

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Harrow-on-the-Hill UDC 1913].

Contributors

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1913.

HARROW=ON=THE=HILL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

JOHN FLETCHER LITTLE,

M.B. CANTAB., M.R.C.P., LOND.,

Medical Officer of Health for Harrow.

HARROW .

Printed at the "Gazette" Printing Works,

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HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Population (Estimated) 18,000.

Uncorrected Birth Rate 19·9. Net Birth Rate 20·1.

Death Rate 6·3. Corrected Death Rate 7·4.

Infantile Death Rate 49·5 per thousand Births.

Houses 3,762, Occupied 3,609,

Unoccupied 153.

Flats 274, Occupied 258, Unoccupied 16.

Average number of persons per House 4·6,
per Flat 3·7.

Rateable Value £147,596.

Population 1851, 2,813.

Population 1891 (Census), 5,725.


Area 1,000 Statute Acres.

Population 1901 (Census), 10,220.

Population June, 1906 (Census), 13,697.

Population 1911 (Census), 17,074.

Area 2,028 Statute Acres.



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ANNUAL REPORT, 1913.

I, PARK CRESCENT, PORTLAND PLACE,
LONDON, W.

21st FEBRUARY, 1914

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the twenty-second year of office, ending December 31st, 1913.

You will notice there is a certain amount of repetition each year, but this is in accordance with the instructions of the Local Government Board to Medical Officers of Health in making out our Annual Reports.

POPULATION.

I estimate the population at the middle of the year to be 18,000.

The number of houses and flats was 4,036. Of this number 3,867 were occupied and 169 unoccupied.

The number of houses occupied was 3,609, unoccupied 153.

The number of flats occupied was 258, unoccupied 16.

BIRTH RATE.

The births of 180 boys and 179 girls were registered during the year, making a total of 359, as compared with 369 in 1912. This gives a birth rate of 19.9 per thousand.

Four births (3 males and 1 female, 1 legitimate and 3 illegitimate) belonging to Harrow occurred outside

the District, these added to the 359 births in Harrow gives a total of 363 births and a net birth rate of 20·1.

The average for the previous five years is 21·6.

The birth rate for England and Wales in 1913 was 23·9, and for the 145 small towns 23·9.

DEATH RATE.

There were 115 deaths registered, 44 males and 71 females, the death rate being 6·3 per thousand.

This is considerably less than that of 1912 when it was 7·2 per thousand.

Of these 115 deaths, 41 occurred in the March quarter, 17 in the June quarter, 27 in the September quarter, and 30 in the December quarter.

There were 31 deaths in the parish of St. Mary's, 34 in Roxeth, and 50 in Greenhill.

The death rate for England and Wales was 13·7, and for the 145 small towns 12·8.

DEATHS AT ALL AGES.

The distribution of the 115 deaths according to age is as follows:—

Under 1 year	...	...	18	} Under 5 years of age...	20
Over 1 year and under 5	5	2	2			
Over 5 years and under 15	15	3	3			
" 15	"	"	25	} Over 5 years of age...	95	
" 25	"	"	65			47
" 65			44
			<hr/> 115	<hr/> 115		

DEATHS OF HARROW PAUPERS IN HENDON AND OTHER WORKHOUSES.

Ten Harrow paupers, 6 males and 4 females, died in the Hendon or other Workhouses.

The Causes of death and ages are as follows:—
Cerebral Effusion, 61; Influenza, 61; Senile Gangrene, 71; Cirrhosis of liver, 51; Old Age, 93; Bright's Disease, 32; Heart Disease, 68; Shock (accident), 67; Old Age, 73; Mitral Stenosis, 66.

The average number of paupers in the Hendon Workhouse during 1913 was 39.

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.

Nineteen deaths of residents have occurred outside the district during the year, they are as follows :—

Middlesex Hospital.—Appendicitis, 29 years.
 Wokingham.—Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 37 years.
 Chiswick.—Chronic Rheumatism, 60 years.
 Napsbury Asylum.—General Paralysis, 63 and 43 years.
 Downterry.—Bright's Disease, 55 years.
 Sheffield.—Suffocation (Epilepsy), 29 years.
 Middlesex Hospital.—Cancer, 44 years.
 Wembley.—Accident, 49 years.
 Wandsworth.—Cerebral Hemorrhage, 56 years.
 St. Mary's Hospital.—Renal Tuberculosis, 29 years.
 London.—Cancer, 35 years.
 St. Mary's Hospital.—Cancer, 54 years.
 Pinner.—Addison's Disease, 28 years.
 Middlesex Hospital.—Accident, 27 years.
 German Hospital.—Heart Disease, 25 years.
 Hackney.—Tuberculosis, 31 years.
 Gt. Ormond Street Hospital.—Rheumatic Anthritis, 2 years.
 Virginia Water.—Fatty Degeneration of Heart, 49 years.

NET AND STANDARD DEATH RATES.

There were 29 deaths of Harrow residents outside the district, including the 10 Harrow paupers in the Hendon Workhouse.

There were 10 deaths to be excluded as follows :—
 1 Wealdstone resident and 1 Hampstead resident in the Harrow Cottage Hospital, and 8 other non-residents who died in Harrow, giving a net total of 134, and a net death rate of 7·4

For the purposes of comparison with other districts which may have a more favourable or unfavourable population as regards its sex and age constitution, it is necessary to multiply the corrected death rate by a factor supplied by the Registrar General, the result is the "Standard Death Rate."

The Standard Death Rate for Harrow is 7·8.

The standard death rate for England and Wales was 13·4, and for the 145 small towns 13·0

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.

The Infantile Death rate for the year was 49·5 per thousand births.

There were 18 deaths of infants under one year of age out of 363 children born, giving an infantile mortality of 49·5 per thousand children born, or 5 per cent. Of the above 18 deaths, 4 were from prematurity, which shows that nearly a fourth of the deaths were not caused by illness contracted after birth. In 1912 there were 18 deaths, giving an infantile mortality of 48·7, or 4 per cent. In 1911 there were 30 deaths, giving an infantile mortality of 83·1 or 8 per cent.

The rate of infantile mortality in England and Wales was 109, and for the 145 small towns 112 per thousand.

LONGEVITY OF HARROW RESIDENTS.

During the year 56 persons died over the age of 60, or nearly 50 per cent of the deaths registered. Of these 22 died between the ages of 60 and 70, 23 between 70 and 80, 10 between 80 and 90, and one between 90 and 100.

In 1912 the deaths over the age of 60 were 47 per cent. of the deaths registered.

DECLINING DEATH RATES.

The decline in death rates is one of the causes of great encouragement amongst all workers for the improvement of the Public Health.

I give the following as a few examples. The death rate for England and Wales from all causes for the year 1912 was 13·3 per thousand, the lowest death rate yet recorded, or 27 per cent less when compared with the mean yearly rate of a period as recent as 1891—1900.

Most of the infectious diseases in 1912 show striking reductions when compared with the average experience of 1891—1900. The decline in the case of Measles is 16 per cent., from Scarlet Fever 66 per cent., from Whooping Cough 40 per cent., from Diphtheria and Croup 57 per cent. and from Enteric Fever 75 per cent.

In the case of Tuberculosis the mortality from all forms in 1912 is 32 per cent. less and from Pulmonary Tuberculosis 25 per cent. less than the average for 1891—1900.

A further acceleration of the rate of decline in Tuberculosis mortality by the preventive and curative measures which public authorities have now so energetically undertaken is one of the most hopeful prospects of medical science and the fact that there are still over 35,000 deaths annually from Phthisis alone in England and Wales is enough to show what remains to be achieved.

HEALTH VISITORS' WORK.

The Health Visitors report as follows :—

“ The total number of visits were 445 : Birth enquiries 193, Infection enquiries 252.

Of the babies visited, 74 were breast fed and 17 bottle. The bottle fed babies being given cow's milk and barley water or condensed milk.

Infection enquiries 252 : Measles 123, Chicken-Pox 46, Whooping Cough 17, Mumps 16, Rashes, Sore Throats, Impetigo, etc. 50.

In addition to the ordinary visits paid, 214 visits have been paid to 16 of the babies who have been ill. Of these there were 3 very bad cases of Broncho-Pneumonia, 2 Bronchitis, 1 Bronchial Asthma, 1 Ophthalmia, 1 Septic Poisoning very bad indeed, 1 Marasmus, doing very well now, and 1 Eczema.

Owing to the late registration of births the Health Visitors have in several cases been unable to find the babies, have found the houses empty, and could not get the new addresses from neighbours.

There was an outbreak of Measles in May and June. The cases were mostly very slight, 4 were complicated by Bronchitis. This was followed by a slight outbreak of Chicken-Pox. In 6 cases the children contracted it immediately after Measles. There were also a few cases of Whooping Cough and Mumps.

Several cases of sore throats and rashes were seen and reported on. Many cases of Impetigo were treated and advice given to mothers as to preventive treatment."

The above report presents many satisfactory features and indicates the invaluable preventive work done by the Health Visitors, the net result is that in the years 1913 and 1912, the infantile mortality has been 49 per thousand. This contrasts with the figures a few years ago, when one child in every 10 born in Harrow died before reaching one year of age.

From this report it is also apparent how our Health Visitors are handicapped in finding some of the infants, owing to the lateness of the registration of births, when they call at the houses they find them empty and are unable to trace the children. I have no doubt the want of skilled advice to the mothers has led to the loss of life amongst the children.

I have no hesitation in saying that the improved standard of sanitation in Harrow is largely due to the work of Nurse Byerley and Nurse Randall, your Health Visitors.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

It should be widely known that the disease of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, which is one of the great causes of blindness amongst children, has now been placed on the list of compulsory notifiable diseases.

Whenever anyone sees a baby with a purulent

discharge from the eyes they should immediately notify the fact to me at the Sanitary Department, Council Offices, Harrow.

EARLIER REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.

Since my last report in which I recommended the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, the Local Government Board have communicated with the Council on the advisability of adopting it, but after consideration the Council decided not to do so at present.

A circular letter was sent by the Council to the medical practitioners in the district, requesting that they should urge parents to register all births as soon as possible after they occur.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One hundred and seven cases of Infectious Disease were certified during the year. They were as follows:—Scarlet Fever 89, Diphtheria 12, Erysipelas 4, Enteric (Typhoid) Fever 1, Poliomyelitis 1.

There was no death from a notifiable infectious disease during the year.

One death was caused by Whooping Cough and five by Influenza, neither of which diseases are notifiable.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighty-nine cases of this disease were certified during the year as compared with 74 in 1912, 50 in 1911, 25 in 1910.

The disease has been of an extremely mild type, and fortunately there was no death.

It manifested itself throughout the year and in November and December the outbreak assumed epidemic proportions.

An inspection of the scholars attending Roxeth Hill Schools was made by Dr. Tate and Dr. Moir, the County School Medical Officers, and those scholars

who were found to be suspect were excluded. The names, etc., were taken of the absentees and any of them who were found to show suspicious symptoms were kept under observation by their family doctor.

Until a distinctive microbe is discovered and a greater knowledge of the pathology of the disease is obtained, we are greatly hampered in our work in preventing the spread of the disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

Twelve cases of this disease have been certified during the year, as compared with 14 in 1912. The majority of the cases were of a mild type.

It is with great pleasure I have to report that there was no fatal case.

I attribute this result (1) to the prompt diagnosis of the disease, owing to the Council having provided for bacteriological examination of suspected cases; (2) the prompt administration of Diphtheria anti-toxin, and (3) the immediate removal to Hospital of all cases, especially those where it might be necessary to perform tracheotomy.

It should always be remembered that when a negative result is reported from the laboratory that it is not always conclusive as to the absence of the disease. The Diphtheria Bacillus is frequently hidden away behind the soft palate at the back of the nostrils and in recesses of the throat. A bent wire is necessary in order that the swab may reach these regions as well as the entrance to the lower air passages.

DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN.

A fresh supply of this valuable remedy has been kept, as usual, at the Council Offices day and night, also at the Sanitary Inspector's house, 28, Devonshire Road, off Pinner Road, Greenhill, and at the Isolation Hospital, Roxeth. In cases of Diphtheria, if the anti-toxin is injected during the first 24 hours, the prospects of recovery are good, but every hour that is lost increases the danger. Therefore, it is of vital importance that a fresh supply should always be at hand.

ENTERIC (TYPHOID) FEVER.

One case was certified during the year and was treated in the Hospital. Searching enquiries were made to ascertain the origin of the disease, but without result.

Strict precautions are always taken to prevent any excreta passing into the drains. All discharges from the patients are collected by the Council's employees, disinfected and buried.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Sixty-eight specimens were sent for examination, 55 Diphtheria, 2 Enteric and 11 Tuberculosis.

Arrangements have been maintained to keep the medical practitioners supplied with the necessary apparatus for sending specimens for bacteriological examination. The Clinical Research Association on receipt of a specimen immediately supply a new outfit.

INFLUENZA.

Five deaths resulted from this disease.

I have frequently drawn the attention of the public to the highly infectious and fatal nature of Influenza.

This complaint, besides being dangerous to life, often causes temporary or permanent mental or bodily disablement.

I therefore warn everyone against paying unnecessary visits to those suffering from this disease.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Eighty-four cases of Scarlet Fever (69 in 1912), seven cases of Diphtheria (11 in 1912), and one case of Typhoid (Enteric) Fever (1 in 1912), were treated in the Hospital and no deaths occurred.

MILNE TREATMENT OF SCARLET FEVER.

The following is my report recently submitted to the Council on the treatment of this disease.

The question of the treatment of Scarlet Fever from the curative and preventive points of view is one that interests all communities, especially one with a population constituted like that of Harrow.

So great is the mass of facts already accumulated by investigators of the disease that there is abundant material for a reconsideration of the views hitherto held by the medical profession.

As your Medical Officer of Health, I could not advise you to take the initiative in relaxing the generally accepted rules in the treatment of the disease or to translate into practice at once all the opinions which I had formed after a long experience. If I did so not only would I cause considerable alarm amongst the public of Harrow, but I feel confident I could not count on the support of the medical profession.

1. In this investigation the first consideration is the safety of the community. Hitherto this has been accomplished by the prompt isolation of cases as soon as they have been notified. I am glad to say this has been done in the most effective manner without paying undue attention to the trammels of red tape.

2. The disinfection of the patient's residence immediately after removal.

3. The retention in the Isolation Hospital of the patients until all known signs of infection have passed away.

4. The disinfection of the patient and all clothing on discharge from the Hospital.

This system has the following advantages :—

(a) The confidence of the public.

(b) In a scholastic town where the chief industry is education, the breadwinner is able to continue his occupation and the other children of the family after quarantine permitted to attend School and earn the grant for the Education Authority.

The Milne treatment is in course of trial in the

neighbouring district of Wealdstone, and Dr. Butler, the Medical Officer of Health, reports very favourably upon it. I am, however, bound to point out that during the treatment of the patient at home, it involves the absence of the other children in the family from school with a loss to the ratepayers of the Government Education grant.

It has been found that some cases cannot be properly treated at home, and consequently have to be removed to a hospital in the neighbouring district.

During the recent epidemic in Harrow, out of 40 cases, there was only one in which the householder would agree to its being isolated at home.

In my opinion the reason why the Milne treatment would not be as suitable for Harrow as for Wealdstone is that a vast number of our population earn their living in London and other places, whereas in Wealdstone, most of the inhabitants are employed in the great industrial establishments of that town; in addition every Council that has an Isolation Hospital is bound on demand to admit, if they have accommodation, any inhabitant suffering from an infectious disease, for which they provide accommodation.

I have given some of my reasons for your making an addition to your Hospital and would now like to add that the provision of a ward where convalescents could be kept free from contact with acute cases of Scarlet Fever would considerably shorten their stay in the Hospital. At present proper classification is impossible.

The Council has now decided :—

(1) The "Milne" treatment of Scarlet Fever be not adopted in this district, in place of the system of isolation at present in force, but, if in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health and the doctor in attendance it can be safely used in the patient's home, with the consent of the parents, or at the Isolation Hospital, with a view to possibly curtailing the length of stay in that Institution, the Council sees no reason why it should not be adopted in such cases.

(2) That additional hospital accommodation be provided for the treatment of this disease.

The Council has, in my opinion, taken a wise step, and I hope in future to be able to shorten the length of the patients' stay in the Hospital.

The Matron and Nurses have carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner, and the Council has been frequently complimented by the parents and relatives of the patients on the care that is bestowed on them.

METHODS OF DISINFECTION.

All articles of bedding, wearing apparel, curtains, rugs, etc., are removed to the Hospital and disinfected by means of steam in a Thresh's Saturated Steam Disinfecting Apparatus. Rooms are sprayed with formalin, and then fumigated with vapour of formaldehyde. The staircases, passages, etc., are always sprayed with formalin.

Rooms were stripped after cases of infectious disease in 46 instances.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Seven deaths were caused by Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) and 5 by other tuberculous diseases, or 9.0 per cent. of the whole mortality.

In 1912 the percentage was 8.5 and in 1911, 6.8, 1910, 13.0.

PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Tuberculosis became compulsorily notifiable on February 1st, 1913, with the result that 38 certificates were received of 21 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 17 of other forms of Tuberculosis.

Twelve cases were of insured persons under the National Insurance Act, and four were removed by the Middlesex Insurance Committee for Sanatorium treatment.

Of the non-insured persons, twelve were certified

from Institutions in London where they were receiving treatment.

Four cases were removed by persons taking an interest in them to private institutions, and two were removed by the Council to Northwood and Margate for Sanatorium treatment.

Of the 38 cases, 13 had not resided in Harrow 12 months, 11 over twelve months and under three years, 14 for various periods above three years.

Nine cases worked in London, 16 in Harrow (9 were housewives), nine school children, and four no occupation.

DISINFECTION OF ROOMS USED BY TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS.

Eighty-eight rooms and 327 articles were disinfected during the year.

Cards of instructions, sputum bottles and disinfectants are provided free.

TUBERCULOUS DISPENSARY.

A Dispensary for Area No. 3 under the scheme of the County Council for dealing with Tuberculosis under the National Insurance Act in Middlesex is now open.

The Dispensary is situated at :—

38, Welldon Crescent, Harrow.

and is under the charge of Dr. Munro, one of the Tuberculosis Medical Officers in the Public Health Department of the County Council.

He will be happy to co-operate with the Medical Practitioners in any work arising in the area in connection with Tuberculosis.

Until the other dispensaries in the County are ready for use, the hours at which cases can attend have provisionally been arranged as follows :—

MORNING.

Monday	...	10—12	...	Old Cases (Male).
Tuesday	...	10—12	...	New Cases and Tuberculin (Female).
Thursday	...	10—12	...	Old Cases (Female).
Friday	...	10—12	...	New Cases and Tuberculin (Male).

AFTERNOON.

Thursday	...	3—4	...	Children (Old and New Cases).
Other afternoons (except Wednesday), Contacts by appointment.				

EVENING.

Wednesday	7—8	...	Men at work during the day (New and Old Cases) by appointment meantime.
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All cases of Tuberculosis are compulsorily notifiable to me, whose duty it is to make enquiries.

In order to prevent any overlapping or omission, I purpose sending copies of the results to the Tuberculosis Officer.

SPITTING IN STREETS, PUBLIC PLACES, ETC.

I again call attention to the urgent need for public notices with regard to the insanitary custom of spitting in public places, and I recommend that such notices be posted up, explaining the danger to the Public Health, and forbidding the practice, and thus remove one cause of the spread of Consumption.

PREVENTION OF CANCER.

During the year 16 deaths were caused by Cancer, as compared with 12 from Pulmonary and other Tuberculous Diseases.

Whilst much is being done to prevent and eradicate Consumption, it is equally necessary that efforts should be made for the prevention of Cancer.

With this in view I have drawn up a list of simple rules which can be bought at the nominal price of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. at Mr. Miller's Library, Bessborough Road.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There are three houses registered.

On the whole they are in a satisfactory condition. It became necessary to call the owner's attention to the insanitary condition of some of the rooms at all of the above houses, and he immediately had the necessary work put in hand.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is one Common Lodging House registered, which, when visited was found in a satisfactory condition.

SCAVENGING.

A weekly collection of house refuse has been carried out during the year and only fifteen complaints have been made.

DAIRY FARMS, Etc.

There are 7 Dairy Farms, 14 Milk Shops, 14 Bake-houses (1 underground), 6 Slaughter Houses, 26 Butcher's Shops, 14 Fish Shops, and 7 Laundries.

With the exception of the neglect of regular lime-washing, etc., the premises are on the whole fairly satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY.

Twenty-eight samples of milk, chiefly from outside the district were submitted to the Analyst for Bacteriological Examination for Tubercle Bacilli, and 3 of them were found infected.

In view of the vital importance of seeing that our milk is free from Tubercle Bacilli, I recommend that in future more samples be taken for the purpose of analysis, so that all milk coming into Harrow may be tested, and any that are tuberculous excluded. This will entail a large number of samples being taken, but the additional expenditure will be amply justified.

VETERINARY INSPECTION OF COWS AND OTHER BOVINE ANIMALS.

On May 1st a Tuberculosis Order came into force

which made it necessary for the farmer to give notice when he has a cow or other bovine animal affected with tuberculous disease in his possession.

So that this may be done at the earliest stage of the disease it becomes imperative that a Veterinary Surgeon should be appointed to periodically examine the cows in this district.

I again recommend the Council to give the matter further consideration.

FISH FRYING.

There are five establishments where this business is carried on under the By Laws for regulating offensive trades by Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as amended by Section 51 of the Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1907.

No complaint was made of smells from fish frying carried on at any of the premises.

WATER SUPPLY.

Analyses of the Public Water Supply (Colne Valley Water Co.) have been made four times during the year and showed that the samples of water were of satisfactory organic purity and fairly soft.

The following is the latest report received from the Analyst :—

	Parts per 100,000.	Grains per gallon.
Total solids (dried at 120° C)	18.8	13.2
Combined Chlorine... ..	1.80	1.26
equivalent to Na Cl. ...	2.97	2.08
Nitric Nitrogen	0.52	0.36
Nitrous nitrogen	Nil.	Nil.
Ammoniacal nitrogen ...	0.0007	0.0005
Albumenoid nitrogen ...	0.0013	0.0009
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.024	0.017
Lead or copper	Nil.	Nil.
Temporary hardness (equiv- alent to Ca Co ³) ...	4.5	3.1
Permanent Hardness ...	5.4	3.8
Total Hardness	9.9	6.9

ICE CREAM SHOPS.

There are 20 Ice Cream premises in the district, most of which are sweet shops.

Inspections were made during the summer, and the places were found in a satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 6 private slaughter houses in the District.

Inspections as usual have been carried out when slaughtering is in progress.

The butchers afford every help to the Inspector in this work, with the result that two pigs (Tuberculous) and 112lbs. of beef in a decomposed state were surrendered.

During the year one private slaughter house has been taken off the register owing to its bad sanitary condition.

In consequence of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals giving a demonstration showing the most humane method of slaughtering bovine animals, their system has been adopted in two of the private slaughter houses.

In the name of humanity I appeal to the remaining butchers in the district to adopt this method.

Mr. Kramm, your Inspector, holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

In consequence of my previous reports on the provision of houses for the Working Classes in the district the Local Government Board communicated with the Council on the matter.

The Council, having given the question careful consideration, decided not to provide such houses at present.

TOWN PLANNING.

The question of town planning is in the hands of the Town Planning Committee and a great deal of time and thought have been given by the Chairman and Members to this most important subject.

Preliminary plans have been submitted to the Local Government Board who directed their Inspector, Mr. T. Adams, to hold an enquiry.

This took place on the 6th November, 1913, and the Council is awaiting the necessary permission to prepare a Town Planning Scheme.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.

During the year it was impossible to proceed with this vital portion of our Public Health work owing to the want of accommodation for the clerical assistant in the temporary offices.

As the new Council Offices will be opened on 3rd March, there will be ample accommodation and no doubt arrangements will be made to provide the necessary help.

Five houses reported on last year were demolished owing to their being dangerous and unfit for human habitation.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Home-workers' premises have been inspected and the number of inspections made and sanitary defects found to exist are shown in Table 6.

With a few exceptions the factories, etc., were on the whole kept in good sanitary condition.

To obtain the list of outworkers it was again necessary to serve notices on the occupiers of workshops, etc.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN, HARROW, 1913.

The County Medical Officer of Health reports as follows :—

" As in previous years three routine inspections of each school in the neighbourhood were made during 1913.

Seven hundred and sixty-eight children were examined.

Age Group.			Boys.	Girls.
5 years	...	...	149	103
8 Years	...	...	101	95
13 years	...	...	141	110
Other ages*	...	...	17	52
			<hr/> 408	<hr/> 360

* Children presented for some special reason for medical inspection, and not coming within the groups required for routine inspection.

All the Schools were visited for ordinary inspection each term.

In addition to these, many other visits were again made in order :—

1. To " follow up " those children who were advised to seek treatment for some defective condition found at the time of inspection.

2. To make more detailed examination of " special children " (these include children in whom the suspicion of pulmonary tuberculosis, mental deficiency, or other grave organic defect has arisen at the time of routine inspection.).

3. To examine children excluded from schools on account of ringworm or other contagious disease as to their fitness to return to school.

4. To examine the children in the schools with the object of controlling the spread of infectious diseases by the discovery of early or " missed " cases of such diseases, which might have been of so mild a type as to be overlooked by the parents and allowed to attend school.

In connection with the occurrence of infectious diseases amongst school children, the system of inter-communication between the Public Health Department of the District Council and the School Medical Officer in last year's Annual Report continues to work very satisfactory and is of undoubted value."

HARROW COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

This Institution is a great credit to the town. Being of the most modern type, it affords the medical men of the neighbourhood the greatest facilities for obtaining the best results.

It deserves the generous financial support of all who are interested in the health of Harrow and surrounding districts.

There are 20 beds and 2 cots, all used alike for medical and surgical cases.

HARROW BOUNDARIES.

I hope that when the Town Planning Scheme is accomplished the Mount Park area will be included in Harrow, to which it naturally belongs.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Mr. J. Percy Bennetts, your Engineer and Surveyor, reports :—

Town Planning.

“The question of Town Planning has been proceeded with, the Council has served the preliminary notices, and the Local Government Board has held the first Inquiry.

The number of plans approved by the Council was :—29 houses ; 9 shops and dwelling houses ; 4 flats ; 19 alterations and additions ; 5 new buildings not dwellings ; 1 lock-up shop ; 1 new railway station ; 1 hall ; 1 road ; 7 temporary buildings.

Fifty-three houses and 1 combined shop and dwelling have been erected and approved on completion.

Frequent visits have been made to houses in course of erection and all defects found have been remedied.

The Mortuary has been used in 15 cases.

The Council has acquired another 8 acres of land adjoining their present Allotments at Roxeth, for the purposes of Allotments, and will take possession in August.

The effluent from both sewage farms has been very satisfactory, and no complaints have been received.

The Local Government Board has held an Inquiry into the proposed scheme of treating the sewage now dealt with at Greenhill Farm being treated at the Wealdstone Council's Farm, and have given their consent to the proposals. The works required for the purpose are to be proceeded with.

The following private streets have been made up under the Public Health Act, viz. :—

Kingsley, Eastcote, Whitby, Wargrave, Scarsdale, and Wyvenhoe Roads.

Part of South Hill Avenue is now being made up.

The following Private Streets have been taken over as highways repairable by the inhabitants at large.

Rutland Road, Bedford Road, and Sussex Road (part 2).

The new Public Offices have been erected and the official opening will take place on March 3rd by Lord George Hamilton.

Two Cottages (one for the Foreman of the Farm and one for the Hospital Porter) and Stables have been erected at the Newton Sewage Farm, and the new Laundry Block and Discharging Block at the Isolation Hospital have been completed.

The Council had under consideration :—

(a) The erection of an emergency ward block at the Isolation Hospital.

(b) The laying out of the Open Space at Lowlands.

(c) The widening of Lowlands Road from the Metropolitan Station entrance to Grove Hill.

The Local Government Board Inquiries have been held in connection with :—

Sewerage Works at Greenhill Farm.

Town Planning.

Land for Allotments.

New Laundry Block and Discharging Block at the Isolation Hospital.

During the year the Council had under consideration the question of the housing of the working classes and I presented a report on the matter. The Council decided to take no action at present."

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Dr. Young, the County Medical Officer of Health, has forwarded me the following particulars of the County Inspector's work during 1913 :—

			Taken.	Adulterated.
Butter	...	...	58	—
Milk	...	...	42	5
Cream	...	...	6	—
Spirits	...	...	2	1
Coffee	...	...	2	—
			—	—
Total	...	...	110	6
			—	—

PUBLIC URINALS.

The provision of these public conveniences at Roxeth and Greenhill has proved to be of great service.

Unfortunately, owing to opposition to the sites selected in the High Street, the Council has been unable to provide one in that part of the district where it is most needed.

I hope that the Council will soon be able to find a site and provide this most necessary sanitary convenience.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The rainfall for the year was 22·41 inches, which is 8·59 less than in 1912, when it was 31·00.

The rainfall for the previous ten years is as follows :—1912, 31·00 ; 1911, 28·86 ; 1910, 28·42 ; 1909, 27·85 ; 1908, 27·48 ; 1907, 25·37 ; 1906, 26·33 ; 1905, 22·94 ; 1904, 24·56 ; 1903, 36·78.

The average for those years is 28·06.

The days on which .01 or more inches fell was April 23, March 22, November 22, January 20, October 17, December 15, May 14, February 13, August 12, July 11, September 11, June 7.

The highest temperatures were 83° in June, 81° in May, 80° in August, 75° in July, 75° in September.

The lowest temperatures were 24° in January, 25° in February, 27° in March, 27° in April, 27° in December.

The highest mean temperatures were in June 69° , in August 69° , in July 67° , in September 66° , in May 64° .

The lowest mean temperatures were in January 34° , in February 34° , in December 34° , in March 36° , in April 39° , in November 39° .

I beg to thank the Council for their sympathy and support in my work, and to acknowledge my indebtedness to my colleagues, Mr. J. Strachan, your Clerk ; Mr. J. Percy Bennetts, your Engineer and Surveyor ; and Mr. A. B. Kramm, your Inspector.

I send the usual tables of vital statistics for five years and also tables of sanitary work.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN FLETCHER LITTLE,

M.B., Cantab., M.R.C.P., Lond.,

Medical Officer of Health for Harrow.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1913 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths regis- tered in the District.		Transferable deaths		Nett deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not regis- tered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	16,132		346	21.4	109	6.7	3	13	33	95.0	114	7.1
1909	16,800		361	21.4	146	8.6	6	10	20	55.4	165	9.8
1910	17,000		376	22.1	99	5.8	1	14	15	39.8	112	6.6
1911	17,074	352	361	22.1	131	7.8	10	23	30	83.1	144	8.4
1912	17,800	369	379	21.2	129	7.2	7	19	18	48.7	141	7.9
1913	18,600	359	363	20.1	115	6.3	10	29	18	49.5	134	7.4

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 2028.

Total population at all ages ...	17,074	} At census, 1911.
Number of inhabited houses ...	3,832	
Average number of persons per house ..	4.4	

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.								Total Cases notified in each locality.			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality.			Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At Ages—Years.														
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	S. Mary's	Roxeth	Greenhill	St. Mary's	Roxeth	Greenhill	
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	12	1	9		2				3	2	7	3	1	3	7
Erysipelas	4		1			1	1	1	1	2	1				
Scarlet Fever	89	12	65	11	1				32	32	25	29	31	24	84
Enteric Fever	1				1					1			1		1
Poliomyelitis	1		1								1				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	2		5	10	4			4	2	15	2		7	9
Other forms of Tuberculosis	17	2	9	4	2					7	10		3		3
TOTALS	145	17	85	20	16	5	1	1	40	46	60	34	36	34	104

Isolation Hospital, or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.:—Isolation Hospital, Pinner Lane, Harrow; Clare Hall Small Pox Hospital, South Mimms, nr. Barnet; Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1913.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All Causes { Certified ... { Uncertified ...									2	
Enteric Fever										
Small-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough ...	1			1						
Diphtheria and Croup...										
Influenza	5							2	3	
Erysipelas										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)...	7						4	1	2	
Tuberculous Meningitis	3	1		1			1			
Other Tuberculous Diseases...	2						2			
Cancer, Malignant Disease...	16						4	6	6	3
Rheumatic Fever... ..										
Meningitis	2	1					1			1
Organic Heart disease	18				1		2	9	6	
Bronchitis	3								3	
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1				1		1		
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs...	3							2	1	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis										
Appendicitis and Typhlitis...	2				1		1			1
Cirrhosis of Liver ...										
Alcoholism	1							1		
Nephritis and Bright's Disease...	4						1	3		
Puerperal Fever										
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition...	1						1			
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth...	9	9								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	10	2					2	3	3	2
Suicide	1						1			1
Other Defined Diseases	43	4		1			3	12	23	2
Diseases ill-defined or unknown...										
	134	18		3	2	1	23	40	47	10

TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths from stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age.								Total Deaths under 1 Year.	
	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1—3 Months	3—6 months	6—9 Months		9—12 Months
All Causes { Certified ... Uncertified...										18
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping-cough										
Diphtheria and Croup...										
Erysipelas										
Tuberculous Meningitis									1	1
Abdominal Tubercu- losis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis (<i>not</i> <i>Tuber- culous</i>)								1		1
Convulsions							1			1
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis										
Pneumonia (all forms)...			1		1					1
Diarrhoea										
Enteritis										
Gastritis										
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Suffocation, over- lying...	2				2					2
Injury at birth										
Atelectasis	1				1					1
Congenital Malformations										
Premature birth	4		1	2	7					7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	1				1		1			2
Other Causes	1				1	1				2
	9		2	2	13	1	2	1	1	18

Nett Births in the year: legitimate, 354; illegitimate, 9.

Nett Deaths in the year: legitimate, 18; illegitimate, 0.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN AT HARROW DURING THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31st, 1913.

By J. PERCY BENNETTS, ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

Month.	Hygrometer		Temperature.				Rainfall.				Wind.
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Max.	Min.	Earth.		Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours.		No. of Days on which '01 or more fell.	Pre-vailing Wind.
					1ft.	4ft.		Depth.	Date.		
JANUARY.											
Means	38·74	37·90	45·09	34·41	41·38	45·84	...	...	...	...	S.E.
Highest ...	49·00	48·00	51·00	44·00	44·00	48·00	2·87	·51	11th	20	S.W.
Lowest	26·00	26·00	36·00	24·00	39·00	45·00	...	...	...	...	W.
FEBRUARY.											
Means	37·85	37·35	46·00	34·17	40·00	44·10	...	...	...	...	N.E.
Highest ...	47·00	46·00	54·00	45·00	43·00	45·00	·98	·20	1, & 9	13	S.W.
Lowest ...	23·00	29·00	38·00	25·00	37·00	43·00	...	...	...	...	S.E.
MARCH.											
Means	43·35	41·61	50·71	36·68	42·51	43·93	...	...	...	...	S.W.
Highest ...	50·00	49·00	57·00	45·00	44·00	45·00	2·07	·29	16th	22	N.W.
Lowest	33·00	30·00	41·00	27·00	40·00	43·00	...	...	...	...	W.
APRIL.											
Means	47·10	44·36	54·20	39·80	45·53	45·23	...	...	...	...	S.W.
Highest ...	57·00	54·00	67·00	50·00	50·00	46·00	3·14	·55	29th	23	N.E.
Lowest	39·00	34·00	42·00	27·00	42·00	45·00	...	...	...	...	W.
MAY											
Means	55·20	50·86	64·25	45·29	53·29	51·51	...	...	...	...	S.W.
Highest ...	72·00	64·00	81·00	56·00	60·00	58·00	1·55	·51	29th	14	N.W.
Lowest	43·00	42·00	52·00	34·00	50·00	47·00	...	...	...	...	N.E.
JUNE.											
Means	60·66	54·56	69·03	47·20	58·26	53·80	...	...	...	...	N.W.
Highest ...	70·00	63·00	83·00	57·00	61·00	56·00	·40	·18	8th	7	S.W.
Lowest	51·00	49·00	62·00	38·00	54·00	52·00	...	...	...	...	W.
JULY.											
Means	58·03	54·83	66·93	51·61	58·93	56·09	...	...	...	...	N.E.
Highest ...	64·00	60·00	75·00	58·00	60·00	57·00	1·68	·39	14th	11	N.W.
Lowest	53·00	49·00	54·00	44·00	56·00	56·00	...	...	...	...	S.W.
AUGUST.											
Means	60·45	56·35	69·83	52·67	58·96	57·00	...	...	...	...	N.E.
Highest ...	66·00	62·00	80·00	60·00	61·00	57·00	1·22	·33	31st	12	N.W.
Lowest	55·00	49·00	61·00	44·00	58·00	57·00	...	...	...	...	S.E.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—*continued.*

Month.	Hygrometer.		Temperature.				Rainfall.				Wind.
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Max.	Min.	Earth.		Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours.		No. of Days on which .01 or more fell.	Pre-vailing Wind.
					1ft.	4ft.		Depth.	Date.		
SEPTEMBER.											
Means	57.10	55.00	66.10	50.33	57.90	57.47	...	...	...	...	S.E.
Highest ...	66.00	63.00	75.00	59.00	60.00	58.00	1.73	.28	5th	11	N.W.
Lowest	52.00	48.00	57.00	42.00	56.00	57.00	...	...	...	...	N.E.
OCTOBER.											
Means	51.30	49.93	59.35	46.22	53.74	56.06	...	...	...	...	S.E.
Highest ...	61.00	59.00	66.00	56.00	57.00	57.00	3.16	.73	26th	17	S.W.
Lowest	37.00	37.00	51.00	34.00	50.00	55.00	...	...	...	...	N.E.
NOVEMBER.											
Means	45.46	44.44	52.96	39.80	47.96	52.16	...	...	...	...	S.W.
Highest ...	54.00	53.0	58.00	52.00	51.00	54.00	2.62	.68	21st	22	N.W.
Lowest	32.00	32.00	45.00	28.00	45.00	50.00	...	...	...	...	S.E.
DECEMBER.											
Means	39.45	38.16	45.09	35.87	43.48	48.77	...	...	...	...	N.W.
Highest ...	52.00	51.00	53.00	49.00	48.00	51.00	.99	.24	23rd	15	S.W.
Lowest	29.00	29.00	35.00	27.00	38.00	46.00	...	...	...	...	N.E.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ...	55		Nil.
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	306	8	"
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	45	11	"
Total	406	19	—

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	5	5	Nil.	Nil.
Want of Ventilation	1	1	"	"
Overcrowding	1	1	"	"
Want of drainage of floors ...			"	"
Other Nuisances	7	7	"	"
Sanitary accommo- dation: } Insufficient } Unsuitable or defective ... } Not separate for sexes ...	5	4	"	"
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)			"	"
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses (ss. 97—100)	1	1	"	"
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork, which are in- cluded in Part 3 of this Report)...			"	"
Total	20	19	Nil.	Nil.

3.—HOMEWORK.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.											OUTWORK IN UNWHOLE-SOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.						Addresses of Outworkers.		Inspections of Outworkers' premises.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.		
	Sending once in the year.						Received from other Councils.	For-warded to other Councils.						
	Sending twice in the year.													
	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.		Work-men.								
	Lists.	Con-tractors		Con-tractors	Work-men.									
Wearing Apparel—														
Making, etc.	10	2	26	3	—	4	5	2	40	1	1	—		
Washing and cleansing ...	2		2											
Total	12	2	28	3	—	4	5	2	40	1	1	—		

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses (Retail)	15
Laundries (non-factory)	6
Workshops and Workplaces	90
Total number of workshops on Register	111

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)	2
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory Act (s. 5)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	2
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s.101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	1

Canal Boats used as Dwellings, etc.	1	Number registered under the Acts.
	1	Number of Contraventions of Regulations.
Abolishable Dwellings, Curran, Tents, etc.	2	Number observed during the Year.
	1	Number of Notices therefrom Abated.
	1	Number removed from District.
Breakhouses.	14	Number in District.
	9	Contravention of Factory Acts.
Slag-brother-houses.	6	Number on Register.
	201	Number of Inspections made.
	When killing is in progress.	Frequency of Inspection.
	7	Contraventions of By-laws.
	7	Number on Register.
	112	Number of Inspections made.
	Quarterly.	Frequency of Inspection.
	13	Contravention of Regulations.
	150	No. of Milk Cans in District.
Dairies and Milkshops.	14	Number on Register.
	Quarterly.	Number of Inspections made, and Frequency of Inspections.
	1	Contraventions of Regulations.
	200	Meat (including organs), stored and surrendered (Approximate weight in pounds).
	1	Poultry and fowls seized and surrendered (Approximate weight in pounds).
	1	Pigs seized and surrendered (Approximate weight in pounds).
	1	Fruit and Vegetables seized and surrendered (Approximate weight in pounds).
Unsound Food.		Method of Disposal.
	2	Number of Premises in District.
Offensive Trades.	26	Number of Inspections made.
	1	Contraventions of By-laws.
	1	New Sunk.
	1	Cleaned, Repaired, &c.
	1	Closed as Polluted.
	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	Percentage of Houses supplied from Public Water Service.
	1	New Provided.
	13	Cleaned, Repaired, Covered, &c.
	3	Draw-Taps placed on Mains.
	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	Percentage of Houses supplied on Cesspool System.
	8	Number of Samples obtained for analysis from Public Supply.

Water supply and Water Service.

SANITARY WORK, 1913.

Particulars as to Staff employed in Sanitary Department, specify if Inspectors are engaged in any other duties, and if so, what.		Inspector.	
Inspections.	133	Number of Premises Inspected (1) on Complaint.	A. B. KRAMM, Inspector.
	63	Number of Premises Inspected in connection with Infectious Diseases.	
	214	Number of Premises under (2) Periodical Inspection.	
	1	Houses Inspected from House- (4) to House (4), & T. P. Act.)	
	2048	Total Number of Inspections (5) and Re-inspections made.	
	150	Cautionary or Intimation Notices Given.	
	23	Statutory Orders Issued.	
	1	Summonses Served.	
	1	Concussions obtained.	
	1	Number of Houses dealt with under Section 15.	
Action taken (Other than under H. and T. P. Act.)	1	Number of Houses found to be in a state Dangerous or Injurious to Health (Sect. 17).	Dwelling Houses and Action under H. and T. P. Act, 1909.
	1	Number of Representations made by A.O.H. (Sect. 17).	
	1	Number of Houses made Habitable without Closing Orders.	
	1	Number of Closing Orders made T. A. (Sect. 17).	
	1	Number of Houses Closed Voluntarily.	
	1	Number of Closing Orders determined after Repairs (Sect. 17).	
	0	Proceedings were commenced under T. A. (Sect. 17) (6) Voluntary.	
	1	Illegal Underground Rooms Varied	
	3	Number Registered under Bye Laws.	
	12	Number of Contraventions.	
Houses let in Lodgings (Tenement Houses).	1	Number Registered under Bye Laws.	Common Lodging Houses.
	4	Number of Inspections made.	
	1	Number of Contraventions.	