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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
OF THE
ST. ALBANS
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1910,

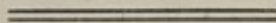
BY

HENRY E. MAY,

M.A., M.B., B.C., CANTAB.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

Etc., Etc.



ST. ALBANS:

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ST. ALBANS

1850

To the Chairman and Members of the St.
Albans Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the past year, as Medical Officer of Health for the District over which you preside.

I.—AREA AND POPULATION.

The total area of the District comprises 37,981 acres, having a population, according to the Census of 1901, of 12,264 persons, and estimated up to the end of 1909 as 17,333 persons, distributed amongst seven "parishes" or "localities," as indicated in the following tables.

In order to estimate the population of this locality, it has been my custom to deduct the deaths from the births during the year, and to add the difference to the estimated population for the previous year. I have again adopted this method in all districts except St. Peters Rural; but there, owing to the rapid development of that portion of the District known as Fleetville, this calculation would fall very short of the mark. I have, therefore, estimated the population of this district by assuming that the average number of persons per house inhabited is 4, and multiplying the number of inhabited houses by that figure; to this I have added 2,000 to include the inmates and staff living in the Herts County Asylum and the Middlesex County Asylum.

The average number of persons per acre is .45.

The number of inhabited houses in the District is 3,750, which, with a population of 17,333, gives the average number of persons per house as 4.6.

In the year 1908 the number of inhabited houses in the District was 3,684.

The natural increase during the year has been 289 births over deaths, as shown in the following table:—

Excess of Births over Deaths in 1909.

District.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births.
Harpenden Rural ...	3	5	—2
Redbourn ...	65	41	24
St. Michaels Rural...	19	6	13
St. Peters Rural ...	182	35	147
St. Stephens ...	43	18	25
Sandridge Rural ...	55	16	39
Wheathampstead ...	65	22	43
	432	143	289

In the year 1908 the excess of births over deaths was 295.

II.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The total number of Births registered in the District during the year was 432, composed of 226 males and 206 females. This gives a birth rate of 28·17 per 1,000 population.

The Birth rate for the year 1908 was 30·07.

The number of Deaths registered in the District during the year was 283.

116 of these deaths took place in the Middlesex County Asylum, and 46 at the Hertfordshire County Asylum, making a total of 162. With the exception of 4, all of these deaths were of non-residents, and must therefore be deducted in order to determine the true death-rate. 18 residents were registered as having died outside the District, 11 of which took place at the Workhouse, and 7 at the Hospital.

Deducting, therefore, the 158 and adding the 18, we get the total number of deaths belonging to the District as 143.

This gives the true Death rate for the District as 9·32.

The Death rate in this District for the year 1908 was 13·3.

The number of Deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 17, which gives a Death rate of 39·3 per 1,000 births registered.

The Death rate for the year 1908 was 85·15.

Localities.	Area in Acres.	Population.	Persons per Acre.	No. of Inhabited Houses	Average No. of Persons per House	Births.		Rate per 1000 Pop.	Deaths of Residents.	Rate per 1000 Pop.
						M.	F.			
Harpenden Rural .	3453	362	·1	77	4·7	2	1	8·28	5	13·8
Redbourn	4260	2040	·47	505	4·03	37	28	31·86	41	15·14
St. Michaels Rural	6079	854	·14	195	4·37	10	9	22·13	6	7·02
St. Peters Rural ...	5976	5712	·95	1428	4·	92	90	31·86	35	6·12
St. Stephens ...	7438	1951	·26	451	4·32	22	21	22·04	18	9·2
Sandridge Rural ...	5635	1704	·3	410	4·15	27	28	32·2	16	9·38
Wheathampstead ...	5140	2710	·52	684	3·96	36	29	23·98	22	8·1
						226	206			
Totals	37981	15333	·4	3750	4·1	432		28·17	143	9·32

For the purposes of this table the population of St. Peter's Rural does not include the inmates of the two Asylums, which is estimated at 2,000.

III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 81 cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified to me as follows:—

31 Scarlet Fever (28 of which were removed to the Sisters' Hospital).

7 Erysipelas.

39 Diphtheria.

4 Enteric Fever (all of which were in Middlesex County Asylum).

There were no cases of Small-pox.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, which came into force on January 1st, 1909, I have received 7 Notifications—6 notifications on Form B, and 1 on Form D.

The appended Tables show the number of cases of each particular disease notified in the whole District, together with the ages at which it occurred. Also the total number notified in each locality, and the number of cases removed to the Sisters' Hospital.

Infectious Diseases during 1909, showing Disease, also place and month of incidence.

SCARLET FEVER.

Parishes.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August	September	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Harpenden Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Redbourn	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	2	::	2
S. Michaels Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
St. Peters Rural..	5	4	5	1	2	5	1	1	::	::	::	::	24
St. Stephens	::	::	::	::	::	::	1	::	::	::	2	::	3
Sandridge	2	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	2
Wheathampstead	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Totals	7	4	5	1	2	5	2	1	0	0	4	0	31

DIPHTHERIA.

Parishes.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Harpenden Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Redbourn	8	4	4	1	::	::	::	2	::	::	::	::	19
St. Michaels Rural	::	::	::	::	1	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	1
St. Peters Rural..	::	1	::	2	1	1	::	::	::	1	::	1	7
St. Stephens	::	1	2	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	3
Sandridge	1	::	2	2	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	5
Wheathampstead	::	::	2	2	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	4
Totals	9	6	10	7	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	39

ERYSIPELAS.

Parishes.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	October.	November.	December.	Total
Harpenden Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Redbourn	::	::	1	::	::	::	::	1	::	::	::	::	2
St. Michaels Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
St. Peters Rural..	::	::	::	::	::	1	1	1	::	::	1	1	5
St. Stephens	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Sandridge	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Wheathampstead	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Totals	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	7

ENTERIC FEVER.

Parishes.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Harpenden Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Redbourn	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
St. Michaels Rural	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
St. Peters Rural..	::	::	1	::	1	::	::	::	::	::	1	1	4
St. Stephens	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Sandridge	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Wheathampstead	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	0
Totals.....	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4

Passing on to a detailed statement as to each locality, I have to report as follows:—

HARPENDEN RURAL.

Area in acres, 3,453. Population, 362. Average number of persons per acre, .1. Number of inhabited houses, 77. Average number of persons per house, 4.7. Births, male 2, female 1; total, 3. Deaths 5, giving rate per 1,000 population of 8.28 for the former, and 13.8 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 0.

No cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year.

The number of cowsheds and dairies registered is 0.

The Sewerage System in this District consists almost entirely of dumb-wells, which are emptied, as necessity arises, by the occupiers of the houses to which they belong.

A few isolated cottages throw their slop-water on to the ground. There is no scheme for collection of house refuse or closets in this District, and I do not consider one is necessary.

Part of the District obtains its water from wells, the remainder receives its supply from the Harpenden Water Works Company. The District is very scattered, and this system is quite satisfactory.

REDBOURN.

Area in acres. 4,260. Population, 2,040. Average number of persons per acre, .47. Number of inhabited houses, 505. Average number of persons per house, 4.03. Births, male 37, female 28; total, 65. Deaths 41, giving rate per 1,000 population of 31.86 for the former, and 15.14 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 7.

23 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year: 2 Scarlet Fever, 19 Diphtheria, and 2 Erysipelas.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 7.

The Sewerage Scheme in this District consists of dumb-wells, which are cleaned out once each week by a man employed for the purpose.

The Scheme is a satisfactory one, though there have been complaints from time to time of the way the work has been carried out by the contractor, and this matter is receiving the attention of the Council.

Most of the houses have ash-bins and refuse pails, which are collected each week.

Each house or cottage has an earth-closet.

The water supply is obtained from wells and from pumps sunk by this Council.

ST. MICHAELS RURAL.

Area in acres, 6,079. Population, 854. Average number of persons per acre, .14. Number of inhabited houses, 195. Average number of persons per house, 4.37. Births, male 10, female 9; total, 19. Deaths 6, giving rate per 1,000 population of 22.13 for the former and 7.02 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 0.

1 case of Diphtheria was notified to me during the year.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 5.

The Sewerage System in this District consists of dumb-wells, which are emptied, as necessity arises, by the occupiers of the houses to which they belong.

There are a few isolated cottages, the occupiers of which throw their slop-water on to the ground.

There is no system of collection of house refuse, and one is not required.

The water supply is from wells.

The System works satisfactorily.

ST. PETERS RURAL.

Area in acres, 5,976. Population, 5,712. Average number of persons per acre, .95. Number of inhabited houses, 1,428. Average number of persons per house, 4. Births, male 92, female 90; total, 182. Deaths 35, giving rate per 1,000 population of 31.86 for the former and 6.12 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 6.

40 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year: 7 Diphtheria, 5 Erysipelas, 24 Scarlet Fever, and 4 Enteric Fever.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 10.

I.—*Camp Ward.*

The Sewerage Scheme in this part consists of dumb-wells, which are emptied from time to time by the owners, who have

the opportunity of hiring a vacuum pump and engine, the property of this Council, the work being carried out by men in the employ of this Council. This vacuum pump works well, and is a great success.

There are a few earth-closets, but nearly every house has its own water-closet.

The house refuse is removed by contract with this Council and taken to the Destructor provided by the Electric Supply Company, and though we get a few complaints, which is only natural, the System, on the whole, is satisfactorily carried out.

The water supply is obtained from the St. Albans Waterworks Company's mains.

The Council are continuing their policy of laying sewers in private streets, in order to obtain powers to make up roads under the Private Street Works Act, 1892. These sewers are not in use at present, but will form part of the Scheme which will eventually be adopted. No land for a Sewage Outfall has been procured, but it will be practicable to connect the sewers already laid with the main sewer in whatever direction it should be decided to take it.

The following private streets are now made up and paved, viz. :—

Harlesden, Burnham, Sandfield, Glenferrie, Blandford, Arthur, Tess, Princes, Cavendish, Albion, and Blenheim Roads.

There are several other roads in this neighbourhood which I should like to see made up in the near future. Not only is this necessary for the health of the District, but their present state is a hindrance to the development of the District.

In the case of the Brampton Road, which is only built on on one side, the Council have applied for partial powers to pave one side only, but the application has not up to the present been successful.

II.—*Colney Heath.*

The Sewerage System here consists of dumb-wells; there are a few cottages, however, the occupiers of which throw their slops on to the ground. There are both privies and earth closets.

At present there is no scheme for scavenging, and, owing to the very limited garden space of a number of cottages, the system is not satisfactory, and I should advise this Council to carefully consider if it is not practicable to arrange for a weekly collection of pail and ash-bin refuse.

The water supply is obtained from wells.

III.—*London Colney.*

The Sewerage System here consists of a main sewer which takes surface-water and the slop-water from most of the houses, but to which is connected the soil pipes of not more than three houses. This sewer empties itself into a brick and cement tank in a field. This tank is emptied partly by a windmill pump, and from time to time by a man appointed for the purpose.

There are both privies and earth closets.

There is no scheme for the removal of house refuse in this district.

The water supply is almost entirely from the St. Albans Waterworks mains.

This System is quite satisfactory.

IV.—*Hill End Asylum.*

This Institution has its own septic tank, which works most satisfactorily.

V.—*Napsbury Asylum.*

This Institution has its own septic tank, the effluent from which is treated by irrigation, and is in every way satisfactory.

ST. STEPHENS.

Area in acres, 7,438. Population, 1,951. Average number of persons per acre, .26. Number of inhabited houses, 451. Average number of persons per house, 4.32. Births, male 22, female 21; total, 43. Deaths 18, giving rate per 1,000 population of 22.04 for the former and 9.2 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 1.

6 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year: 3 Diphtheria, and 3 Scarlet Fever.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 8.

The Sewerage System consists of dumb-wells, which are emptied by their owners.

There are both privies and earth closets. The number of the former, however, is rapidly diminishing. The contents of the earth closets and ash-bins in Park Street and Frogmore are collected by contract with this Council.

The water supply is obtained from wells and from the St. Albans Waterworks Company.

It would be satisfactory if arrangement could be made with this Company to extend their mains up Branch Road.

SANDRIDGE RURAL.

Area in acres, 5,635. Population, 1,704. Average number of persons per acre, .3. Number of inhabited houses, 410. Average number of persons per house, 4.15. Births, male 27, female 28; total, 55. Deaths 16, giving rate per 1,000 population of 32.2 for the former and 9.38 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 1.

7 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year: 5 Diphtheria, and 2 Scarlet Fever.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 5.

The Sewerage System here consists of dumb-wells, which

are emptied by the owners, and a sewer which runs through the village and empties itself into a ditch.

Collection of house refuse is carried on by contract in the Bernards Heath part of the District, but there is no system for collection of pail closets in any part of the District.

The water supply is obtained from wells and the St. Albans Waterworks Company.

WHEATHAMPSTEAD.

Area in acres, 5,140. Population, 2,710. Average number of persons per acre, .52. Number of inhabited houses, 684. Average number of persons per house, 3.96. Births, male 36, female 29: total 65. Deaths 22, giving rate per 1,000 population of 23.98 for the former and 8.1 for the latter. Deaths under 1 year of age, 2.

4 cases of Diphtheria were notified to me during the year.

The number of dairies and cowsheds registered is 9.

I. *Wheathampstead Village* has a main sewer which takes the surface-water, slops, and soil from most of the houses, which is eventually treated by irrigation.

II. *New Marford*. The sewerage system is by dumb-wells, but owing to the close proximity of the cottages to one another and to the low-lying position in which this district is situated, the ground is becoming saturated with sewage, and the condition is far from satisfactory.

III. The sewerage in *Gustard Wood* and other parts of the district is by means of dumb-wells, and works quite satisfactorily.

There is no scheme for scavenging in any part of the district, and no complaints are received.

The water supply is from wells.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

The Sisters' Hospital, with an accommodation of 30 beds, which we share with the Urban Authorities of St. Albans and Harpenden, has provided ample accommodation for all the Scarlet Fever cases.

With regard to Isolation Accommodation for Small Pox, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever, I regret to say that I cannot do otherwise than report in the same words as I did last year and the year before, which is as follows :—

“ We are still without any accommodation for Small Pox, Diphtheria, or Typhoid Fever.”

The plans for a Diphtheria Hospital, to be erected on the site adjoining the Sisters' Hospital, have been prepared and approved both by the Local Authorities and the Local Government Board, but as yet no building has been commenced.

The plans for a Small Pox Hospital have been prepared and approved both by the Local Authorities and the Local Government Board, and the building is now in course of erection.

Arrangements are made by this Council for swabs of doubtful cases of Diphtheria (in suitable cases) to be examined at the Clinical Research Association, at the expense of this Council.

The permission of the Local Government Board has been obtained to pay for antitoxin, and this Council has given me authority to supply, at their cost, antitoxin in all suitable cases.

At the Sisters' Hospital is a Thresh's steam disinfector where bedding and clothes may be disinfected. This is practically always done in cases of Scarlet Fever, Small Pox, etc., and frequently done after such illnesses as consumption and cancer. Formaldehyde is the disinfectant almost universally used in this district, but in addition every room is thoroughly cleansed with soap and water and fresh air, and where necessary re-whitewashed and papered.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

Owing to an outbreak of Scarlet Fever, the London Colney Schools were closed from March 5th to March 22nd inclusive, and owing to an outbreak of Measles they were again closed from July 19th to August 2nd, and owing to an outbreak of Measles the Kinsbourne Green School was closed from Feb. 25th to March 22nd.

GENERAL SANITATION.

The number of cowsheds on register in the year 1909 is 44, distributed as follows :—

Harpenden Rural	...	...	...	...	0
Redbourn	...	...	...	...	7
St. Michaels Rural	...	...	...	...	5
St. Peters Rural	...	...	...	...	10
St. Stephens	...	...	...	...	8
Sandridge	...	...	...	...	5
Wheathampstead	...	...	...	...	9
					—
					44

These are all regularly inspected, both by the Veterinary Inspector and Sanitary Inspector, and at times by myself.

Appended are the reports of the Inspector of Nuisances and Veterinary Inspector.

There are no common lodging-houses in the district.

I am very much indebted to Mr. Heatt (Deputy Clerk to this Council) for the following schedule of adoptive Acts and Urban Powers in force in this district, together with a brief description of their provisions. The preparation of this schedule has necessitated looking over records for the last twenty years, no light task, as I am sure you will agree, but the possession of such a record will not only be of great assistance to myself but will, I am sure, be greatly appreciated by you all.

ST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Schedule of Adoptive Acts and Urban Powers in force in the above District.

Title of Act.

Epitome of Statutory Powers.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889. (Adopted 26th March, 1890).	Provides for compulsory Notification of Infectious Diseases specified in the Act.
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. Adopted 11th April, 1906).	Provides powers as to inspection of Dairies and prohibiting supply of milk where there is reason to believe that the milk supply has caused, or may give rise to, infectious disease. Provisions as to cleansing and disinfection of premises and of bedding or other articles exposed to infection, etc.

Urban Powers conferred on the Council by Orders of the Local Government Board.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, sec. 36.	Public Buildings to have ample and safe means of ingress and egress to the satisfaction of the Council.
Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 42.	Street Watering.
Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 44.	Power to make Byelaws imposing duty of cleansing footways and pavements, and the removal of house refuse, on the occupier of premises.

- Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 47 (3).
- Imposes penalty for allowing contents of water closet, privy or cesspools to overflow or soak therefrom. Council empowered to abate such nuisance and recover summarily.
- Public Health Act, 1875, secs. 112, 113, and 114.
- As to Offensive Trades.* Imposes penalty for establishing without consent of Council. Empowers Council to make Byelaws and imposes penalties for nuisances arising from such offensive trades.
- Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 169 (paragraph 3) and sec. 170.
- Power to regulate Slaughterhouses.
- Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, sec. 23.
- Power to make Byelaws with respect to:—The keeping of water closets supplied with sufficient water for flushing; the structure of floors, hearths and staircases and the height of rooms intended to be used for human habitation; the paving of yards and open spaces in connection with dwelling houses; and the provision in connection with the laying out of new streets and secondary means of access where necessary for the purpose of the removal of house refuse and other matters.
- Public Health Act, 1875, secs. 229 and 230.
- Provides that expenses incurred for street watering under sec. 42 shall be "special expenses."
- Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 171. Such provisions as incorporate or relate to the incorporation of the under-mentioned provisions of the Town Police Clauses Act, 1847, that is to say:—
- So much of sec. 28 as imposes a penalty on the persons, who, in any street, to the obstruction, annoyance, or danger of the residents or passengers, commit any of the offences specified in the Schedule.
- Prohibits the placing of merchandise, etc., on any footway, or the erection of any blind, covering, awning or other projection over such footway of less than eight feet in height in any part thereof from the ground.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Part IV.), secs. 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, and 68.

As to Infectious Diseases. Sec. 52.—Infected persons not to carry on occupation; Sec. 53.—Power to require dairymen to furnish list of sources of supply; Sec. 54.—Dairymen to notify infectious diseases existing among their servants; Sec. 55.—Infected clothes not to be sent to laundry; Sec. 56.—Filthy and dangerous articles to be purified; Sec. 57.—Child suffering from infectious disease not to attend school; Sec. 58.—List of scholars to be furnished where scholar in a school is suffering from infectious disease; Sec. 59.—Prohibits the use of books from a public or circulating library by any person suffering from infectious disease. (Note.—This sec. does not apply to a public or circulating library which is not within the district); Sec. 60.—Local Authority may pay expenses of persons in hospital; Sec. 61.—As to removal of person from infectious premises and the provision of a temporary shelter, etc.; Sec. 62.—Imposes a penalty on the exposure of infected persons and things on any person who causes or commits such sufferer to be so exposed; Sec. 63.—Prohibits conveyance of infected person in public vehicles; Sec. 64.—Driver of infected person to give notice to Medical Officer of Health; Sec. 65.—Extending Sec. 124 of Public Health Act, 1875, to all persons who cannot be isolated in the house or premises; Sec. 66.—Power to cleanse and disinfect premises; Sec. 67.—Provision of nursing attendance by local authority where, owing to want of accommodation or otherwise, cases cannot be removed to the hospital; Sec. 68.—Prohibits the holding of a wake over body of person dying of infectious disease.

Urban Powers in force in parts of the Rural District.

Title of Act.	Parishes in which Powers are enforced.	Epitome of Statutory Powers.
Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 161 (par. 1).	Redbourn.	Public lighting of streets.
Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 160 (s.s. 1).	Redbourn, St. Peter Rural, Sandridge and St. Stephen.	As to naming streets and numbering houses.
Public Health Act, 1875, s. 66.	St. Peter Rural and Sandridge Rural.	As to provision of fireplugs for securing an efficient supply of water.
Private Street Works Act, 1892 (except as to sewerage).	St. Peter Rural.	Power to make up, pave, etc., the following private streets: Harlesden, Sandfield, Burnham, Blandford, Glenferrie, Blenheim, Cavendish, Albion, Tess and Princes Roads.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 109 Factories and Workshops registered in the district. Of these, 26 are Factories and 83 are Workshops, distributed in the different parishes or localities as follows:—

		Factories.	Workshops.	Totals.
Harpenden Rural ...	...	0	0	0
Redbourn ...	...	6	18	24
St. Michaels Rural ...	...	0	1	1
St. Peters Rural ...	...	8	26	34
St. Stephens ...	...	4	14	18
Sandridge ...	...	3	4	7
Wheathampstead ..	..	5	20	25
		—	—	—
		26	83	109

Table showing number and nature of employment of Factories and Workshops in each locality.

	Harpenden Rural.	Redbourn.	St. Michaels	St. Peters.	St. Stephens.	Sandridge.	Wheathampstead.	Totals.		Factories.	Workshops.
Bakers	5	..	5	2	2	6	20		0	20
Brush Makers	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		1	0
Silk Works	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		1	0
Fellmongers	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		0	1
Jam Works	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		1	0
Saddlers	2	..	..	..	..	1	3		0	3
Tailors	1	..	2	1	..	2	6		1	5
Straw Goods	1	1		1	0
Laundries	1	..	5	2	..	..	8		0	8
Dressmakers, etc.	3	..	3	3	..	..	9		0	9
Builders	1	..	3	..	..	2	6		0	6
Flour Mills	2	..	..	4	..	2	8		8	0
Plumbers, etc.	1	..	..	..	..	1	2		0	2
Rubber Works	2	..	..	1	3		1	2
Printers	3	..	..	..	3		2	1
Cycle Works	2	..	..	2	4		0	4
Brick Kilns	2	..	..	..	2		2	0
Farriers	1	..	..	2	1	2	6		1	5
Chandlers	1	..	1		1	0
Gas Works	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		1	0
Electric Works	1	..	..	1	2		2	0
Boot Makers	1	1		0	1
Steel Tool Makers	1	..	1		1	0
Musical Instrument Makers	1	..	..	..	1		1	0
Carpenters	2	1	4	4	2	3	16		1	15
Mineral Waters	1	..	..	..	1		0	1
Totals ...	0	24	1	34	18	7	25	109		26	83

N.B.—Under the heading of Carpenters are included Cabinet Makers, Upholsterers, Undertakers, Wheelwrights and Coachbuilders.

There is no overcrowding in any Workshop in the District, nearly all provide 500 c.f. air space, and many provide much more.

There are no wholesale Bakehouses in the District.

Under the Factories and Workshops Act, 1901, no underground Bakehouse must be used after January 1st, 1904, without written permission of the Sanitary Authorities.

There is only one such underground Bakehouse in the District, which is in Wheathampstead Parish, and this has received the necessary permission of this Council.

There are 5 Factories and 1 Workshop in this District which employ more than 40 persons.

They are situated as follows :—

St. Peters, 3 Factories.

Sandridge, 1 Factory.

Redbourn, 1 Factory.

Redbourn, 1 Workshop.

These all have adequate means of escape from fire.

There are no outworkers of the specified classes in this District.

Mr. Davey, the new Sanitary Inspector, commenced his duties in May, 1909. I am glad to be able to report that he has carried out his duties to my entire satisfaction.

My thanks are due to him and the other officers of this Council for their valuable assistance, and to you gentlemen for the very courteous way in which you have always treated me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY E. MAY,

M.A., M.B., B.C., CANTAB.,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Albans Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Report dealing with Sanitary work in the Rural District of St. Albans, from May 1st, 1909, to the end of the year.

NUISANCES.

Both verbal and written complaints have received my early attention, and by periodical visits to all parts of the district, I have kept myself fairly well acquainted with nuisances arising from time to time. 296 Inspections were made, and 969 Re-inspections.

The following table shows the nature of matters dealt with :—

Defective Closet Accommodation	103
„ Urinal „	6
„ Drainage „	62
Choked Drains	25
Offensive Keeping of Animals	6
„ Accumulations	19
„ Dumwells Fixed or Repaired	12
Damp, Defective or Overcrowded Premises	32
Yards required Paving	9
Obstructive Buildings	2
Insufficient or Polluted Water Supply	10
Brooks or Culvers required Cleansing	7
Smoke or Trade Nuisances	3
Total	296

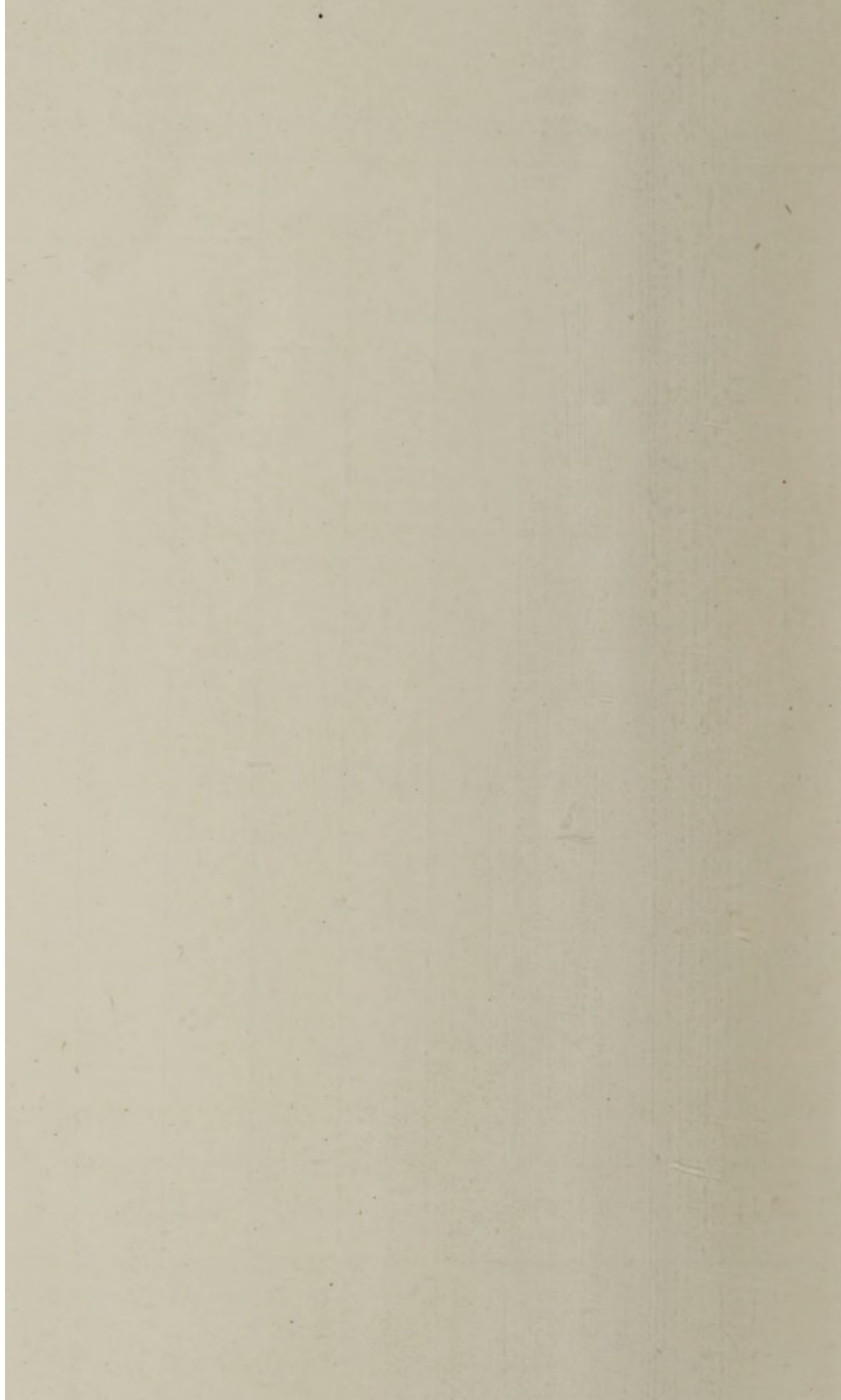
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ST. ALBANS.

Summary of the Reports of the Inspector of Nuisances, for the Year ending December 31st, 1909.

Parish.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Re-Inspections.	Complaints Received.	Preliminary Notices.	Statutory Notices.	Matters attended to and Nuisances abated under Public Health Act, 1875.															Total.	
						Defective or Choked Drains.	Defective W.C.'s, E.C.'s, Privies or Cesspools.	Drainage provided to Houses.	Defective Urinals.	Flushing Cisterns provided to W.C.'s.	Offensive Accumulations.	Nuisance from keeping Animals.	Offensive Pools, Ditches, etc.	Ashbins provided.	Damp, Defective, or Dirty Premises.	Houses Disinfected.	Trade Nuisances.	Polluted Water Supply or Samples taken, etc.	Overcrowding.	Obstructive Buildings.		Yards Paved.
Redbourn ...	34	219	14	1	1	8	12	8	...	...	10	...	...	6	4	3	...	1	...	...	3	55
St. Peters Rural ...	83	312	36	8	3	18	32	3	3	...	5	2	5	5	16	12	2	5	3	2	...	113
St. Stephens ...	117	267	11	53	...	34	57	3	2	2	...	2	2	31	...	1	...	1	...	...	4	139
St. Michaels Rural	5	32	1	..	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sandridge ...	25	52	5	..	...	1	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	3	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	14
Wheathampstead ...	27	58	12	2	...	6	12	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	4	...	...	1	2	...	2	33
Harpden Rural...	5	29	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	3
Total ...	296	969	81	64	4	70	115	17	6	2	19	6	7	45	27	19	3	10	5	2	9	362

NOTE.—The above includes only the work carried out since May 1st, 1909, the date I commenced my duties.

(Signed), ROY S. DAVEY, Inspector.



INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Since taking up my duties as Inspector in this District (May 1st, 1909), 25 cases of Infectious Disease have been notified. These cases were visited and particulars obtained in accordance with my instructions from the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. May).

Disinfections were carried out and disinfectants supplied when necessary.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The whole of the Factories and Workshops were visited. Limewashing and cleansing was carried out where necessary, and several minor sanitary improvements were effected.

Generally, with regard to cleanliness, lighting, ventilation and air space, the Factories and Workshops are in a satisfactory condition.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are now 44 Dairies and Cowsheds on the register. These have all been inspected. In five cases the method of drainage from the Cowsheds, is not all that I should like to see, but in no case could I describe it as bad. The remaining 39 are very well drained. I make it my business to see that all Dairies and Cowsheds are regularly and thoroughly cleansed and limewashed.

OFFICE WORK.

In connection with the business of my department, 328 letters and 64 preliminary notices were issued, and 4 statutory notices were served.

No legal proceedings were taken.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROY S. DAVEY,

CERT. R.S. INST.,

Sanitary Inspector.

VETERINARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Albans Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my report on the cows and cowsheds in your district for the year ending December 31st, 1909. There are on the register 43 cowsheds containing 530 cows, the milk from which is nearly all supplied in the district as shown in the following table :—

	Number of Cowsheds.	Approximate No. of Cows.	Destination of Milk.
Redbourn	6	26	Redbourn and St. Albans.
St. Michaels	4	137	St. Albans, Harpenden, London.
St. Peters	10	113	St. Albans, Colney, Smallford, London
St. Stephens	10	119	St. Albans, Colney, Watford, Park Street.
Sandridge	4	75	St. Albans, Sandridge, London.
Wheathampstead ...	9	60	Wheathampstead, Harpenden.
Total	43	530	

All these have been regularly visited. The cowsheds are all well kept in a clean condition and well ventilated.

There has been more trouble this year in keeping the teats and udders clean, owing to the wet season, but the attendants have been very attentive and painstaking in their work.

During the past year I have found 4 cases of general tuberculosis and three cases of tuberculosis of the udder, all of which cases the milk has not been used again.

There has been one outbreak of anthrax, and two carcasses were cremated according to order.

There was one case of glanders which was destroyed.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. F. REYNOLDS,

M.R.C.V.S.,

Veterinary Inspector to the St. Albans Rural District Council.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.		BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.			NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
	1	2	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Number.	Rate.*
			Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.								
1899	12035	306	25.4	25	81.7	111	9.22	0	0	0	111	9.22	12	13
1900	12122	259	21.3	34	131.27	172	14.1	8	8	21	185	15.2		
1901	12264	344	32.7	35	101.6	180	14.6	32	32	0	146	11.08		
1902	12721	309	24.2	33	106.8	169	13.28	34	31	15	153	12.02		
1903	12973	379	29.2	31	81.7	168	12.9	41	41	14	141	10.8		
1904	13190	381	28.88	38	99.73	199	15.08	35	35	11	175	13.2		
1905	13383	378	28.2	39	103.1	233	16.61	63	59	11	185	13.8		
1906	13603	423	31.09	56	132.38	389	24.8	165	163	26	202	14.2		
1907	13865	411	29.75	35	58.1	291	20.98	167	163	21	149	10.7		
1908	14099	423	30.07	43	85.15	310	22.05	143	140	18	188	13.3		
Averages for years 1899—1908.	13027	361	27.7	36	99.7	217	15.88	69.9	67.2	13.7	163	12.43		
1909	17333	432	24.8	17	39.3	301	17.36	162	158	18	161	9.28		or 10.5 if asylums not included.

* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In districts in which large public institutions seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Column 13 may be calculated on a net population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residence" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 37,981
 Total population at all ages - - - 12,264
 Number of inhabited houses - - - 2,827
 Average number of persons per house 4.3
 At Census of 1901.
 N.B.—This population (17,333) includes the inmates of the two Asylums estimated at 2,000.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
<p>Hertfordshire County Asylum.</p> <p>Middlesex County Asylum.</p>	<p>St. Albans and Mid Herts Hospital.</p> <p>St. Albans Union Infirmary.</p> <p>Sisters' Hospital for Scarlet Fever.</p>	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

TABLE II.—Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1909 and previous Years.

Year	Harpden Rural.				Redbourn.				St. Michaels Rural.				St. Peters Rural.				St. Stephens.				Sandridge.				Wheatthampstead.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1899 ...	385	8	1	1	2030	53	23	6	945	19	9	3	2930	77	25	5	2120	45	12	1	1195	34	12	4	2430	70	29	5
1900 ...	390	4	3	1	2035	46	39	11	950	11	5	1	2954	88	41	10	2138	23	29	0	1210	25	12	2	2445	52	43	9
1901 ...	342	10	3	0	1932	40	28	10	764	16	9	2	3548	115	34	8	1783	41	17	1	1440	48	19	5	2405	65	36	9
1902 ...	351	10	1	0	1964	51	23	5	805	17	6	1	3914	96	51	16	1798	39	24	4	1454	36	25	5	2439	60	26	2
1903 ...	354	7	4	0	1990	52	24	7	813	18	10	2	4017	136	35	10	1825	46	20	1	1489	49	15	4	2485	71	33	7
1904 ...	357	6	3	1	2001	47	39	9	816	10	8	0	4119	153	51	13	1841	36	23	2	1528	57	19	5	2528	72	32	8
1905 ...	365	8	0	0	2024	53	30	6	818	14	12	3	4210	152	61	17	1849	35	27	4	1560	55	23	3	2557	61	32	6
1906 ...	368	5	2	1	2044	57	37	6	830	17	5	0	4311	162	60	22	1876	50	23	4	1596	58	22	7	2578	74	53	16
1907 ...	368	3	3	0	2066	49	27	5	830	12	12	1	4438	176	49	13	1905	45	16	2	1627	44	13	6	2638	81	29	8
1908 ...	369	7	6	0	2076	41	31	5	842	16	4	2	4554	182	66	19	1926	43	22	5	1665	64	26	8	2667	70	33	4
Averages of years 1899 to 1908	364	6	2	4	2016	48	30	7	841	15	8	1.5	3899	133	47	13	1906	40	21	2	1476	47	18	4	2517	67	34	7
1909 ...	362	3	5	0	2040	65	41	7	854	19	6	0	7712	182	35	6	1951	43	18	1	1704	55	16	1	2710	65	22	2

TABLE IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	Under 1 year	1 & under 5.	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 65	65 & upwards	Harpenden Rural.	Redbourn.	St. Michaels Rural.	St. Peters Rural.	St. Stephens.	Sandridge.	Wheatthampstead.		
	All ages.	5	7	7	43	64	5	41	6	35	18	16	22	162	
Small Pox ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	1	2	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...
Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	12	...	...	1	11	...	2	4	...	2	...	1	...	20
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	5	1	...	...	...	3	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	18	2	...	...	9	...	1	5	5	2	...	1	2	5
Bronchitis ...	12	2	...	...	3	7	...	2	1	2	4	...	1	7
Pneumonia ...	5	...	1	...	1	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	12
Pleurisy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Veneereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Heart Diseases ...	19	...	1	2	9	7	...	5	5	2	...	2	5	6	
Accidents ...	6	...	2	2	1	1	...	1	2	...	2	1	...	...
Suicides ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	47	...	1	...	6	32	2	13	1	11	7	5	8	97	
All causes	143	5	7	7	43	64	5	41	6	35	18	16	22	162	

TABLE V.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	Total
	1 week.	Weeks.	Weeks.	Weeks.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.		Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes.	Certified ...	6	2	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	1	...	14
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Wasting Diseases.	Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Congenital Defects	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Tuberculous Meningitis	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Tuberculous Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Other Causes	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Suffocation, overlying Other Causes	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
TOTAL	7	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	17

Births in the year—Legitimate—417, Illegitimate—15. Deaths in the Year of—Legitimate Infants—16, Illegitimate Infants—1. Population estimated to middle of 1909—17,333. Deaths of Residents from all Causes at all Ages—143.