of population amounting to 1,158 for the year 1910.

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered during 1910 was 889 compared with 935 in 1909, and 907 the average for the last ten years.

The Births were distributed in the five Wards as follows :

King's, 325; Queen's, 181; St. Andrew's 52; Callow Land, 239; Oxhey, 82.

The Birth Rate for the year on the estimated population is 21·2 compared with 23 in the preceding year and the ten yearly average, 26·7. It will be seen that

there is a considerable fall in the Birth Rate, but it is not below the rate for the whole county, which is the same figure exactly.

The number of illegitimate births registered was 27.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the District was 386, giving a gross Death Rate of 9·2.

The Deaths in Public Institutions outside the District of persons belonging to Watford were 12, and the number of Deaths occurring in such Institutions situated in the Watford Area of persons belonging elsewhere was 23.

The net Deaths for Watford were 375 compared with 400 in 1909, and consequently the net Death Rate is 8·9 compared with 9·8 in 1909. The average Death Rate for the previous ten years was 11·1.

It will be seen that the 1910 Death Rate has got back to the record for lowness established in 1908, or within a decimal point of it, and it is the more important that this should be so as we have an unusually low figure for the whole County to compare it with.

The Deaths of Infants under one year of age were 59 compared with 68 in the previous 12 months.

The Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births is 66·5 compared with 72·7 the previous year. This figure is the lowest reached during the last 10 years, and it is very gratifying to see this reduction of Infant Deaths in the year that has seen the appointment of a Health Visitor. I have no hesitation in saying the work of this Officer has contributed to the saving of lives of children under one year old, and I hope to be able to report an even greater benefit from her work at the end of the current year.

Amongst children under one year of age no deaths occurred from Measles; three from Whooping Cough; only four from Epidemic Diarrhœa and Enteritis. The largest number of deaths from one disease was 14 from Premature Birth; 13 from Lung Diseases of an acute nature, and only two from Tuberculosis.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 14 deaths from the 7 principal Zymotic Diseases.

The following table will show the deaths from each complaint:

Small Pox	....	....	0
Measles ...	....	....	1
Scarlet Fever	....	....	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup			1
Whooping Cough		....	5
Fevers—Typhus		....	0
Enteric ...		....	1
Others		....	0
Epidemic Diarrhœa		....	4
			14

The Zymotic death rate was ·03 compared with ·7 last year and ·63 and 1·3 in the two previous years respectively This figure ·03 is surprisingly low; in fact only one twenty-third of last years' rate. When we consider that although the cases of infectious disease have greatly decreased during the last few years, we yet had 169 of these notifiable during 1910, the death rate mentioned above does a great deal to minimise any feeling of anxiety about such cases as do occur.

I venture to say few Towns of our size can point in one year to only one death from Measles, two from Scarlet Fever, and one Diphtheria. Again I may draw attention to the fact that the diseases giving the most deaths are not notifiable, viz., Whooping Cough 5, and Epidemic Diarrhœa 4,

The Death Rate in Watford may be compared with England and Wales as follows:

ENGLAND AND WALES ...	13·4
77 Large Towns	14·3
136 Smaller	12·9
England and Wales minus the large and small Towns	12·9
WATFORD	8·9

DIPHTHERIA.

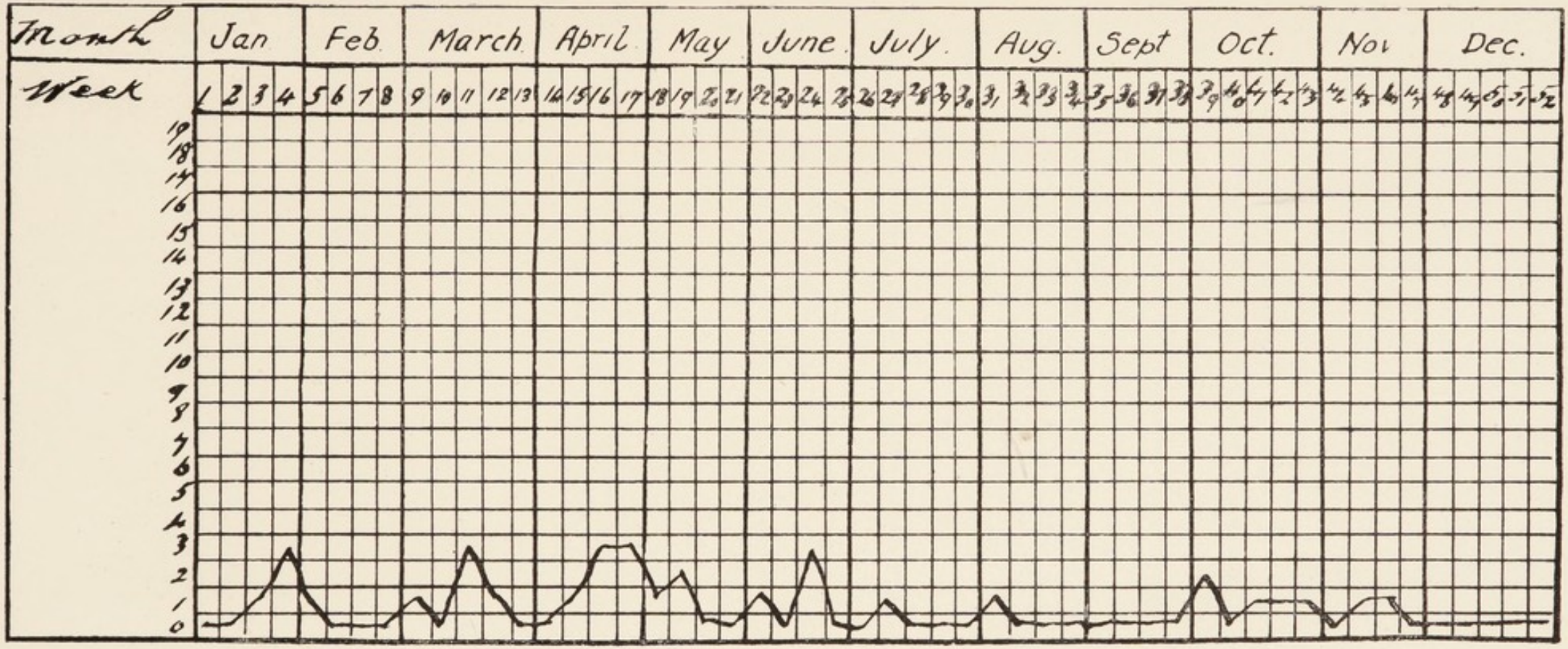
I noted in my last year's Report that the number of cases of this disease notified was reduced to 82 compared with 125 in the previous year, and that the deaths were 1 compared with 8 and 15 in the two years before.

The cases of this disease have been steadily going down each year since 1907, when we had 218 notified. In the Autumn of that year the sewer coming down High Street and turning up Fox Alley was opened, found in a very bad state and re-laid.

Every year since then we have had a certain amount of work done in finding out and rectifying defects in the old sewers, and each year, as I have said, the number of Diptheria cases has been fewer.

CHART 2.

SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF DIPHTHERIA EACH WEEK.



In 1908 after the Fox Alley sewer was re-laid they immediately dropped to 125 and in 1909 a further reduction was made to 82. I am glad to report that in 1910 a still further improvement is shown, the number for that year only amounting to 33. Even these 33 cases were, generally speaking, of a much milder type than usual.

Only one death occurred from Diptheria, and this was a child who died suddenly at home whose case was not notified till after the death.

The cases were distributed over the different Wards as follows:

King's, 17; Queen's, 7; St. Andrews, 1; Callow Land, 7; Oxhey, 1.

The newer part of the Town again shows the larger number of notifications, but shares with the other districts in the general falling off in numbers.

The Seasonal Incidence is shown by the following table:

1st Qtr.	King's.	Queen's.	St. And.	Callow Land.	Oxhey.		
Jan.	1	0	0	3	0	=	4
Feb.	0	0	1	0	0	=	1
Mar.	1	3	0	1	0	=	5
	2	3	1	4	0	=	10

Seasonal Incidence—*Continued.*

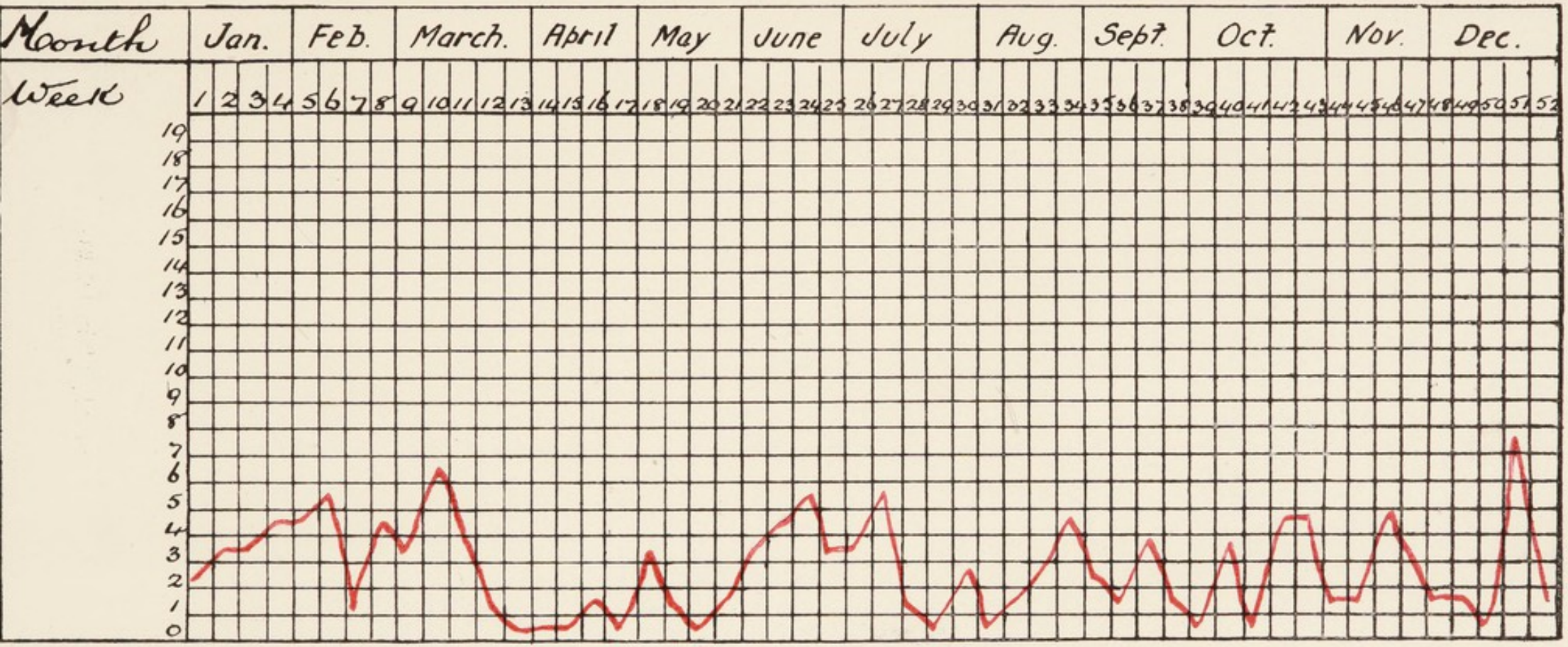
	King's.	Queen's.	St. And.	Callow Land.	Oxhey.		
2nd Qtr.							
April	4	0	0	3	0	=	7
May	4	0	0	0	0	=	4
June	2	1	0	0	0	=	3
	10	1	0	3	0	=	14
3rd Qtr.							
July	1	0	0	0	0	=	1
Aug.	1	0	0	0	0	=	1
Sept.	1	1	0	0	0	=	2
	3	1	0	0	0	=	[illegible]
4th Qtr.							
Oct.	2	1	0	0	0	=	3
Nov.	0	1	0	0	1	=	2
Dec.	0	0	0	0	0	=	0
	2	2	0	0	1	=	5
Totals	17	7	1	7	1	=	33

It will be seen from the above that 24 out of the 33 cases notified during the year appeared during the first six months, only 9 patients being reported during the last six months as suffering from this disease.

The only group of cases that appeared was in connection with a private school that was responsible for four. Some of the others were apparently imported and the remainder chiefly detached, with no apparent connection one with the other. In the instance of the school I suspected a carrier case, but the most rigorous investigation failed to detect one.

CHART I.

SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF SCARLET FEVER EACH WEEK.



SCARLET FEVER.

The number of Scarlet Fever cases that occurred during 1910 did not differ materially from that of the previous year. There were 120 notified in 1910 and 121 in 1909.

	King's.	Queen's.	St. And.	Callow Land.	Oxhey.	
1st Qtr.						
Jan.	6	2	1	5	0	
Feb.	5	2	0	5	1	
March	7	0	3	3	0	
	18	4	4	13	1	= 40
2nd Qtr.						
April	0	0	0	1	0	
May	4	1	0	3	0	
June	10	1	3	3	0	
	14	2	3	7	0	= 26
3rd Qtr.						
July	5	0	1	2	1	
Aug.	1	1	0	6	1	
Sept.	1	1	0	3	1	
	7	2	1	11	3	= 24
4th Qtr.						
Oct.	1	1	0	9	0	
Nov.	5	2	0	1	2	
Dec.	1	2	0	5	1	
	7	5	0	15	3	= 30
Totals	46	13	8	46	7	=120

Two of the early cases in the year we are considering might have owed their origin to infection of cases that had fallen during 1909.

In one instance a boy had been treated at home and developing a nasal discharge apparently was responsible for the infection of his sister as well as a servant in the family. The other case was not so clear, as the child had a cousin discharged from Hospital late in the year, but as the two families lived in two distant parts of the Town it is uncertain whether these children communicated with each other.

A series of cases then occurred in connection with Chater School, the first being notified on the 11th January and the last on February 8th. It was found, however, that the case that was notified last had been ill three weeks before, and if not the originator of the first case was probably an important element in the occurrence of the later ones.

In March two cases occurred in the Convent school and when one of these arrived home apparently free from infection she developed a nasal discharge. Her sister contracted the complaint; and until the beginning of July cases continued to appear at the Convent. In all 17 cases were notified from this source.

Every precaution was taken, the Convent was repeatedly disinfected and the

children most carefully gone over by the Convent Doctor and those found at all unwell immediately isolated.

It was only when arrangements were made for the children to be discharged from Hospital to a country house at Boreham Wood, rented for the purpose, that the fresh cases stopped.

Some cases (4), the origin of which presented considerable difficulty, occurred during June and July in connection with a Private School. I discovered afterwards that one of the teachers developed the disease and was allowed to return to her home at some distance from Watford without any notification being sent to me. This supplied a link that was wanting, but to make the tracing of one case to another thoroughly intelligible the occurrence of another case was necessary, and I have been unable to get any evidence of its existence.

We now come to a series of cases in connection with Parkgate Road School and its neighbourhood which lasted from August to October.

Again, a case coming from the Hospital developed a nasal discharge after reaching home and three children going to the same school contracted the complaint, as did the mother of the above patient.

Probably another child fell sick about this time, but as this was only discovered on

October 4th the seven cases that occurred during this period may be the result of infection from this unrecognised case.

Two more cases going to Parkgate occurred in the family where another child had come back from Hospital, but as a number of cases had been appearing at the school where this child was attending, she was quite as likely to have been infected at school as in any other way.

Four cases finished up the year, the origin of which appeared difficult to trace, till after the turn of the New Year a man was found desquamating, who was friendly with all the families affected, and this explained the apparent difficulty.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Of the four notifications of this disease one was found to be suffering from pneumonia, another appeared very doubtful, and the other two were well marked cases. One of these was introduced from Portsmouth, and the other also was probably contracted outside the district. One death occurred from this disease.

MEASLES.

This disease has not been epidemic during 1910. Some cases developed as the result of the epidemic of the previous year, and one death from this cause was registered.

Just before Christmas an outbreak threatened at Callow Land Infants, but the School Nurse at once visited those houses where the cases had appeared, all precautions possible were taken, and as far as I can judge without the information supplied by notification, the outbreak has been checked without a death having taken place. I recommend this complaint being added to the list of notifiable diseases, as although its spread is difficult to stop, the additional information supplied to the sanitary department of the progress of an epidemic must, I think, be of some service in preventing the unlimited extension of an outbreak.

PHTHISIS AND

OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES

There were 36 deaths from Phthisis in 1910, and 5 other deaths were registered as being due to Tubercular diseases. This compares with 35 and 18 in 1909, so that the total deaths from Tubercle are fewer by 12 during 1910 than in the previous year. The death rate from Phthisis is therefore about the same as the year before, ·86, and for other Tubercular diseases it is ·12.

The notification of Phthisis by the Medical Officer of the Workhouse and by the Master has been carried out with the following results,

I received 16 notifications of Phthisis, but 3 of these were notified a second time when they went into the Infirmary.

All those that were living at home when notified have been visited and the necessary disinfection carried out, and advice given. Two cases were tramps who disappeared, as is usually the case.

Eleven notifications were received from the Master of patients suffering from Phthisis who had left the Infirmary, some of these were out and in the Infirmary several times in the year.

All these were visited and the necessary measures taken; two out of the eleven died during the year, another was a tramp, a third has gone to a Sanatorium. The remainder appear to be improving.

To battle efficiently with Tubercular disease we require more information about all the cases in the District and more authority in dealing with them.

The benefit derived would be much greater in other classes than in that of Poor Law cases, as the latter are constantly moving about, sometimes in the Workhouse Infirmary and sometimes out, while with the class of tramps it is impossible to do anything.

Again I recommend that Phthisis be added to the list of Notifiable Diseases.

OTHER DISEASES.

The following list will show the relative fatality of the remaining principal diseases during 1910, compared with the two previous years:

	1910	1909	1908
Cancer	37	27 ...	28
Heart Disease ...	45 ...	34 ...	35
Bronchitis	36 ...	49 ...	36
Pneumonia ...	26	29 ...	20
Alcoholism ...	2 ...	5 ...	3
Accidents or Suicide	8 ...	10 ...	10

Lung diseases that were very prevalent in 1909 came down again in 1910, but deaths from Heart Disease show an increase; as also do deaths from Cancer.

VACCINATION.

The following are the particulars supplied by the Vaccination officer, showing the results of the year with regard to Vaccination:

Successfully Vaccinated	304
Exemptions	476

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

Although during the year 1910 250 new houses were built, there did not appear to be such an urgent need for them as during some of the previous years.

A careful estimate of unoccupied houses was made at the end of the summer, and this was again checked at Christmas, and on each occasion at least 300 unoccupied houses were found in Watford.

Hardly any of the new houses, however, are let for less than 6/6 a week, and many of them are a higher rental than that, so that these houses cannot be said to satisfy the demand for houses for the poorer classes who cannot pay more than 3/- to 4/- a week rent.

That there is a considerable number of people of this latter class cannot, I think, be doubted, and the readiness with which the most tumbledown and insanitary dwellings let proves this beyond question. The new Housing and Town Planning Act renders it more imperative than ever to sweep away all houses unfit for human habitation unless they are capable of sufficient alteration to satisfy the needs of sanitation. This means that the supply of cheap houses is getting smaller every year, with the result that people crowd two families into a house, and the Sanitary Inspector's time is taken up with hunting these people from one house to another.

If it is impossible for private effort to build the requisite supply of cheap dwellings required by the poorer class in Watford, it is time that the Council should take upon their shoulders the duty placed on them by Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act and build some Municipal Dwellings.

They could, I think, if built on the flat system, be let at a small rental and yet pay expenses, and I considerthe time has now come for some action in this direction to be taken by your Council. In my last year's report I considered the Sections of the Housing and Town Planning Act that chiefly concerned the Sanitary Department.

Since then we have had some experience in working a portion of it, but the greater part is at present almost a dead letter, as it is somewhat difficult of interpretation.

Still the work connected with inspecting and reporting on the Housing Accommodation of the Working Classes is of a very heavy nature and, together with that imposed by other recently passed Acts, necessitates an enormous amount of clerical work which takes up a very large part of the Sanitary Inspector's time to the exclusion of other matters.

This is not the place to discuss the recent Order and Memorandum of the Local Government Board, but I think it

would be advisable to appoint a Special Committee to go into the matter and report to the Sanitary Committee thereon.

The Houses dealt with under the Housing and Town Planning Act during 1910 amounted to 22; closing orders were made for two of these, but the Owners of the remaining 20 were given till March to put them into a habitable state if they thought fit to do so. At the time of writing, I may say that, with the exception of two, which the Owners prefer to close, the whole of these cottages are likely to have good and substantial alterations made that will convert them into Sanitary Dwellings fit for human beings to live in.

During the current year this matter of Workman's Dwellings will have to be gone into systematically and thoroughly; the new Housing Act forshadows applications every now and again for reports on the House accommodation in various parts of each Sanitary District, so that it behoves us to be prepared for whatever may occur in this direction. I may again remind you that the County Council has the power to ask us why this work has not been done if we neglect it, so that it becomes an absolute necessity for me to proceed with the inspection of this class of property and report the result to the Sanitary Committee at their monthly meetings.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Little was done in this direction early in the year, but the concluding months of

1910 saw a considerable amount of work carried out.

The section of this work arranged to be done during the past year has now been completed and I believe Mr. Waterhouse has given a detailed report on the alterations it was found necessary to carry out.

The following is a resumé of the investigations that were made, the defects found on examination, and the work done to rectify the same.

I have been round (with Mr. Fayers) both during the execution of the work and subsequent to its completion; and I am glad to say the sewers in the district under consideration are in a thoroughly satisfactory condition and there is every facility for inspection and for maintaining them in efficient working order.

Two classes of defects were found, either of which would, I feel, fully warrant the expenditure that has been made. At all the junctions of side streets with the main road the sewers were most erratic in their course; the discovery of their position was a matter of exploration and the junctions were not only unknown, but of course quite incapable of any inspection.

The second class was partly the result of the first and consisted in faulty action of the sewers.

In Weymouth Street the sewer was found to have dropped, leading to serious leakage and accumulation of sewage matter in the soil; at the junction of Malden Road with the St. Albans Road, the main sewers were seriously blocked with fæcal matter, and an even more serious blockage existed in Denmark Street at the Langley Road end of the sewer.

Except to say that manholes have been placed at the junction of all branch sewers with the main sewer; that others have been constructed along the line of the St. Albans Road sewer and that all defective pipes have been re-laid, I need not go into the matter further. In conclusion I should like to point out that you have now converted what was a serious menace to the health of the residents into a most complete and satisfactory condition of the sewers in the district under consideration.

The above result only confirms me in the opinion that further investigation should be carried out and manholes put down.

I recommend that the sewers in the following Roads should receive attention during the current year:—

Loates Lane, Grosvenor Road, Stanley Road, Gladstone Road, Derby Road, Beechen Grove, Clifford Street, Herbert Street and Water Lane.

These roads all lie within a short distance of each other, none of them has

proper manholes for inspection purposes, and any of them may reveal defects on investigation.

With regard to Mr. Shoon's system of sewer ventilation, I am afraid it is no use waiting for it to be perfected.

The method of extracting the sewer gas by lights placed at the top of ventilating column appears to be a good one, and I recommend that a trial be made of this system to see if it is worthy of adoption.

There are still streets that have unventilated sewers and it is in these positions that I should place the ventilators I mention.

HOUSE REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The Destructor continues to do its work in a thoroughly efficient manner, and the refuse is collected regularly and as completely as the circumstances of the case will permit.

The receptacles now in use to store the house refuse are of such imperfect character and type and in such a deplorable condition of repair that the ground in the neighbourhood gets impregnated with filth, and in the process of removal to the dust cart a considerable proportion gets distributed on paths and roads and never reaches the destructor. In wet weather this insanitary state of matters is further aggravated, some of the liquid filth running out of the holes at the bottom of the receptacles, fouling the clothes of the men; the part remaining at

the bottom of the so-called dust bins undergoing fermentative changes.

A domiciliary visit to each house in the neighbourhood would, I feel confident, convince the Council that something should be done in this matter. Many of the "dust bins" may be described as house refuse "distributors" and germ "incubators." If the Town goes to the expense of destroying the refuse surely it is not too much to expect that either the owner or occupier of each house should supply a proper watertight and non-absorbent receptacle, especially when it is remembered that the building of an Ash Pit is now never insisted upon because it is tacitly conceded on the part of the builder that he will supply a moveable receptacle.

You will agree with me I think that we are spending a considerable sum in collecting and destroying the refuse, but owing to the above conditions the Town is not deriving the full benefit it should from the expenditure.

The following figures of work at the Destructor have been kindly supplied to me by Mr. Waterhouse:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Total amount of Refuse destroyed per week from Town - -	146		
Ditto from Old Heap - -	32		
Private Refuse per week - -	2	10	0
Diseased Carcases Destroyed -	37		
Dogs Destroyed - - -	98		
Cats „ - - - -	47		

COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 11 cowsheds and 36 milkshops on the register. The cowshed that I reported as unoccupied at the end of 1909 is still empty. Of the other cowsheds I spoke rather favourably of last year, I cannot give such a favourable account during 1910.

With the exception of one or two instances it seems impossible to instil into the minds of the keepers of cows the importance of continued and constant cleanliness of the cows, the sheds, the milkers, and the utensils.

The sheds are mostly cleaned up once or twice a day, but the intermediate conditions are generally very unfavourable for the exclusion of manurial germs from the air of the cowshed and from the milk. Although the cows may be groomed once or twice a day they cannot help fouling their udders again and again with manurial matters, and the same man who sweeps up the manure often immediately turns to and milks the cows without observing due attention to cleanliness that should be the case.

One cowshed that I hoped would have been given up last year has now got its full complement of cows, and in another case where I am sure that, at times, there is overcrowding, I can get nothing from the occupier but promises of an extension of his sheds, and the work gets no nearer commencement.

In one case where the surroundings were in a very filthy condition, I am glad to say that the yard has at last been paved, and this has improved matters considerably.

During the year I have visited the cowsheds with a view to detecting any tuberculous animals, and I am glad to say that in two or three instances I have induced the owners to get rid of animals that were manifestly suffering from that complaint. Still there are probably many cows that may be in the earlier stages of the disease that show no absolutely certain symptoms of that condition, and, as I stated in my last year's report, in my opinion it is a matter of the utmost importance to the community generally that fresh legislation should take place without further delay, to ensure the public being supplied with milk uncontaminated with Bacillus Tuberculosus and other germs.

Four samples of Milk were taken during 1910, and after being examined bacteriologically were found free from serious contamination.

At the time of writing I am looking for the result of examination of other samples taken some time ago.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

380 Inspectors were made under the above Act during 1910.

Five cases of overcrowding were discovered and rectified.

No case of infectious disease was notified either in a workshop or amongst outworkers. The sanitary accommodation of two factories has been improved. Extra accommodation was provided in one instance and general supervision has been exercised over the cleanliness of the remainder.

In one case it is difficult to guarantee a cleanly condition of the closet at all times, as the water supply is provided by pumping, and in busy times this is sometimes omitted.

If I find neglect in the matter of pumping during the current year, I intend calling upon the owners to get their supply from the town's mains.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There were 14 Slaughter Houses on the register in 1910, and these are regularly inspected by the Meat Inspector, and in this way he exercises considerable control over the class of meat slaughtered in Watford.

Still it can fairly be seen that to keep a continuous observation over each of the 14 Slaughter Houses is quite impossible for one Inspector, although if the slaughtering took place at one station this would be feasible.

The result is that if any butcher is not absolutely straight he can easily arrange to kill a beast of inferior quality at a sufficiently late hour to avoid observation,

and then, when the internal organs are destroyed, detection of signs of disease is more difficult.

When this is suspected, especial vigilance is manifested on the part of both Inspectors Jump and Savage, and in one instance a butcher was discovered killing on unlicensed premises. Various diseased conditions have been found in animals killed at unusal hours; and assistance was given to the Watford Rural Sanitary Inspector in finding out irregular proceedings in the matter of slaughtering outside our district.

Watford appears in some instances to be the dumping ground for suspicious meat from outside our boundaries, and one or two instances have occurred where this has been prevented by the activity of Mr. Savage. Therefore it will be seen that, although much is being done to prevent the sale of unsound meat (more, probably, than in most places of the size of Watford), that without a Public Abbatoir it is a matter of great difficulty, or rather an impossibility to ensure that all the animals slaughtered in the district be of sound quality.

I once more urge the Council to initiate the establishment of a Public Slaughter House for Watford, confident that twelve months after it commenced its career those now most opposed to it would be the loudest in its praise.

MARKET PLACE.

I have nothing to add to what I said on this subject in my last year's report, except that the Council should insist on the provision of proper galvanised iron receptacles for the refuse matter from the fish and vegetable stalls.

With this exception nothing more can be done in improving the market unless the market rights were purchased by the Urban Council, and this is a matter on which it hardly comes within my province to advise.

WATER SUPPLY.

The quality of the Watford Water was found satisfactory by the Analyst during 1910.

I am glad to report that considerable progress has been made in the New Water Scheme, and I have obtained from Mr. Waterhouse the following details of what has been accomplished during 1910:—

"Our present position as regards the progress of the New Water Scheme is as follows:—

> What are known as the "Auxiliary Works" have now been completed and are in working order. These works comprise a 30 in. diameter bore 255 feet deep, bore hole pumps and compound undertype engine
>
> The object of the Auxiliary Works is to keep the town supplied with a sufficient quantity of water during the construction of the Permanent Works.

They also serve another temporary but important purpose. In our existing well we have had during a dry summer the water fall to within two feet of the suction; the Auxiliary Works will provide against this ever happening in the future.

At the trial test of the pumping plant and bore, the results were eminently satisfactory. Pumping was continuous and at the rate of 1½ millions per day, which is well over our maximum demand and a quarter of a million over our daily average demand. During pumping the water level in the bore stood at about 66 feet below the surface without fluctuation.

The water has been analysed by Drs. Thresh and Beale, who report as follows:—

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES,

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE,

LONDON, E.,

March 6th, 1911.

Report on a sample of Water from the New Bore at Watford. Taken during the trial pumping, 4.20 p.m., 27/2/11, by D. Waterhouse.

This water is approximately the same as that obtained from the older bore. It is of a very high degree of organic purity, and is free from any bacteria of an objectionable type.

The water is pure and wholesome, and well adapted for drinking purposes. The hardness is the same as that of the water from the old bore, so that it is equally good for other domestic purposes.

JOHN C. THRESH,

JOHN F. BEALE.

Progress with the Water Scheme will be continued this year in the commencement of the first part of the permanent works, the preparation for this being now in hand."

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of these on the register is four; the "Angel" having been pulled down during the year to widen the lower part of High Street for the Trams.

They are all kept in a clean and sanitary condition, as far as the structure will allow, but the houses are very old and it is impossible to make them up-to-date. I should like to see them done away with entirely or if it is necessary to have accommodation for the tramping section of the community we ought to have a new and well equipped common Lodging House.

INHABITED VANS.

This matter has met with attention from the Council during 1910, as the nuisance at Cassiobridge has continued unabated. I am

pleased to report that at the time of writing a Local Government Board enquiry has already been held with a view to purchasing the Manorial Rights over the Common.

If leave is granted to do so I trust the Council will then be in a position to stop the occurrence of the nuisance of camping.

SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH VISITOR.

During the year under consideration an important step was taken in the appointment of a fully qualified Nurse to act as Health Visitor and School Nurse.

The question of such an appointment was raised by the Local School Managers, and they approached the Urban Council to know if they would co-operate with them in making such an appointment.

A joint committee was formed, and it was agreed to share the expense between the two authorities, the Nurse being supplied through the agency of the Herts County Nursing Association. She was to be provided with board and lodging at their Home in Watford, the Association paying her salary and receiving £80 a year for her services from the two authorities named above.

At this stage it was pointed out by Mr. Longmore, Clerk to the County Council, that the share of the payment to be met by the Local School Managers would probably

not be allowed by the County Council. It appeared, therefore, that although the two Watford bodies were willing and anxious to co-operate and each pay its proper share, the County Council's attitude would entirely block the scheme.

The Herts County Nursing Association very generously came to our aid and promised to be content with the contribution from the Urban District Council alone, till such time as the County Council saw their way to sanction a similar expenditure on the part of the School Managers. I trust that during the current year the County Authority may make the necessary grant.

The Health Visitor has been in work now since March of last year, and I have appended her report on the work done both as Health Visitor and School Nurse during 1910.

As Health Visitor she has visited the houses of all the new born babies that would be likely to benefit by her advice, and she has in many instances been instrumental in procuring the more rational treatment of these infants by their mothers. In other cases she has been of service in securing proper nourishment and clothing where these have been urgently needed.

It will be seen in Miss Hammond's Report that her work in trying to reduce Infantile Mortality is greatly hampered by the fact that a certain number of the babies

are really suffering from want of nourishment. In some cases she has obtained temporary help from the Relieving Officer, in others she has been unable to assist the mothers in this manner.

It is manifest that if we want to realise the aim of Health Visiting—the improvement of the development of the race from the time of birth—it will be absolutely necessary for the Sanitary Department to have some means within its grasp of supplying proper nourishment to children at least during their first year of life. I have before called your attention to the benefit to be derived by the establishment of a pure milk depot for the supply of an efficient substitute for mother's milk to infants that are not breast fed.

I venture again to draw your attention to this matter, adding that in some instances the supply to the infant would be unnecessary if only the mother had sufficient nourishment to ensure a continuance of feeding the baby at the breast.

These municipal milk depots have been established with excellent results in many towns, and I recommend that some steps be taken in this direction in Watford.

Should your opinion of my proposal be unfavourable, I feel that the subject is such a vital one that it will warrant me in making some effort to gain charitable support for the undertaking. I am glad to report that my appeal for warm under garments

for new-born children has met with considerable support, and that this cause of ill-health and weakly development has for the time at least ceased to exist.

I am confident that out of the 3,000 mothers in Watford there are many who would not begrudge a contribution of 2s. 6d. or 5s. a year for the benefit of those mothers and babies who are handicapped in the struggle for existence by the want of ample nourishment at a time when it is pre-eminently necessary for their physical well-being.

The Infantile Mortality Death Rate has already showed a further decrease since the advent of the Health Visitor, and if we can only overcome the difficulty of adequate feeding of mother and child for 12 months after the birth of the latter, we shall, I am sure, see much greater improvement in this direction.

As School Nurse she has had a most difficult task to perform, and one requiring great devotion and perseverance. Besides visiting the homes of those receiving notices of ordinary defects discovered on inspection, and trying to induce the parents to have these rectified, she has visited schools and homes, and seen an immense number of children on these occasions and also at the Offices of the Urban District Council, in her efforts to produce a more cleanly condition

of the persons and heads of the school children. In her report are the figures referring to her work, but I may say that I am very much gratified with the results of the crusade made this year against verminous conditions.

That the work has been heavy both for Nurse and the Assistant School Doctors is stating the case mildly, but there is the compensating knowledge that now, with the exception of the chronically dirty who relapse every two or three months, and probably will continue to do so as long as they remain at school, we have practically cleaned up all the schools in Watford. Instead of having an average of 15 to 20 per cent. of verminous conditions all through the schools, a condition that mounted to 25 to 30 per cent. in some of the Girls Departments, we now have an average of not more than 5 per cent. all round, and in some departments you will look all over the heads and not find a single dirty one amongst them.

The 5 per cent. consists, as I have said, of the incorrigible that have already been excluded from school some three or four times, but these, although not clean, are very much nearer the desired standard than when we commenced our labours. With unslackening efforts I have some hope of overcoming the rooted aversion to cleanliness exhibited by the parents of even these cases, but this part of the work will be slow and not attended with brilliant results.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

With regard to the treatment of general defects found on inspection, there has been less done than I should like to see. Many people have enough to do to supply food and clothing for their children and have nothing left for this purpose; others appear to consider that they are asked to have done what is unnecessary, and this especially applies to teeth, while about a third have had the defects attended to with most satisfactory results.

It is obvious that some arrangement should be made for the treatment of defects where the parents cannot afford the expense, as the number of cases now treated is not a sufficiently satisfactory result for the trouble and money expended on the medical inspection.

If the County Council would formulate some scheme for this work, the operative portion could very well be carried out at the Local Hospital, and be done by the local medical men approved by the County Council and Board of Education to undertake the different sections.

It is only by some such scheme that the proper treatment of dental defects can be grappled with, and as septic teeth and mouths lie at the foundation of deficient nutrition and development this part of the treatment should have a place in the very foremost rank.

Such provision would in no way interfere with those who have the requisite means to pay their own doctor for the treatment, it would only come into force when nothing would otherwise be done on account of the lack of requisite means on the part of the parent.

REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH VISITOR.

I have pleasure in making the following report of my work since my appointment as Health Visitor and School Nurse, which dates from March 25th, 1910.

The work among the Schools has been chiefly to examine the children for verminous heads and other noticeable defects, and report them to the School Medical Officers. I have also attended some of the Medical Inspections in company with a probationer from the Herts County Nursing Association and assisted the School Medical Officers on such occasions.

The statistics below will demonstrate the great number of children found with dirty heads, and show how very necessary it is to have them examined. At the present time the schools would be quite clean if it were not for those children who, after being cleaned, are immediately allowed to get again in a dirty condition, no effort being made to keep them free from vermin. In following up these cases I find the majority of the

mothers are either alcoholic or out at work all day, the result being that the keeping of the children in a cleanly condition is almost entirely neglected. For such cases a place is badly needed where they could be sent and cleansed when found dirty. After frequent visits, and on finding no improvement I have reported a few cases to the Inspector for Cruelty to Children.

In visiting the homes I find most of the parents appreciate the School Medical Inspection; and only the very dirty ones resent it.

In following up the notices sent out after Medical Inspection, those for defective eyesight seem to have had the most attention, although there are many still needing treatment. Most of the parents see the necessity of having the defects treated, and would do so if they could afford it.

I take one of the pupils from the County Nursing Home with me to the School and she is of great assistance in helping to follow up the cases and advise the parents to get the defects treated; the number of defects is so great that I could not possibly do the following up alone.

On my visits to the schools the Head Teachers have been most kind and helpful to me, in arranging for the inspection of the children, and I thank them very much.

Since the Notification of Births Act came into force, 324 were registered up to December 31st, 1910, and most of them have been visited, and, where necessary, advice given. Some of the cases I find it necessary to visit very often.

The visiting of the babies includes where necessary the inspection of houses, and in some cases great difficulty is experienced in keeping either the houses or the babies clean. The worst cases need constant supervision; those cases I cannot deal with are reported to the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector.

In many of the poorer homes I found some of the babies insufficiently clad, but, I am pleased to say, through the kindness of many benevolent ladies, I have been provided with about five dozen woollen vests and other warm garments for the children. They have been distributed to the really necessitous cases, who were most grateful. For obtaining these I have to thank, amongst others, Mrs. King, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Robinson, and Miss James, who have kindly interested themselves in this matter.

Many cases I found where the mother was not getting sufficient nourishment, the result was the baby suffered or had to be bottle fed. Such cases I reported to the Relieving Officer, who gave temporary help.

The number of cases reported to the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary

Inspector include cases of dirty houses, overcrowding, and other nuisances:—

Number of Visits paid to Schools ...	212
„ „ Children Examined ...	16,021
„ „ „ Excluded: For Verminous Heads	900
„ that received Notices after Medical Inspection ...	214
„ that have returned clean ...	908
„ Improving	142
Total Number of Visits paid to Homes, *re* School Work ...	2,191
Medical Inspections attended ...	34
Number of Visits under Notification of Births Act ...	440
Inspection of Houses	132
Defects reported to Sanitary Inspector	58

NUISANCES.

The number of Nuisances abated will be seen in the Appendix to this Report. The outstanding yard paving mentioned in my last year's report has at last been completed, and there appears every probability that the notices in the future will receive more immediate attention than has up to the present been the case.

In the Appendix will be found the usual tables, with the summary of action taken by the Sanitary Inspectors during the past year. The summary shows that a very large amount of work has been done, and it is worth drawing

your attention to the efficient supervision that is exercised over the Meat and Food Supply of Watford. I much regret that we have not the administration of the Foods and Drugs Act under your control, but I trust this will come as one of the results of Incorporation.

I am glad to report that both your Sanitary Inspectors now hold the Meat and Food qualification of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and I feel that the control of the whole question of Food could not be better dealt with than by our local officials.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for the courtesy and consideration they have displayed to the officials during their conduct of Sanitary work.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR KING.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL DURING 1910.

The following figures will show the number of cases and their locality for the year 1910 :—

On January 1st, 1910, there were 22 Patients in Hospital, 17 Scarlet, 5 Diphtheria.

During 1910 216 cases were admitted—Scarlet Fever, 174; Diphtheria, 35; Enteric 5 ; Erysipelas, 1.

On January 1st, 1911, there were 34 cases in Hospital, 28 Scarlets, and 6 Diphtheria.

Of the cases admitted

Watford Urban District contributed			136
,, Rural	,,	,,	43
Bushey Urban	,,	,,	21
Rickmansworth	,,	,,	16
			216

In Hospital, Jan. 1st, 1910	...	22
Admitted during 1910	...	216
		238

In Hospital, Jan. 1st, 1911	...	34
Died	...	3
Discharged during 1910...	...	201
		238

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The year 1910 saw a slight increase in the number of cases treated in the Hospital.

Two hundred and sixteen cases were admitted against 208 in 1909. There were 22 cases in Hospital on January 1st, 1910, so that two hundred and thirty-eight patients were treated during 1910 compared with 223 patients in 1909. The admissions were as follows: Scarlet Fever, 147; Diphtheria, 35; Enteric Fever, 5; Erysipelas, 1.

These figures compare with 125 Scarlet Fever, 78 Diphtheria, 4 Enteric Fever, and 1 Puerperal Fever in 1909.

The Scarlet cases again showed an increase, being 174 against 125 the year before! But this is due to cases coming from districts other than Watford Urban. Watford Rural had 17 more, from none in 1909 Rickmansworth rose to 14 during the past year, and Bushey Urban sent 21 cases into hospital instead of 7. Watford Urban only exhibited an increase of 4 cases. Diphtheria showed a great decrease, the total number admitted in 1910 being only 35 compared with 78 in the year before. Watford Urban reduced its contribution from 59 to 22, Bushey Urban from 12 to none, Rickmansworth remained stationary with 1, and Watford Rural was the only one to show an increase, with 12 cases against 6 in 1909.

The 204 who were discharged or died during 1910 were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever—

Discharged 161 ... Died 2 ... Total 163

Diphtheria—

Discharged 34 ... Died 0 ... Total 34

Enteric Fever—

Discharged 4 ... Died 1 ... Total 5

Erysipelas—

Discharged 1 ... Died 0 ... Total 1

Observation Case—

Discharged 1 ... Died 0 ... Total 1

201	3	204

There were 3 deaths during the year 1910, 2 from Scarlet Fever, 0 from Diphtheria, and 1 from Enteric Fever. One case of suspicious Enteric was admitted for observation, but cleared up in a short time without developing the characteristic symptoms.

The General Death Rate was 1·5 compared with 1·9 the year before. The Scarlet Death Rate was 1·3 against 0·0 in the previous twelve months. The Diphtheria Death Rate was 0·0 compared with 2·5 in 1909. These rates are allowing for a certain proportion of cases of doubtful diagnosis.

The number of Laryngeal cases of Diphtheria showed a still further decrease, and there were none where the membrane had developed in the Larynx, so as to necessitate Tracheotomy being performed.

In Table IV. the complications amongst the Scarlet Fever cases are shown, and it will be seen they were more numerous than the year before. Enlarged glands were common amongst the children till after Lady Day Quarter, and then they underwent a great reduction in number. This may or may not have been due to a different milk supply, but the fact remains that the improvement dated from the change of supply which occurred at that time.

Amongst the Diphtheria patients a fair number developed Nephritis, but Antitoxin rashes were conspicuous by their absence.

There were five apparently returns cases of Scarlet Fever during 1910. In each case the discharged patients did not develop any symptoms of being infectious till over a fortnight after returning home. In one the interval was 3 weeks, another 4 weeks, and a third 6 weeks. With such a long interval one cannot but be doubtful if they be return cases at all.

The question of reduction of the nursing staff was again raised during the year, but the experience already gained prevented the Board from interfering with the

existing arrangements. By these the minimum Staff is placed at 6 Probationers and Assistant Nurses, one Charge Nurse, and one Sister. The question of any necessary increase owing to larger admissions is at the discretion of the Chairman, the Matron, and myself.

TABLE I.

Admissions during 1910.

District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Total.
Watford Urban:					
King's Ward ...	45	13	1		59
Queen's Ward ...	12	2	1		15
St. Andrew's Ward ...	7	1	0		8
Callow Land Ward ...	40	5	1		46
Oxhey Ward ...	6	1	0		7
Total for Watford Urban ...	110	22	3		135
Watford Rural:					
Watford ...	4	1	1		6
Abbots Langley ...	16	1	1		18
Aldenham ...	3	8			11
Sarratt ...	3	0			3
Chorleywood ...	2	2			4
Rickmansworth ...	1	0			1
Total for Watford Rural ...	29	12	2		43
Rickmansworth Urban ...	14	1	0	1	16
Bushey Urban ...	21	0	0	0	21
Totals ...	174	35	5	1	215

TABLE II.

SCARLET FEVER.

Showing dates of admission.

Month.	Watford Urban.	Rural Districts.	Rickmansworth.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
January ...	12	0	2	1	15
February ...	9	0	1	3	13
March ...	12	1	3	0	16
April ...	1	1	6	0	8
May ...	7	1	1	2	11
June ...	18	2	1	1	22
July ...	8	5	0	3	16
August ...	8	4	0	0	12
September ...	6	6	0	2	14
October ...	11	6	0	4	21
November ...	9	3	0	4	16
December ...	9	0	0	1	10
Totals ...	110	29	14	21	174

TABLE III.

DIPHTHERIA.

Showing dates of admission.

Month.	Watford Urban.	Rural Districts	Rickmansworth Urban.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
January ...	2	1		0	3
February ...	1	0		0	1
March ...	3	0		0	3
April ...	5	0		0	5
May ...	3	0		0	3
June ...	3	0		0	3
July ...	1	1		0	2
August ...	1	2		0	3
September ...	1	1		0	2
October ...	1	1		0	2
November ...	1	3	1	0	5
December ...	0	3		0	3
Totals ...	22	12	1	0	35

TABLE IV.

SHOWING COMPLICATIONS AMONGST SCARLET FEVER CASES.

Complications.	Watford Urban.	Watford Rural.	Rickmansworth Urban.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
Nephritis ...	6		2		8
Enlarged Glands ...	17	1	2	2	22
Secondary Rashes ...	10		1	1	12
Diphtheritic Throat...	5	1			6
Discharging Ears ...	6		3	2	11
Discharging Noses ...	2	2		4	8
Ringworm (on admission)	2				2
Whooping Cough ...	1			1	2
Chorea ...	1				1
Rheumatism ...	5			1	6
Suppurating Glands...	1				1
Totals ...	56	4	8	11	79

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1910 AND PREVIOUS YEARS. WATFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total deaths in public institutions in the District.	Deaths of non-residents registered in public institutions in the District.	Deaths of residents registered in public institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.				Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900	28500	830	29·12	118	142·1	428	15·00	52	20	,,	408	14·3
1901	29527	944	31·90	100	105·9	372	12·60	63	17	8	363	12·2
1902	31000	823	26·50	84	102·0	354	11·40	54	19	13	348	11·2
1903	31600	909	28·70	83	91·0	376	11·80	64	19	18	375	11·8
1904	33048	928	28·00	93	100·2	409	12·30	84	29	0	380	11·4
1905	34633	946	27·3	80	84·0	397	11·4	79	33	9	373	10·7
1906	36321	954	26·2	92	96·4	413	11·3	83	36	10	377	10.3
1907	38000	914	24.1	66	72·2	464	12·2	115	44	8	428	11·3
1908	39500	896	22·7	75	83	376	9·5	93	30	4	350	8·8
1909	40562	935	23·0	68	72·7	408	10·0	80	23	15	400	9·8
Averages for years 1900-1909.	34269	907	26·7	85	94·9	399	11·7	76	26	8	380	11·1
1910	41720	887	21·2	59	66·5	386	9·2	84	23	12	375	8·9

TABLE II.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR LAST 10 YEARS IN DIFFERENT PORTIONS OF DISTRICT. WATFORD UBBAN DISTRICT.

Names of Localities.	1. Whole District.				2. King's Ward.				3. Queen's Ward.				4. St. Andrew's Ward.				5. Callow Land Ward.				6. Oxhey Ward.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b	c.	d.	a.	b	c	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1900 ...	28500	830	408	118										96	52	5		217	68	29		95	53	15
1901 ...	29527	944	363	100									4100	80	42	6	6828	276	63	28	3115	94	53	15
1902 ...	31000	823	348	84									4100	64	54	1	7328	267	79	29	3138	64	31	4
1903 ...	31600	909	375	83									4131	60	32	5	7553	268	71	24	3172	73	42	7
1904 ...	33048	928	380	93	8679	305	112	35	8871	222	103	25	4200	57	49	2	7930	258	81	25	3368	86	40	6
1905 ...	34633	946	373	80	9513	325	121	31	9087	227	104	27	4269	56	44	6	8239	249	79	12	3525	89	25	4
1906 ...	36321	954	377	92	10532	352	120	31	9317	223	83	26	4288	55	45	4	8509	245	88	26	3675	79	41	5
1907 ...	38000	914	428	66	11253	350	147	25	9457	215	139	24	4510	59	33	2	8943	213	66	10	3847	77	43	5
1908 ...	39500	896	350	75	11918	347	132	26	9557	204	104	28	4667	59	37	9	9263	219	56	12	4095	67	21	0
1909 ...	40562	935	400	68	12377	346	148	24	9693	214	110	23	4648	59	42	6	9615	236	73	12	4229	80	27	3
Averages of Years 1900 to 1909.	34269	907	380	85	10712	337	130	28	9330	217	107	25	4323	64	42	4	8245	244	72	20	3573	80	37	6
1910 ...	41720	887	375	59	12850	335	128	21	9676	181	104	16	4639	52	38	0	10200	239	77	16	4355	82	28	9

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTITIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1910.
WATFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality.					Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.						1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	King's Ward.	Queen's Ward.	St. Andrew's Ward.	Callow Land Ward.	Oxhey Ward.	King's Ward.	Queen's Ward.	St. Andrew's Ward.	Callow Land Ward.	Oxhey Ward.	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup,)	33	...	3	23	2	5	...	17	7	1	7	1	13	2	1	5	1	22
Erysipelas	12	...	...	1	2	9	...	3	5	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	120	...	20	90	7	3	...	46	13	8	46	7	45	12	7	40	6	110
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	4	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	3
Relapsing fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	169	0	23	116	11	19	0	67	26	11	56	9	59	15	8	46	7	135

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING YEAR, 1910. WATFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in Whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Localities. (at all ages)					Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	King's Ward.	Queen's Ward.	St. Andrew's Ward.	Callow Land Ward.	Oxhey Ward.	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1		1		...	...	...			...	1		...
Scarlet Fever	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Whooping Cough ...	5	3	2	...	...	..	...	1	2	...	...	2	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	1	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Enteric ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...		...	1	...	1
Fever { Other continued ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Epidemic Influenza ...	5	...	...	...	...	2	3	2	1	1	1	...	1
Cholera	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	3	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	36	...	1	1	5	27	2	10	11	3	9	3	10
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	5	2	1	...	...	2	...	2	2	...	1	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	37	...	...	...	..	19	18	8	12	8	5	4	6
Bronchitis	36	8	4	...	...	10	14	13	7	3	8	5	7
Pneumonia	26	5	4	1	2	11	3	8	4	2	10	2	6
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ...	2	..	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Venereal Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	7	3	...	4	...	1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	..	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	..	1
Heart Diseases	45	...	...	2	4	19	20	14	16	4	9	2	9
Accidents	4	...	1	1	...	2	...	1	2	1	...	...	1
Suicides	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	...	1	...	...	2
All other Causes	143	23	3	4	5	35	73	53	40	14	26	10	36
All Causes ...	375	59	20	11	16	135	134	128	104	38	77	28	84

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.
WATFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	Certified	19	3	1	3	26	7	5	6	2	2	1	3	1	3	1	1	58
	Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria: Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Diarrhœal Diseases	Diarrhœa, all forms ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	.	...	...	..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth ...	13	...	...	1	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
	Congenital Defects ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Want of Breast-milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	3	...	...	1	4	1	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tubercul's Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	...	...	.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	..
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Rickets		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...
Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*) ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3
Convulsions		1	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	3
Bronchitis		...	1	...	...	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	8
Laryngitis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia		...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	5
Suffocation, overlying ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes		1	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
		19	3	1	3	26	7	5	6	3	2	1	3	1	3	1	1	59

Births in the Year —Legitimate, 860; Illegitimate, 27.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 375.

Population, estimated to middle of 1909, 41,720.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	63	11	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	290	86	,,
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report ...	27		,,
Total	380	97	,,

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of Cleanliness	84	84	Nil.	Nil.
Want of Ventilation	1	1	,,	,,
Overcrowding	5	5	,,	,,
Want of Drainage of Floors	...	...	,,	,,
Other Nuisances	2	2	,,	,,
Sanitary accommodation — insufficient	1	1	,,	,,
Sanitary accommodation — unsuitable or defective ...	4	3	,,	,,
Sanitary accommodation — not separate for sexes ...	...	...	,,	,,
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse (S. 101) ...	Nil.	Nil.	,,	,,
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)	,,	,,	,,	,,
Failure as regard Lists of Outworkers (S. 107)	,,	,,	,,	,,
Giving out Work to be done in Premises which are — unwholesome (S. 108) ...	,,	,,	,,	,,
Giving out Work to be done in Premises which are — infected (S. 110)	,,	,,	,,	,,
Allowing Wearing Apparel to be made in Premises infected by Scarlet Fever or Smallpox (S. 109)	[illegible]	,,	,,	,,
Other Offences	,,	,,	,,	,,
Total	97	96	Nil.	Nil.

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories:—		
Failure to affix Abstract of Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	Nil.	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5) — Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	4	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5) — Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors ...	4	
Other	Nil.	
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101)	"	
Certificates granted during the year	"	
In use at the end of the year	11	
Homework:—	Number of	
Lists of Outworkers (S. 107):—	5 Lists.	18 Outworkers
Lists received	Nil.	Nil.
Addresses of Outworkers — forwarded to other Authorities	5	5
Addresses of Outworkers — received from other Authorities		
List of Inspections of Outworkers Premises	47	
Homework in unwholesome or infected Premises:—	Wearing Apparel.	Other.
Notices prohibiting Homework in Unwholesome Premises (S. 108)	Nil.	Nil.
Cases of Infectious Disease Notified in Homeworker's Premises	"	"
Others prohibiting Homework in Infected Premises (S. 110)	"	"
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year.		
Important classes of workshops such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here. — Factories	32	
Bakehouses	44	
Dressmakers and Milliners, Tailors	52	
Bootmakers	12	
Wheelwrights, Smiths, Cycle Repairers, Saddlers, etc.	72	
Total number of Workshops on Register	212	

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DISEASE NOTIFIED FROM 1901 TO 1910.

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910
Small Pox ...	—	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlatina ...	130	264	155	220	117	197	254	92	121	120
Diphtheria ...	80	95	114	37	85	129	218	125	82	33
Enteric Fever ...	13	5	4	9	8	7	7	4	5	4
Puerpual ...	1	1	1	1	2	5	—	—	1	0

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Visits to Common Lodging Houses	116
„ Courts and Alleys	495
„ Infected Houses	336
„ Work in Progress	359
Houses inspected	512
Workshops inspected Factories „ Bakehouses „	380
Inhabited Vans „	157
Urinals	63
Visits to Schools *re* Infectious Disease ...	97
Smoke Observations	16
Ice Cream Manufacturers	32
Nuisances Investigated	265
Miscellaneous Visits	302
House Drains tested	358
Scavenging superintended.	
Preliminary Notices served	470
Legal ditto ditto	118
Letters from Medical Officer of Health ...	11
Notices sent to Schools (*re* Infectious Diseases) ...	154
No. of Licenses granted under Petroleum Acts ...	24
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	274
Milk-shops inspected	421
Slaughter-house visits	2513

Visits to Market	322
Offensive Trades	59
Visits to Food Preparing Places	224
„ Fish Shops	482
„ Butchers' Shops	522

CARCASES EXAMINED.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
5,598	13,534	3,868	423

FOOD SEIZED AND CONDEMNED.

12 Carcases of Beef.	6 st. Fish.
2 Fore Quarters Beef.	29 Boxes Fish.
17 Sheep.	12 Boxes Tomatoes.
7 Pigs.	½-ton Potatoes.
5 Calves.	1 bag Winkles.
128¼ st. Beef.	244 Sets of Lungs.
4 st. Mutton.	287 Livers.
3¼ st. Veal.	256 Other Organs.
1½ st. Pork.	9 Plucks.
1 Box Kidneys.	

NUISANCES REMEDIED.

Defective Drains	96
Choked ditto	294
Defective Water Closets	91
„ „ „ Flushing, Fittings ...	23
„ Gullies	27

Defective Soil Pipes, Sink Waste Pipes, etc. ...	51
„ Roofs, Eaves, Gutters, etc.	60
Houses overcrowded	11
Yards, etc., paved	55
Filthy Houses	19
Filthy Yards, w.c.'s, etc.	21
Defective Manure Pits	1
Damp Walls	24
Accumulations of Manure and offensive matter ...	26
Animals improperly kept	2
Rooms cleansed, etc., after infectious disease ...	[illegible]
Fowls removed from yards	3
Dead dogs, cats, etc., taken from River and destroyed at Destructor	6

DISINFECTION.

284 Rooms, 56 Schoolrooms, and 5 Hospital Wards have been sprayed and disinfected during the year.

The following articles have been removed to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected in the steam disinfector:

Mattresses ...	46	Palliasses ...	38
Beds	108	Sheets	33
Pillows... ...	221	Carpets ...	7
Bolsters ...	69	Suits of Clothes ...	21
Blankets ...	226	Rugs	27
Quilts	111	Curtains ...	3

Sundry Articles 130