

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Harrow-on-the-Hill UDC 1905].

Contributors

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1905.



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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1906.



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INDEX.

	PAGE.
General Statistics	1
Quinquennial Census	1
Births Registered during the Year	2
Death-Rate	2
Deaths at All Ages	2
Deaths of Harrow Paupers	2
Deaths of Residents Outside the District	3
Corrected Death-Rate	3
Past and Future Death-Rates	3
Infantile Death-Rate	4
Infectious and other Diseases	4
Diphtheria	4
Deaths from Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases	5
Enteric (Typhoid) Fever	5
Small-Pox	6
Small-Pox Hospital for Middlesex... ..	6
Systematic Interchange of Weekly Returns of Certificates	7
Prevention of Consumption... ..	7
Middlesex County Sanatorium for Consumption	7
Isolation Hospital	8
New Scarlet Fever Block	8
Description of the Building... ..	9
Road leading to the Hospital	11
Mount Park District	11
Inhabited and Empty Houses	11
New Houses, Buildings, &c.	12
Numbering of Houses	12
Amendment of By-Laws	12
Photograph of New Scarlet Fever Block.	
General Plan of Isolation Hospital.	
Plan of New Scarlet Fever Block.	
Houses Let in Lodgings	13
Housing of the Working Classes	13
Movable Dwellings—Caravans	14
Water Supply	14
Water Closets without Water	14
Scavenging	14
Milk from Outside the District	15
Abattoir—Public Slaughter-House	15
Bakehouses, etc.	15
Workshops	15
Public Urinals	15
Meteorological Observations	16
Cremation	16
Sewage Farms	16

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

POPULATION, 1905 (Estimated to middle of Year), 13,000.

BIRTH RATE, 24. DEATH RATE, 8. CORRECTED DEATH RATE, 9'3.

INHABITED HOUSES, 2,463. FLATS, 224. TOTAL, 2,687.

EMPTY HOUSES, 153. EMPTY FLATS, 38. TOTAL, 191.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE, 5.

POPULATION, 1901 (Census), 10,220. AREA, 2,197 STATUTE ACRES.

POPULATION, 1891 (Census), 5,725. AREA, 1,000 STATUTE ACRES.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1905.

125, HARLEY STREET, LONDON, W.,

JANUARY 29TH, 1906.

To the Chairman of the Harrow Urban District Council.

SIR,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1905.

The estimated population to the middle of the year was 13,000.

QUINQUENNIAL CENSUS.

In estimating the population for 1905 there is some difficulty owing to the variation in the rate of increase. I believe that the estimate of 13,000 is as nearly correct as possible. I have taken a little less than 5 as the number of inhabitants per house. Happily, the census you have arranged to take at midsummer will remove the uncertainty.

BIRTHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR.

The births of 164 boys and 149 girls were registered during the year, making a total of 313. This gives a birth-rate of 24·0 per 1,000, or 1·6 more than that of last year. The average for the previous 10 years was 22·4.

DEATH-RATE.

There were 104 deaths registered:—56 males and 48 females, the death-rate being 8 per 1,000. Of these deaths, 27 occurred in the March quarter, 28 in the June quarter, 28 in the September quarter, and 21 in the December quarter.

There were 38 deaths in the parish of St. Mary, 23 in Roxeth, and 43 in Greenhill.

There were 14 deaths in the Cottage Hospital, 13 Harrow residents and 1 non-resident. Of these 6 belonged to St. Mary's, 6 to Roxeth, and 2 to Greenhill parishes. They are included in the number of deaths in their respective parishes.

DEATHS AT ALL AGES.

The distribution of the 104 deaths according to age, is as follows:—

Under 1 year..	..	..	..	18	}	Under 5 years of age ..	31
Over 1 year and under 5	..	..	..	13			
„ 5	..	..	15	..	3	}	Over 5 years ..
„ 15	..	..	25	..	2		
„ 25	..	..	65	..	38		
„ 65	..	..	..	..	30		
					—			
					104	104		

DEATHS OF HARROW PAUPERS.

Ten deaths of Harrow paupers occurred in the Hendon Workhouse. The causes of death and the ages are as follows:—

Six from Old Age (69, 76, 82, 82, 89, 90), one from Broncho-pneumonia (43), one from Heart Disease (55), one from Malignant Disease (62), and one from Bronchitis (74).

I am indebted to Mr. Strachan, your Clerk, for procuring me the above information.

One death of a non-resident occurred in the Cottage Hospital.

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.

Nine deaths of Harrow residents were reported as having occurred at each of the following institutions:—

University College Hospital, Appendicitis, age 19.

Acton Cottage Hospital, Accident, age 54.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Accident, age 42.

Hampstead Hospital, Accident, age 31.

22, Beaumont Street, W., Pernicious Anæmia, age 56.

St. Thomas's Hospital, Appendicitis, age 12.

Middlesex Asylum, Wandsworth, Bright's Disease, age 70.

Children's Hospital, Paddington, Meningocele, age 3 days.

Middlesex County Asylum, Heart Disease, age 58.

These have been added to the deaths so as to give the corrected death-rate of inhabitants belonging to the district.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.

The above 9 deaths and the 10 deaths of Harrow paupers at Hendon total 19, added to the 104 deaths registered in Harrow give a gross total of 123; and from these one death of a non-resident in the Cottage Hospital being subtracted, gives a corrected total of deaths properly belonging to the district of 122, and a corrected death-rate of 9·3.

PAST AND FUTURE DEATH-RATES.

At a meeting of the Medical Officers of Health of the County at the Guildhall, Westminster, January 13th, 1905, it was agreed that it was desirable that each district should be furnished with returns of persons dying outside but belonging to such district. This has now been done, and all the deaths of Harrow residents which have occurred away from the town are included in this report. As this has not been done previously, our corrected death-rate will be apparently larger in the future. In comparing them with those of past years, it must be borne in mind that up till now the only additions to the deaths registered in Harrow have been those of Harrow paupers who have died in the Hendon Workhouse.

INFANTILE DEATH-RATE.

The infantile death-rate for the year was 57·6 per 1,000 births, or about one-half that of the previous year, which was 108, and it is rather more than one-half of the average for the previous 10 years, viz., 97·1. It is also actually the lowest that we have had for 10 years, and it is only about one-third of that for the whole of England.

I do not think that this happy state of things is entirely owing to the leaflets your Council has distributed to the parents when registering births, but it has no doubt been a contributory cause.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Thirty-four cases of infectious disease were certified during the year, and are as follows:—

Scarlet Fever, 17; Diphtheria, 6; Erysipelas, 8; Enteric, 3.

There were no deaths during the year from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Small-pox, Chicken-pox, or Erysipelas.

There was one death from Enteric (Typhoid) Fever.

It is gratifying again to be able to report that there was only one death from Notifiable Infectious Disease in a town of such a size.

The following deaths occurred from Non-Notifiable Diseases.—Whooping Cough, 9; Influenza, 2; Diarrhœa, 1; making a Zymotic death-rate of '9 per 1,000. This is an increase as compared with that of 1904, when it was '7 per 1,000. This increase is largely owing to the great mortality from Whooping Cough.

DIPHTHERIA.

Six cases of this disease have been certified during the year, but no death resulted. The provision by the Council of supplies of fresh Anti-toxin obtainable at the Council Office day and night, and also at night at the Sanitary Inspector's residence, 1, Oakley Road, Greenhill, enables cases of Diphtheria to be treated as soon as diagnosed, and thereby places the patients under the most favourable conditions for recovery.

There were seven bacteriological examinations during the year.

ENTERIC (TYPHOID) FEVER.

Three cases of this disease were certified during the year, and one death ensued.

There were 4 bacteriological examinations during the year.

DEATHS FROM NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

I feel it right to draw the attention of the Council to the great preponderance of deaths from Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases over those from Notifiable Diseases. There were 12 deaths from the former as against one from the latter. In 1904 there were 9 deaths from Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases, and one death from Notifiable Disease.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Whilst it is evident that your Council has effectively dealt with Notifiable Infectious Diseases, I think the time has come for considering what should be done with the more fatal of the Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases. In my opinion it will soon be regarded as a scandal that in a population of 13,000 nine deaths from Whooping Cough should occur in one year. These deaths usually take place amongst the poor; and I feel sure that were the parents instructed in the dangers attending this disease, greater care would be taken, and the mortality very largely reduced. I recommend that leaflets giving directions be prepared and distributed.

MEASLES.

Measles is another Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease which at times causes very serious mortality, and is the most fatal disease of childhood. We have had only three deaths from this cause during the last five years, but as infants start life unprotected, our junior schools are filled with those who are not immune. Great pains have been taken by the London County Council to ascertain the best means of diminishing the mortality from this disease, and the following are some of the conclusions arrived at:—

(1) Measles is vastly more fatal in infants under two years of age than in older children.

(2) Measles only spreads in school classes where the children are under five years of age, and that it is only necessary to close infant schools when an epidemic occurs, as it never spreads in the boys' and girls' departments.

(3) That the two most important means of preventing measles spreading are sanitary school buildings and teachers well trained in sanitation.

(4) Deaths often occur through ignorance of the parents. Circulars should be sent out whenever measles has appeared in the schools, immediately on the incidence of the first case—urging mothers to watch for colds, and upon the slightest suspicion to keep the child at home for a day or two. If this were done, measles would probably be checked to a far greater extent than by any other means. Instances have occurred where heart-broken mothers have stated that they were quite unaware of the seriousness of apparent colds to which, consequently, they paid no attention. Had they but known, their children's lives might have been saved. I recommend that such circulars be prepared for distribution when an outbreak occurs. If they were given to the parents informing them as to what precautions are necessary, and your Sanitary Officers acquainted of all cases of this disease, the mortality might be largely reduced.

SMALL-POX.

No case of Small-pox has occurred in the district. The danger of invasion is, however, always present, as outbreaks have occurred in many parts of the country and the metropolis during the year. The Small-pox Huts have been kept in readiness for the reception of patients before their removal to South Mimms. A special ambulance is always ready; and should an invasion occur the cases can be promptly dealt with.

SMALL-POX HOSPITAL FOR MIDDLESEX.

A Local Government Inquiry has been held, and a Hospital Board for certain districts in the County formed. This Board has met; and a contract is in preparation for acquiring South Mimms Hospital. An application will shortly be made to the Local Government Board to sanction a loan. An inquiry will then be held at which the suitability of the proposed hospital will be considered.

When this hospital is acquired it will supply a long-felt need, and will relieve many of the Sanitary Authorities in the County of grave cause for anxiety.

SYSTEMATIC INTERCHANGE OF WEEKLY RETURNS OF CERTIFICATES.

The absence of information with regard to the existence of infectious diseases in surrounding districts of the County has now been supplied. Dr. Young, the County Medical Officer, provides for the interchange of weekly returns of infectious disease. This supplements the Local Government Board return, and gives us very valuable information concerning the County of Middlesex. But for districts like Harrow which lie near the borders of a county, it would be an immense advantage if the Local Government Board required the interchange of a weekly return of infectious cases from every sanitary district likely to be affected.

PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Eight deaths were caused by Phthisis and other tubercular diseases, making a percentage of 7·6 of the total mortality. Last year the percentage was 12·5. The leaflets provided by your Council giving directions to the sufferers and their friends have been distributed, and will tend to prevent the spread of the disease.

The medical men of the district have voluntarily notified 3 cases, and the rooms occupied by the patients have been disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector.

I hope that in the future all cases will be notified, so that disinfection may be carried out by the Sanitary Department, for if this were done it would assist greatly in eradicating the disease.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY SANATORIUM FOR CONSUMPTION.

The admirable project of a Sanatorium for Consumption has been delayed by unforeseen circumstances, but will be actively prosecuted in the near future.

The hospital accommodation for the unfortunate sufferers from Consumption is so inadequate that they often have to wait for three months or even longer before admission. As early cases are by far the most promising of cure, this delay is deplorable. It is clearly the duty

of the Public Health Authorities to take measures to diminish a mortality which constitutes ten per cent. of the total deaths. It is the opinion of medical scientists that if adequate measures are taken, Consumption, like Leprosy, will disappear from the land.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

There were 17 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted during the year, and all recovered.

During the last eight years there have been 125 cases in the District and only one death.

The area of the Hospital site is 1.38 acres, and there is land for extension.

The old block consists of two wards, one holding 3 beds and the other 2. The New Scarlet Fever Block is now complete, and consists of 2 wards, one holding 6 beds and the other 4, which brings the total accommodation to 15 beds, or a little more than one bed per 1,000 of the present population. Additions have been made to the old block which have met with the approval of the Local Government Board, and Diphtheria cases are to be received for treatment.

The Ambulance Block has been enlarged, so that there is now room for two disinfection carts, in addition to the two ambulances. The disinfector is one of Thresh's and meets all our requirements.

The Administration Block has been enlarged and now consists of:—(a) on the ground floor, one sitting room for the matron and office purposes, one for the nurses, and one for the porter and cook, as well as kitchen, scullery, larder, coal house and sanitary conveniences; and (b) on the first floor 6 bedrooms, bathroom, w.c., and lavatory, with new hot and cold water supply throughout. This will enable the resident staff to be comfortably housed.

NEW SCARLET FEVER BLOCK.

The New Scarlet Fever Block has been built from designs and plans prepared by Mr. Percy Bennetts, your Engineer and Surveyor, and the work carried out under the superintendence of himself and his assistant, Mr. F. G. Greenhill, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Board. It supplies a long-felt want, and is a most valuable addition to our sanitary arrangements. We

had reached the limit of accommodation for scarlet fever, and were unable to take in other infectious diseases. The building is admirably adapted in all respects to our present requirements. It is handsome, well planned and well built. The work has been carried out at a minimum of cost, and the Council has, I believe, got full value for the ratepayers' money. The cost of the building has been £1,900, or £190 per bed. The cost of drainage, roads, planting, etc., £220. The addition to the Administration Block, £420, and the Ambulance Furniture (estimate) £110, a total of £2,750, or £275 per bed.

I would point out that for many years I have advocated that these additions to our Hospital were much needed, and no doubt the delay was to a great extent caused by an estimate obtained by the Council, which provided for accommodating only the same number of patients, but in 3 wards, and an observation ward with one bed, and was approximately to cost £6,300. I congratulate the Council on having erected such an up-to-date building at so reasonable a cost, and upon the suggestion of the County Medical Officer of Health I append plans of the building.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

The Block consists of two Wards, Male and Female, the Female Ward being 36ft. by 26ft. by 13ft. with 6 beds, and the Male Ward 24ft. by 26ft. by 13ft. with 4 beds, giving 12 lineal feet of wall space, 156 square feet of floor space, and 2,028 cubic feet of air space to each bed. There is also a Nurses' Duty Room 16 feet square, a Bathroom 10ft. by 5ft. 9in., and a Discharging Room 10ft. by 3ft. 6in., and to each ward a Sanitary Annexe with w.c. and sink accommodation. The latter are separated from the wards by short covered-in passages with through ventilation. In the spacious hall are provided large linen cupboards heated by the hot water cylinder connected with the fire-place in the Duty Room. The Block faces the South and has a verandah to each ward. The heating of the wards is by means of Double Fire Central Stoves with downward smoke flues.

The ventilation is carried out by means of fresh air ducts connected to the Stoves, so that the air passing

into the Ward is warmed before distribution, and fresh air inlets are fixed near each bed, whilst the vitiated air is taken through gratings at the floor and ceiling levels connected to an air flue carried up between the two smoke flues, the heat from which ensures a draught up the air flue. The windows provide additional ventilation, the upper parts being fanlights opening inwards with glazed cheeks to prevent down draughts, and the lower sashes having deep beads to allow ventilation between the sashes without draught.

The walls of the Main Block are in 14in. brickwork, with Red Brick Facings, Red Rubber Arches, and Robin Hood York Sills, the Annexes are in 9in. work.

The foundation of the Block consists of Cement Concrete 1 foot in depth with 5in. by 3in. steel joists, embedded in the centre, connected together with proper fish plates, angle pieces, and bolts. In consequence of the bad nature of the ground, at each angle of the building and bay, and in the centre of the external walls, concrete cement piers were carried down averaging about a yard cube.

The lintels over openings of doors and windows are constructed of cement coke breeze, with iron rods embedded therein, those over the larger openings having 4in. by 1½in. R.S.J. embedded in the centre. The main roof of the Block is covered with "Rosemary" tiles, the roof over the verandah and small passages being in copper.

All the floors except the Duty Room are in "Terrazzo" or Venetian marble mosaic, whilst the Duty Room floor is of pitch pine wood block. The walls and ceilings have been carried out in Robinson's cement, and are finished in "Ripolin" paint. All angles have been rounded.

There is a hot and cold water supply to the bathroom, which is fitted with a movable bath, and the w.c.'s and sinks are of the special hospital type kept clear of the floor.

The whole of the joinery is in pitchpine, varnished.

The drains are constructed of Doulton's Stoneware, "tested" pipes with cement joints, the pipes are bedded and benched with cement concrete. Manholes are provided at each angle and connections with white glazed inverts.

The roadway from the entrance of the grounds to the new block has been constructed of a hardcore and gravel foundation, and finished with tarred gravel and granite siftings.

Fire appliances are fixed under the verandah of the Women's Ward, and a tap has been fixed in the Hall near the entrance with small hose attached for immediate use in case of small outbreaks.

ROAD LEADING TO THE HOSPITAL.

This road has now been made up, and has proved of great convenience to those who have to pass over it to the Hospital and to the Sewage Farm.

MOUNT PARK DISTRICT.

For sanitary and other reasons I have frequently pointed out the desirability of this district being transferred to Harrow, and with the continued growth of the town it becomes more necessary than ever. Mount Park district constitutes a wedge driven into the very heart of Harrow, over which your Council has no control.

A case of Scarlet Fever was notified at a house in the lower part of South Hill Avenue on September 1st, and close to our boundary, and yet owing to its being out of this District, the Medical Attendant was directed to forward the notification to the Uxbridge Rural District Council, the result being that the case was not removed to the Uxbridge Rural Council's Hospital until September 3rd. Had Mount Park been in our District this case so dangerous to us would have been removed immediately.

INHABITED AND EMPTY HOUSES.

Mr. Kramm, your Sanitary Inspector, reports that the number of inhabited houses was 2,463, flats 224. This divided amongst an estimated population of 13,000 gives the average number of persons per house as a little less than 5. There were 153 empty houses, and 38 empty flats.

NEW HOUSES, BUILDINGS, ETC.

Mr. Bennetts, your Engineer, has furnished me with the following facts:—

“The number of Plans approved by the Council was:
 “New Houses, 215; Shops, 15; Alterations and
 “Additions, 17; Buildings, not Dwellings, 12; Swimming
 “Bath, 1. 150 Houses have been finished and approved.
 “The number of inspections of houses, etc., in course of
 “erection during the year amounted to 2,450, and the
 “number of defects or contravention of the By-Laws found
 “was 103. all of which have been remedied. No plans
 “of Flats have been submitted during the year. The
 “Mortuary has been used for 10 cases.

“Fairholme Road has been made up under Section
 “150 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and has since been
 “declared a Highway repairable by the inhabitants at
 “large.”

I wish to point out to the Council that this is the second year that no plans of Flats have been submitted, and I hope that such places will cease to be constructed in Harrow. I have frequently pointed out that the existence of Flats is a serious danger to public health.

NUMBERING OF HOUSES.

Mr. Kramm reports as follows:—

“Since the beginning of the numbering of houses at
 “the latter part of 1904, the following Roads have been
 “numbered:—

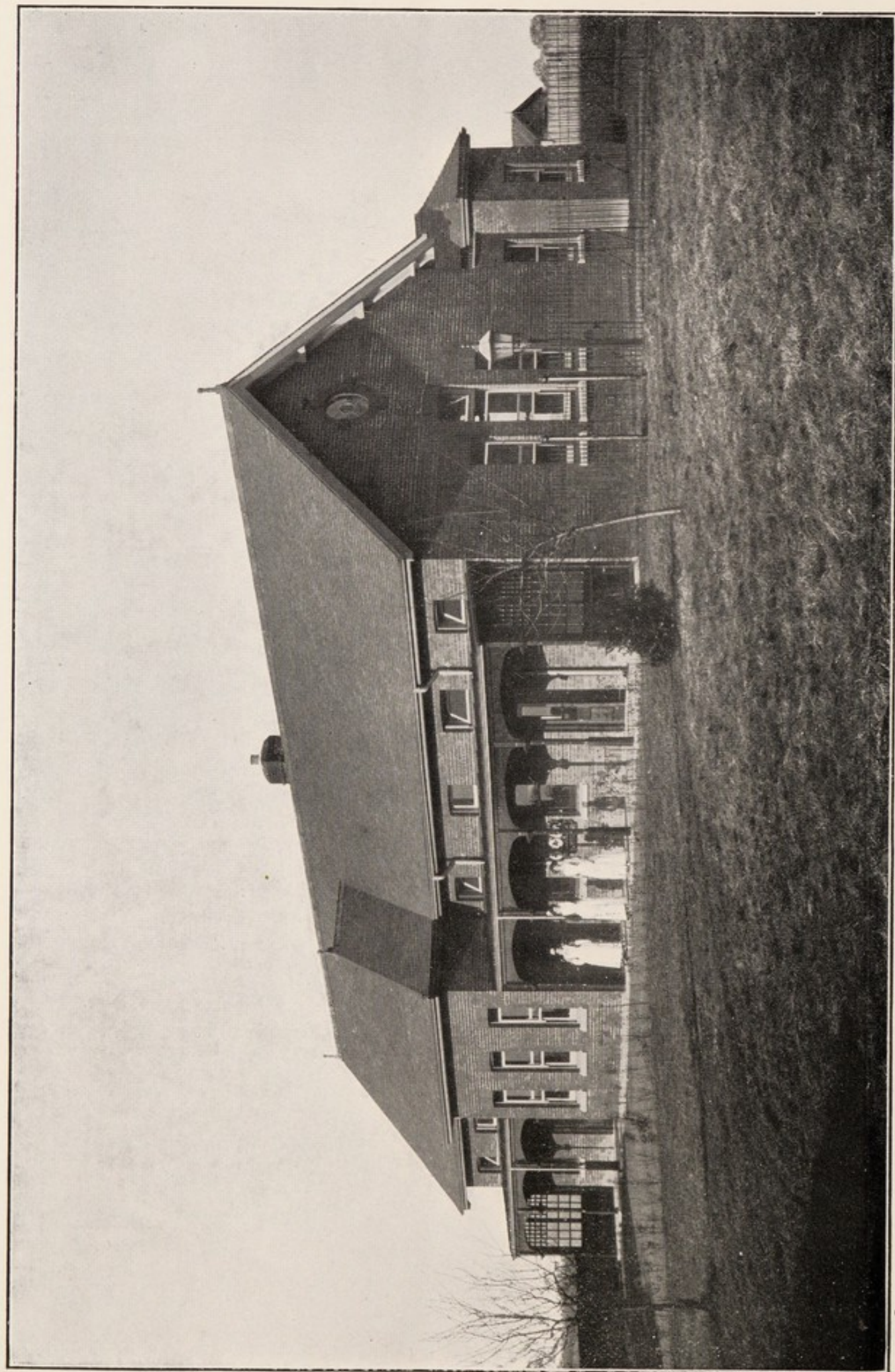
“St. Ann’s Road, Angel Road, Byron Road, St.
 “Kilda’s Road, Havelock Road, Kymberley Road, Head-
 “stone Road, Roxborough Road, Greenhill Road, Spring-
 “field Road, High Street, and West Street. Totalling
 “665 houses numbered.”

This constitutes about one-fourth of the total number of houses, and as the work proceeds it will still further facilitate the keeping of sanitary records.

AMENDMENT OF BUILDING BY-LAWS.

There are a few suggestions for amendment of the Building By-Laws which I offer for the consideration of your Council.

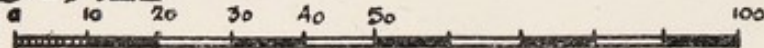




HARROW ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

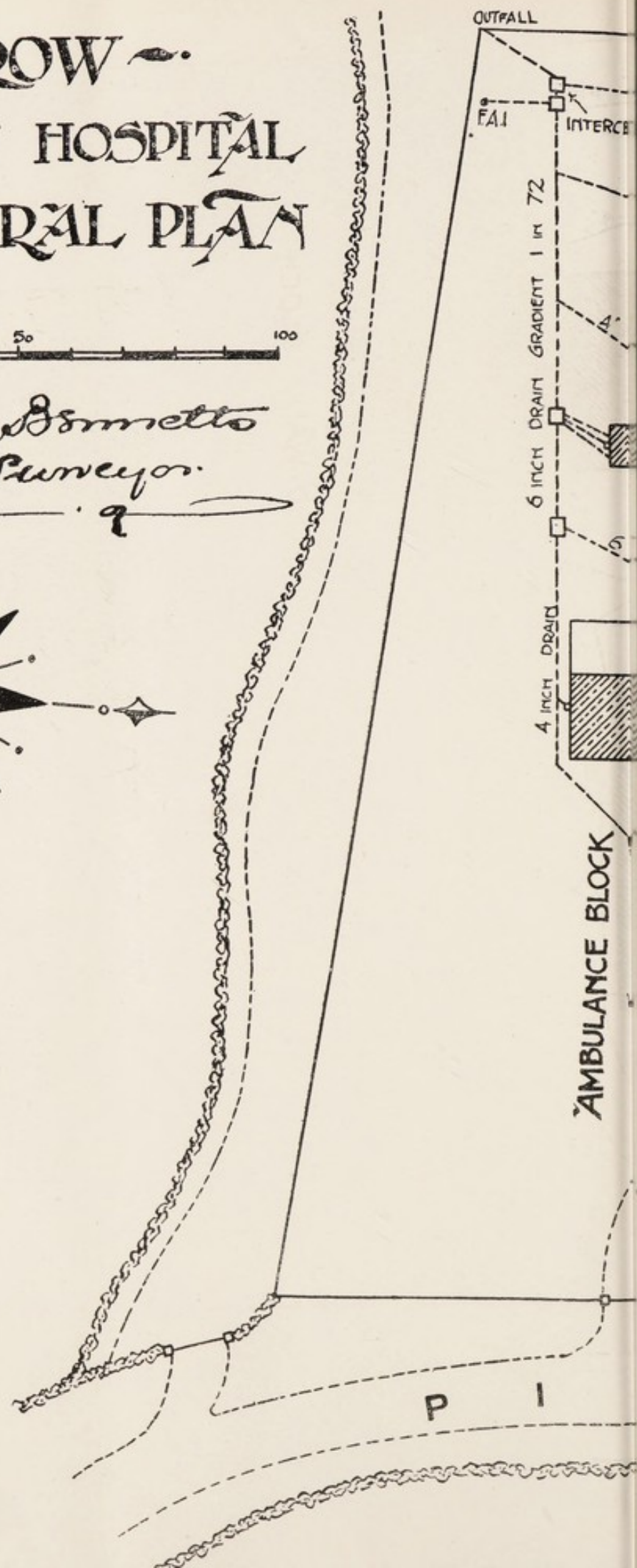
~ HARROW ~ ISOLATION HOSPITAL GENERAL PLAN

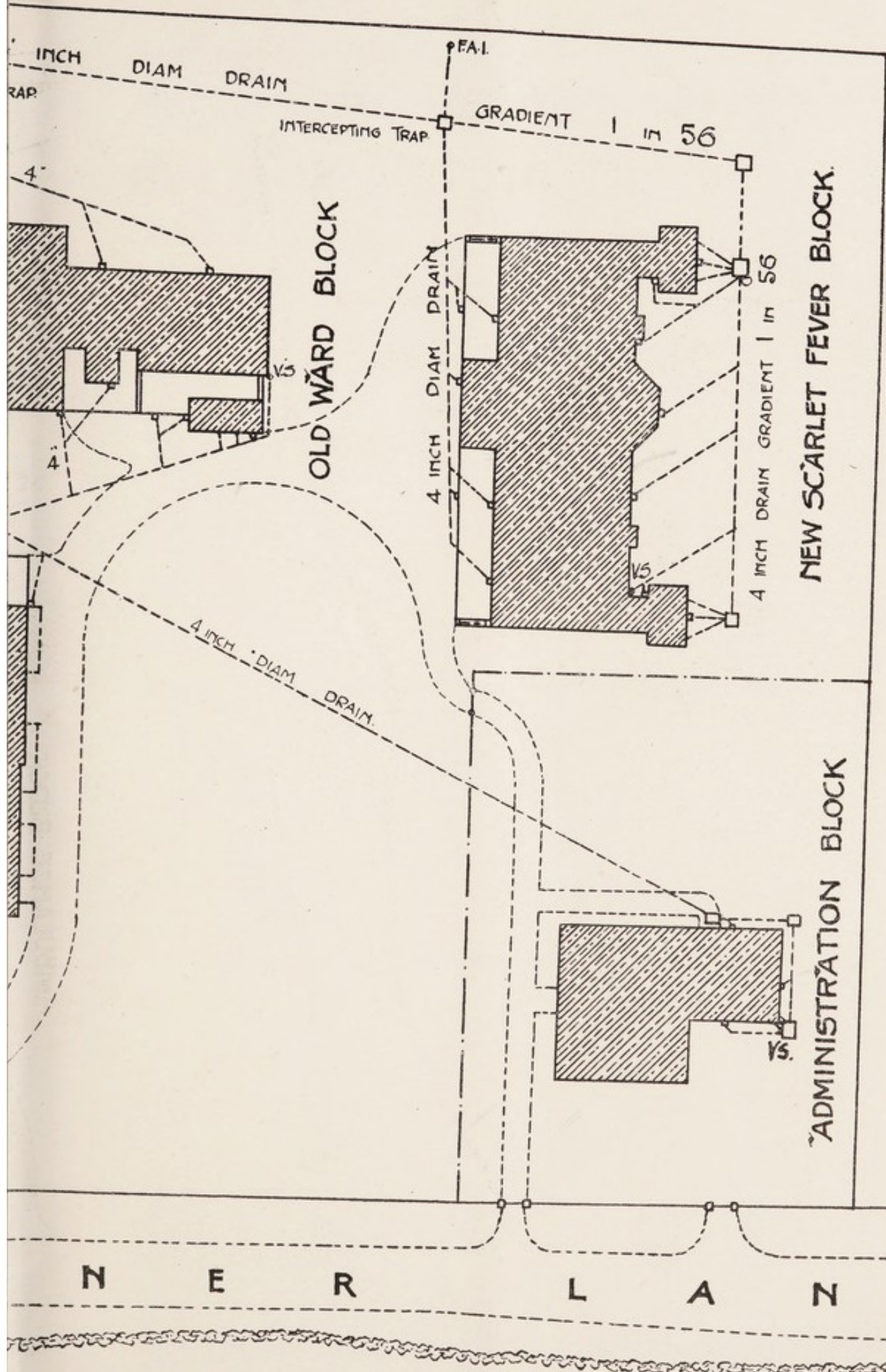
• SCALE •



Percy Bonnetto
Surveyor.

— 9 —

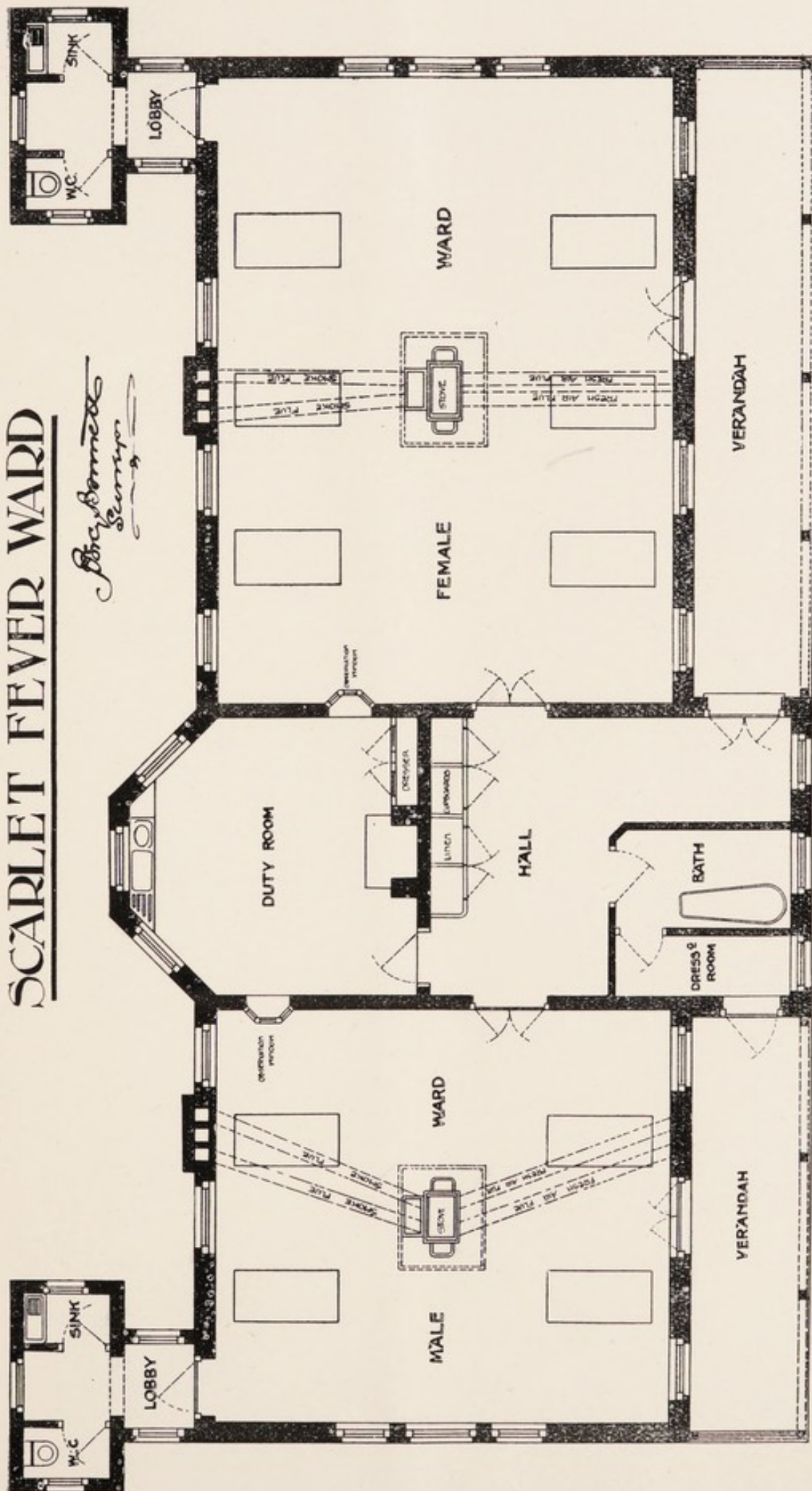




HARROW ISOLATION HOSPITAL

SCARLET FEVER WARD

*By Bonnie
Gunn*



(1) The ventilation of every house should be secured by a fanlight falling inwards (or an approved equivalent). The stuffy condition of many houses, even of good class, for want of such ventilation, is manifest to all who visit them.

(2) Plans showing so called "box rooms" which in the great majority of cases are used afterwards as bedrooms should not be approved. I would suggest a by-law that no room should be constructed without a fire-place and chimney.

(3) A by-law to insist on all rooms having doors of greater height than at present, so as to allow of the escape of the foul air which collects near the ceiling, and thus find natural means to provide for the ventilation of rooms in the evenings when the windows are often shut.

(4) The necessity of fireproof partitions between Flats deserves the consideration of your Council.

(5) All stairs should be provided with hand-rails.

(6) The unsatisfactory state of the By-Laws with regard to the amount of yard surface required to be paved, and the experience you have already had of the Surveyor's Department having to pass yards as complying with the By-Laws whilst the building is unoccupied, whereas when the houses are occupied these places soon become insanitary, and have to be condemned by your Sanitary Officers.

In some cases that I have reported to the Council the yard surfaces were pervious, and so much below the surface of the gullies that they did not drain into them, and the occupiers had to lay down planks on which to walk; yet under the present By-Laws the buildings had to be passed by the Surveyor's Department.

(6) A by-law forbidding interference with drains without notice being sent to the Sanitary Authorities.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

The By-Laws under Section 90 of the Public Health Act (1875) are now in force, but no houses have been registered. I recommend that steps be taken to have all such houses put on the register.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

The Working Classes in Harrow still pay too large a proportion of their earnings for house-rent, and until

measures are taken to provide them with cheaper accommodation they will be unable to provide adequately for the maintenance of their families, and to make a suitable provision for sickness and old age. The proportion of one-third of their wages for rent is too high when the wealthier classes pay only one-tenth, or even one-twentieth.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS—CARAVANS.

Mr. Kramm reports as follows:—

“During the year Caravan people have taken a field
“on three occasions at Northolt Road, and during their
“residence there the Nuisances created were abated after
“notice.”

WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. Kramm reports as follows:—

“The water supply is from the Colne Valley. It is
“a constant high pressure supply to every house in the
“district. The last well has been filled up and abolished.

“The Quarterly Analyses have shown that the supply
“is up to its usual high standard of purity.”

WATER CLOSETS WITHOUT WATER.

These insanitary relics of the past have almost disappeared, and the policy of the Council will soon exterminate them.

SCAVENGING.

Mr. Kramm reports as follows:—

“A weekly collection of refuse has been effected
“during the year.

“Owing to it being found necessary to tip all refuse
“at the Newton Sewage Farm an alteration of the time of
“removal was necessary, but during the whole of the year
“only 10 complaints were made.”

I believe it would conduce to the health of the town if the collection of refuse took place twice a week in the summer.

MILK FROM OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.

So large an amount of our milk supply comes from outside the district that it should be carefully watched. I have recommended the Council to ask for the insertion of clauses in the County Council (General Powers) Bill which will enable this to be done effectually, and I would respectfully urge that they consider my recommendation.

ABATTOIR.—PUBLIC SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

So long as the present system of private slaughter-houses continues, it is quite impossible to carry out the inspection of meat effectually, and I recommend the Council again to consider the desirability of erecting a public slaughter-house.

BAKEHOUSES, ETC.

There are 12 bakehouses (3 underground), 7 slaughter-houses, 11 butcher's shops, 7 fish shops, 5 milk shops, 10 dairy farms, and 2 laundries.

In one of the underground bakehouses it was found that all the ventilators ordered by the Council prior to the certificate being granted were blocked up. It was also in a dirty and neglected state.

All these places have been inspected half-yearly, and the dairy farms quarterly, and are now, on the whole, fairly satisfactory.

WORKSHOPS.

Mr. Kramm reports that there are 23 workshops in the district, and on inspection they have been found satisfactory. No lists of out-workers have been received, and I recommend that the occupiers be notified of the provisions of the Act, and requested to comply with them.

PUBLIC URINALS.

A town of the size of Harrow ought to be supplied with these sanitary conveniences, and I recommend that one should be placed in each of the three Parishes.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Mr. Bennetts, your Engineer, has furnished me with the appended reports, which are as follows:—

The rainfall for the year was 22·94, which is 2·62 less than that of last year, and 1·79 less than the average for the previous 10 years.

The number of days on which ·01 inch of rain or more fell was 20 in March and April, whereas in January and May the number of days was 7 and 8 respectively.

The heaviest rainfall registered in 24 hours was 1·56 inches on July 9th, the day after the hottest day in the year. The minimum temperatures were reached in January (22°00) and November (20°00).

The maximum temperatures were reached in May (81°00), June (80°00), July (83°00).

CREMATION.

The practice of cremation is steadily gaining ground amongst the educated classes, and now that the ashes of a great man have been interred in Westminster Abbey it will no doubt become more universally adopted.

It should be widely known that there is now a crematorium at Golder's Green, Hampstead, which is much more conveniently situated for this district than the one at Woking.

SEWAGE FARMS.

Mr. Bennetts reports as follows:—

“The effluents have on the whole kept very satisfactory, one or two samples from Newton not being up to the mark. The additional land at Newton will soon be used, and it is hoped the effluent at this farm will then improve.

“The enlarged clinker Bacteria Beds at Greenhill have been working satisfactorily, and the ballast in the large coarse bed is being washed and renewed.”

.....

I send the usual summary of sanitary statistics for 10 years, and also the appended reports.

Mr. Kramm has kept in force our practice of prompt isolation, which has greatly helped to diminish the number of cases of infectious disease, and to protect the health of the town.

In conclusion allow me again to thank your Council for their continued kindness, and to express my indebtedness to your Officers: Mr. Strachan, your Clerk; Mr. Percy Bennetts, your Engineer; and Mr. Kramm, your Sanitary Inspector; for the cheerful assistance which they have always rendered me in my work.

I remain, Sir,

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 1905 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.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.					
1895	7,807	169	22.6	18	106	73	9.3	7			73	9.3
1896	8,373	194	23.7	22	113	71	8.5	8			71	8.5
1897	8,777	196	22.3	14	71	72	8.03	2	2		74	8.5
1898	9,293	195	22.0	20	102.5	109	11.7	17	8		117	12.5
1899	10,077	221	21.9	29	131	108	10.7	14	11		119	11.8
1900	10,540	238	22.5	20	84	103	9.7	4	6		109	10.3
1901	10,540	238	22.5	29	121.8	90	8.5		6		96	9.1
1902	10,850	251	23.1	17	67.7	88	8.1	3	6		94	8.6
1903	11,337	255	22.4	17	66.6	87	7.6		3	2	96	8.4
1904	12,313	277	22.4	30	108	104	8.4	6	10		114	9.2
Averages for years 1895-1904	9,990	223	22.5	21	97.1	90	9.5	6		5	96	9.6
1905	13,000	313	24.0	17	57.6	104	8.0	13	1	19	123	9.3

Area of District in acres (exclusive of Area covered by water).... } 2,197

Total Population at all ages, 10,220. } At Census of 1901.

Number of inhabited houses, 1,893.

Average number of persons per house, 5.3.

TABLE III.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.					Total Cases notified in each locality.			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality.		
	At Ages—Years.					St. Mary's	Roxeth	Green-hill	St. Mary's	Roxeth	Green-hill
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25						
Diphtheria.....	6		4	1		2	2	2			
Erysipelas.....	8			1	1	2	3	3			
Scarlet Fever.....	17		4	10	2	4	3	10	3	3	10
Enteric Fever	3			1			2	1			
Totals	34		8	13	3	8	10	16	3	3	10

Isolation Hospital, Newton Fields, Harrow.

TABLE IV.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR
1905.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Total deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
Whooping-cough	9	5	4					
Enteric	1					1		
Epidemic influenza	2					1	1	
Diarrhoea	1	1						
Enteritis	2	1				1		
Phthisis (pulmonary tuberculosis)	6				2	3	1	2
Other tubercular diseases ..	2					2		
Cancer, malignant disease..	7					4	3	
Other diseases of respiratory organs	13	2	3			5	3	
Alcoholism) Cirrhosis of liver }	2					2		
Premature birth	3	3						
Diseases and accident of parturition	1					1		
Heart disease	11					5	6	1
Accident	7	1	2	1		1	2	1
Suicides	1					1		
All other causes	36	5	4	2		11	14	9
All causes	104	18	13	3	2	38	30	13

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN AT HARROW DURING THE YEAR 1905

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	35·60	34·70	43·40	31·00	38·20	37·80	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	50·00	48·00	53·00	47·00	43·00	48·00	1·23	0·65	16th	7	S.W.
Lowest	22·00	22·00	32·00	22·00	35·00	42·00	..	..	..	..	S.E.
FEBRUARY.											
Means	39·85	38·57	46·25	36·57	40·00	42·58	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	48·00	47·00	53·00	45·00	43·00	43·00	0·91	0·39	26th	11	S.W.
Lowest	32·00	30·00	37·00	29·00	36·00	41·00	..	..	..	..	S.E.
MARCH.											
Means	42·51	41·43	51·32	37·20	42·58	43·19	..	..	..	..	S.W.
Highest	49·00	48·00	59·00	45·00	46·00	45·00	3·46	0·59	15th	20	N.W.
Lowest	28·00	27·00	44·00	25·00	39·00	43·00	..	..	..	..	N.E.
APRIL.											
Means	45·80	43·26	53·66	43·26	46·03	45·96	..	..	..	..	S.W.
Highest	54·00	55·00	61·00	49·00	49·00	47·00	1·79	0·46	9th	20	N.E.
Lowest	34·00	33·00	46·00	31·00	44·00	45·00	..	..	..	..	N.W.
MAY.											
Means	53·64	48·58	62·80	43·87	52·09	47·77	..	..	..	..	N.E.
Highest	69·00	60·00	81·00	57·00	57·00	51·00	1·21	0·79	30th	8	S.W.
Lowest	44·00	40·00	52·00	33·00	48·00	47·00	..	..	..	..	N.W.
JUNE.											
Means	59·77	52·70	67·44	52·46	57·23	52·86	..	..	..	..	N.E.
Highest	69·00	63·00	80·00	60·00	61·00	55·00	3·31	0·78	5th	14	S.W.
Lowest	50·00	48·00	53·00	45·00	54·00	51·00	..	..	..	..	N.W.
JULY.											
Means	65·09	66·93	75·54	56·63	62·51	57·74	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	72·00	65·00	83·00	62·00	64·00	59·00	1·86	1·56	9th	9	S.W.
Lowest	58·00	56·00	69·00	50·00	61·00	55·00	..	..	..	..	S.E.
AUGUST.											
Means	61·22	60·54	68·58	53·80	60·80	59·19	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	68·00	62·00	74·00	59·00	63·00	60·00	2·43	0·88	28th	17	S.W.
Lowest	53·00	51·00	58·00	44·00	58·00	59·00	..	..	..	..	..

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	56.40	53.83	63.03	49.33	56.93	58.13	..	..	..	..	N.E.
Highest	65.00	63.00	73.00	60.00	61.00	59.00	1.28	0.37	9th	12	S.W.
Lowest	51.00	49.00	54.00	40.00	55.00	57.00	..	..	..	..	N.W.
OCTOBER											
Means	44.19	43.00	52.51	37.74	48.87	54.42	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	54.00	53.00	59.00	48.00	54.00	57.00	1.37	0.30	29th	12	S.W.
Lowest	33.00	32.00	46.00	25.00	45.00	51.00	..	..	..	..	N.E.
NOVEMBER.											
Means	39.33	38.43	46.66	34.33	43.93	49.36	..	..	..	..	N.E.
Highest	48.00	48.00	52.00	48.00	47.00	51.00	3.00	0.45	10th	19	S.W.
Lowest	22.00	22.00	37.00	20.00	40.00	47.00	..	..	..	..	N.W.
DECEMBER.											
Means	38.90	38.25	44.42	35.45	44.35	46.22	..	..	..	..	N.W.
Highest	51.00	50.00	56.00	48.00	45.00	47.00	1.09	0.22	7th	14	S.W.
Lowest	30.00	28.00	34.00	27.00	41.00	45.00	..	..	..	..	N.E.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS
OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories	15		
(Including Factory Laundries.)			
Workshops	95	3	
(Including Workshop Laundries.)			
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total	110	3	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisance under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2		
Want of Ventilation	1		1	
Overcrowding	2	2		
Want of drainage of floors				
Other Nuisances	4	4		
Sanitary accommda- tions { insufficient				
{ unsuitable or defective				
{ not separate for sexes ..	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107)				
Giving out work { unwholesome (S.108) to be done in { premises which { infected (S.110) are				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S.109)				
Total	10	9	1	

3—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.		Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)		
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5)	Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	
Other		
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—		
In use during 1903		3
Certificates granted {	in 1903	2
	in 1904	1
In use at the end of 1904		3
Homework :—		Number of
Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—		Lists. Out- workers
Lists received		Nil. Nil.
Addresses of outworkers {	forwarded to other Authorities	
	received from other Authorities	
Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :—		Wearing Apparel. Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)	}	Nil. Nil.
Case of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises ..		
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)....		
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1905 :—		
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Dressmakers and Milliners..	14
	Tailors	5
	Cycle Works, Carpenters, &c.	4
Total number of workshops on Register		23

SANITARY WORK, 1905.

Inspections.					Notices.				Dwelling Houses.				Houses let in separate Dwellings or Lodgings.	Common Lodging Houses.	Canal Boats used as Dwellings.	Movable Dwellings, Caravans, Tents, &c.	Workshops and Work-places.						
Number of Premises Inspected on Complaint.	Number of Premises Inspected in connection with Infectious Diseases.	Number of Premises under Periodical Inspection.	Houses Inspected from House-to-House.	Total Number of Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected.	Cautionary Notices Given.	Statutory Orders Issued.	Summonses Served.	Convictions Obtained.	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, &c.	Closed as Unfit for Habitation.	Re-opened after Repairs, Alterations, &c.	Demolished.	Illegal Underground Dwellings Vacated.	Number Registered under Bye-Laws.	Number of Contraventions.	Number Registered under the Acts.	Number of Contraventions of Regulations.	Number Observed during the Year.	Number of Nuisances therefrom Abated.	Number Removed from District.	Number in District.	Contraventions of Factory Acts.	
93	34	107	51	285	185	12	nil.	nil.	2	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	1	6	nil.	nil.	38	45	12	23	10

SANITARY WORK, 1905.

Drainage and Sewerage.														
Water Closets.			Percentage of Houses provided with Water Closets.	Drains.					Cesspools.			Disinfection.		
New Constructed.	Number of Water Closets substituted for Dry Receptacles.	Repaired, Supplied with Water, or otherwise improved.		Examined, Tested, Exposed, &c.	Unstopped, Repaired, Trapped, &c.	Waste Pipes, Rain Water Pipes Disconnected, Repaired, &c.	Soil Pipes & Drains Ventilated.	Disconnecting Traps or Chambers Inserted.	Reconstructed.	Rendered Impervious, Emptied, Cleansed, &c.	Abolished, and Drain connected to Sewer.	Percentage of Houses Draining into Sewers.	Rooms Disinfected.	Rooms Stripped and Cleansed.
45	nil.	52	99 ⁰ / ₁₀	208	54	90	36	50	23	nil.	nil.	99 ⁰ / ₁₀	91	10
													737	
													36	
													Weekly.	
													10	
													Overcrowding.	
													Smoke.	
													Accumulation of Refuse.	
													Foul Ditches, Ponds, &c., and Stagnant Water.	
													Foul Pigs and other Animals.	
													Dampness.	
													Other Nuisances.	55

