

[Report 1909] / Medical Officer of Health, Watford U.D.C.

Contributors

Watford (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1909

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ctr726vu>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

THIRTY-SEVENTH

Annual Report



ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Urban District of Watford,

FOR THE YEAR

== 1909, ==

BY

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

Medical Officer of Health.

WATFORD :

Printed by T. C. WARREN, CROMWELL HOUSE, WATFORD

1910.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30239941>

REPORT
ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
Urban District of Watford
For the Year 1909.

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 1909.

The extract from the Local Government Board's Memorandum on Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health I again insert here, and paragraphs dealing with the question of the Medical Inspection of the children attending the Elementary Schools.

“As subjects concerning which the Board desire to obtain, through Annual Reports of Medical Officer of Health, not only definite general information, but record also of particular changes of condition that may have occurred incidentally or by action of the local authority, the following deserve to be specially borne in mind :—

“Physical features and general character of the District.

“The chief occupations of the inhabitants, and the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

“House accommodation, especially for the working classes : its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses. Action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act.

“Sewerage and drainage : its sufficiency in all parts of the District. Condition of sewers and house drains. Method or methods of disposal of sewage. Localities where improvements are needed.

“Pollution of rivers and streams in the District : the sources and nature of such pollution, and any action taken to check it.

“Excrement disposal ; system in vogue ; defects if any.

“Removal and disposal of house refuse—whether by public scavenger or occupiers : frequency and method.

“Water supply of the District or of its several parts : its source (from public service or otherwise), nature (river water, well water, upland water, etc.), sufficiency, wholesomeness, and freedom (by special treatment or otherwise) from risks of pollution.

“Places over which the Council have supervision, *e.g.*, lodging houses, slaughterhouses, dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops, bakehouses, factories and workshops, and offensive trades.

“Byelaws : steps taken for their enforcement ; any need of amendment or of further bye laws.

“Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.

“Methods of dealing with infectious diseases : notification ; isolation hospital accommodation and its sufficiency ; disinfection.

“With regard to such points it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the

County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions which may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by the former bodies."

"In reference to Schools, it is desired to draw particular attention to the Memorandum on Medical Inspection of Children in Elementary Schools issued by the Board of Education in November 1907 dealing with the new duties thrown upon Local Education Authorities in this respect by Section 13 of the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907. This Act does not confer powers in supersession of those heretofore exercised generally in a public health sense by Sanitary Authorities under previous enactments; rather it is supplementary to existing Public Health Law in that it requires supervision of the health of the individual child. The arrangements to this end to be made by Local Education Authorities will no doubt vary with the diverse circumstances of different districts, but it is anticipated that in most districts the work will, in accordance with the advice of the Board of Education, be carried out in conjunction with that of the Medical Officer of Health, or at least under his supervision. Where the

Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer it may be convenient that the annual report which he is required to make in the latter capacity should be issued together with his annual report on the health of his district.

“It is the desire alike of the Local Government Board and of the Board of Education that the relations of the local Public Health Authority and the Local Education Authority, whether or not these bodies or their officers happen to be identical, should be intimate and cordial in order that the administrative procedures of both bodies should be reciprocally helpful. In this connection special attention should be given to the particular section of the Memorandum of the Board of Education entitled “Organisation,” with which the Local Government Board are in full agreement as illustrating the inter-relations of Sanitary Authority and Education Authority that deserve fostering and development. A copy of the Memorandum of the Board of Education accompanies this Memorandum.”

VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Watford Urban District for 1909 is according to my estimate, 40,562.

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

	1908.	1909.
King's ...	11,918	12,377
Queen's	9,557	9,693
St. Andrew's	4,667	4,648
Callow Land	9,263	9,615
Oxhey	4,095	4,229
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,500	40,562
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The unoccupied houses in the District were 200 which compares with 150 in 1908 and 125 in 1907.

Plans were received during the year for 349 houses. Of these 217 were built before the close of the year, but 118 out of this number were not occupied. Consequently there were 99 new houses built and occupied out of the 349 plans approved by the Council during 1909. If we add to this 68 houses completed and occupied as a surplus of the plans passed the year before we shall get the total of 167 new houses occupied and ranking as a source of new population. We must however deduct 50 from the 167 as there was an increase of that number of empty houses amongst those already built at the beginning of 1909. The final figures will accordingly be 117 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 1909.

	WARDS.					Total.
	Kings's	Queen's	St. Andrew's	Callow Land	Oxhey	
Plans passed 1909	131	17	14	145	42	349
Houses unbuilt or not completed 1909	42	5	5	72	8	132
Houses built 1909	89	12	9	73	34	217
„ „ but not occupied 1909	59	0	5	37	17	118
„ „ and occupied in 1909	30	12	4	36	17	99
Houses completed and occupied from 1908 plans	43	—	3	16	6	68
Total new houses occupied 1909	73	12	7	52	23	167
Additional empty houses over return of 1908	15	5	15	10	5	50
Total number of houses which count for increase of population	58	7	—8	42	18	117

From the above number of houses we may calculate to gain 527 new inhabitants.

The excess of Births over Deaths is 535 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 } 261	32	—36	189	81	=	527
Increase of Births over Deaths } 198	104	17	163	53	=	535
	459	136	—19	352	134	1062

This shows an increase of population amounting to 1,062 for the year 1909.

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered during 1909 was 935 compared with 896 in 1908 and 890 the average for the last ten years.

The Births were distributed in the five Wards as follows :

King's, 346; Queen's, 214; St. Andrew's 59; Callow Land, 236; Oxhey, 80.

The Birth Rate for the year on the estimated population is 23 compared with 22·7 in the preceding year and the ten yearly average, 27·2. It will be seen that

there is a slight rise in the Birth Rate but Watford in 1909 is considerably below the average for England and Wales which was 25·6.

The number of illegitimate births registered was 23.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the District was 408, giving a gross Death Rate of 10·0.

The Deaths in Public Institutions outside the District of persons belonging to Watford were 15, 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 400 compared with 350 in 1908, and consequently the net Death Rate is 9·8 compared with 8·8 in 1908. The average Death Rate for the previous ten years was 11·4.

It will be seen that the 1909 Death Rate is a little higher than in 1908, but this is a most favourable figure, and we could not expect to keep at the record rate of 8·8.

The Deaths of Infants under one year of age were 68 compared with 75 in the previous 12 months.

The Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births is 72·7 compared with 83·0 the

previous year. This figure is lower than last year, and approaches very nearly to 1907, when the figure was the lowest for the last ten years. The ten yearly average is 89.

Amongst children under one year of age two deaths occurred from Measles; two from Whooping Cough; only three from Epidemic Diarrhœa and from Enteritis. The largest number of deaths from one disease was 9 from Tuberculosis; Bronchitis and premature birth accounted for 6 deaths each, and 3 infants died from Pneumonia.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 32 deaths from the 7 principal Zymotic Diseases but of these 22 were due to measles-

The following table will show the deaths from each complaint:

Small Pox	...	....	0
Measles	....	...	22
Scarlet Fever	...	....	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup			3
Whooping Cough	...		3
Fevers—Typhus	...		0
Enteric	...		1
Others	...		0
Epidemic Diarrhœa	...		3
			—
			32
			—

The Zymotic death rate was $\cdot 7$ compared with $\cdot 63$ last year and $1\cdot 3$ in the two previous years. It would have been better still if an epidemic of measles had not unduly swelled the number of deaths.

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

ENGLAND AND WALES	...	14·5
76 Large Towns	....	15·6
142 Smaller	....	14·5
England & Wales minus the large and small Towns		13·6
WATFORD	....	9·8

From the above figures it will be seen that Watford holds a very high position with regard to Health, the comparison with the Rural Districts of England and Wales being especially favourable. Even the Infant Mortality, which is generally greatly increased amongst those living in Towns, is in Watford only 72 per thousand births compared with 98 in the Country Districts, and 111 in 143 Smaller Towns of the same character as Watford.

DIPHTHERIA.

I noted in my last years' Report that the number of cases of this disease notified was reduced from 218 to 125 and that the deaths were 8 compared with 15.

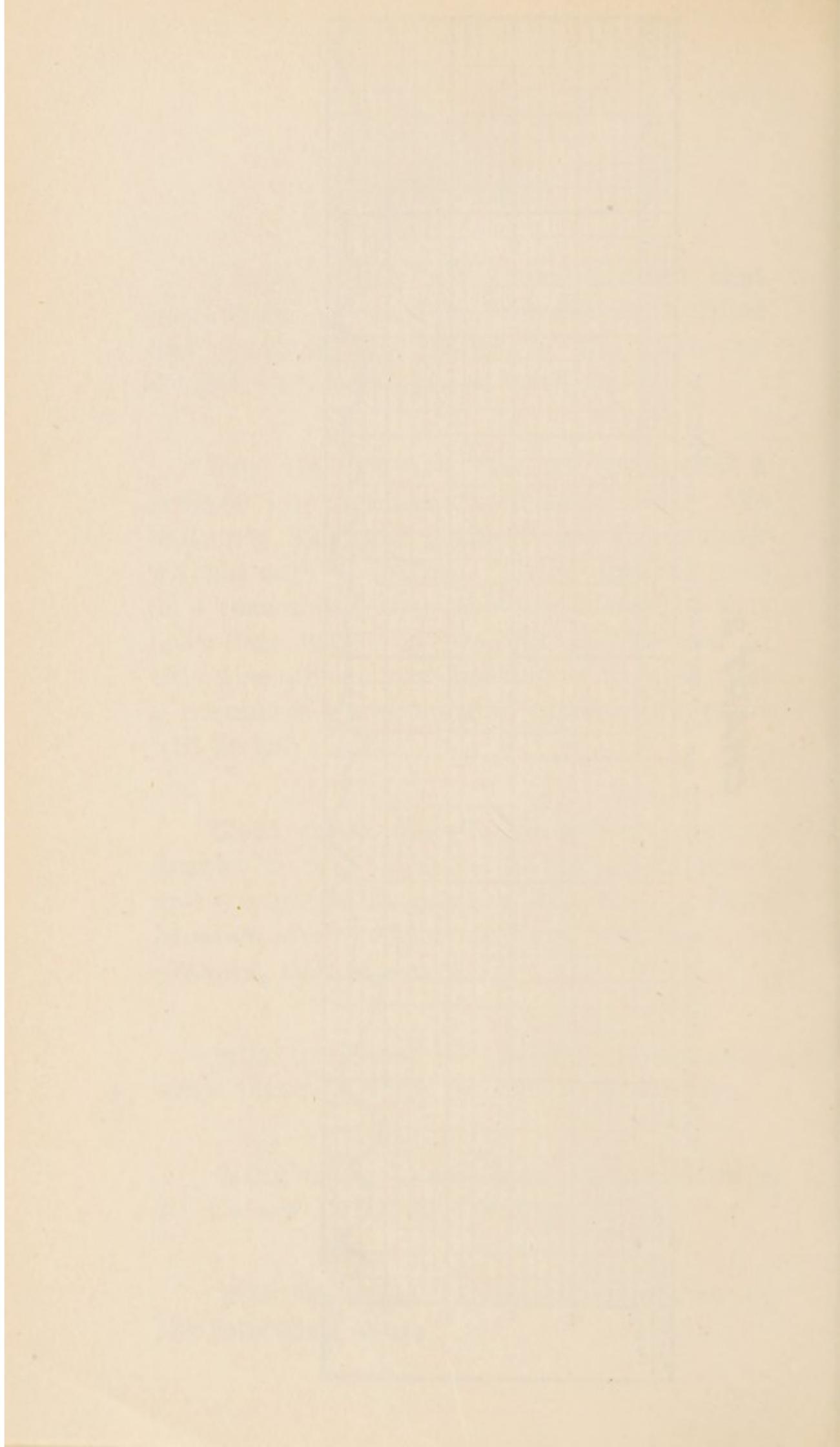
For 1909, I am glad to say, that a greater improvement still is shown. We had only 82 cases notified and from these we had only 3 deaths. These figures give us a reasonable hope that the measures that have been taken to prevent the spread of this disease are now bearing fruit and that a permanent and substantial improvement will be the result.

That there should have been only 3 deaths from the disease is very satisfactory ; and compares favourably with the 22 from Measles over which disease, we have, at present, little control.

The notifications of Diphtheria cases were distributed in the Wards as follows :

King's, 28 ; Queen's, 12 ; St. Andrew's, 6 ; Callow Land, 25 ; Oxhey, 11.

The Seasonal Incidence is shown by the following table :



1st Qtr.	King's.	Queen's.	St. And.	Callow Land.	Oxhey.	
Jan.	2	3	0	6	0	
Feb.	1	1	1	4	3	
Mar.	4	2	1	3	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	7	6	2	13	4	= 32

2nd Qtr.						
April	3	2	0	1	1	
May	1	0	0	1	0	
June	3	1	0	1	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	7	3	0	3	2	= 15

3rd Qtr.						
July	3	0	0	1	1	
Aug.	2	1	0	2	2	
Sept.	4	1	1	1	0	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	9	2	1	4	3	= 19

4th Qtr.						
Oct.	1	1	1	2	0	
Nov.	3	0	1	2	2	
Dec.	1	0	1	1	0	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	5	1	3	5	2	= 16

Totals 28 12 6 25 11 = 82

From the above table it will be seen that the number of cases was heaviest in the first Quarter of the year, there being 13 in the Callow Land District due to school infection at Parkgate and Leavesden Road Schools. The third Quarter comes next, and here we had a group of cases connected with the Infant department of Watford Field School. This latter outbreak was quickly stopped by inspection of the children, examination of swabs from discharging noses, and exclusion from school where the Diphtheria bacilli were found.

King's Ward has improved from 59 last year and 99 the year before to 28 in 1909. Queen's has come down to 12 from 16 in 1908; and Oxhey from 29 to 11. The other districts show a small rise. Particulars of further improvements made in the Sewers during 1909, which I consider a favourable factor in bringing about the above reduction, will be found under the heading of Sewers and Drains.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 121 cases of Scarlet Fever notified in 1909 compared with 92 in 1908 and 254 in 1907. This was a little increase of notifications, but the deaths from the disease were reduced from 2 to none at all.

The following Table will show the seasonal incidence in the different Wards:—

1st Qtr.	King's	Queen's	St. And.	Callow Land.	Oxhey.	
Jan.	1	1	0	2	1	
Feb.	0	0	1	2	0	
March	3	1	2	7	0	
	—	—	—	—	—	
	4	2	3	11	1	—21

2nd Qtr.

April	0	0	0	2	0	
May	8	0	1	3	0	
June	12	2	0	5	1	
	—	—	—	—	—	
	20	2	1	10	1	—34

3rd Qtr.

July	3	3	0	12	0	
Aug.	3	0	1	7	0	
Sept.	9	0	0	2	0	
	—	—	—	—	—	
	15	3	1	21	0	—10

4th Qtr.

Oct.	7	1	5	3	1	
Nov.	0	1	0	3	2	
Dec.	1	0	1	1	0	
	—	—	—	—	—	
	8	2	6	7	3	—26

Totals	47	9	11	49	5	—121
--------	----	---	----	----	---	------

The increase in the first quarter was due to school infection at Leavesden Road School.

In the second quarter we had an increase to 20 cases in King's Ward. These cases were probably started by an unrecognised case in Cardiff Road which gave rise to three others in the same family and as these children attended Victoria School, other cases in different families followed.

In the third quarter 15 cases occurred in King's Ward, and here again we had five in one family, the first case having been diagnosed as measles. No precautions were taken till the whole family had fallen.

In Callow Land 21 cases occurred in this quarter and once more we find an unrecognised case playing an important part in spreading the complaint.

The fourth quarter shows a falling off in the number of cases in all districts.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Five cases of this disease were notified in 1909 which is the same number as for 1908. Of these only one was certainly Enteric all the other four being doubtful. The first case proved fatal.

MEASLES.

This complaint was the most fatal of the infectious diseases for the year 1909.

This epidemic commenced in February and lasted till July. Although I closed 17 classes and Infant Schools, very little progress was made in stopping its spread, and this I believe was due to my inability to get early enough information of the disease's appearance in each case. Unless the class or school is closed before the second batch of cases has developed the closure appears to be of little use. The information required is more likely to be obtained by a school nurse than by the average attendance officer, who has not had the necessary training to enable him to place his finger on the first one or two cases. I again recommend this disease being made notifiable, if however a school nurse and health visitor be appointed, as appears probable at the time of writing, I think we might see what influence her work will have in stopping the course of an epidemic before considering the advisability of notification.

PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES.

The deaths from the above diseases in 1909 were 35 Phthisis, and 18 other deaths were registered as of Tubercular disease. This compares with 27 Phthisis and 12 other Tubercular diseases in 1908,

The death rate from Phthisis is therefore .86 per thousand, and for other Tubercular diseases .46.

The notification of Poor Law cases of Phthisis came into force January 1909.

I received 18 notifications from the Medical Officer of Workhouse of people admitted to the Union Infirmary suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The object of this notification is to enable the Sanitary Department to see that the house they occupied previous to admission to the Infirmary is properly disinfected.

In 8 cases this was done, and in 5 cases this was impossible, the patients being tramps; we were refused permission in two houses; in two cases we failed to find where the patients had resided immediately before going to the Infirmary, and 1 girl only remained in the Infirmary one day and returned home. She was visited, and the usual instructions given. Of the 18 three still remain in Infirmary, one is at home, and the rest have either died or left the neighbourhood.

Ten notifications were received from the District Medical Officer of Phthisical patients outside the Infirmary. These were visited, but two being tramps in Common Lodging Houses, had left the town before

the visit was made. Instructions were given to the remaining eight with regard to disinfection of Sputum, cleanliness, and other precautions to be taken to avoid other members of the family being attacked. Of the ten 7 have died, 1 is still at home, and 2 have left the neighbourhood.

Disinfection of the houses was carried out in 7 cases.

There were seven notifications from the Master of the Workhouse of Phthisical patients who had left the Union.

Six of these simply referred to cases already notified by the Union Medical Officer.

Of these one has again been admitted to the Infirmary; one was discharged cured; two remain at home and have received the necessary instructions, and three have left the neighbourhood, two of them going to sanatoriums.

Considering that the cases of Tubercular Disease appear to be still on the increase in Watford, I am of opinion that we should experience a distinct benefit in our efforts to stop the disease if it were made notifiable. My experience of Poor Law notification is that it gives us more hold of the people and enables us to instruct and disinfect where otherwise this would be impossible. In no case did the patient or friends resent our interference.

OTHER DISEASES.

The following list will show the relative fatality of the remaining principal diseases during 1909 compared with the two previous years :

	1909	1908	1907
Cancer	27	28	36
Heart Disease ...	34	35	39
Bronchitis	49	36	50
Pneumonia	29	20	34
Alcoholism	5	3	7
Accidents or Suicide ... }	10	10	13

It will be seen that lung diseases were more prevalent in 1909, Bronchitis accounting for 13 more deaths and Pneumonia for 9 more than in the year before.

VACCINATION.

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

Successfully Vaccinated ...	344
Exemptions	419

PHYSICAL FEATURES & GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The Watford Urban District is an irregular triangle with the angles pointing respectively North, South-West and South-East.

The River Colne runs through it, and slope of the land is mainly to this river, but the South-West portion inclines to the River Gade at Cassio Bridge.

The soil of the greater portion of the District is gravel resting on a deep deposit of chalk, but in the extreme South-East, at New Bushey the District enters the London basin, and the subsoil is here stiff London clay.

The situation of the whole district is healthy and the sites of most of the houses are dry.

HOUSE ACCOMODATION.

Two hundred and eighty-five new houses were built during 1909, and as at the end of the year one hundred and eighteen of these were unoccupied it does not appear that the demand is in excess of the supply.

The majority of these houses are of a rental of 6/6 to 8/6 a week there not being more than a dozen with a lower rental than the former figure.

It is an undoubted fact that small provision is made for people who cannot afford to pay as much as 6/6 a week. Whether there are many of this class or not it is difficult for me to say, but considering the amount of unemployment it would not seem improbable.

During the year under review a most important Act of Parliament was passed known as the Housing and Town Planning Act, and considering the important changes it introduces I think it best to give you some details of its provisions and make some recommendation for your consideration.

PART I. This division of the Act is largely supplemental to Housing of the Working Classes Act. It not only puts Part III. of the Act of 1890 into force all over the country, but it provides for the enforcement of the execution of the Housing Acts. The Local Government Board can make orders upon the Local Authorities, enforceable by mandamus, in respect to unhealthy areas, obstructive buildings, and reconstruction schemes, that have not been taken in hand by the Local Authority.

With regard to houses unfit for habitation the Local Authority must make an order called a Closing Order and need not go to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction as previously.

Unless the Local Authority is a Borough they must proceed in the same manner on a representation from the County Medical Officer of Health as they do on a report from their own Medical Officer of Health.

From this you will see that while Watford remains an Urban District an additional power of supervision over the district is placed in the hands of the County Council by the Act under consideration.

A most important section provides that if a landlord in a district such as Watford, lets a house, or part of a house, at a rental of £16, or under, there is now an implied condition at the commencement of the holding that the premises are in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. The landlord is further obliged to maintain the house in a like condition throughout the whole of the tenancy.

The Local Government Board may now require any Local Authority to submit to them a special report as to the sanitary condition of any portion of their district with a view to determining whether any powers under the Housing Acts shall be put in force in that area or not. It also seems probable that the Local Authority will be required, at no very distant date, to make a quinquennial survey of the whole of the houses occupied by members of the working classes.

PART II. This is the Town Planning part of the Act, and may be of great benefit where a Building Estate is being laid out without due regard to proper sanitary conditions. It enables the Local Authority to confer with the owner of the area and make any modifications in the plan that they may think necessary.

The Act finally provides for the appointment of a Public Health and Housing Committee by every County Council but does not make it necessary for such Committees to be formed by Local Authorities.

I may remind you that a Committee with very similar constitution and objects was formed some years ago in Watford, and I strongly recommend that the New Council appoint this Committee under the name of Public Health and Housing Committee, to see that the duties imposed on the District Council are performed thoroughly and satisfactorily. It must be borne in mind that we are liable to be pulled up by the Local Government Board, and to have representations made us by the County Council. I consider that we have up to the present time shown ourselves keenly alive to the very points dealt with by this new Act, and now fresh powers are given us, I trust the the Council and its officers, will continue to give no opportunity to the supervising authorities to teach us our duty.

The following is a list of work done under the Housing Acts during 1909 :—

I. Result of Notices sent out in 1908 :—

Houses made fit for habitation.

Little Otter's Pool	2
---------------------	------	---

Watford Fields	4
----------------	------	---

(Nos. 30, 31, 32, & 33)

II. Result of requests by Letter without formal notices :—

Cassio Hamlet	1
---------------	------	---

New Bushey	8
------------	------	---

III. Demolition of Houses :—

Court 5 Meeting Alley. This Court has now ceased to exist; the 6 houses in it having been demolished and a Mission Hall is to be erected on the site.

Four houses in Little Otter's Pool have been converted into Tarpaulin Works.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

A considerable amount of work has been done during the year in improving the sewers of the town.

In Cross Street, Sutton Road, and Sotheron Road the sewers have been overhauled and parts relaid and diverted to enable proper inspection chambers to be constructed.

At the junctions of sewers in the following localities valuable improvements have been made :

Lower end of Sutton Road and Queen's Road.

Princes Street and Queen's Road.

Loates Lane and Queen's Road.

The sewers at these junctions were relaid and altogether reconstructed, as they were found in such a complicated and unsatisfactory condition that this course was the only one to adopt.

This work I consider a solid improvement which has removed what were before real dangers to health, and I cannot speak too highly of the way it was carried out under the direction of Mr. Fayers. I give

the list of sewers that still require attention on the part of your Council :—

Loates Lane,	Franklin Road,	Grosvenor Road,
Stanley Road,	Gladstone Road,	Water Lane,
Clifford Street,	Herbert Street,	Charles Street,
Fearnley Street,	Banbury Street,	Merton Road,
Souldern Street,	Aynho Street,	Oxford Street,
Percy Road,	Upper portion of High Street,	
Langley Road,	St. Albans Road,	Nascot Street,
Nascot Place,	Marlborough Road,	Park Road,
Bedford Street,	Estcourt Road,	Essex Road,
Derby Road,	Beechen Grove,	Cole Road,
Woodford Road,	Church Road.	

I recommend that the upper part of High Street, Malden and Essex Roads, and the section of St. Albans Road between the two latter, should be investigated next, and I trust that Mr. Fayers will be given instructions to carry out this work at once.

The cost of the work executed in 1909 was £273 9s. 10d.

During 1909 no progress was made with regard to Mr. Shoon's system of sewer ventilation, as the necessary information from Mr. Shoon has not been forthcoming. In the meantime I recommend the erection

of the following ventilation shafts to the sewers :—

Queen's Avenue, Tibble's Estate, Monmouth Road, Nascot Estate, New Street, Junction of Durban and Whippendell Roads, Cassiobury Park Estate, Rickmansworth Road, and Hempstead Road.

I am glad to report that in the Watford Urban Council Bill, 1909, a Section exists which amends Section 19 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890, and clearly defines the difference between sewer and drain.

In the same Act are valuable sections enabling your Council to exact a penalty for improper construction or repair of water closet or drain from the person executing the work.

Another also provides for a penalty for wilful damage to drain, water closet, etc.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewage disposal is working on similar lines to previous years, and the system of Broad Irrigation is carried out as described in a previous report.

HOUSE REFUSE DISPOSAL.

This work is carried out in an efficient manner, the collections are regularly made,

and the Destructor is dealing with both the current refuse of each year and also a large amount from the old heap.

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 - -	142	0	0
Ditto from Old Heap - -	32	0	0
Private Refuse per week - -	2	0	0
Dogs Destroyed - -	122		
Cats „ - -	54		

The difficulty we have to contend with in the collection is the various unsuitable receptacles provided for the storage during the intervals of collection. In the large majority of cases they consist of wooden boxes without any covers. These often let a certain portion of the refuse leak into the ground where placed, and there being no provision to keep the refuse moderately dry, they soon become foul and insanitary.

Previous to last year, the power to enforce the supply of proper receptacles was only conferred by the Bye-laws, but now a special Section in the Watford Urban District Council Act 1909 gives you definite and unassailable powers.

The choice of owner or occupier on whom to serve the notice is still left to your

Council, and I make the following recommendations for your consideration :—

That forthwith notices in writing be served on all *occupiers* of dwelling houses of a rental exceeding £30 a year to provide proper galvanised or enamelled iron dustbins where, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, the present receptacles are unsuitable.

That similar notices be served on the *owners* of dwelling houses of £30 a year and under.

COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 11 Cowsheds and 36 Milkshops on the register.

The Cowshed that I mentioned last year as requiring considerable alteration to make it sanitary is now no longer used, the milkman who previously rented it having moved out of the district. It is impossible, therefore, to get the necessary work done, but if it is again let for cow keeping, I shall at once call upon the owner to do what is required.

Of the other 11 Cowsheds, 6 are, I think, as well constructed and kept as any in the country ; one has been entirely rebuilt during the year, and three of them have especial provision for washing and storing the milk vessels quite distinct from the Cowsheds,

Of the others one Cowshed is quite satisfactory with the exception of there being no receptacles provided for reception of the manure ; one where a manure pit was required has had this addition made during the past year ; another is satisfactory but requires continued supervision, and the two remaining usually contain either very few or no cows at all.

Altogether, I consider our Cowsheds are now in a very satisfactory condition, but it would be greatly to the interests not only of Watford but the whole community if it were made obligatory for every cow on changing hands to be tested with Tuberculin. I trust this, with regulations with regard to keeping stored milk at a low temperature, will be in the New Milk Bill that I trust will soon materialise.

As pointed out last year, a very large proportion of the milk consumed in Watford comes from outside the district, and of 24 samples taken in 1908 7 showed evidence of Tubercle. During 1909 6 samples of milk were taken from those milk sellers who had supplied the Tuberculous specimens in the first series, and five of these were free, only one being contaminated with Tubercle Bacilli. By the time I obtained the result of analysis, I found the milkseller in question had discontinued having any milk from the farm at fault.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS ACT.

355 Inspections were made under the above Act during 1909.

Three cases of overcrowding were discovered and dealt with.

No case of infectious disease occurred either in a workshop or amongst outworkers.

The sanitary accommodation of the Factories has been carefully inspected, and, generally speaking, this has been found quite adequate and in a cleanly condition. In some cases the workpeople are very careless, and constant supervision is required to keep the closets in a clean state. Fresh accommodation has been made in two factories to meet the requirements of a considerable increase in workpeople employed.

In one case considerable improvement in flushing fittings was made enabling the closets to be kept in a more sanitary condition.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

This work has made good progress during the past year, about 1,800 children having been medically inspected. Very few refusals have been met with, and these have I believe mostly come from parents whose children were dirty or neglected and who were consequently averse to these conditions being discovered.

The largest number of notices sent out have been for dirty heads, teeth in a decayed

and septic condition, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and defective eyesight. The notices for defects have been as well complied with as we could expect in what is practically the first complete year of Medical Inspection, and I anticipate that with the assistance of the School Nurse and Health Visitor, we shall greatly improve in this respect during the current year.

The importance of attending to the notices cannot be over-estimated. A child that is dirty and neglected must suffer to a certain degree in health and be more likely to suffer in general development and nutrition in consequence, although in the matter of teeth the neglected ones are generally found to have by far the best.

Where the teeth are much decayed and septic this interferes with proper digestion and assimilation of food, and also greatly affects general nutrition, and the septic condition of the mouth tends greatly to induce decay in the new permanent teeth that appear during school life.

Children with enlarged tonsils and adenoids are much more susceptible to affections of the throat, such as scarlet fever and diphtheria, and often suffer with an infectious discharge from nose and ears and deafness.

The manner in which parents neglect defective eyesight is lamentable. Often a child with squint is absolutely neglected

until the sight of the affected eye is permanently destroyed, and in this case, as also in other conditions where spectacles are required, their answer generally is that they cannot afford to purchase glasses. This may be correct in some instances, but the matter is so important to the future welfare of the child that the parents should make every effort to have any affection of the eyes treated if they can possibly afford to do so. For those who really are unable, some charitable agency for the supply of glasses would be of great assistance in this work of improving the physical condition of the coming generation.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 14 Slaughter Houses on the register, and these are inspected daily by the Meat Inspector, and considerable control is exercised over the class of animal slaughtered. The amount of work involved will be seen by considering the Table in Appendix, which shows number of visits, carcasses inspected, and seizures.

With few exceptions we have little trouble with the butchers, who are willing to surrender anything condemned by the Inspector, and in many instances they inform us if they have anything of a doubtful nature.

Amongst the remainder, last year one butcher was prosecuted and fined in three cases. The character of the offence may

be judged by the penalties, which were £10 and costs on the first occasion, and £20 and costs on the two latter. I feel more than ever the importance to the public of establishing a Public Abattoir.

The fact that militates most strongly against the adoption of this improvement, as indeed against many other questions of sanitation, is the complete apathy of the public. One day, however, they will wake up and complain that Public Abattoirs and other similar necessities have not been supplied for them earlier, so that if for no other reason I feel it my duty to continue to strongly recommend the provision of a Public Slaughter House and the Abolition of all the Private ones.

A Public Abattoir can only be obtained by the strongly expressed wish of the public, and until they express such a desire I must still go on recommending.

MARKET PLACE.

On Market Days a great deal of refuse matter from the stalls and manurial matter from the cattle and sheep makes the site very unpleasant if not dangerous to health. As a matter of fact, in the hot weather, at least, it approaches very nearly to the border land of danger—so near that I think I am justified in calling your attention to the condition of matters and reporting that unless the Market is moved to a more convenient and commodious site it may

become the source of considerable danger in the future. No real improvement can be made while the Market is held on the present site, and it should not be a matter of great difficulty to find a suitable area within a short distance of the present position.

WATER SUPPLY.

The quality of the Watford Water was found satisfactory by the Analyst during 1909.

I am glad to report that a commencement has been made on the New Water Scheme, and at the time of writing the Contractor has made considerable progress in sinking the first of the New Wells.

I hope in some future report to say as much about the Softening part of the scheme.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of these on the register is five.

They are all kept in a clean and sanitary condition, but the houses are very old, and if, as appears probable, we are to be favoured with the continued presence in Watford of the class of people who frequent this kind

of hostelry, it would be a very good thing if new and well-equipped Common Lodging Houses were built in the town.

INHABITED VANS.

I have nothing fresh to report on this subject; the nuisance continues, and the efforts that have been made to raise sufficient money to buy out the interest of Caius College have not yet been successful.

I must again remind the Council that I consider the present fouling of the Common and adjacent Water with human and animal excrements a nuisance dangerous to health, and I must urge them to get the rights over this area into their own hands at any cost.

NUISANCES.

The number of Nuisances abated will be seen in the Appendix to this report.

In the Watford Act, 1909, special Sections appear making a Watercourse choked up a nuisance and providing a penalty for throwing rubbish into streams.

These Sections will be most useful if we have any more trouble with the stream running by the side of Hamilton Road.

We have made considerable progress with getting the back yards of cottage property properly paved, but when we consider the number of notices served the work executed is much less than should be. The following will show this :—

No. of Notices served ...	...	...	33
„ Houses concerned in Notices	...	...	140
„ Notices complied with...	...	...	25
„ Houses where Paving has been done			77
„ „ „ „ is in hand			17

It will be seen, therefore, that 8 notices concerning 46 houses have had no attention from the owners.

I recommend again that one or more cases should be proceeded with in order to compel the owner to comply with the requirements of the notices.

In this way we shall be able to proceed without doing what in the end has turned out to be a vast amount of unremunerative work.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The year 1909 saw a slight reduction in the number of cases treated in the Hospital.

The daily average for the Four Quarters of the year being 17·9, 20·3, 35·8, 32·7, comparing with 30·8, 21·8, 18·3, and 23·8 in the previous year.

Two hundred and eight cases were admitted against 217 in 1908. There were 15 cases in Hospital on January 1st, 1909, so that two hundred and twenty-three patients were treated during 1909 compared with 254 Patients in 1908. The admissions were as follows: Scarlet Fever, 125; Diphtheria, 78; Enteric Fever, 4; Puerperal Fever, 1.

These figures compare with 105 Scarlet Fever, 107 Diphtheria, 4 Enteric Fever during the year before.

The Scarlet cases were slightly in excess of those admitted the previous year, but Diphtheria showed a considerable reduction in numbers.

The following figures will show more clearly the number of cases and their locality for the year 1909.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL
DURING 1909.

On January 1st, 1909, there were 15 Patients in Hospital, 8 Scarlet, 7 Diphtheria.

During 1909 208 cases were admitted—Scarlet Fever, 125 ; Diphtheria, 78 ; Enteric, 4 ; Puerperal Fever, 1.

On January 1st, 1910, there were 22 cases in Hospital, 17 Scarlets, 5 Diphtheria.

Of the cases admitted

Watford Urban District contributed		168
„ Rural „ „		19
Bushey Urban „ „		19
Rickmansworth „ „		2
		208

In Hospital, Jan. 1st, 1909	...	15
Admitted during 1909	... ..	208
		223

In Hospital, January 1st, 1910	...	22
Died		4
Discharged during 1909	... ..	197
		223

The 201 who were discharged or died during 1909 were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever—

Discharged 116 ... Died 0 ... Total 116

Diphtheria—

Discharged 78 ... Died 2 ... Total 80

Enteric Fever—

Discharged 3 ... Died 1 ... Total 4

Puerperal Fever—

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

<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
197	4	201
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

There were 4 deaths during the year 1909, 0 from Scarlet Fever, 2 from Diphtheria, and 1 from Enteric Fever. The fourth case was sent into the Hospital as a case of Puerperal Fever but proved to be Septic Pneumonia, and the patient only survived the removal to Hospital a few hours.

The General Death Rate was 1·9 compared with 4·1 the year before. The Scarlet Death Rate was 0·0 against 2·4 in the previous twelve months. The Diphtheria Death Rate was about half the figure in the previous year, being 2·5 against 4·8 in 1908.

The number of Laryngeal cases of Diphtheria showed a still further decrease. There were only 2 admitted where the membrane had developed in the Larynx, so as to necessitate Tracheotomy being performed. Both these made excellent recoveries.

TABLE I.

Admissions during 1909.

District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Enteric Fever.	Puer- peral Fever.	Total.
Watford Urban :					
King's Ward ...	44	25	2		71
Queen's Ward ...	9	8	1		18
St. Andrew's Ward ...	6	4			10
Callow Land Ward ...	44	14			58
Oxhey Ward ...	3	8			11
Total for Watford Urban ...	106	59	3		168
Watford Rural :					
Watford ...	3	2			5
Abbots Langley ...	8				8
Aldenham ...	1	2		1	4
Sarratt ...					0
Chorleywood ...					0
Rickmansworth ...		2			2
Total for Watford Rural ...	12	6		1	19
Rickmansworth Urban ...		1	1		2
Bushey Urban ...	7	12			19
Totals ...	125	78	1	1	208

TABLE II.
SCARLET FEVER.

Showing dates of admission.

Month.	Watford Urban.	Rural Districts.	Rickmansworth.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
January ...	3	0	0	0	3
February ...	3	3	0	0	6
March ...	7	2	0	1	10
April ...	2	2	0	0	4
May ...	11	0	0	0	11
June ...	19	0	0	0	19
July ...	17	0	0	2	19
August ...	10	0	0	1	11
September ...	11	0	0	2	13
October ...	15	1	0	1	17
November ...	6	2	0	0	8
December ...	2	2	0	0	4
Totals ...	106	12	0	7	125

TABLE III.
DIPHTHERIA.

Showing dates of admission.

Month.	Watford Urban.	Rural Districts	Rickmansworth Urban.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
January ...	9	1		3	13
February ...	10	1		0	11
March ...	8	0		3	11
April ...	5	0		1	6
May ...	1	0		2	3
June ...	3	0		0	3
July ...	3	1		0	4
August ...	4	0		0	4
September ...	4	2		0	6
October ...	3	0	1	1	5
November ...	7	1		1	9
December ...	2	0		1	3
Totals ...	59	6	1	12	78

TABLE IV.

SHOWING COMPLICATIONS AMONGST SCARLET FEVER CASES.

Complications.	Watford Urban.	Watford Rural.	Rickmans- worth Urban.	Bushey Urban.	Total.
Nephritis ...	8				8
Enlarged Glands ...	12				12
Secondary Rashes ...	2			1	3
Diphtheritic Throat...	1				1
Discharging Ears ...	4			1	5
Discharging Noses ...	9				9
Ringworm ...	1				1
Chicken Pox ...	1				1
Tonsillitis ...	1				1
Disease of Hip ...		1			1
Delirium ...	1				1
Rheumatic Fever ...		1			1
Totals ...	40	2	0	2	44

In Table IV. the complications amongst the Scarlet Fever cases are shown and it will be seen they are comparatively few.

Amongst the Diphtheria patients a fair number developed Nephritis, and in some Antitoxin rashes appeared, but only in one or two cases.

There were three returns cases of Scarlet Fever during 1909. In each case the discharged patients did not develop any symptoms of being infectious till about a week after returning home, and in all three instances their noses then began to discharge. In one of the three 3 weeks elapsed between the return home and the occurrence of the return case.

TABLE V.

Showing daily average of Patients during 1909.

Week.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
1st	14	24.7	27	28.2
2nd	16.4	21.2	28.2	29.0
3rd	14.3	22.7	35.	31.1
4th	13.7	18.1	37.2	32.4
5th	17.5	16.1	39.0	34.2
6th	20.5	18.2	44.5	37.0
7th	19.0	18.7	46.1	35.1
8th	19.2	20.2	41.0	38.0
9th	19.4	19.2	34.7	35.4
10th	18.2	19.2	34.0	37.4
11th	14.7	20.5	34.7	35.1
12th	21.0	22.0	36.0	30.5
13th	25.0	24.0	29.0	22.2
Daily Average during Quarter.	17.9	20.3	35.8	32.7

The last Table gives the daily averages in each week of patients in Hospital. The daily average for the whole year is 26.6 compared with 23.9 in 1908.

I reported last year that I considered the nursing staff had been reduced beyond the limit of safety, and on the matter being brought to the notice of the Hospital Board they readily agreed to a larger minimum staff being retained in times of slackness and left the question of any necessary increase owing to larger admissions of patients in the hands of the Chairman of the Board, the matron, and myself.

PRECAUTIONS TAKEN TO PREVENT
THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES.

As a result of my recommendation in my 1905 Report, notification of the occurrence of infectious disease is now made to the Health Department, 14, High Street, and, if the case is a suitable one for removal to Hospital, a request for immediate removal is at once telephoned to that Institution. We have found that this is a far better arrangement than allowing cases to be notified by the doctor in attendance directly to the Hospital.

We have, in several instances, been able to prevent the admittance of unsuitable cases into the Hospital, and also have obtained information of other diseases existing in the houses which has been of service to the Hospital Authorities. Any urgent cases occurring out of office hours are telephoned either to my house or the Hospital.

Immediately the information is obtained by the Sanitary Department, the house is visited, and if the case be not removed to the Isolation Hospital, steps are at once taken to ensure proper isolation at home.

Intimation is given to the Head Master of the Schools attended by members of the infected household

with the view of excluding children until there is reason to believe they are no longer in an infectious condition.

On the recovery of a patient, or on the removal to the Hospital, the rooms are disinfected by means of formaldehyde—a gaseous disinfectant produced by heating paraform tablets in a special lamp—and by the formalin spray. The walls are stripped, all wood-work cleansed with carbolic water, and the ceilings limewashed. Where permission is obtained, which is usually the case, the infected bedding is sent to the Hospital for disinfection with steam.

All Library Books found on the premises are either sent to the Fever Hospital or are burnt.

The disinfection of the house is personally conducted by the Sanitary Inspector or his assistant.

Post Cards are supplied to the Head Teachers in all the Board Schools to be filled in with the names of any absentees that appear to be suffering from disease that may be of an infectious nature.

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 as usual by your Inspectors, and I must again express my high appreciation of their work.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the
Chairman and Members of the Sanitary
Committee for their uniform courtesy and
assistance.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR KING.

APPENDIX.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1909
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.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	27500	760	27.63	108	142.1	384	13.96	65	29	„	355	12.9
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
Averages for years 1899-1908.	32962	890	27.2	89	101.8	397	12.1	75	27	7	375	11.4
1909	40562	935	23.0	68	72.7	408	10.0	80	23	15	400	9.8

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

YEAR.	1. WHOLE DISTRICT.				2. KING'S WARD.				3. QUEEN'S WARD.				4. ST. ANDREW'S WARD.				5. CALLOW LAND WARD.				6. OXHEY WARD.			
	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1899	27500	760	355	108	8679	305	112	35	8871	222	103	25	4200	57	44	2	7930	258	81	25	3368	86	40	6
1900	28500	830	408	118	9513	325	121	31	9087	227	104	27	4269	56	44	6	8239	249	79	12	3525	89	25	4
1901	29527	944	363	100	10532	352	120	31	9317	223	83	26	4288	55	45	4	8509	245	88	26	3675	79	41	5
1902	31000	823	348	84	11253	350	147	25	9457	215	139	24	4510	59	33	2	8943	213	66	10	3847	77	48	5
1903	31600	909	375	83	11918	347	132	26	9557	204	104	28	4667	59	37	9	9263	219	56	12	4095	67	21	0
1904	33048	928	380	93	8679	305	112	35	8871	222	103	25	4200	57	44	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	48	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
Averages of Years 1899 to 1908.	32962	890	375	89	10379	335	126	29	9257	218	106	26	4283	65	42	4	8074	239	72	23	3492	78	38	7
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

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1909.
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.					
	At all Ages.						At Ages.					Total Cases removed to Hospital.					
	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group, Erysipelas ...	82	...	9	59	9	5	28	12	6	25	11	25	8	4	14	8	
Scarlet fever ...	20	1	1	2	9	5	6	4	1	4	5	4	9	6	44	3	
Typhus fever ...	121	...	37	69	2	3	47	9	11	49	5	44	1	...	...	106
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	2	3	3	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
Relapsing fever ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	229	1	47	150	25	25	84	28	18	78	21	71	18	10	58	11	168

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING
YEAR, 1909. 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	22	2	18	2	...	...	...	11	7	...	2	2	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	2
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other continued ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	5	...	...	1	1	3	2	2	...	1	...	...	1
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	2
Enteritis	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	35	...	2	5	25	3	16	4	5	7	3	...	8
Other Tuberculous Diseases	18	9	4	2	1	2	8	5	2	2	1	...	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	27	...	...	...	14	13	13	4	2	7	1	...	5
Bronchitis	49	6	5	1	1	12	24	16	9	11	8	5	6
Pneumonia	29	3	5	...	...	12	9	11	9	1	8	...	9
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	5	...	...	...	4	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver } ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Veneral Diseases	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	6	6	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	3	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	34	...	1	4	...	20	9	10	13	1	9	1	12
Accidents	8	1	3	...	...	2	2	1	5	2	...	...	4
Suicides	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
All other Causes	141	29	10	4	3	35	60	52	37	15	24	13	29
All Causes	400	68	47	18	13	130	124	148	110	42	73	27	80

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.
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 ... Uncertified	14	3	2	1	20	10	4	7	3	4	2	5	2	4	5	2	68
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
	Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria: Croup Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	4	...	1	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Congenital Defects	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Want of Breast-milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	5	1	1	...	7	4	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	16
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tubes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	1	2	...	...	8
Erysipelas...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	1	1	...	2	...	1	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	8	
Bronchitis	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	6
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	3
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
		14	2	3	1	20	10	4	7	3	4	2	5	2	4	5	2	68

Births in the Year — Legitimate, 912; Illegitimate, 23.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 400.

Population, estimated to middle of 1909, 40,562.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.
1.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of		Prosecutions.
		Written Notices.		
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	58	8		Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	274	95		"
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	23	2		"
Total ...	355	105		"

Particulars.	2.—DEFECTS FOUND.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Number of Defects. Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	86	86	Nil.	Nil.
Want of Ventilation ...	3	3	"	"
Overcrowding ...	3	3	"	"
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	8	8	"	"
Other Nuisances ...	8	8	"	"
Sanitary accommodation } insufficient	8	8	"	"
} unsuitable or defective			"	"
} not separate for sexes			"	"
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:</i>				
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 } unwholesome (S. 108)	"	"	"	"
Premises which are } infected (S. 110) ...	"	"	"	"
Allowing Wearing Apparel to be made in Premises infected by Scarlet Fever or Smallpox (S. 109) ...	"	"	"	"
Other Offences ...	"	"	"	"
Total ...	105	105	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 } Notified by H. M. Inspector	... ..	2
as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but } Reports (of action taken) sent	... ..	2
not under the Factory Act (S. 5) .	to H. M. Inspectors	Nil.
Other	... ..	"
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101)	... ..	"
Certificates granted during the year	... ..	11
In use at the end of the year	... ..
Homework :—		
<i>Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—</i>		
Lists received	... ..	Number of
Addresses of Outworkers } forwarded to other Authorities	... ..	Lists. | Outworkers
received from other Authorities	... ..	6 | 19
List of Inspections of Outworkers Premises	... ..	Nil. | Nil.
	... ..	4 | 4
	... ..	43
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected Premises :—</i>		
Notices prohibiting Homework in Unwholesome Premises (S. 108)	... ..	Wearing
Cases of Infectious Disease Notified in Homeworke's Premises	... ..	Apparel. | Other.
Others prohibiting Homework in Infected Premises (S. 110)	... ..	Nil. | Nil.
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year.		" | "
		" "
{ Factories	... ..	32
Bakehouses	... ..	46
Dressmakers and Milliners	... ..	48
Tailors	... ..	11
Bootmakers	... ..	86
Wheelwrights, Smiths, Cycle Repairers, Saddlers, etc.	... ..
Total number of Workshops on Register	... ..	223

Important classes of workshops such as workshop bake-houses, may be enumerated here.

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE
SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE
YEAR, 1909.

Visits to Common Lodging Houses	...	...	93
„ Courts and Alleys	...	...	887
„ Infected Houses	...	...	399
„ Work in Progress	...	...	251
Houses inspected	...	...	630
Workshops inspected	}			
Factories		355
Bakehouses		
Inhabited Vans	...	...	172
Urinals	...	...	84
Visits to Schools <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	122
Smoke Observations	...	...	4
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	46
Nuisances Investigated	...	...	308
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	306
House Drains tested with Smoke	...	...	464
Scavenging superintended.				
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	573
Legal ditto ditto	...	...	69
Letters from Medical Officer of Health under the Houses Working Classes Acts	...	...	...

Notices sent to Schools (<i>re</i> Infectious Diseases)	...	...	...	268
Notices <i>re</i> Sun Blinds	...	...	...	16
Notices <i>re</i> Trimming of Trees	...	...	...	114
No. of Licenses granted under Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	23
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	...	...	...	234
Milk-shops inspected	...	...	...	330
Slaughter-house visits	...	...	...	1715
Visits to Market	...	...	...	298
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	79
Visits to Food Preparing Places	...	...	...	194
„ Fish Shops	...	...	...	453
„ Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	604

CARCASES EXAMINED.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves
4,683	8,829	4,062	329

FOOD SEIZED AND CONDEMNED.

24 Beasts	94st Fish.
2 Fore Quarters Beef.	21½ Boxes Fish.
23 Sheep.	31 Boxes Tomatoes.
23 Pigs.	6 Baskets Peaches.
1 Calf.	2 „ Pears.
16 Rabbits.	8 dozen Oysters.
2 Turkeys.	1 bag Whelks.

192 Sets of Lungs.

146 Livers.

172 Other Organs.

192 Stones Meat.

NUISANCES REMEDIED.

Defective Drains	...	...	...	188
Choked ditto	...	...	...	287
Defective Water Closets	...	...	...	108
" " " Flushing, Fittings			...	30
" Gullies	...	...	...	49
Defective Soil Pipes, Sink Waste Pipes, etc.			...	98
" Roofs, Eaves, Gutters, etc.			...	38
" Floors, Stairs, Windows, etc.			...	26
Houses overcrowded	...	...	...	7
Yards, etc., paved	...	...	...	100
Filthy Houses	...	...	...	29
Filthy Yards, w.c.'s, etc.	...	...	...	47
Defective Manure Pits	...	...	...	4
Damp Walls	...	...	...	25
Accumulations of Manure and offensive matter			...	39
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	3
Rooms cleansed, etc.. after infectious disease			...	133
Fowls removed from yards	...	...	...	8
Dead dogs, cats, etc.. taken from River and destroyed at Destructor		...	...	12

DISINFECTION.

349 Rooms, 347 Schoolrooms, and 14 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 :—

Beds	117	Sheets	18
Pillows	210	Carpets	15
Bolsters	81	Suits of Clothes	13
Blankets	243	Rugs	27
Quilts	88	Curtains	16
Palliasses	160		
Sundry Articles			50

DISINFECTANTS

320 Loomis, 347 Eschschmann, and 14 Hospital 744 have been employed and distributed during the year.

The following articles have been removed to the isolation

Hospital and distributed in the same manner:

18	... 137	... 137
15	... 210	... 210
13	... 31	... 31
27	... 278	... 278
18	... 58	... 58
	... 100	... 100

Sanitary Articles

50