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WEALDSTONE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.


ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

1925.

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Wealdstone Urban District Council.

Annual Report, 1925.

WEALDSTONE,

April, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Wealdstone
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1925. In accordance with the Ministry of Health's requirements the report has special reference to the general progress of the sanitary administration during the past five years.

The health of the district, as evidenced by the slight decline of the death rate, is excellent.

With the exception of the year 1921 when the incidence of both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria was above the average, there has been no noteworthy outbreak of disease in the district.

The birth rate, in common with other parts of the country, again shows a slight decline.

A pleasing feature of this year's report is the low infantile mortality figure. The rate of 35.4 per 1000 children born is the lowest ever recorded in the district.

As showing the excellent progress which has been made in the saving of child life I have prepared the following table which shows the average mortality rate for the three decennial periods dating from the year 1896.

Decennial Period.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
1896-1905	120.5
1906-1915	82.0
1916-1925	56.7

With the excellent train and bus services with which the district is served, and also the construction of the new arterial road at Kenton, the district is developing very rapidly, especially in the Kenton area. The Registrar General's estimated population of 13,970, an increase of only 531 since the taking of the last census, would appear to be well below the actual figure.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	1061.
Population (Census 1921, and estimated 1925, (1921) ...	13,439.
	(1925) ... 13,970.
Number of inhabited houses (1921) ...	2,854.
Number of families or separate occu- piers (1921)	3,095.
Rateable value	£98,086 17s. 6d.
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£400.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF AREA.

Wealdstone is situated in the N. West of Middlesex, and is just over eleven miles by road from London. The town is on the main line of the London Midland and Scottish Railway, and is served with an excellent train service. The subsoil is of clay on which is a thin layer of loam. The height above sea level is about 181 feet. The average rainfall during the past five years has been 24.99 inches. The population consists chiefly of the artisan class, the bulk of whom are employed in the neighbourhood, whilst a large proportion of the outlying areas are purely residential in character.

Chief among the industries of the district are:—Printing Works, Photographic Works, Brush Making Works, Cabinet Works, and Glass Works.

There is no form of occupation locally which has any direct bearing on health.

RAINFALL, 1925.

Mr. Walker has kindly furnished the following summary of the rainfall during 1925 and previous years.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
January ...	2.88	3.22	1.29	2.55	1.81
February ...	.16	2.55	3.51	.57	3.04
March ...	1.30	1.65	2.55	.78	.39
April ...	1.01	2.90	1.76	3.52	1.74
May ...	1.03	.68	1.94	3.43	1.83
June ...	.14	1.30	.40	2.75	.05
July ...	.23	2.97	3.35	3.75	4.07
August ...	2.29	2.94	1.62	2.04	2.81
September ...	2.41	1.92	1.46	2.95	3.13
October ...	.63	.77	5.44	3.80	3.20
November ...	1.74	1.45	1.65	2.45	1.68
December ...	1.25	2.48	2.47	3.27	1.99
Totals ...	15.07	24.83	27.45	31.86	25.74

Year	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Dryest month	July. 5.24	June. .14	May .68	June .40	Feb. .57	June .05
Wettest month	Feb. .38	Jan. 2.88	Jan. 3.22	Oct. 5.44	Oct. 3.80	July 4.07
Day on which greatest amount fell*	July. 23rd. 1.48	Sept. 11th. 1.82	Aug 6th. 1.31	July 9th. 2.08	July 17th. 1.13	July 22nd. 1.45
Longest dry period	13 days. 18.10— 30.10	22 days. 19.9— 9.10	14 days 11.11— 24.11	13 days. 26.6—8.7 1.8—13.8	15 days. March 6.20th.	23 days. June 1.23
Rain fell on	170 days	127 days	185 days	187 days	196 days	175 days
Total rainfall in inches	24.96	15.07	24.83	27.45	31.86	25.74

NATURE AND AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF
GRANTED TO WEALDSTONE RESIDENTS
DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Nature of Relief granted.</i>	Number of persons relieved.	Value of relief.
Outdoor Relief on account of Old Age, Sickness, etc. ...	207	£ 1497
Outdoor Relief to Able- bodied Unemployed ...	19	13
Persons maintained in Hospitals, Convales- cent Homes, Training Homes, etc. ...	5	171
Persons maintained in Mental Hospitals ...	25	1300
Persons maintained in Insti- tutions provided by the Guardians ...	57	2102
	<u>323</u>	<u>£5083</u>
Average weekly number of persons in receipt of Outdoor Relief on account of Sickness, Old Age, etc. ...		
	91	
Average weekly number of persons in receipt of Outdoor Relief on account of Unemploy- ment ...		
	6	

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

There were registered during the year 254 births, viz., 129 Males and 125 Females—Legitimate, 125 Males, 121 Females; Illegitimate, four Males, four Females.

The Birth Rate per 1000 population is therefore 18.2. In 1924 this rate was 18.5. There were eight illegitimate births registered.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 18.3, and for the 157 Smaller Towns (20,000 to 50,000) 18.3, and for London 18.0.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths during the year was 126, viz., 70 Males and 56 Females, affording a Death Rate of 9.02 per 1000 population, as compared with 9.05 in 1924.

The Death Rate for England and Wales in 1925 was 12.2, and for the 157 Smaller Towns 11.2, and for London 11.7 per 1000 population.

There were 48 deaths which took place outside the district but were transferable to the district.

The causes of death are set out in the following table :—

Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	...	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	8
Diabetes ...	...	...	4
Cancer ...	...	...	26
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	9
Heart Disease ...	...	...	21
Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	7
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	4
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	5
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	4
Congenital Debility, etc.	...	...	5
Violence (apart from suicide) ...	...	...	1
Other defined Diseases ...	...	...	19
Total	...	...	126

There were no deaths from Measles nor Infantile Diarrhœa during the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Of the 254 children born, 9 died under one year of age, yielding an Infantile Mortality Rate of 35.4 per 1000 born. The rate was 41.3 for 1921, 46.3 for 1922, 36.5 for 1923, and 58.4 for 1924.

Five infants died from Congenital Debility and Premature Birth, most of them surviving only a few hours.

In 1925 the Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 75, for London 67, and for the 157 Smaller Towns 74.

There were four stillborn births.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) *General*.—There is one District Nurse in the district who makes daily visits when required. This nurse is employed by the Wealdstone Sick Nursing Society, which is supported by voluntary contributions.

(b) *For Infectious Diseases, etc.*—The District Council employs one Nurse to attend to Scarlet Fever cases kept at home in the neighbourhood, which means that her services are required in the great majority of Scarlet Fever cases, as only those that cannot be adequately isolated under the Milne system of treatment are sent to hospital. The nurse also treats the few Diphtheria cases kept at home and who do not have private nurses.

Midwives.—There are two registered midwives practising in the district, but neither of these is employed by the Council.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

1. *Maternity and Child Welfare Centres*.—Two sessions held weekly at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Locket Road, and is under direct control of the District Council. Dr. Bluett, Medical Officer of Health, is in attendance on Tuesday afternoons, and Dr. Nora Beaumont is in attendance on Thursday afternoons.

A Joint Ante-Natal Clinic is held at College Road, Harrow, to which a contribution is made by the District Council, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health.

2. *Day Nurseries*.—None in district

3. *School Clinics*.—These are under the control of the County Education Committee.

4. *Tuberculosis*.—Dispensary at 2, Priory Park Road, Kilburn, N.W., under the control of the County Council.

5. *Venereal Disease*.—There are many centres in the County under the control of the County Council, but none in this district.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY, OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

1. *Tuberculosis*.—Cases are sent to the various Sanatoriums in the County. There are also some beds for patients in the Sanatoriums situated outside the County.

2. *Maternity*.—Harrow, Wealdstone and District War Memorial Maternity Hostel, 10, College Road, Harrow. A contribution is made by the District Council, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health.

3. *Children*.—Nil.

4. *Fever*.—Patients are sent to the Hendon R.D.C. Isolation Hospital, Willesden Isolation Hospital or London Fever Hospital by arrangement.

5. *Smallpox*.—For treatment of Smallpox, Wealdstone is one of the Constituent Authorities under the Middlesex District Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children in the district.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES,

(a) *For Infectious Cases.*—Hired as required from other Authorities

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.*—Motor Ambulance, with fixed scale of charges, under the direct control of the District Council.

MOTOR AMBULANCE SERVICE.

REPORT SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Journeys made	...	...	...	...	54
Accident cases removed	...	...	...	...	15
Sick cases removed	...	...	...	...	39
Total Mileage of runs	...	...	...	...	778

Destinations of Removed Cases.

Harrow Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	24
Middlesex Hospital	...	...	...	7
Charing Cross Hospital	...	...	...	3
University College Hospital	...	...	...	3
Other destinations	...	...	...	17

Districts from which Patients have been removed.

Wealdstone residents	...	...	...	33
Harrow Weald residents	...	...	...	5
Pinner residents	...	...	...	6
Other districts—accident or sick cases occurring in Wealdstone	...	...	...	5
Other districts—accident cases occurring in Harrow Weald	...	...	...	5

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Officer.	Whole or Part Time.	Salary Contribution under P.H. Acts or Exchequer Grants.	Diplomas or Certificates held.	Other Offices held.
Medical Officer of Health:				
R. P. Bluett, M.C.	Part time.	Moiety repaid by County Council under Statute.	L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.F.P.S.G., L.S.A. Lond.	Post Office.
Sanitary Inspector:				
P. Schofield. Health Visitor (Fever Nurse and Assistant Sanitary Inspector):	Whole time.	Ditto.	Inspector of Nuisances. Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Hygiene Honours. General Hygiene Honours.	—
V. G. Robertson (Miss).	Whole time.	—	—	—
Health Visitor				
(Maternity and Child Welfare):				
T. M. Lee (Miss)	Whole time.	Moiety repaid by Ministry of Health.	Trained Nurses' Cert. Diploma of Sanitary Training College.	—

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

I.D.P. Act, 1890.

P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, Part three.

P.H.A.A. Act, 1907, Part two (whole); Sections 34 to 38, and 43, 44, 45, 47 and 51, comprised in Part three; Parts four and six (whole), and Section 95 comprised in Part ten.

Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations), 1912.

Public Health (Measles and German Measles Regulations), 1915.

Notification of Births Acts, 1907-15.

BY-LAWS.

Common Lodging Houses P.H.A., 1875 Sec. 80.

It is advised that additional by-laws be made for dealing with houses let in lodgings, under Sec. 26 of the Act of 1919.

Slaughter-houses, P.H.A., 1875, Sec. 169 and Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, Sec. 128.

Houses let in Lodgings, P.H.A., 1875, Sec. 90.

Prevention of Nuisances, P.H.A., 1875, Sec. 44.

Public Cemeteries, P.H.A., 1875, Sec. 141, and incorporated with P.H. (Interments) Act, 1879.

New Streets and Buildings, P.H.A., 1875, Sec. 157, and P.H.A.A.A. 1890, Sec. 23.

Public Recreation Ground, P.H.A. 1875, Sec. 164.

REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

Contagious Diseases Animals Act, 1886.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. Water is supplied to the whole of the district by the Colne Valley Water Coy. The supply is constant and in all cases water is laid on to the house. The quality of the water is good. On the 8th August a sample was submitted for analysis and the following is a summary of the Analyst's Report: "Judging on the results of chemical analysis alone the water may be regarded as being of very fair quality. We can discover no cause of any complaint of milky appearance. The water is of only a moderate degree of hardness, but will of course deposit lime salts on boiling or on long standing."

Rivers and Streams. There is no river in the district but there is a brookcourse traversing the area which finally discharges into the River Brent. A large portion of the brookcourse which passes through a populous part of the district was culverted during the year 1924.

Sewerage and Drainage.—The land for the disposal of sewage covers an area of nearly 32 acres. The district was divided into two areas for drainage—North and South—and designed to treat the sewage for a population of 25,000.

The works consisted of screening chambers on duplicate detritus and sedimentation tanks and 19 circular filters, over which the tank effluent is distributed by rotating distributors, the final treatment being through humus tanks, and by means of aerating channels before final discharge into the brookcourse.

Owing to the increase in the population the Council are now enlarging the works to deal with a population 35,000 persons, and owing to the rapid development of the Kenton area, which is considerably lower than the works, a new 21in. sewer has been laid to a new pump well from which the sewage will be raised by means of 4in. centrifugal pumps actuated by electric motors; lift and discharge being 45 feet.

The new works consist of five 30ft. circular filters, similar to existing new storm water tank and humus tank, and an increase in the sludge lagoons for the final treatment of the sewage sludge.

The whole of the new works are being carried out by direct labour, and under the Government Unemployment Scheme.

Closet Accommodation and Scavenging.—There are no earth closets or privies, and the ashpits consist of movable receptacles. There are very few cesspools, and these are at the extreme end of the district, being dealt with by the owners.

The district is divided into two areas for the purpose of house refuse collection, two horse carts and men being allocated to each district, which enables the refuse to be collected once in each week.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS MADE, AND NOTICES SERVED, DURING THE YEAR.

House Inspections	692
Infectious Disease investigations	373
Slaughter-house and Meatshop inspections ...	725
Workshop inspections	104
Dairy, Cowshed, Milkshop inspections	98
Public Building and Licensed Premises inspections	25
Rooms disinfected	110
Inspections re outstanding nuisances	1490
Total number of inspections and re-inspections made	3680
Intimation Notices served	545
Statutory Notices served	48
Summonses served	nil.
Total number of Nuisances abated	958

SUMMARY OF NATURE AND NUMBER OF NUISANCES
ABATED DURING THE YEAR.

Damp houses remedied	...	...	...	...	34
Houses cleansed (by owner)	...	...	...	...	56
Houses cleansed (by occupier)	...	...	...	...	15
Houses overcrowded, remedied	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	69
Gutters or rain pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	57
Doors or windows repaired	...	...	...	...	43
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	37
Plaster and walls repaired	...	...	...	...	64
Grates or coppers repaired	..	...	...	...	38
Paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	43
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	47
Stopped drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	92
Waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Water closets cleansed or repaired		...	...	...	66
Urinals cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	178
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	31
Animal nuisances remedied	...	...	...	...	8
Other nuisances remedied	...	...	...	...	36

Smoke Abatement.—During the year 1924 complaints were received about the large amount of black grit being emitted from several chimneys at the Brush Works. On investigation it was ascertained that the boiler power was insufficient, and that, in consequence, the fires were being forced to their fullest capacity. The management have now increased the boiler power by the installation of a large and new boiler specially designed to consume its own smoke. Since this has been working no further complaints have been received.

No smoke nuisances have been noted during the present year.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws and Regulations.—There are no offensive trades, houses let in lodgings, common lodging houses, or underground dwellings in the district.

Other Sanitary Conditions requiring notice.—In previous reports I have emphasised the necessity of a Public Sanitary Convenience for the neighbourhood. I am now pleased to report that after an Inquiry held by the Ministry of Health, approval of the Council's plans for the erection of Public Lavatories for both sexes has been obtained, and that the work of erection will shortly be put in hand.

Schools.—There are three elementary schools in the district. The water supply is ample, and is obtained from the Colne Valley Water Company in each case. The types of water closets installed are as follows:—

High Street School: Trough water closets with automatic flush.

Bridge School: Multiple closets with automatic flush.

Drill Hall Road School: Separate hand flushed water closets.

Frequent and regular visits are paid to each of the schools with a view to getting into early touch with any scholar who may be absent through any suspicious illness. The head teachers of the various departments notify me of all cases of an infectious or suspicious nature which come to their notice. These children are visited at their homes and appropriate steps taken. In all cases where throats are affected swabs are taken. During the recent outbreak of Diphtheria at the High Street School several unsuspected cases of Diphtheria were found in this way.

HOUSING.

For the greater part the general housing conditions are above the average. At the present time, however, in common with other districts, there is a shortage of houses for the working classes. In consequence some overcrowding exists, chiefly in the poorer class areas. It has been found impossible to deal with many cases of overcrowding owing to lack of accommodation. Where it has been found possible the position has been improved by a rearrangement of the sleeping accommodation. Your Council, realising the serious position, and the urgent need for the provision of working class houses in the district, submitted a scheme for the erection of 164 houses to the Ministry of Health. This was approved, and many of the houses were in course of erection at the end of the year.

In the older parts of the town the houses are not so good, and the inspection of these takes up a considerable amount of your Sanitary Inspector's time. Fortunately there is for the most part plenty of air space around these dwellings. In fact, there are no back courts or alleys in the district. It is this fact that no doubt largely accounts for the low incidence of infectious ailments affecting these areas.

The chief defects met with on inspection of this class of property are dirty walls and ceilings, defective plaster to walls and ceilings, defective floors, window frames, roofs, gutters, etc. In many cases the tenants are largely responsible for the defects found.

In practice it is found that the Public Health Act, 1875, is sufficiently effective in dealing with the above nuisances. By far the greatest number of house nuisances are remedied without the necessity for serving Statutory Notices. With the exception of two or three owners who invariably give the maximum amount of trouble, generally speaking little opposition is met with in this direction.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b)	... ..	418
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :		
(1) By the Local Authority	... ..	nil.
(2) By other bodies or persons	... ..	nil.

I.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

INSPECTION.

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	692
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	... ..	38
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	nil.
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	545

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	510
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | nil. |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ;— | |
| | (a) By Owners | nil. |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | nil. |
| 3. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | nil. |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 48 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| | (a) By Owners | 38 |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | nil. |

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 1. | Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders | nil. |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... | nil. |
| 3. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit | nil. |
| 4. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | nil. |
| 5. | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... | nil. |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

This appears to be satisfactory and of good quality generally. Most of the supply comes into the district from outside sources. The greater part of the milk supplied in the district is now distributed in bottles. This is a distinct advance on the older method of delivery from cans, and tends to lessen the risk of contamination before reaching the consumer. One sample of milk was taken by the County Council's Inspector for the detection of the Tubercle Bacilli, and was, on analysis, found to be satisfactory.

COWSHEDS,

Number on register	...	...	...	...	5
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	56
Contraventions of Regulations	...	...	...	...	8
Average number of milch cows in district	...	...	...	...	68

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Number on register	...	...	...	...	8
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	42
Contraventions of Regulations	...	...	...	...	5

MILK DISTRIBUTORS.

(By vehicle).

Resident in district	...	...	...	...	6
Resident outside of district	...	...	...	...	4

GRADED MILK.

Supplementary Licenses issued:—

"Certified"	...	...	...	...	2
"Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested)	...	...	...	...	1
"Pasteurised"	...	...	...	...	1
Contraventions of Act	...	...	...	...	nil

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The above Regulations came into operation on April 1st of this year. Prior to their coming into force your Sanitary Inspector and myself met the traders and explained to them the Regulations, and also our interpretations of the various clauses which had previously

been submitted to, and confirmed by, your Council. The traders expressed their willingness to co-operate in bringing about a much needed reform, and I am pleased to state that, so far as our district is concerned, a great improvement has been effected. In two cases plate glass windows have been installed. No meat is allowed to be hung or exposed for sale beyond the door and window frames, nor is the window allowed to be open when the ground is dry and dusty.

In one or two cases cautions have been necessary, but this has been largely due to the weakness of the Regulations themselves which allow an open front for a stall, and also to the slackness with which the Regulations have been interpreted and enforced in other districts. Generally speaking, however, the meat traders of the district are to be congratulated on the manner in which they have endeavoured to carry out the spirit of the Regulations.

Your Sanitary Inspector devotes a large amount of his time to the inspection of meat. Whenever possible, carcasses and all offal are inspected at the time of slaughter. Meat marking, which only appears practicable in the case of larger districts where there are whole-time inspectors employed, has not been adopted in this district.

The following contraventions have been noted and dealt with during the year:—

No closed receptacle for trimmings, etc	...	5
Permanently open shop front	... ..	1
Dirty meatshop	... ..	1
Dirty slaughterhouse	... ..	1
Defective slaughterhouse floor	... ..	1
Dirty van for delivery of meat	... ..	1
Slaughterhouses (tabulated as required by the Ministry of Health).		

	In use 1920.	In use Jan., 1925	In use Dec., 1925.
Registered	... nil.	nil.	nil.
Licensed	... 3	3	3

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEATSHOPS.

Number of Slaughterhouses in district	...	3
Number of Meatshops in district	... ..	12
Inspections made	... ..	725
Contraventions of Byelaws and Regulations	...	11

UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year the following articles of food were condemned :—

7 Pig carcasses and all offal, Diseased	...	...	...	230 lbs.
4 Bovine livers, Diseased	...	...	...	68 "
3 Bovine heads and tongues, Diseased	...	...	...	78 "
2 Bovine lungs, Diseased	...	...	...	...
Tomatoes, Unsound	...	...	...	29½ "

BAKEHOUSES.

Number in district	...	...	...	5
Contraventions of Factory Acts	...	...	...	6

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The Middlesex County Council is the Authority under the above Acts. I am indebted to the Chief Officer, Public Control Department, for the following list of samples taken in the Council's area during the year :—

ARTICLE.	NUMBER TAKEN.		ADULTERATED.	
Apples	1	...	0
Butter	4	...	0
Cocoa	2	...	0
Cream	1	...	1
Milk	68	...	1
Milk, separated	...	2	...	0
		78		2

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the period under review, with the exception of the year 1921, when the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria was above the average, there has been no noteworthy incidence of infectious disease in the district.

Three cases of Encephalitis Lethargica have been notified, one in 1921, one in 1924, and one in 1925.

Only three "return" cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred, and these were all notified during the year 1921. Scarlet Fever patients who can be adequately isolated at home are subjected to the Milne Treatment. This is performed by a Nurse employed by the Council.

Acute primary, and acute influenzal, Pneumonia are regularly notified by medical practitioners.

No cases of Malaria, Dysentery, or Trench Fever have occurred in the district during the period 1921—1925.

Pathological and bacterial specimens are examined for the Council by the Clinical Research Association, and swabbings of all contacts in case of Diphtheria, and specimens for the detection of Tubercle Bacilli, are investigated free of charge by the Council.

Antitoxin is supplied free to medical practitioners applying for it.

Premises in which infectious disease has occurred are disinfected by means of formaldehyde gas, and spraying with formalin solution. This is done free of charge to occupiers. Disinfectants are supplied free in case of infectious disease. Rooms that have been occupied by Cancerous or Tuberculous patients are disinfected in the same way.

No use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases.

No primary vaccinations or revaccinations have been performed by me under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

The death rate per 1,000 population from Influenza during the past five years has been as follows:— 1921, .37; 1922, .29; 1923, .36; 1924, .43; and 1925, .21.

Chicken Pox has been notifiable in the district since 1922, and, in view of the large number of cases of Small-pox still in the country, and the liability of this disease being overlooked, I still consider it very necessary to continue with its notification.

In my Annual Report for 1923, I made reference to the danger of Whooping Cough to the community, and to the prevalent practice, due in most cases to foolish advice given, of taking patients out of doors in all weathers. To dispel this fallacy, and to better educate our mothers, I drew up a circular of instruction dealing with the salient points in connection with this disease, and this was distributed to each householder in the district.

NOTIFIABLE CASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notifi'd	Cases admit'd to Hosptl.	Analysis of Cases under Age-groups.												
			in-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	
Diphtheria ...	20	19	—	—	1	—	—	12	5	—	1	1	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ...	28	8	—	—	—	2	3	10	8	3	1	1	—	—	
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ...	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	2	2	1	
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	
Puerperal Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Chicken Pox ...	102	—	4	5	7	11	8	52	7	5	3	—	—	—	

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ...	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
45 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	7	8	—	1	3	4	—	—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Un-impaired	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated.					
		At home	In hosptl.				
	1	—	1	1	—	—	—

SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of above diseases which have occurred during the past five years is as follows:—

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria
1921	100	40
1922	35	32
1923	24	8
1924	49	3
1925	28	20

During the past year 19 cases of Diphtheria and eight cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to hospitals as under:—

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria
Hendon R.D.C Isolation Hospital	4	1
London Fever Hospital	3	16
Willesden U.D.C. Isolation Hospital	1	2

MORTALITY FROM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following deaths from notifiable diseases occurred during the past year:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis (4 males and 4 females)	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	5

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY NURSE ROBERTSON DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Scarlet Fever patients treated at home	20
Number of visits for treatment of above cases ...	393
Number of Measles visits	50
Number of Whooping Cough visits	27
Number of visits re School Notifications	435
Number of visits re Chicken Pox	9
Number of Diphtheria Swabs taken	244

THE COUNCIL OF MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

In co-operation with the Wealdstone centre, sessions for Ear, Nose, Throat and Eye affections, and for Minor Ailment and Massage and Dental treatment are held regularly by the Harrow Clinic at College Road. The number of Wealdstone patients attending during the period from January 1st, to December 31st, 1925, was as follows:

JOINT EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

21 Sessions held.

Cases from Wealdstone Clinic	55
Total number of attendances	134
29 Children under 5 years Attendances	69
4 Children over 5 years Attendances	65

JOINT EYE.

11 Sessions held.

Cases from Wealdstone Clinic	15
Total number of attendances	26
1 Child under 5 years } Attendances	12
6 Nursing Mothers } Attendances	14
4 Children over 5 years } Attendances	14
4 Adults	

JOINT ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

44 Sessions held.

Wealdstone Cases attending	60
Total number of attendances	187

JOINT DENTAL CLINIC.

(Mothers, and Children under five years).

Wealdstone cases	95
Total number of attendances	198
28 Mothers. Attendances	55
36 Children under 5 yrs. Attendances ...	69
31 Mothers (not eligible for Grant) ...	74

JOINT MASSAGE CLINIC.

121 Sessions held.

Cases from Wealdstone	7
Total number of attendances	189
4 Children under 5 yrs. Attendances ...	142
3 Children over 5 yrs. Attendances ...	47

OBSERVATION WARD.

Four babies from Wealdstone were treated in the Observation Ward (6 to 8 cots) for babies suffering from errors of nutrition, which has been opened in connection with this Clinic, the average stay being four weeks. Twenty-one cases were admitted for one night after Tonsil and Adenoid operations.

HARROW AND WEALDSTONE MATERNITY HOSTEL, at 10, College Road, Harrow.

During above period 47 Wealdstone mothers were confined at the Hostel, the average stay being 15 days.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE WEALD-
STONE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
CLINIC.

Health Visitor's Visits (1st year)	...	1333
" " " (1-5 years)	...	587
" " " (1st visits)	...	267

Attendances at Centre :—

Tuesdays :

Attendances	...	...	...	...	1605
Minor Ailments	...	...	...	...	20

Thursdays :

Attendances	...	...	...	...	1795
Minor Ailments	...	...	...	...	28
Total Attendance	...	...	...	...	3448

(Total attendances 1924, 3470).

Number of children attending 'A' (under
one year) 136

Number of children attending 'B' (over
one year and under five) 121

Feeding, Breast	122	} These include cases under Health Visitor.
" Bottle	...	...	80
" Mixed	...	...	32

Births Notified :—

By Doctors	...	...	...	...	77
By Midwives	...	...	...	...	112
By Parents	...	...	...	...	65
Stillborn	...	...	...	...	4

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1919.

Under this Order the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee enquire into the circumstances of applicants for milk and dried milk products, either free or at reduced rates. The cases are investigated, and, if suitable, recommended by the Medical Officer of Health, according to a fixed scale of income approved by the Minister of Health.

INCIDENCE OF PUERPERAL FEVER AND OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

During the past five years four cases of Puerperal Fever have been notified, two of these cases proving fatal. Careful inquiries are made when notifications of this disease are received. The movement of the nurse in attendance is controlled, especially as regards her attendance at other maternity cases. Facilities for the disinfection of the nurses clothes are provided, and the premises are thoroughly disinfected at the termination of the illness.

During the same period only two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum have been notified. In each case the patient recovered and the vision was unimpaired.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I beg to express my thanks for the support you have afforded me at all times in the discharge of my duties; my thanks are also due to the Sanitary Inspector for his very efficient services, to the nurses, and the band of voluntary workers who assist at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, to the Surveyor for details relating to the erection of new houses, scavenging and sewage disposal, and meteorological statistics, etc., to Dr. Tchaykovsky for the report on the work at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, College Road, Harrow, to the Clerk of the Hendon Board of Guardians for information relating to Poor Law expenditure, and to Mr. Bryant, your Clerk, for his kind help on many occasions.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R. P. BLUETT, M.C.,

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES
AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	12	2 (verbal)	Nil.
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	86	3 (written) 8 (verbal)	"
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' pre- mises, included in Part 3 of this Report).	6	—	"
Total	104	13	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	Nil.	Nil.
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other Nuisances	2	2	"	
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient { unsuitable or de- { fective { not separate for { sexes	8	8	"	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (S. 101)...				
Breach of special sanitary re- quirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other offences				
Total	13	13	Nil.	Nil.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.						Outwork in Infected Premises, Section 109-110.	
	Lists received from Employers		Numbers of addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils.	Numbers of addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Councils.	Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Number of Inspections of Outworkers premises.	Instances	Orders made.
	Twice in the year.	Once in the year.						
	Lists.	Outworkers.	List s. workers.	Outworkers.				
Wearing Apparel—	—	—	2	—	—	3	Nil.	Nil.
(1) making, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) cleaning and washing ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Furniture and upholstering ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Leather working ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	—	3	—	—	5	Nil.	Nil.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year.						Number.
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Bakehouses (Workshop) ... ..	...	...	...	...	5
	Boot Repairing ... ..	...	...	...	...	10
	Cycle and Motor Repairing ... ..	...	...	...	...	7
	Carpenters and Builders ... ..	...	...	...	...	7
	Dressmaking and Millinery ... ..	...	...	...	...	9
	Other Trades ... ..	...	...	...	...	16
Total number of Workshops on Register						54

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the 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 and Workshop Act (s. 5, 1901).	1
Notified by H.M. Inspector...	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.	1
Other	Nil.
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) ;—	
Certified granted during the year	Nil.
In use at the end of the year	Nil.

1. REGISTERED WORKERS

Number	Description of Work
1	...
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2. OTHER MATTERS

Number	Description of Work
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