

**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BROMLEY.**

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

BROMLEY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1914,

BY

JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.

BROMLEY, KENT :

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BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

AREA OF POPULATION.

The following Tables give the area, population of the District, and other figures as shown by the census of 1911, and previous census years.

No. of Registration District	Area in Statute acres		Inhabited Houses				Population			
	Land and Inland Water	Inland Water only	1881	1891	1901	1911	1881	1891	1901	1911
42	28839	40	2770	3237	3655	4777	14303	16818	18808	21958

Civil Parishes	Area in Statute acres (Land and Inland Water)	Families or Separate occupiers		Population				Institutions, Large Establishments, Vessels, etc., 1911 (included in Cols. 4 & 6)	
				1901	1911				
		1901	1911	Pers's	Pers's	Males	F'mas	No.	Pop.
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chelsfield ...	3,378	341	428	1,522	1,790	885	905	4	37
Cudham ...	5,925	234	389	1,111	1,604	832	772	5	21
Downe ...	1,652	145	164	610	649	285	364	2	40
Farnborough...	1,429	284	508	2,262	3 210	1,708	1,502	5	1,096
Hayes ...	1,282	195	214	838	925	369	556	—	—
Keston ...	1,487	179	235	832	986	440	546	2	33
Knockholt ...	1,701	223	244	952	943	472	471	1	1
Mottingham ...	642	256	316	1,332	1,534	727	807	2	100
North Cray ...	1,484	147	140	661	655	303	352	1	19
Orpington ...	3,517	864	1,130	4,259	5,036	2,351	2,685	14	148
St. Mary Cray	2,028	439	457	1,894	1,857	872	985	—	—
St. Paul's Cray	1,654	256	301	1,207	1,467	676	791	5	71
W'st Wickham	2,660	264	294	1,328	1,302	610	692	2	32
Totals ...	28,839	3,827	4,820	18,808	21,958	10,530	11,428	43	1,598

The population of the Bromley Rural District as estimated to the middle of 1914 was 23,095 an increase of 359 on 1913, and of 1137 on the Census for 1911.

Births and the Birth-rate.—There were 468 births registered in the district, and four births were transferred to it from outside the district. There were, however, 19 births registered in the district which did not belong to it, and when the gross number registered is modified by the transferred births, the **net number is 462** (235 males and 227 females) and the **birth-rate 20·0**, compared with 22·2 for the whole of Rural England and Wales.

Deaths and the Death-rate.—There were 347 deaths registered in the district giving a crude rate of 15.0 which corrected by the factor for the district gives a standardised rate of 14.2. There were 124 deaths registered in the district of persons who did not belong to it whose deaths occurred in public institutions in the district, chiefly in the Bromley Union Infirmary, and 31 deaths were transferred to the district from outside, making the **nett deaths 254** and the **death-rate 11.0** comparing favourably with the rate for Rural England and Wales (13.4).

Fifteen deaths were due to the following epidemic diseases, and I give the rate per 1,000 of the population for this district, and also for Rural England and Wales.

Rate per 1,000 living.

						Bromley Rural	England & Wales
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	7	0.30	20.41
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	5	0.22	0.15
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.24
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	0.04	0.21
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	1	0.04	0.08
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	0.04	0.08
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
						15	0.64

Infant Mortality.—There were 25 deaths under one year of age compared with 38 in 1913, and giving a rate per 1,000 births of 54, which is very low compared with the same rate for Rural England and Wales (93). With the exception of 1910 and 1911 the Infant Mortality rate for this district has been an almost steadily decreasing one. For the ten years 1898—1907 inclusive, the average number of deaths was 65 and the average rate 110, but for the seven years 1908 to 1914 inclusive the average number of deaths has been 39.7 and the rate 81.

The following table gives a comparison between the rates for this District, and those for England and Wales :—

				Birth-rate	Death-rate	Infant Mortality
England & Wales	...	...	...	23.8	14.0	105
97 Great Towns (including London)	...	...	...	25.0	14.7	114
145 Smaller Towns	...	...	...	23.9	12.9	104
England & Wales	...	...	...	22.2	13.4	93
Less the 242 Towns	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bromley Rural	...	...	...	20.0	11.0	54

There was one uncertified death, a woman aged 85, who died at Cudham in February.

A.—NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in the District, viz., Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlet Fever or Scarlatina, and the Fevers known by any of the following names :—Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued, and Puerperal.

By a General Order of the Local Government Board, No. 58,962 dated 15th August, 1912, the diseases known as Cerebro-spinal Fever and Acute Poliomyelitis were also made compulsorily notifiable.

By a General Order of the Local Government Board, dated 19th December, 1912, the following Regulations, viz., the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908; the Public Health (Tuberculosis in Hospitals) Regulations, 1911; and the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1911, were revoked and substituted by the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912. The last named Regulations came into operation on the 1st of February, 1913, and had the effect of making all forms of Tuberculosis compulsorily notifiable on and after that date.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum was made compulsorily notifiable by Medical Practitioners and certified Midwives, from the 1st of April, 1914, under an Order of the Local Government Board issued February 5th, 1914.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1914, being 157 compared with 113 in 1913. The increase was chiefly in diphtheria and phthisis; and the decrease in scarlet fever and erysipelas. One case of puerperal fever and one of poliomyelitis were notified.

Scarlet Fever.—There were 33 cases notified, one of which was, fatal, compared with 43 non-fatal cases in 1913. The notifications related to the whole year, April with 5 and August with 6 being the heaviest months, and occurred in various parts of the district, though Orpington with 10, St. Paul's Cray with 7, and Mottingham with 5 cases were the parishes most affected. The infection appears to have been largely spread about by contact at school, and St. Paul's Cray School, which the majority of the children attended, was closed for disinfection.

The single death from scarlet fever occurred in May at Knockholt, and was that of an adult male aged 34, who was supposed to have contracted the disease while in Switzerland; he had arrived home at Knockholt on the 26th of May and died on the 30th.

The outbreak first began in December, 1913, and it was feared that a considerable number of cases would follow, but the closure of St. Mary Cray and St. Paul's Cray Schools, the two most affected, early in January and their thorough disinfection appears to have modified the outbreak considerably.

The age-periods of the cases were as follows :—

<u>1—5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5—15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>15—25</u> <u>years</u>	<u>25—45</u> <u>years</u>	<u>45—65</u> <u>years</u>	
4	15	9	4	1	33 cases

Diphtheria.—There has been a considerable increase in the number of cases of diphtheria notified during 1914—being 70, and five deaths compared with 14 cases and two deaths in 1913. One of the deaths did not take place in the district, but was transferred to it from Eastbourne, where, apparently, the child contracted the disease and died. Three of the five deaths occurred in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital. The outbreak took the form of little epidemics in certain parishes, not a sprinkling of cases over the whole district. There were two separate outbreaks, which later appeared to have become connected. 41 of the 70 cases were notified from Farnborough, 31 of them being from the Workhouse, and 10 from the village, in children who had attended the same Schools as children from the Workhouse Homes.

The first case in the year was notified the beginning of January from St. Paul's Cray, and was a girl aged 12 years who had attended the St. Paul's Cray School up to December 24th, 1913. The girl was removed to Hospital immediately, but died the following day. The second case from St. Paul's Cray was a young maid at the Cray Valley Cottage Hospital, whose home was also in St. Paul's Cray, and she was notified on the 3rd of February. There were no further cases from St. Paul's Cray until the beginning of March, when two children attending St. Paul's Cray School and living in the same house were notified on days following each other; at the end of March a boy aged 8 years, residing at the caretaker's rooms of the Cray Valley Cottage Hospital, and attending St. Paul's Cray School was notified, and 10 days later two further cases were notified from St. Paul's Cray School, one child dying 10 minutes before the arrival of the ambulance to take her into the Isolation Hospital on the day of notification, less than two hours after the notification had been received. At the end of April the young girl who had been maid at the Cray Valley Cottage Hospital, and was notified with diphtheria on February 3rd, and discharged from Hospital on April 1st, was notified afresh as having Scarlet Fever. Her brother (Mar. 14) and mother (April 3) both having been notified and removed to Hospital in the meantime with scarlet fever. (A young sister of this girl had been admitted to the B. and B. Hospital on December 9th, 1913, and discharged January 20th, 1914, with scarlet fever).

In May a girl from the Wellington Road Schools, St. Mary Cray, was removed to Hospital and discharged on June 24th, the first case of diphtheria from this school, and on July 5th the brother of this girl was notified.

Early in March a girl aged 18, daughter of the caretaker at this school, was removed to Hospital with scarlet fever, and the caretaker was instructed not to continue his duties until the house had been cleansed and disinfected.

On June 23rd another brother of the young maid from the Cray Valley Cottage Hospital was notified with diphtheria, he also had attended the St. Paul's Cray School.

On August 23rd a case from Orpington who had attended the Chislehurst Road School, but who had been associating with children from Farnborough was notified, and later in August three other children from this School, contacts with this child, were notified, and two others from St. Paul's Cray School. During September there were no cases notified, but the middle of October two children were notified from St. Paul's Cray School, and at the end of November a girl from the Chislehurst Road Schools.

On January 12th I inspected the children in the Infant Classes at Paul's Cray and St. Mary Cray Schools, both of which had been closed on account of the prevalence of scarlet fever and diphtheria, but I found it necessary to advise the exclusion of one child only.

In April I again visited the St. Paul's Cray School and conferred with the Schoolmaster and Dr. Tucker, who examined all the children and took several swabs.

I visited the School again just before it was closed for the hop-picking; I also made inspections from time to time of the houses from which the cases were notified, and issued orders for some of them to be cleansed.

The other outbreak was in connection with the Workhouse Homes, and was almost entirely confined to Workhouse children, though a few cases occurred in families in the village through contact with Workhouse children attending the village schools.

The first case was on January 10th, and was a child aged 8 who attended the Farnborough School, the date of her last attendance being December 24th, 1913. A second case was notified on January 22nd, and was a girl also attending this School, who was admitted to the Hospital and discharged on February 25th. There were 46 contacts from these cases under observation in the Workhouse Homes. The wards were disinfected by spraying with formalin.

As there had been several cases during 1913, it was decided to test the drainage of certain parts of the Workhouse. The drainage in these parts was found to be in a very defective condition with broken joints, defective traps, etc., and sewer gas had access to the Isolation Block of the Female Infirmary. In consequence of the conditions revealed by the investigations the Inspector made a Special Report on the subject to the Rural District Council, who referred the matter to the Board of Guardians, and a number of the defects were remedied.

On January 24th a girl was notified who had not been in contact with either of the previous cases, but on January 22nd she had been taken from the Children's Ward where she had been for several months, into the Female Infirmary, and there were 8 contacts with this child, one of them dying a few days later from diphtheria following pneumonia,

No further cases attending the Farnborough School were notified until May 20th and 22nd, when four boys, two attending Farnborough and two Bromley Schools, and three of them living at the Workhouse Homes were notified, and one of them was brother to the girl notified on January 22nd.

On June 6th another brother of this girl was notified from the same class as the May cases from Farnborough School, and in July two more boys from this School, one a village child, but son of the Labour Master at the Workhouse, the other from the Workhouse Homes, were notified and removed to Hospital, the boy from Farnborough village dying five days later. He had attended a tea party given to the Workhouse children, and three days later his mother and brother were notified and removed to Hospital.

The first boy from the Workhouse attending the Orpington School was notified on July 19th, but a few days previously the mother of a child who had attended this School was notified, and was stated to have probably taken the infection from her daughter, who had been in one of the London Hospitals suffering from diphtheria, and on leaving had had a discharge from her ears which had continued up to a fortnight previous to the mother being notified, and two days later, on July 14th, a brother of this child attending Orpington School, was admitted to Hospital, and discharged on August 18th, and was re-admitted on the 28th of August after a positive report on a swab from his throat had been received.

On July 24th the girl notified on January 22nd, was again notified and removed to Hospital, where she remained until August 28th, and a boy who had slept regularly with her brother after his discharge from Hospital was notified on the same day. The wards occupied by the contacts with these patients were disinfected, and it was suggested that patients should be isolated for three weeks after their discharge from Hospital. During August only one case was notified connected with the Workhouse (August 28th), but during September there were 13 cases, and on September 29th the girl notified on January 22nd, who had already been notified twice, and was last discharged from Hospital on August 28th, was again notified and isolated. On October 9th two cases were notified from the Workhouse, two swabs from the throat of one under similar condition examined in different laboratories showed different results. During November and December there were no cases notified among the Workhouse children, and it was hoped that the disease had finally been eradicated from the Institution.

One case notified in December was supposed to have been due to contact with a soldier at the V.A.D. Hospital.

The following shows the age-periods at which the cases and deaths occurred :—

<u>1—5</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>5—15</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>15—25</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>25—45</u> <u>years</u>	<u>45—65</u> <u>years.</u>	
4	55	5	4	2	70 cases.

Enteric Fever.—In each of the past four years there have been five cases of enteric fever notified in the Bromley Rural District, and with the exception of 1912 in each year one case has terminated fatally. During 1912 three of the cases were notified from one family at Hayes, and during 1914 two cases were notified from one family at Orpington, but with these exceptions none of the cases appear to have had any connection with each other, but to have been notified from entirely different parts of the district, and without apparently any circumstance to suggest a common source of infection.

The first case in 1914 occurred in February at Orpington, and was a German governess who had arrived at a private school in the neighbourhood less than a month previous to notification, and it was stated that the water supply on the boat from Queensboro' was bad, and had run out during the crossing.

The second case was notified on July 20th, and was a man, aged 57, engaged in business at Farnborough. There was nothing to suggest the source of infection, as the house was supplied with the Metropolitan Board's Water, and the house was apparently in good repair. Unfortunately the man died six days after notification.

The next two cases were notified from one house at Orpington. The first case, a girl, aged 19, had visited Sandgate 18 days previously, and had partaken of oysters and other shell-fish. The second case was the mother of this girl, who was notified a few days after her daughter. It was stated that the father had had typhoid fever in 1911.

The fifth case was a youth, aged 18, who had been admitted to the Workhouse shortly before in a very filthy condition from exposure, and already very weak and ill.

Erysipelas.—There were 6 cases notified compared with 11 in 1913. Two were from the Workhouse Infirmary, one of them being a man aged 84 who died. One case occurred in a house where the drainage was defective.

Puerperal Fever.—There was one case during 1914, a laundress aged 34, who died at Mottingham in March; both a trained nurse and a doctor were in attendance. The patient had been working at the laundry up to the day previous to her confinement.

Smallpox.—It is satisfactory to record that no cases of this disease have occurred since April, 1908.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis are now by the General Order of the Local Government Board of August 16, 1912, compulsorily notifiable, but during the past year no notifications have been received.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.—There was one case notified in June, a child aged $3\frac{1}{2}$ years who had arrived with her parents in a caravan at St. Paul's Cray, from Battersea. The child was stated to have been ill on the morning the family left Battersea, and had lost the use of her arm, and the mother, believing the child had injured the arm, took her to a doctor who treated it. The day following the child was taken to a doctor at Orpington, who notified it as a case of poliomyelitis, and sent the child to the Cray Valley Hospital, but she died the following day. The mother stated that the child had had measles three weeks previously. The cerebro-spinal fluid was examined with a negative result.

There were 27 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis compared with 32 in 1913, and of this number 22 were due to phthisis compared with 21 in 1913. Of the total number of deaths from tuberculosis 16 had apparently never been notified, 5 were notified during 1914, and 6 previous to 1914.

The **Death-rate** from all forms of the Disease was 1.12, and the Phthisis death-rate 0.95 per 1,000 of population, as compared with rates of 1.40 and 0.92 respectively in the previous year.

The following Table gives a comparison of the rates for this District and the corrected rates for England and Wales for the five years 1907—1912 beyond which the comparative figures for the country generally are not at present available.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
TUBERCULOSIS (all forms) :								
England and Wales ...	1.61	1.58	1.54	1.43	1.46	1.53	...	...
Death Rate, Bromley ...	1.14	0.88	1.01	1.10	1.36	1.56	1.40	1.12
No. of Deaths ...	33	18	21	23	30	35	32	26
PHTHISIS :								
England and Wales ...	1.14	1.12	1.09	1.02	1.06	1.39	...	...
Death Rate, Bromley ...	...	...	...	...	...	1.38	0.92	0.95
No. of Deaths ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	22

Thirty-six new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1914, compared with 25 in 1913. A number of them were from the Workhouse, Farnborough, some of them being persons who had no fixed home previous to admission. Several of the cases notified had a record of tuberculosis in the family, and it was suggested that one man had taken the infection from a brother-in-law also notified during 1914, who had been in the same house for six months previous to his removal to the Workhouse Infirmary, and who later died of the disease. The majority of the cases were stated to be of from three to 9 months duration, but a few were of long standing. One of the deaths was a youth whose mother, sister and brother had died of tuberculosis. Two cases occurred in an Orphanage in the neighbourhood,

DISTRIBUTION OF CASES AND DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1914.

	New Cases Notified 1914	DEATHS DURING 1914		
		Notified previous to 1914	Notified during 1914	Not Notified
Farnborough	6	1	—	—
Farnborough Workhouse	2	—	—	—
Orpington	9	3	2	7
St. Mary Cray	3	—	—	—
Cudham	2	1	1	1
Bromley Common ...	4	—	—	1
Mottingham	3	—	—	—
St. Paul's Cray	3	1	1	1
Other parts	4	—	—	2
	36	6	4	12

There were 5 notifications received of non-pulmonary cases of tuberculosis compared with 16 in 1913.

The procedure in the case of tuberculosis in the Bromley Rural District is the same as in other parts of the West Kent Combined District. On receipt of a notification the Sanitary Inspector visits the home and offers to disinfect any rooms, bedding or clothing and leaves disinfectants a supply of which may be renewed as required, supplies a sputum flask where necessary, and instructs the household how to avoid spreading the infection. He also inspects the premises and requests the landlord to carry out any necessary repairs.

On receipt of a notification that the patient has been admitted to a Public Institution, the Inspector again visits the house and offers to disinfect the rooms vacated by the patient, and any clothing or bedding used by him.

Where Sanatorium treatment is desired, or where the limited sleeping accommodation in the house makes it impracticable to provide a separate room for the patient, the Inspector suggests that the Medical Attendant should get into communication with the Tuberculosis Officer for the district whose name and address and hours of attendance are handed to him, and that he should arrange a consultation for his patient. Where Sanatorium treatment cannot be secured and there is a good garden, an effort is made to obtain the use of a shelter for the patient where the case is suitable for such treatment.

NEW CASE OF ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1914.

	No. of Cases.	Sex.	18 under 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 25	25 30	30 35	35 40	40 45	45 50	50 55	55 60	60 65	65 70
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	24	M			1	2	2	6	3	3	4	1	1		1	
	12	F		1	2		2	1	1		4	1				
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	2	M		2												
	3	F	1				2									
	41		1	3	3	2	6	7	4	3	8	2	1		1	

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.—There were no deaths from measles during 1914. In 1913 there were 12.

Whooping Cough.—There was one death, a child aged 16 months, who died at Knockholt in October.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years).—There were 7 deaths as in 1913, they occurred in April (1), May (1), August (3) and September (2); 5 were at Orpington, and 2 at St. Mary Cray.

Influenza.—There were three deaths during 1914; they were adults aged 55, 75 and 81 respectively, and occurred in May, November and December.

Cancer.—There were 31 deaths from cancer compared with 33 in 1913. They occurred in the following age groups, 44-50—1, 50-60—6, 60-70—13, 70-80—9, 80-90—2. Where notice is received of a death from cancer, the Sanitary Inspector undertakes to disinfect the rooms, bedding, etc., used by the patient if requested to do so.

The following table shows the number of deaths and death-rates for this District for the years 1907—1914, with the comparative corrected

rates for England and Wales up to 1912, beyond which year the latter are not at present available.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
England and Wales ...	0·91	0·92	0·96	0·97	0·99	0·99		
Bromley Rural—								
Death-rate ...	0·54	1·76	0·92	0·96	0·91	1·25	1·45	1·34
No. of deaths ...	11	36	19	20	20	28	33	31

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Fifty-six cases of infectious disease were treated in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital, and were admitted as follows :—

	Cases.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Polio-myelitis.
January	7	6	1	—	—
February	3	1	2	—	—
March	7	4	3	—	—
April	6	5	1	—	—
May	7	7	—	—	—
June	4	2	1	—	1
July	20	15	4	1	—
August	17	10	5	2	—
September	15	13	1	1	—
October	7	5	2	—	—
November	3	1	2	—	—
December	3	—	3	—	—
Totals	99	69	25	4	1

Four deaths occurred in the Hospital—3 from Diphtheria, and 1 from Enteric Fever, to which I have already referred under their respective headings.

Hospital.—Several cases of cross infection occurred during the early part of 1914 among children admitted to the Bromley and Beckenham Isolation Hospital, but during the year, I understand, there have been extensive alterations to the Hospital, and it is hoped that this will effectually prevent any further cases arising in future of this description.

Small-pox.—At the latter part of the year the question of the accommodation for cases of small-pox, should any occur suddenly, was under discussion. The Bromley and Beckenham Joint Small-pox Hospital is used for the treatment of tuberculosis, and the agreement

with the Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Southborough Joint Small-pox Hospital ceased in June, 1914. Finally the Bromley and Beckenham Hospital Board decided to remove the cases of tuberculosis, and reserve the Hospital for its original purpose.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL AIDS TO DIAGNOSIS.

Specimens examined	Results.		Totals.
	Positive.	Negative.	
Diphtheria	38	139	197
Typhoid Fever... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Totals	38	139	197

Adoptive Acts.—The following portions of the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907, are in force in the whole of the Rural District :—

Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Sections 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 31, 32 and 33.

Part 3 (Sanitary Provisions). Sections 36, 37, 38, 43, 44 and 45, 49 and 51.

Part 4 (Infectious Disease). Sections 52 to 68 (both inclusive).
and Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Sections 15, 16, 17, 18 and 27, in the contributory places of New Chelsfield Special Drainage District, Downe, Farnborough, Keston, Knockholt, Mottingham, Orpington, St. Mary Cray, and West Wickham.

Inspection of District.—The District, which includes 13 parishes, is divided into two parts for the purpose of inspection, viz. :—

No. 1 District (Mr. Nightingale) includes the parishes of :—

Population at Census of 1914					
Mottingham	...	...	...	...	1534
North Cray	...	...	...	...	655
Orpington	...	...	...	...	5036
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	...	1857
St. Paul's Cray	...	...	...	...	1467
					<hr/>
					10,549

No. 2 District (Mr. Dunlop) includes the parishes of:—

Chelsfield	...	...	...	...	...	1790
Cudham	...	...	...	...	...	1604
Downe	...	...	...	...	...	649
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	...	2141
Hayes ...	...	...	...	...	...	925
Keston ...	...	...	...	...	...	986
Knockholt	...	...	...	...	...	943
West Wickham	...	...	...	...	...	1302
Union Workhouse, Farnborough	...	...	...	...	...	654
St. Joseph's Home, Farnborough	...	...	...	...	...	415
						<hr/> 11,409
						<hr/> <hr/> 21,958

The particulars as to the inspections made and work done by the Sanitary Inspectors as required by the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Order, 1910, are appended in Mr. Nightingale's and Mr. Dunlop's reports.

Water.—I examined several samples of water during 1914, one was from the Union Workhouse, Farnborough, and one from an underground tank supplying water to several houses in the parish of Cudham; the first was only temporarily polluted, but the second I reported on as unfit for drinking purposes.

A question arose as to the source of the water supply to a new house, erected at Downe; the owner desired to store and use rain water only, but was eventually persuaded to have the house connected to the Metropolitan Water Board's supply.

Rivers and Streams.—Complaints were received that at one point on the River Cray a nuisance was being caused by people depositing their rubbish there. I inspected the place and advised that the river should be cleansed of the rubbish, and notices put up imposing a penalty for the continuance of the nuisance.

Drainage.—Several large public schemes have been under consideration during 1914. Early in the year I thought it was desirable to again bring before the Council the unsatisfactory position of Keston, in regard to drainage, and on January 31st I made a report to the Council on the subject, which I give below:—

Gentlemen,

I have again to bring before you the very unsatisfactory condition of drainage at Keston—and more particularly of Keston Mark.

I have made many inspections, and more particularly in the early part of last year when various complaints were made.

A schedule of the defects in the locality was made by Mr. Dunlop as far back as 1902, and this he has brought up-to-date.

I reported in detail on the 17th July, 1902, and conditions have not improved since then.

I beg to suggest that when dealing with this matter, that it would be well to consider a scheme for both populous parts of Keston, and also the question of including Hayes in a comprehensive scheme.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. TEW.

On March 31st a conference was held between representatives of the Parish Councils of Keston and Hayes, and the Rural District Council, which resulted in the latter requesting their Surveyor and Engineer to draw up a scheme for consideration by the respective Parish Councils, and in June I went over the plans with Mr. Dunlop, the Sanitary Inspector, and they were submitted to the Councils in August, but owing to the war they were in abeyance at the end of the year.

The drainage of West Wickham, in connection with which there have been numerous reports, conferences and inspections for many years past, has been the subject of a Local Government Board Inquiry during 1914. An application was made by the Council for sanction to borrow £5465 for sewerage purposes, and in March, F. O. Stanford, Esq., conducted an Inquiry into the scheme and the approval of the Local Government Board was obtained, subject to certain alterations, which were gone into, but owing to the war, at the end of 1914, no further progress had been made in the matter.

In April I made an inspection in reference to the request of a private owner for the removal from his house to which it was attached, of the vent shaft ventilating the sewers at the junction of Anglesea and Albert Road, St. Mary Cray, and as I consider that ventilation at this point is required I recommended that a Webb Lamp and Ventilating Column should be substituted for the ordinary gas lamp already there.

In consequence of suspicion being directed to it, owing to an outbreak of diphtheria among the children at the Workhouse Homes, Farnborough, the drainage of the whole of the Workhouse has been thoroughly overhauled and a scheme for its reconstruction approved during 1914.

In January, several cases of diphtheria occurred among the Workhouse children, and as there had been a few cases during 1913 it was decided to test the drainage of certain parts of the Workhouse. The investigations revealed a very serious condition of the drainage system, but certain emergency work was carried out and I was asked to make a thorough inspection, and report to the Bromley Union Guardians on the subject.

On February 9th I submitted the following report to the Guardians, and later made a second inspection of the Workhouse drainage, on which I reported to the Guardians on the 20th of February, and I give copies of both reports.

February 9th, 1914.

Gentlemen,

Having been asked to report on the drainage system at the Union Workhouse, I inspected on the morning of Friday last (6th inst.), and was accompanied by the Master, the Clerk of the Works and Mr. Dunlop, Sanitary Inspector.

I paid special attention to the drainage of the Infirmary Block and the Imbecile Block—as the worst defects appeared to be there.

The drains appear to be very complicated—unnecessarily so—and numerous defects were visible, consisting principally of bad ventilation of drains, unsound joints, and complications between drains proper and the rain water drainage system. The present system of flushing should undoubtedly be discontinued.

The emergency work done was decidedly necessary and will prevent immediate trouble.

I am at a loss to know why there are two main drains at the front of the Workhouse.

To thoroughly clear up the positions of the drains would mean several days' testing, opening up, etc., but I am quite sure that very considerable alterations will be required at the two blocks mentioned—possibly even the relaying of the whole of the system connected with those blocks.

The flooring of the Imbecile Block is still defective, and the block itself is not up to present day requirements.

I think an extended survey of the whole system is required, including the testing of all sections of branch drains with smoke and water, the opening up of junctions where no inspection chambers exist, and the consideration of the levels at which the present drains are laid and their relation to the main drains leading to the sewer.

I should be willing to meet and discuss these matters with your Architect, if it will be of any assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. S. TEW,

February 20th, 1914.

Gentlemen,

I have again on the 18th inst., made a detailed inspection of the drainage and sanitary arrangements of the Workhouse, with your Architect, Mr. F. Danby Smith: the Clerk of Works, Mr. Francis: and Mr. Dunlop, Sanitary Inspector; and also conferred with the Master, Mr. Healey.

This further inspection confirms my opinion that a thorough overhauling of the drainage system is absolutely necessary, and there is little doubt that this will show that the greater part will require relaying and simplifying.

An examination of the internal sanitary fittings shows that a considerable number of the baths, closet pans, slop sinks, wash-up and lavatory basins will require renewal: some on account of being cracked, and some being worn-out or obsolete. It will be necessary to renew other fittings, and more particularly the closet pans, on account of the drain connections being defective, and the fact that these defects cannot be remedied without removing the pan, which in most cases would be broken during removal.

In the part occupied by the aged men, the wooden floors of the sanitary accommodation should be replaced by some impermeable substance.

I need not further remark on the imbecile wards, as the defects in the condition of the yard, baths, closets and padded rooms are obvious.

The water system will require considerable investigation and attention, and new drainage will require the abolition of the present flushing tanks, and the provision of clean water flushing tanks in suitable positions.

As you are aware, the Metropolitan Water Board's supply is very hard, and the portion used for domestic, boiler and hot water system purposes is softened on the Workhouse grounds. This, I understand, involves pumping.

A certain amount of rain water has been used for bath and boiler purposes, but the position of the tanks and the condition of the supply pipes is very uncertain.

It would appear that in a practically new drainage system, one of the first questions is as to rain water disposal. Is it desirable to take it to one point and use it, or shall it be run to waste, and the whole of the water for the hot water system and boilers be softened and pumped? It is obviously a matter of cost, viz., whether it is cheaper to convey the rain water to a large reservoir, or to soften the Water Board's supply, which would also have to be pumped. I am not in a position to advise on this question, but thought that such an important matter should be brought before your notice, to receive your consideration at the earliest opportunity.

It appears that there will be no difficulty in securing efficient levels for any new drains.

Mr. Danby Smith has many details to go into, but will, I understand, report to you for the next meeting.

I have the honour to be, Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

J. S. TEW.

Schools.—It has only been necessary to close schools on three occasions during 1914, each time on account of scarlet fever or diphtheria, compared with 12 times during 1913; 10 on account of the prevalence of measles, one for chicken-pox and mumps, and one for scarlet fever. I give a list of the 1914 closures below.

Elementary Schools.—The following is a list of schools closed with periods of closure during 1914 on account of the prevalence of infectious disease :—

School.	Disease.	From	To
St. Paul's Cray ...	Scarlet Fever & Diphtheria	Jan. 6	Jan. 10 1915
Farnborough Council School.	Diphtheria	July 20	July 24
St. Mary Cray ...	Scarlet Fever & Structural Alterations	Dec. 11 1913	Jan. 12 1914

Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.—The number of houses inspected under this Act since it came into force is as follows :—

1911	...	...	...	...	...	208
1912	...	...	...	...	...	301
1913	...	...	...	...	...	282
1914	...	...	...	...	...	194
						<u>985</u>

Of the 208 houses inspected in 1911, the work required to remedy defects has in all cases been completed.

Of the 301 houses inspected in 1912, 281 had defects of some kind or other, and by the end of that year, 223 had been put into a proper state of repair, leaving 58 receiving attention. Forty of these houses were in one road at St. Paul's Cray, and the works now asked for have been satisfactorily carried out.

The remaining 18 houses outstanding from 1912 are in the parish of Knockholt. In six the repairs were completed at the end of 1914; 11 are the houses known as Chapel Row, in Birlings Road, on which I have already fully reported, and which, although unfit for habitation, cannot be closed owing to the lack of cottage accommodation in that village. The remaining house, an old dilapidated house on the old London Road, was voluntarily demolished in February, 1914.

In the report for 1913 I referred to the fact that the Council had under consideration the erection of new cottages to take the place of the 11 houses in Birlings Road, Knockholt, which were unfit for human habitation, and that plans had been prepared for 8 cottages, and that at the end of the year plans and estimates were nearly ready for presentation to the Local Government Board.

In January, 1914, I attended at the Local Government Board with Messrs. Haslehurst and Potter, the Clerk to the Council and the Architect, who had been authorised to prepare plans for the cottages, to go over the details with the Architect of the Local Government Board, and in April, W. H. Collin, Esq., on behalf of the Local Government Board, conducted an Inquiry into a scheme to borrow £2,046 for the purchase of land and the erection of cottages. The sanction of the Board was obtained, and at the end of the year the houses were in course of erection. The land purchased covers $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and will be sufficient for 12 houses. The cottages are to be built in blocks of four, and each house will contain three bedrooms, one large living room, a scullery with fireplace, copper and sink, and w.c., and will have a large garden.

The following is a statement of work carried out under the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, as required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910:—

1.	Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purpose of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	...	194
2.	Number of dwelling houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	1
3.	Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	1
4.	Number of Closing Orders made	... ..	0
5.	Number of dwelling houses the defects of which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders	...	92
6.	House closed voluntarily	... ..	1
7.	Number of dwelling houses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were put in a fit state for human habitation	... ..	0
8.	Number of dwelling houses not requiring remedy	...	80
9.	In hand	... ..	21

The following is an analysis of the defects revealed by the inspections:—

In two instances the quality of the water was not quite satisfactory, and in one the cistern was defective.

Forty-five closets had structural defects.

In 24 cases drains or their accessories were defective, and in 23 there was insufficient drain ventilation. Five cesspools were defective.

The ventilation in 11 living rooms and 15 bedrooms was insufficient, and there was one case of overcrowding.

There was evidence of dampness in two living rooms and one bedroom, and 109 of the houses had no damp course.

In six cases the household cleanliness was dubious, and one house had vermin.

The external defects were: Walls, 18; roof, 16; gutters, 12; r.w.p., 10; floor ventilation, 6.

Internal defects: Living room, walls 37, ceilings 38, floors 6, windows 5, staircase 6. Bedrooms, walls 37, ceilings 39, floors 5, windows 3, absence of fireplace 2. Scullery, walls 36, ceiling 36, floor 17, absence of or defective sink 37, copper 4.

Yard paving 71, refuse disposal 23.

The average rents of the houses inspected in the different parishes were :—

				s.	d.
Orpington	...	...	...	7	1
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	5	10
St. Paul's Cray	...	...	...	4	9
Chelsfield	...	...	...	4	0
Downe	...	...	...	5	9
Farnborough	...	...	...	5	10
Hayes...	...	...	...	7	10
Keston	...	...	...	4	9

Hop-picking.—There are very few hop gardens in this district, and the majority of the owners employ only local pickers. A very strict supervision of the huts in use is exercised, and it is very rarely that any of them are found to have been occupied during prohibited months.

Slaughter-houses.—It having been suggested that premises for which a license was applied for were not suitable for use as a slaughter-house, at St. Mary Cray, I made a special inspection of them, and found that only slight repairs were required to justify the renewal of the license.

General Nuisances.—Complaints were received from Chelsfield regarding a nuisance from flies. On inspection it was found that the houses were adjacent to agricultural land on which heaps of manure were stored ready for manuring the land, and that there was a large quantity of manure at the Railway Station near. I advised that the manure should be spread and ploughed in as soon as was reasonably possible, and that when it was necessary for the manure to be disposed in heaps, the heaps should be as far removed from dwelling houses as possible. I also advised more careful carting to prevent the soiling of the public roads.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.—There are in the whole District 24 premises coming under the denomination of factories, and 141 workshops and workplaces, and these have been frequently inspected, any defects found being remedied on request or on the issue of an informal notice. In only two instances was it necessary to refer matters to H.M. Inspector.

The reports of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, the statistical tables required by the Local Government Board, and the Table provided by the Secretary of State for recording action taken under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, are appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor-rected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate.
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	20'626	...	525	25'4	326	15'8	86	...	34	64	240	11'6
1910	20'858	...	508	24'3	322	15'4	96	6	51	100	232	11'1
1911	21'958	469	450	20'4	322	14'6	102	28	55	122	248	11'2
1912	22'387	461	444	19'8	307	13'7	91	27	25	56	243	10'9
1913	22'736	491	482	21'2	350	15'4	94	25	38	79	281	12'4
1914	23'095	468	462	20'0	347	10'7	124	31	25	54	254	11'0

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 28,839.

At Census of 1911 :—Total population at all ages, 21,958; total families or separate occupiers, 4,777; average number of persons per house, 4'6.

Table 2.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality. (Parish or Ward) of the District.												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	Farnborough	Orpington	St. Mary Cray	Workhouse Farnborough	Bromley	Beckenham	Mottingham	St. Paul's Cray	North Cray	Keston		Chelsfield	Knockholt	Cudham	West Wickham
Small-pox
Cholera and Plague
Diphtheria (including Memb. croup)	70	4	55	5	4	4	2	...	6	31	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	2	...	1
Erysipelas ...	6	...	1	...	2	2	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Scarlet Fever	33	4	15	9	4	4	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	1	2	2	1	...	...
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	5	...	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever and Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	35	...	...	4	6	21	4	...	2	2	2	4	2	5	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals	157	1	10	77	25	33	10	1	31	11	36	6	2	12	24	1	2	3	5	5	5	1	

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.—Bromley and Beckenham Joint.

Table 3.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

Causes of Death.	Nett 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 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
ALL CAUSES—										
Certified	253	25	5	4	12	8	37	54	108	...
Uncertified	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	23	...	1	...	5	1	13	3	...	16
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	5
Cancer, malignant disease	31	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	22	19
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	38	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	28	28
Bronchitis	22	5	...	...	...	...	1	1	15	16
Pneumonia (all forms)	15	2	2	...	...	1	3	4	3	11
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs... ..	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	4
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...
Alcoholism	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	9
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
Suicide... ..	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	51	1	1	3	2	2	6	14	22	41
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
Tetanus	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	254	25	5	4	12	8	37	54	109	170

Table 4.—BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY. 1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week		1-2 weeks		2-3 weeks		3-4 weeks		Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-9 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Cases { Certified. Uncertified.	6	0							6	7	5	3	4	25 0
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria and Croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculous Meningitis
Abdominal Tuberculosis
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Convulsions	1	...	...	1
Laryngitis	1	...
Bronchitis	3	...	...	1	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	...	1	2
Diarrhoea	1	...	2	...	1
Enteritis	1	3	...	...	6
Gastritis
Syphilis	1	...
Rickets
Suffocation, overlying
Injury at Birth...
Atelectasis
Congenital Malformations ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	4
Other Causes
Totals	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7	5	3	4	25

Nett Births in the year—Legitimate 446; Illegitimate 16. Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants 22; Illegitimate 3.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of
Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	38	1	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	380	78	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3. of this Report) ...	7	0	0
Total ...	425	79	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Nuisances under the Public Health
Acts :—*

Particulars.	No. found.	No. Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prosecu- tions.
Want of cleanliness ...	76	76	0	0
Want of ventilation ...	2	2	0	0
Other nuisances ...	1	1	0	0
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	0	0
Total ...	81	81	0	0

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nil.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

Workshop Bakehouses ...	43
Other Workshops ...	143
Workplaces ...	4
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	190

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901):

Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	2

J. S. TEW, Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1915.

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

No. 1 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

ORPINGTON,

January, 1915.

**To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my twelfth Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1914.

Infectious Disease.—During the year 54 cases of infectious disease were notified, viz.:—24 Diphtheria, 24 Scarlet Fever, 3 Typhoid Fever, and 1 each of Erysipelas Puerperal Fever and Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

The cases occurred in the various Parishes as follows :—Orpington 19, St. Mary Cray 7, St. Paul's Cray 21, North Cray 1, Mottingham 6.

Forty-four cases were removed to the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital. Disinfection of infected rooms and articles of clothing was immediately carried out after patients removal to Hospital.

Tuberculosis.—Notification of 13 fresh cases of Consumption were received; visits were made to the homes of the patients, spittoons were provided, and disinfection carried out where necessary.

Epidemic or Summer Diarrhœa.—Very few cases of Diarrhœa came to my notice during the summer months. Frequent inspections were made in the working class districts, cards giving advice on the care and feeding of infants were distributed, and the prevention of contamination of food by flies was advocated, personally and through the local Press.

Complaints.—Seventy-nine complaints were received and investigated; 1,600 inspections were made, and 312 nuisances dealt with.

Drainage.—The drains in connection with 65 houses were examined and tested with the smoke test, and it was found upon such examination that the drains at 36 houses required to be relaid. The defects at the remaining 29 were not of a serious nature.

Insufficient Water Closets and Ashpits.—During the year, 49 new flushing cisterns were provided to water closets to replace defective ones, and 14 were provided where none previously existed.

Dustbins were also provided at 45 houses.

Overcrowding.—Five cases of overcrowding came to my notice during the year, and were abated after notices being served. The number of houses being occupied by more than one family appears to be much less than in previous years, and, although there were very few vacant, I do not think there has been a shortage of houses.

Water Supply.—Eight houses have been supplied with water from the Metropolitan Water Board's main. Certificates have also been issued with respect to newly erected houses, in accordance with Section 6, Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.

I am pleased to say there are very few houses in my district where the Water Board's main is not available.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—The registered cowsheds and milkshops were frequently inspected during the year, and the Council's regulations were generally complied with.

There are 17 persons on the Register; 12 are cowkeepers and purveyors of milk, and 5 purveyors only.

The whole of the dairy farms have a good and wholesome water supply for the cattle, which is most essential in the production of milk.

Slaughter-houses.—There are 10 slaughter-houses in the district, and these were frequently inspected, and the Council's Bye-laws were found to be observed.

I have also regularly attended the weekly Cattle Market at Orpington. Now and then a suspicious looking cow is brought into the market and sold for a small sum, but instances are not nearly so frequent as they were four or five years ago.

Food Inspection.—The butchers' shops, fish shops, hawkers' carts, etc., were frequently inspected during the year, and the food supply was found to be satisfactory. Two trunks of wet fish were surrendered to me and destroyed, being found unfit for food upon arrival from London. The tubs used for conveying strawberries and raspberries to London and elsewhere were inspected before being filled with fruit. On some farms the tubs are cleansed with a plentiful supply of clean water, but on other farms the water is not changed often enough. However, no complaint was received from the authorities in London, as in former years.

Bakehouses.—There are 11 registered bakehouses in the district, and these were cleansed and limewashed as required by the Act relating to such premises.

One complaint was received from H.M. Factory Inspector, as to limewashing being overdue.

Notices are now sent to the bakers in May and November, reminding them that the limewashing is due.

The fly nuisance in bakehouses needs more attention on the part of the occupiers, and greater efforts should be made to keep these filthy insects down.

Fruit Pickers' Huts.—There are about 400 huts and tents occupied by persons engaged in fruit picking during the summer months, and these were frequently visited between 6 and 9 p.m., or such hours when the people were in the huts; as usual, a few cases of overcrowding and mixing up of sexes were discovered.

One case of diphtheria and a case of measles came to my notice among the pickers.

Common Lodging House.—The registered common Lodging House at Fordcroft, Orpington, was frequently visited during the year, and the premises were at all times found to be reasonably clean and well ordered.

Removal of House Refuse and Scavenging.—The removal of refuse undertaken by your Council is carried out once each week in the Parishes of Orpington, St. Mary Cray, St. Paul's Cray and Mottingham; and fortnightly in the Parish of North Cray. With the exception of Orpington, the work has been carried out in a satisfactory manner by the Contractors.

The use of the receptacle, erroneously called the "sanitary dust bin," is greatly abused by some householders, and much of the objectionable smell from the bins, especially noticeable in the summer months, would be avoided if the bins were used only for the purpose intended, viz., dust, ashes, and other dry house refuse.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—The Register required to be kept under this Act contains entries of 11 workshop-bakehouses, 51 workshops various and 4 workplaces, and these were inspected at intervals.

One complaint was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, relating to the limewashing of a laundry.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.—Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.—During the past year 103 houses were inspected, and record of inspection made in duplicate; defects at 56 houses were recorded, necessary repairs at 40 houses were completed, and 16 were outstanding. The repairs at 68 houses outstanding from 1913 have also been completed.

The principal defects discovered were defective drains, and defective and dirty walls and ceilings.

The old cottage (No. 88) opposite Hearsn's Road, St. Paul's Cray, referred to in my last report, has been demolished by the owners.

Four houses in North Cray Parish, inspected in 1912, were rendered vacant by the owners in 1913, and are still unoccupied.

River Cray.—During the year the springs at Orpington have been very active, and the river has had an exceptionally large flow of water. The river head at Orpington was cleaned out under my supervision, and about 200 loads of mud and refuse were removed.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	79
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	1610
Number of nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	312
Number of Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	43
Number of preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	171
Houses at which drains were examined	...	...	...	...	65
Houses at which drains were relaid	...	...	...	...	36
Houses generally repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	116
Flushing cisterns provided and water laid on to water closets	...	...	...	...	62
New dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	45
Back yards paved	...	...	...	...	43
New water closets built	...	...	...	...	9
Earth closets abolished	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding, cases abated	...	...	...	...	5
Houses supplied with water from mains	...	...	...	...	8
Number of letters, reports, etc., written	...	...	...	...	1441

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY NIGHTINGALE, M.S.I.A.,

(Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute),

Sanitary Inspector.

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

No. 2 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

FARNBOROUGH,

April 16th, 1915.

**To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December, 1914.

During the year the number of visits made in the eight Parishes is as follows:—

Chelsfield	...	...	...	...	118
Cudham	...	...	...	...	62
Downe...	...	...	...	...	56
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	142
Hayes ...	...	...	...	...	52
Keston...	...	...	...	...	64
Knockholt	...	...	...	...	54
West Wickham	...	...	...	...	78
Total	...	...	...	...	626

Infectious Disease.—During the year 61 notifications were received, representing 57 Patients, as follows:—Diphtheria 40, Scarlet Fever 9, Erysipelas 5, Enteric Fever 2, and Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1. Most of the Diphtheria cases occurred amongst the children at the Bromley Union Workhouse. Every endeavour was made to trace the original source, but without any definite result. The disease occurred at intervals during the months of January, May, June, July, August, September, October, and appears to have been disseminated by a "carrier," i.e., a girl who was notified and removed to the Infectious Hospital on three different occasions.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.—Twenty-five cases of pulmonary and two of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were reported. Handbills were left at the patients' houses, and spittoons supplied by the Council. Disinfection of premises vacated by consumptive was carried out.

Complaints.—Eighty-four complaints were received and investigated; of these 43 related to cesspools, 28 to defective drains, 4 to offensive accumulations, 4 to damp houses, 3 to animals kept in a foul state, 1 to a gipsy encampment, and 1 to flies.

Water Supply.—Three houses were found to be without an available supply of wholesome water, and these are now connected with the Metropolitan Water Board's main. Certificates of water supply were granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, in respect of 18 new dwellings.

Legal proceedings were taken against the owner of new premises known as the "Brambles," Luxted Lane, Biggin Hill, for occupying the same without obtaining from your Council the necessary water certificate, and he was fined £2 and 9s. costs.

For a similar offence legal proceedings were also taken against the respective owners of premises known as "Bræmar," "Silverdale" and "Ivydale," Biggin Hill, and each defendant was fined 10s. and 5s. costs.

Milk Supply.—There are 29 persons registered under the regulations, and there are about 520 cows in my district.

The cowsheds were regularly inspected and limewashed twice during the year, and special attention was paid to the cleanliness of dairies and milkshops.

Drainage and Drain Testing.—The drains and sanitary arrangements of 83 premises were found defective; of this number 43 were substituted by new systems and 37 repaired.

A new drainage system has been carried out at the Workhouse, and is a very necessary improvement upon the old, which proved to be in a very complicated and insanitary condition, the worst defects being in connection with the Infirmary block and the Imbecile block.

Food Inspection.—Frequent inspections were made of the butchers' shops, fish shops, hawkers' carts, etc. On September 22nd I seized from the butcher's shop occupied by Mr. Osborne, Downe, 3lbs. of bullock's lights, which were in a decomposed state, and the same was destroyed upon a magistrate's order.

As, however, it was afterwards considered that lights are generally sold for cats' meat,—and in consequence a prosecution might not be successful,—the vendor was let off with a severe caution.

Slaughter-houses.—The 7 slaughter-houses have been regularly inspected, and a carcase of a diseased ox was surrendered voluntarily. All the licences have been renewed for another year.

Bakehouses.—During the year 40 visits were paid to the 16 bakehouses, which were regularly cleansed and whitewashed, as required by Section 99 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. No complaint was received from the Home Office.

Insufficient Water Closets.—Twenty-four dwellings were found to be without sufficient water closets, and a new w.c. has been provided in each particular case.

Insufficient Ash-pits.—One hundred and twenty houses have been supplied with sanitary dustbins.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.—Home refuse is removed by contract once a week in the Parishes of Farnborough and Hayes, and once a fortnight in the Parishes of Chelsfield, Keston and West Wickham.

The refuse is deposited on lands for agricultural purposes.

Fruit Pickers' Shelters.—There are 200 of these occupied by fruit pickers during the fruiting season. Frequent inspections were made, and the bye-laws were generally complied with.

Overcrowding.—Eight cases of overcrowding were discovered and abated in compliance with notice.

Dilapidated and Insanitary Dwellings.—The premises known as Nos. 1—11, Chapel Row, Knockholt,—mentioned in my last report,—are still inhabited and in a very dilapidated condition. As, however, the erection of the new cottages—also mentioned in my last report—has now been commenced, it is therefore anticipated that the above will be demolished in due course. In further reference to Nos. 1 to 4, Eade's Cottages, Green-Street-Green, these still remain closed and barricaded up. Inasmuch as an old wooden cottage in Harrow Road, Knockholt, was found to be totally unfit for human habitation, the same was subsequently demolished voluntarily by the trustees of the estate.

Nuisances Discovered.—The number of nuisances discovered was 290, relative to the following:—140 to cesspool, 52 to blocked drains, 46 to insanitary closets, 18 to animals kept in a filthy state, 26 to offensive urinals, and 8 to overcrowding.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—A new Register has been compiled, and contains the entry of six factories and 62 workshops, including workshop bakehouses. One hundred and thirty-eight inspections were made; 33 nuisances found and abated upon notice.

Infantile Diarrhœa.—A weekly list of births is received from the Registrars, and 219 cards were issued giving advice to mothers on the feeding and care of infants.

Bacteriological Laboratory Reports.—One hundred and seventy-seven swabs were examined by the Kent County Council Laboratory Authorities as follows:—Thirty-eight positive results, and 139 negative. The number examined and reported upon by the Chemical Research Association was 57. Result, 4 positive and 53 negative.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.—Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.—During the year 91 houses were inspected, and 57 showed sanitary defects. All these have since been remedied, with the exception of 2 houses in the Parish of Chelsfield and 3 in the Parish of Farnborough. The work was carried out after an interview with the respective owners, or in compliance with preliminary notice. One dwelling was found in such a dilapidated state as to be unfit for human habitation, and was subsequently closed voluntarily by the owner.

The number of houses outstanding at the end of last year have been satisfactorily dealt with, excepting Nos. 1 to 11; Chapel Row, Knockholt, upon which I have previously reported.

In further reference to Nos. 1 to 3, Biggin Hill Cottages, Cudham, these still remain closed and in a dilapidated state.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	1624
Number of nuisances discovered and abated without complaint	...	...	...	...	290
Number of nuisances discovered and abated on complaint	...	...	...	...	84
Number of houses at which rooms were cleansed and whitewashed	...	...	...	...	76
Number of houses redrained	...	...	...	...	43
Number of sinks provided	...	...	...	...	42
Number of back yards paved	...	...	...	...	46
Number of dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	136
Number of water closets erected	...	...	...	...	24
Cesspool drainage abolished and premises connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	5
Privies or earth closets converted into water closets	...	...	...	...	6
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	8
Number of houses (parts of) disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	20
Number of preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	30
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	18
Re-inspections after service of notices	...	...	...	...	116
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	52
Number of letters written, reports made, school notices sent, etc.	...	...	...	...	1216

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ANDREW DUNLOP

(Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute),
Sanitary Inspector.