

*B 260*  
Local Government

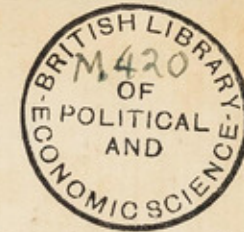
Districts

26 -

Book No.

XCII





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[ $\ddot{u}$ ]



Dr Parkes - Bhealsea.

Wiping out the poor spots.

Interview with Dr Louis Parkes, medical officer for Bhealsea,  
at the Town Hall, Kings Road. March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1899 - J.A.

Dr Parkes is a well set up, active looking man in early middle life. He only gives part of his time to parish work. We went carefully over our map together, and it was evident he knew his district well. Though not perhaps an able man, he is practical and clear-headed and would be quite equal to any demands which Bhealsea might make upon him. For the district is not one which presents many sanitary difficulties and in dealing with such as there are, the local authorities have a powerful ally in Earl Badogan, who is a member of the Vestry, and, as is well known, is clearing all the poor out of Bhealsea as fast as he possibly can.

The Doctor pointed out the following changes in the poor spots since our map was made:-  
North S<sup>E</sup> area (purple & lb) demolished and expensive flats erected.



Ellis St. Charles St. & (pink on map) demolished.

Turks Row Area (lb & black) demolished.

Symon's St. (lb.) gone

Oakum Bay (Leader St.) (lb & black) worst part gone,

Rough quarter but not black now.

Steer's Bldgs, (Manor St.: db) gone

Lawrence St. (db. but adjoining) gone

These have all been cleared at the instance of Earl Cadogan, who stipulates always for costly property to take their place and who has yet bigger schemes in contemplation. Within the next 2 or 3 years the leases of the poor area between Flood St. and Oakley St. (South of King's R<sup>d</sup>) will fall in and all the houses are to come down. The extensive district lying between Fulham Road and King's R<sup>d</sup> (north & south) and Arthur St. to Harker & Rawlings Street (E. & W) is all, it is said, to be similarly dealt with, tho' this cannot be done for 10 years yet.

The other poor bits yet existing have mostly been improved, partly as a result of the clearances and partly owing to the Vestry's action. The



adjoining clearances have forced up rents and the Vestry being alert in keeping down overcrowding and paying much attention to drainage, &c. the effect has been to drive the poorest away to Fulham Battersea & other outlying districts.

Improvement in this way has taken place in Ives St., Little Orford St., and Mullman St., though poverty and some crowding still exist in these places.

Paradise Walk is a separate freehold and still remains as it was, and Pond Terrace is yet very poor.

But, continuing as of late, there will, within the next few years, be scarcely a poor person, left in Chelsea proper, and this leads the Doctor to reflect on what is to become of the decent working classes of the future. The difficulty of obtaining accommodation has been brought home to him in connection with the recent appointment of one of his sanitary inspectors. This man, altho' having but 2 children, and receiving £120 a year, has had the greatest trouble in finding rooms in the locality and has

The Housing Difficulty.



even now to make shift. There are the Guinness Buildings for certain classes of the poor, but the accomodation is limited, and what is there for decent working people who detest the surroundings of huge buildings, or whose families are too large for the 3 small rooms of a block?

He thinks the housing question is becoming a very pressing one in London, and M<sup>r</sup> Grant (chief sanitary inspector,) who was present, agreed it was a serious difficulty in this locality. The doctor believes the local authorities, if not Government itself, will have to take action in providing decent dwellings at suitable rents, and <sup>he</sup> would welcome the extension to local bodies of powers under Part III of the "Housing of the Working Classes Acts."

In Kensal Town (the detached portion of Bghelsea) housing is, of course, dominated by the Improved <sup>artisans, laborers & general</sup> Industrial Dwellings Co., which has, at the present time 600 applicants waiting for vacant houses on the Queen's Park Estate, and so is able to be very particular in selecting tenants.



On the other side of the canal, off Kensal R<sup>d</sup>, Elizabeth Place and Pike's cottages have been condemned by the Vestry and pulled down.

### Population.

#### Population of Chelsea

The estimated population of Chelsea for the year 1898 is 96,826. The estimated population of each sub-district is as follows:-

Chelsea North	42,247	} <del>75,526</del>
Chelsea South	33,279	
Kensal Town	21,300	

### a Declining Birth Rate.

Table I gives the births and birth rate per 1000 per annum in the home district and in Kensal Town, in the whole parish and in London.

	Number of Births	Birth rate per 1000
Home District	1,761	23.4
Kensal Town	571	26.9
Whole Parish	2,332	24.2
London	132,432	29.5

In 1897 the birth rate of the home district was 25.3



D<sup>r</sup> Parkes M.C. Chelsea

and of Kensal Town 30.4, the birth rate of the whole parish being 26.4.

The progressive lowering of the birth rate of recent years, both in the home district and in Kensal Town, is shown as follows:-

TABLE II.—Birth-rate per 1,000.

Year.	Home District.	Kensal Town.	London.
1891 .....	28.3	32.6	31.8
1892 .....	27.7	33.5	31.0
1893 .....	28.5	33.7	31.0
1894 .....	27.2	31.3	30.2
1895 .....	27.1	32.4	30.5
1896 .....	26.2	29.9	30.2
1897 .....	25.3	30.4	30.0
1898 .....	23.4	26.9	29.5

The diminished birth-rate in the home district is, no doubt, largely due to the changes that have been in progress of recent years affecting the social conditions of the population, many poor and crowded neighbourhoods having been swept away to make room for the inhabitants of highly-rated houses and flats. In Kensal Town, however, with its essentially working class population, the tendency towards a steadily declining birth-rate is also noticeable, and is probably not attributable to any falling off in the marriage-rate. In London generally the birth-rate also shows a progressive decline during the past eight years.

An alarmist view.

D<sup>r</sup> Parkes is a little concerned at this decline, which, he believes is largely due to the housing difficulty. He fears we are approaching the condition of France, and shall soon have no population with which to people the colonial possessions we continue to acquire. This makes it a national question, which



mortality

Dr Parkes. M.O. Chelsea

the Government must deal with, sooner or later. [The circumstances of Kensal T<sup>n</sup> are, I think, peculiar. The old tenants stay on after the child bearing age is passed. But this cause would hardly affect the figures for London as a whole.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE FOR 1899.

The total number of deaths registered in the parish was 1,827. Of this total 300 were deaths, within the district, of non-parishioners—chiefly occurring in the hospitals of the parish; and 231 deaths of parishioners of Chelsea occurred outside the district in various public institutions. There were, therefore, 1,758 deaths of parishioners of Chelsea. These 1,758 deaths are equivalent to a death-rate for the year of 18.2 per 1,000, as against a death-rate of 17.7 per 1,000 in 1897.

Table III. gives the death-rate of Chelsea and its constituent districts, and of London, during the past eight years:—

TABLE III.

Year.	Home District.	Kensal Town.	Chelsea.	London.
	Death-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate.
1891 .....	22.1	17.5	21.0	21.4
1892 .....	21.9	17.8	21.0	20.7
1893 .....	21.6	16.3	20.4	21.4
1894 .....	17.6	14.1	16.8	17.8
1895 .....	20.8	16.8	19.9	19.9
1896 .....	19.0	18.2	18.8	18.6
1897 .....	17.9	17.1	17.7	18.2
1898 .....	18.1	18.7	18.2	18.7

The slightly higher mortality in Chelsea in 1898, as compared with 1897, is attributable to a greater prevalence of measles in the past year. As in 1897, there was an excessive prevalence of infantile diarrhoea in the summer (August and September), which raised the general death-rate. The past year is the first year on record in which the general death-rate of the home district has been below that of Kensal Town. All the diseases of the zymotic class appear to have been more prevalent in Kensal Town than in the home district, but especially diphtheria, measles, and summer diarrhoea.

The high death-rates in Chelsea of the years 1891, 1892, 1893, and 1895, were largely due to the prevalence of epidemic influenza in those years.



Dr Parkes M.C. Chelsea

There was an exceptional prevalence of fatal infantile diseases in Kensal Town, 52.5% of the total deaths being those of children under 5.

The medical officer has the assistance of 3 sanitary inspectors, one of whom devotes his time to Kensal Town. Subjoined is a summary of their work:-

Summary of Nuisances and other matters reported on and Work done during the Year 1898.

	Home District.	Kensal Town.	Total.
<b>HOUSES AND PREMISES:—</b>			
*Reported on respecting nuisances complained of .....	876	355	1231
Reported on with reference to infectious cases .....	601	219	620
Cleansed, whitewashed, and repaired .....	246	231	477
Defective roofs repaired .....	88	16	104
Disinfected after zymotic diseases... ..	419	184	603
Cases of overcrowding abated .....	27	4	31
Dust-bins, new, provided .....	83	20	103
„ repaired .....	11	14	25
Underground rooms reported as occupied contrary to Act .....	11	—	11
Houses closed as unfit for human habitation .....	15	7	22
<b>DRAINAGE:—</b>			
Drains opened, cleansed, and made sound } .....	380	105	485
„ trapped with stoneware gullies ... }			
Water-closets cleansed and repaired .....	92	30	122
„ new pans and traps provided .....	226	44	270
Spout drains cleansed, repaired, or renewed .....	117	152	269
Sink, bath, and lavatory waste pipes disconnected ... ..	76	15	91
Soil pipes ventilated or repaired ... ..	93	57	150
„ new, provided ... ..	103	9	112
New drains laid, in accordance with Vestry's regulations (including 13 systems of combined drainage) ... ..	165	14	179
Additional w.c. accommodation provided.....	3	15	18
<b>WATER SUPPLY:—</b>			
For domestic purposes, provided where cut off by Water Company .....	22	—	22
For water-closets, or check cisterns provided .....	68	21	89
Main cisterns cleansed or repaired .....	8	8	16
„ new, provided .....	1	—	1

Sanitary Work.



NUISANCES ABATED ARISING FROM:—

Keeping of animals .....	6	5	11
Accumulations of manure and other filth.....	19	8	27
Yards cleansed, paved or drained ... ..	107	168	275
Smoke .....	8	—	8
Dung pits repaired, drained, &c., or cages, &c., provided .....	1	8	9

\* This does not include re-visits to premises to ascertain works in progress, or premises visited where no nuisances were found to exist, which, if added, would at least treble the number of visits made.

Landlords and tenants do not as a rule give much trouble; only 14 prosecutions were necessary last year. The worst houses to deal with are those in which there is no resident landlord. Where one man has the house and takes lodgers, he will look pretty sharply after them, but where there is no responsible tenant on the premises, dirt and destructiveness are often found.

207 workshops are registered and inspected.

Talk with Assistant Surveyor, Chelsea Vestry, and extracts from annual report:—

AREA OF PARISH .....	794 Acres.
POPULATION (1896) .....	96,646.
RATEABLE VALUE (1898)...	£803,458.

Mr. W. Manning - Asst. Surveyor - Chelsea

Area & Rating.



Manning,  
Surveyor,  
Chelsea,

LOCAL RATES.

The information furnished by the London County Council, in November, in accordance with the requirements of the Valuation (Metropolis) Act, 1869, the Local Government Act, 1888, and the Agricultural Rates Act, 1896, showed the gross, rateable, and assessable values of the parish (which, subject to appeal, were to come into force on the 6th April, 1898,) to be as follows:—

Gross.	Rateable.	Assessable.
£954,068	*£803,458	*£803,239 10s. 0d.

A penny rate is estimated to produce at the present time (June 1898) £3,201.

Assessments. The total number of assessments for the year 1898-9 is given as follows:—

Chelsea	...	...	...	...	10,537
Kensal Town	...	...	...	...	3,323
					<u>13,860</u>

\*Including £11,893 in respect of Government property.

The amount in the £ of all rates raised in the parish during the past 10 years, is hereunder shown:—

Year.	Vestry Rates.			M.B.W. Consolidated Rate.	Library Rate.	Poor Rate.		Total rate in the £	
	General.	Sewers.							
	s. d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.		
1888-9	2 2	2	9	1	2 3	5 5			
1889-90	2 2½	1½	3	...	2 9	5 4			
1890-1	2 3	2	...	...	2 9	5 2			
1891-2	2 3	1½	...	...	2 9	5 1½			
1892-3	2 3½	1½	...	...	2 11	5 4			
1893-4	2 3	1½	...	...	3 2	5 6½			
1894-5	2 4½	1½	...	...	3 8	6 2			
1895-6	2 4	1½	...	...	3 6	5 11½			
1896-7	2 5½	1½	...	...	3 5	6 0			
1897-8	2 5	1½	...	...	3 6	6 0½			

There is a compulsory removal of dust, in all cases of not less than once a week - flats and hospitals daily.

Dust Removal



Manning - Surveyor, Chelsea

The work is performed by the Vestry's own men, but horses and carts are hired. The work is done very much better than it used to be by contract.

The Vestry's  
Workmen.

During the year, the Vestry determined that the odd men known as "Trouncers," engaged in the work of dust collection, should be directly employed by the Surveyor, instead of, as heretofore, by the dustmen having charge of the several districts. It was also decided that the work of maintaining the water vans and dust vans, hitherto executed by contract, should be carried out by the Vestry's own workmen.

Main roads swept daily, other streets twice in week.  
Also by directly employed labour.

The report of the Surveyor ~~also~~ supplies information with regard to the staff and plant employed in this service. The outlay involved was apportioned as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Contracts (including labour, horse-hire and barging away) ... ..	4,134	6	7
Labour ... ..	5,914	1	10
Horse-hire ... ..	1,690	9	0
Brooms, machines, and sundries ...	320	6	8
	<u>£12,059</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

Asphalte  
Paving.

The part of Fulham-road under the control of the Vestry, namely, from Beaufort-street to Stamford Bridge, has been laid with asphalte, at a cost of £6,226 5s. 6d., which was defrayed by loan. The paving of Green-street throughout with asphalte has also been completed during the year.

Care of Streets.  
Sweeping

Paving.



In June, 1896, some compressed asphalt paving blocks were laid in Kilburn-lane, adjacent to the Board School, for purposes of trial. The Surveyor having reported favourably thereon, it has been determined to continue the paving in Kilburn-lane, southward to Harrow-road, and also to subject the material to a more severe test by laying a length of it on the south side of Sloane-square, where the traffic is very heavy.

Wood Paving. The wood paving in that part of Harrow-road situated within the parish of Chelsea has been renewed, hard wood being used on this occasion. The cost amounted to £3,528 2s. 6d., a proportion of which is payable by the Harrow Road and Paddington Tramways Company under agreement. The wood paving in Arthur-street, adjacent to the Workhouse, has also been renewed.

#### IMPROVING.

Proposed extension of Chelsea Embankment. It will be within recollection that the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the *London County Council (Improvements) Bill* which was introduced during the Session of 1897, rejected its provisions for the westward extension of the Embankment from the point of its present termination to Lots-road.

Notwithstanding this want of success, the Vestry urged the London County Council to re-introduce the scheme in the Session of 1898—unfortunately, however, it was too late for the Council to comply with the request, and the Vestry came to the conclusion that independent action for the acquisition of Parliamentary powers would not be expedient, at any rate, for the time.

#### LABOUR.

The weekly payments for labour amounted to £18,292 11s. 3d., apportioned as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Paving roads ... ..	3,951	10	8			
Paving footways ... ..	1,348	6	4			
				5,299	17	0
Lighting ... ..				95	8	1
Watering ... ..				86	2	7
Cleansing ... ..				5,914	1	10

Improvements.

Labour.



Dusting ... ..	2,311	5	7
Sanitary ... ..	312	6	6
Wharf ... ..	1,370	12	3
Repairing and cleansing sewers, &c.	1,782	16	8
Cleansing urinals ... ..	509	9	3
Repairs to Vestry's houses ... ..	17	1	1
Open spaces... ..	238	4	11
Wood paving ... ..	325	5	4
Asphalte paving ... ..	30	0	2

Total = £18,292 11 3

Trade Union wages are not directly recognized, but the wages generally approach these rates.

A Labour Bureau was run for 2 years, but was not a success.

Local sewers all right, but those of L.C.C. inadequate. The latter body is now carrying out a scheme for pumping direct into the river at Lots Road. At present, there is flooding whenever a storm occurs at high tide.

#### Charities

Lady Dacre's charity conferred 50 exhibitions of the value of £4.10 to £6.6 a year, giving free education in the United Westminster Schools, Palace St, Westminster to poor boys who have attended 3 years at any public elementary school in Bkelsea or Westminster: also 48 exhibitions, value £10 to £30 a year, tenable in the

Sewers.

Local Charities.



Emanuel Boarding School, Wandsworth Common, to boys holding the elementary school exhibitions. The Chamberlayne Charity comprising the annual rent-charge of £10 upon a house, 11 Church<sup>St.</sup>, was applied for the education of 15 poor boys to be chosen by the Vestry as to £5, and the remaining £5 for the apprenticing of one of such boys to some handicraft, trade or employment."

## Electric Lighting.

Chelsea is a happy hunting ground for private electric lighting companies, the Vestry having failed to obtain an order to supply electricity itself.

Chelsea  
Electricity  
Supply  
Company,  
Limited.

By this Bill, the Chelsea Electricity Supply Company, Limited, sought to obtain powers enabling them to acquire compulsorily certain lands in the Parish of Chelsea for the extension and enlargement of their works.

The lands scheduled for acquisition comprised the following:—

1. (a). The whole of the lands, houses and buildings lying between Flood-street and Manor-street, bounded on the south by the yard at the back of the houses, and the vacant strip of land in St. Loo-avenue and on the north by Alpha-place; and (b) the lands, houses and buildings lying between Flood-street and Manor-street on the east and west respectively, and bounded by Collingwood-street and Alpha-place on the north and south respectively.
2. Nos. 2, 4 and 6, Milner-street.
3. Nos. 19 and 20, Carlyle-square, with the garden ground, &c., adjoining.
4. Nos. 53, 54 and 55, Slaidburn-street.
5. The buildings and property in the occupation of the Company in Cadogan-gardens.



The lands proposed to be taken between Flood-street and Manor-street comprised upwards of 60 separate premises, consisting for the most part of dwelling-houses, including, moreover, the Vestry's Depôt in Alpha-place. The latter, it may be said, was inherited by the Vestry from the Chelsea Improvement Commissioners on 1st January, 1856, and is held on a lease, dated 10th December, 1847, expiring 10 days prior to Christmas, 1935, at a rent of £40 per annum. Part of the Depôt is used by the Guardians of the Poor, as a stone yard, for which accommodation they pay the Vestry a rent of £30 per annum.

On more than one occasion the Vestry had declined to dispose of their interests in the Depôt to the Company, and steps were accordingly taken to oppose the attempt of the Company to acquire those interests compulsorily.

A Deputation—representing a number of owners and inhabitants of property in the locality—attended before the Vestry, and urged them to strenuously oppose the Bill, pointing out that the vibration and noise from the Company's existing works, and the emanations from the chimney shaft, were an intolerable nuisance to the occupiers of adjacent property, and that a great hardship would be inflicted on a number of poor people if they were dispossessed of their homes.

The Vestry deposited a Petition praying to be heard against the Bill, mainly on the ground that their duties as Surveyors of Highways and as the Sanitary Authority would be seriously interfered with if they were deprived of the use of their Central Depôt. It was also sought to impose on the Company obligations with regard to the provision of new dwellings for the persons displaced, even if the number of premises taken amounted to less than twenty, and also to make good any deficiency in the General Rate by reason of the lands being taken.

The Bill was read a second time on the 22nd March, but prior to this date a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament was appointed to consider the question of granting powers for compulsorily acquiring lands for generating stations. Doubtless the report of the Joint Committee will have an important effect upon the progress of the Bill, which at the close of the year was awaiting commitment.



Kensal Town

Manning

Surveyor Chelsea

Electric  
Lighting.

In July, the Vestry's formal assent was sought to an application by the County of London and Brush Provincial Electric Lighting Company, Limited, for a Provisional Order, under the Electric Lighting Acts, authorising the Company to supply electrical energy in the Kensal Town district. The Vestry declined to give their formal assent to the Company's application, but referred the question of electric lighting at Kensal Town to a special Committee, appointed to consider the whole question of the public lighting of the Parish.

Allusion has already been made, under the head of "Bills in Parliament," to the provisions of a Bill promoted by the Metropolitan Electric Supply Company, Limited, to obtain authority for laying electric cables along the Harrow-road, and along the towing path of the Grand Junction Canal, to connect their station in Amberley-road, Paddington, with a generating station in Acton-lane.

In view of the proposal, in connection with the new London Government Bill, to take Kensal Town from Chelsea and include it with Kensington or Paddington, the following account of what that district receives and pays is of interest. The officials here think the transfer will be a very difficult matter for adjustment:-

THE DETACHED PORTION OF THE PARISH AT KENSAL TOWN.

Receipts and  
Expenditure.

An account of the receipts and expenditure in respect of this portion of the parish, during the year ended Lady-day, 1898, is here printed, pursuant to the resolution of the Board on the 15th July, 1890 (70).



## 33

Rateable Value of Chelsea Parish 1897—8	...	...	£785,513.
Do. of Kensal Town only	...	...	£69,512.

\* No charge is here made in respect of the *Chelsea Town Hall and Offices*.

† This sum is exclusive of the amount raised for purposes of the London County Council, who now send their precept direct to the Board of Guardians.

Kensal Town  
Baths.

The new baths at Kensal Town, to which allusion has been made in former reports, were formally opened on Monday, 28th March last, by Mr. John Humphry, the Chairman of the Commissioners. The buildings, which comprise a men's swimming bath, 83 feet by 30 feet, a swimming bath for women, 60 feet by 25 feet, 51 private baths (35 for men and 16 for women), and the necessary offices, were designed by Messrs. Harnor and Pinches, and erected by Mr. Charles Wall, of Lots-road.

£36,000 has been borrowed for baths, of which £3000 has been repaid. There seems to be a considerable deficit on



Manning Surveyor Chelsea

working of baths, but the a/s are so badly drawn up that it is very difficult to tell.

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Six complaints of alleged disorderly houses have been investigated. In one instance a conviction was obtained, in another the premises were vacated, whilst in the remaining cases the evidence forthcoming was not sufficient to warrant proceedings.

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There are 2 public libraries, that in Mansera R<sup>d</sup> being a capital and very well used building.

During the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1898, 2427 Readers Tickets were issued in the Central Library, and 2761 were cancelled, the present number in use being 4836. In addition 153 Music Tickets were taken out and 155 cancelled, leaving the present number at 255: and 238 Students Tickets were issued and 172 cancelled, the present number in force being 505. Of these Students Tickets 212 are in use by students of the SW Polytechnic Institute non-resident in the parish, who have the privilege of borrowing books for home reading by means of such tickets.

In the Kensal Town Library, 819 Readers Tickets were issued and 1129 were cancelled, the present number in force being 1,931. It has not been found

Brochels.

Libraries



necessary to issue a special Music Ticket at this Library, but the number of extra Students Tickets issued was 53, & 45 were cancelled, leaving the number in use at 92.

These figures show the total number of tickets in present use in both Libraries to be 7,619: this is a decrease on last year of 270 tickets in the Central Library and 302 in the Kensal Town Library. Such a decrease appears to indicate that fewer people are exercising their right to make use of the Libraries, but there does not seem to be any diminution in the number who regularly use their tickets. A fairly large proportion of those holding tickets use them intermittently, evidently as they have occasion to require a book, or find time for reading; and others, after applying for tickets, make no use of them: and a number, after sending in applications, neglect to take up their tickets. All such tickets not being renewed are cancelled at the expiration of the two years for which they are issued.

## BOOKS ISSUED.

The total number of volumes issued was 256,303, as against 258,706 last year.

In the Central Library 168,853 volumes were issued:— 27,521 in the Reference Department; 119,017 in the Lending Department; and 23,315 in the Boys' Room.



*Manning*  
*Surveyor, Chelsea*

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In the Kensal Town Library 87,450 volumes were issued:— 6,148 in the Reference Department; 64,023 in the Lending Department; and 17,279 in the Boys' Room.

These figures compared with those of last year show a decrease of 1553 in the issues from the Central Reference Library, and a decrease of 3435 in the Lending Library. In the Reference Library this falling off is mainly attributable to the fact that the teachers of the S.W. Polytechnic Institute, who have special facilities in the use of this department, have not found occasion to take out so many books as previously. In the Lending Library the principal decrease was during the summer months, when Jubilee celebrations and the closing of the Library for stock-taking affected the issue. There has been an increased issue since January. It is of interest to note that the decrease in the issues of fiction exceeded the total decrease by 371 volumes, showing an increased demand for books of a more educational character. This change in the nature of the books read no doubt helped to reduce the total number of volumes issued, because non-fictional works, not being so quickly read, are not so often exchanged.

On pages 12—15 will be found an interesting statement, showing the number of times one hundred and fifty books in various classes of literature, other than novels and books for children, have been taken out, and this list also shows that good literature is in large demand, many of these books having been continually "out" during the year.

At the Kensal Town Library there has been a decrease in the issues from the Reference Department of 712 volumes, and an increase of 2030 in the Lending Department.

Both the news-rooms continued to attract large numbers of people, especially in the evenings. The arrangement of exhibiting maps

of the "seats of war" for the benefit of newspaper readers has been continued and is much appreciated.

The Boys' Reading Rooms continue as popular as ever, the attendance, as pointed out in former reports, varying with the weather. As compared with last year the issues of books in these rooms show an increase of 2543 volumes in the Central Library, and a decrease of 1276 in the Kensal Town Library.

#### BOOKS ADDED.

The number of volumes now in the Libraries is 33,908. During the year, 1,868 volumes were added to the Central Library, and 28 volumes worn out and out of print were cancelled, the present stock numbering 25,573 volumes. To the Kensal Town Library 889 volumes were added, and 26 volumes worn out were cancelled, making the total number of volumes now in that Library 8,335. The number of worn out books replaced with new copies was 560; of these, 372 volumes were for the Central Library and 188 for Kensal Town.



Both baths and libraries are managed by  
commissioners.



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OP

District 28 Kensington

Condition of Notting Dale - Extracts from J. Orme  
Dudfield, Medical Officer's Monthly Reports. (1897)

"In only one of the four sanitary districts comprised in North Kensington was the death rate lower than in the parish as a whole (16.4) viz: in the North Eastern district 16.03 per 1000. The rate in the remaining three districts was as follows: - in the North district 19.4 per 1000: in the North Western district (Division A) 20.3 per 1000 and in the North Western district (Division B) 33.3 per 1000. This last named district, containing a population of nearly 16,000, is that portion of the Parish which acquired considerable notoriety 3 years ago, the miserable condition of its inhabitants having formed the subject of articles in one of the leading morning papers. We have seen that the general death rate of this district last year (33.3 per 1000) was more than double the rate in the remainder of the parish (14.8 per 1000) and that the birth rate 37.6 per 1000, was 6.3 higher than that of London, as a whole, and 16.4 per 1000 higher than that of the remainder of the Parish. Its zymotic death rate also was excessive,



being 5.7 per 1000, or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times as great as that of the rest of the Parish. (1.6). The waste of infant life, moreover, was excessive, the deaths (168 under one year) being equivalent to 286 per 1000 births registered, the infantile deaths in the remainder of the Parish being in the proportion of 150 per 1000 births."

"Inspector Steward ascertained the population of 3 of the streets in the course of a recent house-to-house inspection. The streets are Crescent St<sup>e</sup>, Bangor St<sup>e</sup> and St. Katherine's Road. The population of Crescent Street (39 houses) was 709 (18 persons to a house): the deaths were 33, or 46.5 per 1000 persons living. The population of Bangor St<sup>e</sup> (39 houses) was 874 (22.4 persons to a house) the deaths were 35, or 40 per 1000. The population of the original portion of St. Katherine's Road, (61 houses between Princes Road, and St. Clements Road) was 988 (16.2 persons to a house): the deaths 44 or 44.5 per 1000. In the remainder of St<sup>e</sup> Katherine's Road (the small houses formerly known as Bobden Terrace, 49 in number,) the population was 338 (about 7 persons to a house) the deaths were 12, or 35.5 per 1000. In St<sup>e</sup> Katherine's Road, as a whole, the death rate was



42.2 per 1000. In the 3 streets combined, the population being 2,909, the deaths were 124, and the death-rate 42.6 per 1000, compared with 33.3 for the entire "B" Division of the N.W. District, and 14.8 per 1000 for the remaining 6 sanitary districts. Of the 124 deaths in the three streets, there were 29 under one year, and 25 between 1 and 5 years."

" It cannot be averred that the state of things revealed by this enquiry is satisfactory, or what might have been anticipated after all the care that has been devoted to the locality, both before and after it became the subject of special visitation and report by the Sanitary Committee in 1893, in which year the Vestry upon the recommendation of the Committee, appointed an additional Inspector to take charge of the District, so as to secure what the Committee deemed to be most needed viz: "frequent house-to-house visitation." But after all, the evil conditions which gave rise to adverse comments in January, 1893, and to which in a large measure the unhealthiness of the district is attributable, still continue. The houses, or many of them, are overcrowded, and the character of the



people is much the same as when the locality was described as being "as God-forsaken as anything in London." But we should not despair of ultimate improvement, and certainly, no effort will be omitted by my department, sustained, as doubtless it will be, by the Sanitary Committee, to bring about a better state of things."

"Parentage of Deceased Infants Few infants comparatively, died in the families of well-to-do persons able to bestow requisite care upon their progeny. On the other hand, the deaths were numerous among children born to persons occupying the lower strata in the social scale."

"Abnormal Death Rates in 1896 The only "abnormally high death-rate" calling for observation in the present report is that of the North West Sanitary District, which includes the "Notting Dale Special Area". This North West district rate for the five weeks, after correction for the fifth week, was 28.4 per 1000, compared with a rate of 15.5 per 1000 for the remainder of the Parish. The rate in the Notting Dale special area was 27.8 per 1000, this being the lowest rate recorded during the year. The



These recommendations (a-d) have all been carried out now. The new entrance to the Park is from Sirdar Road. Yards are cemented.

G.H.A. June 19/99.

Report of Dudfield - Kensington M.C.

aggregate rate for the 48 weeks was, for the North West district, as a whole 31.2 per 1000, and for the said district less the Notting Dale special area 26.2 per 1000 - the rate in the Notting Dale special area being 51.9 per 1000.

In 1896 a special Committee was appointed to report upon the Notting Dale area, and made recommendations. "These recommendations were, in brief (a) that the yards of the houses should be paved - which has not been done; (b) that some of the streets should be asphalted - which is being done. (c) that additional entrances should be made into Avondale Park, and negotiations are in progress to secure one additional entrance. (d) that there should be an increase of sanitary inspection in the district, (but without increase to the sanitary staff) with a view to the more strict enforcement of the bye-laws relating to houses let in lodgings, - which has not been accomplished, (e) that filthy bedding &c should be cleansed or destroyed, which cannot be done to any appreciable extent without inflicting hardship on the owners, as we have no



Later a Diamond Jubilee Committee was elected to celebrate the Jubilee by promoting a scheme to ameliorate the condition of people in Notting Dale. The medical off suggests that -

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apparatus for disinfection, and (it is said) cannot incur expense on this account, or in compensation for articles destroyed (f) that street gulleys should be trapped, which has been done in the streets in course of being asphalted: the surface gratings moreover, have (on med. officers advice) been abolished, and shafts erected for the ventilation of the sewers: (i) that house refuse should be removed more frequently, and this is now done (j) that the names of some of the streets should be altered, and this has been done.

→ This Committee "should make an effort to so increase the body of respectable inhabitants that it shall be able to lighten the mass. And this may be done, as I believe, at little ultimate cost, by the acquisition of a number of the houses in the several streets. I could not favour any scheme for pulling down the houses. The cost would be too great, and it would increase existing evils by driving the people into adjoining streets, many of which are already overcrowded. It will suffice to refer to the 2<sup>nd</sup> report in 1896 to show that this property pays its present owners: and if it pays them there is no reason why it should not be made to pay a reasonable



Report of Dudfield - Kensington M.C.

interest upon any funds invested by Trustees in the purchase of houses.

A further or subsidiary suggestion is that some of the houses, so obtained, might be used as "Relief" houses into which the people could be drafted, in batches, from registered houses, so as to give the owners of such houses vacant possession for the time necessary for carrying out the annual cleansing required by the bye-laws. Such cleansing, as has often been explained in these reports, cannot be done properly whilst the houses are fully occupied, and is not.

But it may be said that the cleansed houses would soon become dirty, and the Trust houses likewise. I am of opinion, however, that if the rooms were let on low terms the lodgers would find it to be to their interest to keep them in decent order, as a condition of being allowed to occupy them. Here, moreover, would be scope for the "increase of sanitary inspection" suggested by the Special Committee.

In his next monthly report, the Medical Officer points out what he thinks may be done under Pt III of the



Housing of the Working Classes Act, and says "I am confident that, properly gone about, by a properly constituted Authority or Association, with the powers of this Act behind them, no insuperable difficulty should be experienced in obtaining the houses at their fair market value. To the Bounteous Council then, as local authority under Part III; to your Vestry, as local authority under Part II, and to the Jubilee Committee, which might become a Society or Association for the purposes of the Act (under section 64) I make appeal that the suggestions contained in this report may receive fair consideration, and that, if found to be practicable, effect may be given to them, so that a grave opprobrium may be taken away from this royal parish as a memorial of this year of Royal Jubilee."

The report for May 1894, calls attention to the large number of admissions to the infirmary from this area. Bangor St., Crescent St. and St. Clement's R<sup>d</sup> which have 23 common lodging houses, comprise 115 houses, and a population of 2078, equal to 18.1 persons to a house. They sent 476 persons to the Infirmary, equal to 22.9% of the



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population. The deaths were 96; viz. 29 connected with (but not occurring at) common lodging houses, and 67 at other houses. Death rate 46.2 per 1000.

S. Katharine's Road and William St<sup>e</sup> (now Henley St<sup>e</sup>) which have no common lodging houses, comprise 160 houses, and a population of 1731, equal to 10.8 persons to a house. They sent 247 persons to the Infirmary, equal to 14.3% of their population. The deaths were 87; the death rate 50.3 per 1000.

The contrast between the streets having common lodging houses, and the streets having no common lodging houses is thus seen to be considerable. The principal points may be briefly expressed as follows:-

	Average number of Persons to a House.	% of Population admitted to Infirmary	Death Rate.
Streets having Common Lodging Houses	18.1	22.9	46.2 per 1000
--- without ---	10.8	14.3	50.3 per 1000

The following Table gives a years sick cases in this area:-



Report of Dudfield Kensington M. Officer

Particulars of Sick Cases in the "Special Area" April 1<sup>st</sup> 1896 to  
March 31<sup>st</sup> 1897

Street	Sex			Age						Houses in Streets			Cases at or from		Where treated	
	Males.	Females.	Total	0-1 Year	1-5 Years	5-12 Years	12-20 Years	20-60 Years	60 & upward	Common Lodging Houses	Other Houses	Total	Common Lodging Houses	Other Houses	At Dispensary	At Home
Bangor Street	150	195	345	19	59	22	24	187	34	11	28	39	68	277	272	73
Brescent Street	124	212	336	23	40	25	22	198	28	8	30	38	79	257	265	71
S. Clements Rd 1-33 & 2-50	121	134	255	14	33	17	9	156	26	4	34	38	24	231	201	54
S. Katharine's Rd.	218	346	564	61	75	52	45	291	40	-	110	110	-	564	426	138
Kenley (late William) St	77	112	189	17	31	23	21	83	14	-	50	50	-	189	137	52
Total -	690	999	1689	134	238	139	121	915	142	23	252	275	171	1518	1301	388

A special house-to-house inspection was made in 1897.  
There were sanitary defects in 210 of the 257 houses. 216 of the  
houses were let in lodgings, of which 114 let furnished. This  
is apart from the 23 common lodging houses.



Report of Dudfield - Kensington Med. Officer.

Notting Dale Special Area: house-to-house inspection.

Particulars as to Houses let in Lodgings.

Name of Street.	No. of Houses let in Lodgings	Number of Rooms	Number of Families	Number of Adults	Number of Children	Number of Persons	Average per House.
Bangor Street	28	264	229	423	160	583	21.6
Brescent Street	25	212	169	320	109	429	17.2
S. Clement's Road	22	181	150	284	147	431	19.6
S. Katharine's Rd.	99	665	477	918	402	1,320	13.3
Kenley ( <sup>late</sup> William) Street	42	203	151	301	120	421	10.0
Totals	216	1,525	1,176	2,246	938	3,184	14.8

The bounty council and the Notting Dale Special Area. I subjoin a correspondence which has passed between your Vestry and the bounty council relating to the "Special Area" and to your Vestry's request to the council to acquire the houses in the district under Part III of the Housing of the Working classes Act, 1890, with a view to their utilization as lodging houses for the working classes. Your Vestry's request was endorsed by a certain number of influential persons, whose petition to the council is also subjoined. <sup>Given in B. 493, p. 31</sup> a petition in, I understand, identical terms was addressed



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to the Council by the Ruri-decanal Chapter, which comprises the entire body of the clergy of Kensington, it having been unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Chapter, and signed on their behalf by the Rural Dean, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Middlesex. It will be seen that the Housing of the Working Classes Committee have lost no time in declining to comply with the request made to the Council, their reply to your Vestry's letter having been forwarded before the matter came to the attention of the Council in the form of a report of the Committee "for the information of the Council," which appears on the Agenda of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant. The Committee appear to be of opinion that your Vestry "possess ample powers under s. 94 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, for dealing with the evils existing in connection with the houses" and they "suggest" that "your Vestry should exercise their powers of inspection and regulation of houses let in lodgings under that section -- with a view of mitigating such evils." It is needless, perhaps, to say that these powers have been more or less fully exercised since 1889, and have been found to be inadequate for the purpose.



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hence your Vestry's application to the Council: for what is needed is such regulation and inspection as the "Local Authority" under the Housing Act (i.e. the Council) can alone exercise with effect, by becoming the owners of the houses, and the landlords of the people, with powers such as were set out in my 4<sup>th</sup> monthly report."

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The Nottingdale District.

Interview with Mr Mileson May 18 - J.A.

Mr Mileson has a grocers and oilman's business in S. Annis Road, Notting Dale, and has <sup>lived</sup> been in the district 30 years. He is a dissenter, and has been for 8 years a Progressive member of the Kensington Vestry. On entering his principal shop at the corner of Crescent St. I found an assistant making up ounce and half ounce packets of tea and Mr Mileson, in old jacket & apron, adding up small <sup>2</sup>/<sub>4</sub>s in a tiny office at back of shop. He is a slight, fair man, looks about 35, but must be older, and talks with a decided Cockney accent, a shrewd but common place individual.

Our talk was mainly about Notting Dale, & the efforts of the Vestry to improve its condition. He says the district was quite respectable when he came, and was first dragged down by the coming in of <sup>common</sup> lodging houses. Then some of the people displaced in Chelsea came and so the place has got gradually worse, until it has now reached the last stage of furnished rooms occupied by a low class of prostitutes &c. One man will have a number



of these houses in charge of a caretaker, the furniture of the rooms being of the most wretched description. It ought to be burnt, but the plea of the owners is that if they put in anything better, it is quickly destroyed. He thinks the local authority ought to have power to condemn such rubbish. The rent of these rooms is 1/- a night, paid on entry, but in some cases a man & wife take the room at 5/- a week, and have 2 or 3 girls to sleep in the room with them, each paying 4<sup>d</sup>. A good many navvies employed on the underground railway extensions have latterly come here to lodge, and a number of these girls have followed them. These girls do not, however, bring men here, and he opines that they cannot afford to take them to other houses. Probably the cohabitation takes place in the streets. If so, how is it the police allow it? They must know of it. He suspects that the women "square" them.

The Vestry awoke to the badness of this Notting Dale area a year or so ago as the result of a newspaper agitation. The houses had not then been long in the 'furnished room' stage. The streets have



Miles on

since been asphalted, and the houses registered & regularly inspected, and underground rooms condemned as sleeping places. Of late a sanitary inspector (M<sup>r</sup> Steward) has been appointed, who has his heart in the work of improvement, and understands well what he is doing. He has, on his own ~~intuitive~~ initiative, been working a number of night inspections - not doing very much, of course, on any one occasion, because the news that he is out is quickly spread, but by a series of surprise visits he is able to deal with some of the worst cases. M<sup>r</sup> M. for instance, knows of one man who has 4 rooms to let, a thing that never happened before, but the man has been frightened by the possibilities of the law into being very careful who he takes in.

D<sup>r</sup> Dudfield, the medical officer, seems to have known little about the place, & went "ramping" when he heard from the inspector of what was going on in his district. Now he would like to have the people all cleared out, but the doctor, altho' a very able man, is regarded by the Sanitary



Committee as something of a faddist, and they are determined that the people shall be dealt with reasonably. On some they would have no mercy, but there are others who are greatly to be pitied. In several cases, men with families have, whilst out of work, drifted into these streets and now that they have got decent employment would gladly get away, but are quite unable to do so, because no house agent will take them from this locality, even tho' they come with good references, & prepared to pay in advance.

The L.C.C. has been asked to deal with this area, but decline to do so, thinking probably that a rich parish like Kensington can do so itself. The houses are pretty good, and cannot be condemned as insanitary. He believes the proper course will be for the local authority to acquire the whole area, & to gradually pull down and rebuild the whole of the houses, taking in the best of the present inhabitants & turning the rest adrift. He believes that, with their power to borrow money at  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  they could do this without any cost to the rates. The building must



be less costly than that of the L.C.C., but might still be good. The Queen's Park class of house, only a little more roomy and convenient, would suit well here. He has spoken to private builders about this, but the difficulty is that the whole area must be dealt with, as one scheme, or you will but make things worse in the parts that remain, and this private builders are not prepared to undertake. He hopes that when the Parish becomes a municipality it will have power and courage to tackle the question thoroughly. Meanwhile, he thinks they are doing all that can be done.

He believes the only way to deal with the bad class is to keep them moving. In that way they may in time die out, but if allowed to settle, they keep drawing in others. Numbers of servant girls, for instance, who have fallen, have come here in their trouble, and have been taken in & looked after (out of that fellow feeling which "makes us wondrous kind"): they have thus been hidden from their friends and have entered upon a prostitute's life. The poor are very good to each other in times



of trouble. These settlements, too, turn out a bad lot of boys. The lads here have given a good deal of trouble. They start by selling flowers, matches, &c., and often take to pocket picking.

He foresees difficulty in dealing with the people. What has now been done has had the effect of making some of the people put children into the common lodging houses to sleep, paying 4<sup>d</sup> a night for each. whilst others have applied en famille to the Guardians, on the plea <sup>that</sup> they have nowhere else to go.

M<sup>r</sup> Roberts, the clergyman of the district, is very hard working and has courageously tackled the drunk question, going himself into the public houses and bringing men out, and prosecuting landlords for serving drunken men. But he sees very little result for his labours. Religion at very low ebb here.

They have had a hard fight to get out-relief for some of the more deserving cases in this part, & have got  $\frac{2}{6}$  or  $\frac{3}{6}$  for a number of old people. The S. Kensington people are very much opposed to it, but



municipal work.

Miles on

it is really needed here.

Another place likely to become dangerous <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ the ~~streets~~ <sup>district</sup> between the Gasworks & Canal. There is a lot of vacant land there on which decent little houses might be built, but the ground owners (S. Quintin's) insist on a £10 or £12 ground rent, thus rendering small houses impossible.

The Parish has good baths & libraries, but has given away its electric light powers.

Labour is directly employed to a considerable extent, but in regard to wages, holidays, &c., the Vestry is distinctly behind the times.



## Fulham

### Extracts from Medical Officers Report for 1897

#### POPULATION.

The population of Fulham as enumerated at the Census taken on March 29th, 1896, was 113,781, having increased from 91,640 during the preceding ten years. The population in the middle of 1897, as calculated in the usual manner on the hypothesis that the rates of increase which prevailed between 1891 and 1896 have been maintained since, was 120,040, and on this figure the statistics in this report are based.

#### AREA OF THE DISTRICT AND DENSITY OF THE POPULATION.

The area of Fulham is 1,701 acres, and there are 70.6 persons to the acre. The County of London has an average density of 59.8 persons, to an acre, ranging from 221, 212, and 195 in Whitechapel, St. George, Southwark, and St. George-in-the-East, to 18, 12, and 6 in Plumstead, Lewisham and Lee. When the available land in Fulham is all built upon, there will probably be about 110 persons to the acre.

#### MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGE RATE.

1,028 marriages were celebrated in Fulham during the year, the numbers in the three preceding years being 789, 809, and 916. The marriage rate, *i.e.*, persons married per 1,000 inhabitants was 17.1, the rate for the County of London being 18.5, and that for England and Wales 16.0.

#### BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE.

The births registered in the year numbered 4,106, 2,127 males and 1,979 females. There was one birth to every 29.5 inhabitants, and 100 births of males to 93.1 of females.



The following Table gives the number of births registered in Fulham, together with the birth-rate during the previous 10 years. :—

		Males.	Females.	Total.	Birth Rate.
1887	...	1412	1458	2870	39.3
1888	...	1577	1406	2983	38.2
1889	...	1522	1567	3089	37.2
1890	...	1551	1593	3144	35.7
1891	...	1814	1733	3547	37.4
1892	...	1835	1761	3596	35.4
1893	...	1860	1851	3711	35.0
1894	...	1937	1826	3763	34.9
1895	...	1993	1937	3930	35.3
1896	...	2092	1976	4068	34.8
1897	...	2127	1979	4106	34.2

The mean rate for the 10 years 1887-1896 being 36.3.

### Excess of Births over Deaths.

The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths was 2,046, as compared with 1866, 1735 & 2025 in the three preceding years.

the death-rates of Fulham, the adjoining parishes, and the Metropolis were as under :—

### Deaths

Fulham ...	...	...	...	...	...	17.7
Hammersmith ...	...	...	...	...	...	17.7
Kensington ...	...	...	...	...	...	17.3
Chelsea ...	...	...	...	...	...	18.9
County of London	...	...	...	...	...	18.9

The following Table gives the death-rates of Fulham and London, uncorrected for age and sex distribution during the previous 10 years :—

		Fulham Death-rate per 1,000.	London Death-rate per 1,000.
1887	...	19.5	20.3
1888	...	19.1	19.3
1889	...	18.8	18.4
1890	...	21.7	21.4
1891	...	19.7	21.0
1892	...	20.0	20.3
1893	...	19.5	21.0
1894	...	17.9	17.4
1895	...	19.9	19.5
1896	...	17.5	18.2
1897	...	16.9	17.7



The mean rates for the 10 years 1887 to 1896 being:—Fulham 19.36, London 19.68. The difference between the rate for 1897, and the mean for the previous 10 years in Fulham, represents a saving of 293 lives.

The following Table gives the number of deaths and the death rate in each of the wards into which the Parish is divided:—

Ward	Number of Deaths	Death Rate
Baron's Court Ward	166	13.6
Sturleigham —	98	17.2
Lillie —	343	16.4
Margravine —	372	18.8
Munster —	307	18.2
Sand's End —	326	19.4
Town —	129	12.9
Walham —	276	17.5
Not specified	13	—

The above must be considered satisfactory, as no part of the parish is conspicuous by an exceptionally high death-rate.

#### DISPOSAL OF THE REFUSE.

The Vestry have finally decided to at once proceed with the erection of a Dust Destructor, and to utilise the heat generated by the cremation of the refuse for the production of electric light.



SEWER VENTILATION.

The Surveyor has continued to deal vigorously with this matter, and has succeeded in obtaining permission to erect 50 shafts during the year, with the result that complaints respecting the offensive smells arising from the manholes and surface ventilators have not been quite so numerous as heretofore.

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SUPERVISION OF NEW PROPERTY.

Attention has been frequently drawn to the inferior quality of much of the building which has taken place in Fulham, and it is satisfactory to know that of late a much more rigorous supervision of new houses has been exercised and proceedings in several instances were taken last year by the London County Council against builders in respect of contravention of the London Building Act.

As I have before pointed out, the Sanitary Authority have little or no control over the construction of houses, except so far as the drains are concerned, and at present the London County Council have no power to make a by-law to the effect, that a new house shall not be occupied until it has been certified by the Sanitary Authority to be in every respect fit for human habitation, but I regret that the Vestry did not think fit to adopt the recommendation made in a report on the matter that they should grant certificates, when applied for, as to the fitness of new houses for occupation, for in Fulham most of the new houses are sold by the builders on completion, and if it were known that the Vestry gave certificates respecting houses which they considered to be in all respects properly constructed and finished, intending purchasers would, in all probability, require the certificates to be produced, and in this way considerable control would indirectly be obtained over builders, and I would therefore again strongly urge the Vestry to adopt this course.

As bearing out what I have said in previous reports, that "houses are being erected in Fulham in such a manner that it is almost certain that in a very few years they will be in a ruinous condition," I may mention that I have recently represented to the Sanitary Authority under the Housing of the Working Classes Act some houses which have only been built about four years, as being in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation. //

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

The following houses were represented to the Sanitary Authority under the provisions of the above Act as being in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation :—

*See next page*



Description of Premises	Number of Dwellings.	Action Taken.
1, Dawson Street ...	1	Repaired by Owner.
3, Munster Mews ...	1	Closed by Justices' Order.
4, " " ...	1	" " " "
3, Cumberland Crescent	1	Repaired by Owner.
5, " " "	1	" " " "
9, " " "	1	" " " "
11, " " "	1	" " " "
13, " " "	1	" " " "
15, " " "	1	" " " "
19, " " "	1	" " " "
	10	

#### BAKEHOUSES.

There are 82 bakehouses in Fulham, of which 70 are underground. They have been regularly inspected during the year and been found in a fairly satisfactory condition.

#### Houses Let in Lodgings

I regret that as yet but little has been done to carry into effect the bye-laws made by the Vestry under Section 94 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, in respect of houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, as only 24 houses have as yet been registered. I have on more than one occasion represented to the Vestry the necessity for enforcing these bye-laws, and have urged that a special

Inspector should be appointed for this purpose; but this has not been done, and, without again going into the matter at length, I would once more strongly recommend the Vestry to adopt this course.

#### SANITARY STAFF.

The Vestry employ five Sanitary Inspectors, there being to each Inspector 3,380 houses and 2,400 inhabitants as compared with 2,500 houses and 18,700 inhabitants to each Inspector in the County of London, and 2,900 houses and 15,000 inhabitants to each Inspector in 15 of the large provincial towns, so that even with the appointment of the additional Inspector to look after the houses let in lodgings, as suggested, Fulham would still be below the rest of London as regards the number of Inspectors, and during more than half of the past year, owing to illness, the staff was reduced to four Inspectors.



There is also great need for additional clerical assistance, as the Clerk is quite unable to deal with the constantly increasing work of this rapidly growing parish, and I regret that the Vestry refused to adopt the recommendation of the Sanitary Committee, who had carefully considered the question, that an additional Clerk should be appointed.

## Fulham

### Report of Dr. Young, Assistant Medical Officer of Health to the London County Council, on the Sanitary Condition and Administration of the Parish of Fulham.

The sanitary district of Fulham is situated in the western part of the metropolitan area on the north bank of the river Thames. The course of the river here makes a considerable curve and forms the boundary of the district on the south-west, south, and south-east. On the north-west the boundary is formed by Hammersmith, and on the east and north-east by Chelsea and Kensington.

The character of the soil of the district is practically the same throughout the area, and consists of gravel and sand overlying the London clay. During the recent construction of a sewer in the neighbourhood of Dawes Road the depth of the gravel at this part was found to be 27 feet.

The area of Fulham is 1,701 acres, including 8 acres of water. The adjacent tidal water and foreshore is equal to an area of 156 acres.

Until the year 1886, Hammersmith and Fulham together formed one sanitary district under the jurisdiction of the Fulham Board of Works. By the Metropolis Local Management Act, 1885, this Board was dissolved, and the parish of Fulham was constituted a separate sanitary district under the control of the Vestry of Fulham as the local authority.

The rateable value of the district at the present time is £511,738. I have extracted from the annual reports of the Vestry the rateable values at different periods since 1861, which show the large increase that has taken place in this respect since that date. The figures are as follows:—

1861	...	£58,296		1881	...	£190,136
1871	...	100,121		1891	...	426,551

Under the Equalisation of Rates (London) Act, 1894, the amount payable to Fulham from the Equalisation fund for the half-year ending September, 1895, amounted to £4,299 os. 8d., and for the previous half-year to £4,402 3s. 6d., which is equivalent to the production of a rate in Fulham of nearly 4½d. in the £1 for the whole year.

For statistical purposes the sanitary area of Fulham forms one of the sub-districts of the registration district of Fulham, which includes three sub-districts, namely, Fulham, St. Peter, Hammersmith, and St. Paul, Hammersmith.

The census returns as to the population and number of inhabited houses in the sub-district of Fulham show that a marked change has



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been taking place during the last thirty years. The following Table gives the figures obtained at each census since 1861—

	Population,	Houses (inhabited).
1861	15,539	2,481
1871	23,350	3,469
1881	42,900	5,833
1891	91,639	12,896

From these it is seen that there has been a very rapid increase in the population, and especially since the year 1871, for whereas between 1861-71 there was an increase of 50 per cent., between 1871-81 the increase was equal to about 83 per cent. of the population, and during the inter-censal period of 1881-91 the population more than doubled itself. This increase is no doubt largely due to the extensive building of houses in the district, and the immigration of persons from the more central parts of the metropolis.

At the date of the ordnance survey of London some thirty years ago the district of Fulham consisted of four villages, namely, Fulham, North End, Parsons Green, and Walham, separated by land used chiefly for agricultural purposes; at the present time the greater part of this area, with the exception of some 500 acres, for the most part situated along the bank of the river, has been built over, and building operations are still being carried on. During the period which has elapsed since the census was taken in 1891, considerable increase in the number of houses and of residents has continued to take place, though there is reason to believe that the rate of increase has not been quite so great as during the period 1881-91.

The density of the population in Fulham, as measured by the average number of inhabitants per acre and per inhabited house in the census year 1891 and previous censuses, was as follows:—

	Per acre.	Per inhabited house.
1861	9	6.2
1871	14	6.7
1881	25	7.3
1891	54	7.1

In the registration County of London in 1891 there was an average of 56 persons to each acre, and 7.7 persons per inhabited house.

The proportion of the population living in one and in two rooms was in 1891 less than in the other districts of London except Camberwell, Greenwich, Hackney, Hampstead, Lewisham, Plumstead and Wandsworth. The number of persons living in one room was greater, and in two rooms less than in Battersea.

In the last census return of the population of Fulham it is shown that the total number of inhabitants, viz., 91,639, consisted of 42,861 males or 46.8 per cent., and 48,778 females or 53.2 per cent. The proportion which obtained in London was 47.3 per cent. males and 52.7 per cent. females.

The following figures give the proportion of persons of each sex at different age periods. The figures for London generally are also given:—

	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and upwards.
Fulham—											
Males	...	7.12	6.15	4.94	3.84	3.76	8.19	6.08	3.72	1.76	0.91
Females	...	7.06	6.27	5.17	4.49	5.11	9.79	6.69	4.09	2.53	1.46
London—											
Males	...	5.92	5.36	4.90	4.69	4.61	7.92	5.85	4.11	2.35	1.20
Females	...	5.99	5.42	4.99	5.21	5.56	9.11	6.49	4.64	2.92	1.72

A marked difference in the constitution of these two populations is the excess of persons under 15 years and between the ages 25-45 in Fulham. The relatively greater proportion of persons at these ages is probably due to newly-married persons, and persons with young families having taken up their abode in Fulham, consequent upon the large number of houses which have been built there of late years. The high birth-rate which prevails in Fulham no doubt largely accounts for the excess of persons under 15 years, but the presence of the Western Fever Hospital in the district may to a small extent have some effect.

In the next Table are given the birth and death-rates for Fulham and London respectively.

The rates for Fulham have been calculated upon the number of deaths occurring in the parish after the correction for the deaths of non-residents. These figures have been supplied by Dr. Jackson, the Medical Officer of Health of Fulham.

The rates from all causes so obtained, as well as those for London generally, have been further corrected for age and sex distribution by the factor given by the Council's Medical Officer in his annual report.



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		Birth rate.	Death rate.	Deaths under one year old to 1000 births.	Zymotic Death rate.	Birth rate.	Death rate.	Deaths under one year old to 1000 births.	Zymotic Death rate.
1891	...	38.7	21.3	163	3.18	31.8	22.4	153	2.27
1892	...	35.3	19.8	166	3.5	30.9	21.6	154	2.80
1893	...	35.4	20.2	177	3.3	30.9	22.3	163	3.04
1894	..	34.9	18.4	149	3.9	30.1	18.6	143	2.64

Fulham shows a considerably higher birth-rate than that which prevailed in London during these years, and though in both cases the rates have decreased, the decrease is more marked in the former.

During the same period both the infantile mortality and the zymotic death-rate have been greater than in London, but the rates for deaths from all causes have been less except during the year 1894.

The houses in the parish of Fulham consist for the most part of two-storey buildings, and generally speaking, they are well situated as regards light and air. In a few instances, however, the open space at the rear of houses cannot be regarded as adequate, owing to the fact that the rear wall of the back addition portion of the house has been built up to the rear boundary of the site, leaving open space which extends for a portion only of the entire width of the house. In one instance, where the open space provided at the rear of a small two-storey house was measured, it was found to consist of two small spaces on either side of the back addition, one of which measured 24 superficial feet, and the other some 12 superficial feet.

A marked feature which attracted attention in this district is the inferior character of the building which has taken place in some parts. Houses, which I found had only been built within recent years, were already becoming defective, owing apparently to the inferior quality of material used in their construction and to inferior workmanship. As illustrating these remarks, I quote the following facts, which I noticed in houses situated in one street, all of which I understand have been built within the last ten years or so:—

*Mooltan-street.*—The houses in this street are two-storey buildings. The brickwork is bad and the pointing defective, especially at the rear. The houses, generally speaking, show signs of damp; the window frames have apparently in several cases been taken from other buildings and made to serve for these houses; the front doors have warped and are ill-fitting; the soil pipes are ventilated by unsubstantial-looking zinc piping.

The following defects found in particular houses are illustrative of conditions generally existing in this street.

(a) Fore-court unpaved, passage wall damp, front room wall damp, stack pipe defective, water-closet pan dirty. The rear wall of back addition is within four feet of building at rear.

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(b) Fore-court unpaved, front room wall damp, brickwork defective, wash-house plaster broken, yard paving bad, soil-pipe ventilator defective, water-closet pan cracked, rear stack-pipe defective, roof defective.

(c) Roof of back addition building defective, window defective and framework dilapidated, rear brickwork defective.

(d) Fore-court and yard unpaved, wall of ground floor front and back rooms very damp, rear brickwork defective, pointing defective, rear doorway framework dilapidated.

In another part of the district houses of somewhat older date were seen which were of the same character as the above, but in these, owing to action on the part of the sanitary authority, defects have been rectified and alterations effected, and most of the houses at the time of my visit were in a fair state of repair.

During the course of my inspection of the district I visited 406 dwellings, and at 283 of them I found one or more defects existing. I made notes of the following:—

Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	In the case of 33 houses.
Defective drains or drain inlets	...	...	...	26	"
Defective water-closets or foul pans	...	...	...	102	"
Defective paving of yards and forecourts	...	...	...	92	"
Defective domestic water cisterns	...	...	...	36	"
Defective or absence of dustbins	...	...	...	100	"
Dirty or dilapidated walls and defective flooring	...	...	...	100	"
Damp walls	...	...	...	86	"
Defective brickwork	...	...	...	30	"
Defective stack pipes and gutterings	...	...	...	17	"
Accumulations of house refuse	...	...	...	4	"

Generally speaking I found drain inlets to be well trapped, and water-closets provided with separate cisterns for flushing purposes. In many houses the drains were ventilated, properly trapped and disconnected from the sewers, though in a few cases it was noticed that ventilation of the soil pipe had been effected by means of a rain-water stack pipe in such a way as to be liable to cause nuisance, owing to the proximity of its upper end to an adjoining window.

With reference to the existence of overcrowding in dwellings, instances were not wanting where this was found to exist as judged by the standard adopted in the model by-laws of the Local Government Board. These by-laws require that every room used both as day and sleeping room shall be of such cubic capacity as to allow 400 cubic feet, and every room used solely for sleeping, 300 cubic feet per person, two children under ten years of age being regarded as equivalent to one adult.

The following are notes which I made in connection with this subject during my inspections:—

A top floor room of about 1,120 cubic feet, occupied as a living and sleeping-room by a family consisting of father, mother, one adult, and three children.

A room of about 988 cubic feet, used both for sleeping and living by a family of father, mother and three children.

A family, consisting of father, mother, one adult child, and five children, occupying three small rooms, all sleep in one room of about 864 cubic feet. This house was in a very defective condition.

A two-storey house of four rooms occupied by four separate families. In one room of about 1,080 cubic feet, father, mother, and one child, aged ten years, live and sleep. House dirty throughout.



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Three rooms occupied by a family consisting of father, mother, four children over ten years, and three under that age. Two rooms were occupied as bedrooms, one by the father and mother and one child, the other by the rest of the family. The size of this room was about 1,080 cubic feet.

There are four licensed cowsheds and six licensed slaughter-houses in Fulham. At the time of my visit to these premises I found that they were in a good state of repair, and that the by-laws and regulations were duly observed. The milk shops which were inspected were also found to be well kept, and with few exceptions the utensils were in a cleanly condition. There are no registered offensive businesses in the district.

I also inspected thirty-four bakehouses. The majority of these were situated in the basement of the premises, either partially or wholly below the level of the adjoining roadway. In some cases these were bakehouses which had only recently been constructed, and the means of light and ventilation were, generally speaking, fairly good. As regards seven bakehouses, however, the provisions for ventilation did not appear to me to be adequate. Cleanliness was well observed in each, and there is evidence that periodical limewashing of the walls is enforced by the sanitary authority. In only a few instances did I notice a drain inlet situated inside the bakehouse. In all these cases the inlet was fitted with a proper trap.

I was unable to obtain a list of the workshops which there are in the district, as it appears to have been impossible for the existing sanitary staff to devote any special attention in carrying out the provisions of the Factory and Workshops' Act. Dr. Jackson, the Medical Officer of Health, however, accompanied me to some premises, the addresses of which had been supplied to him as workshops within the meaning of the Act. These were found to be mostly private houses at which one or more of the family worked but did not employ labour, and a few were large millinery establishments. As regards these little fault was to be found; in the absence of any definite information as to the number and character of workshops which there are in the district, it is impossible to form an opinion as to their needs.

There are three registered common lodging-houses in Fulham; these comply with the requirements of the Acts and regulations respecting such premises. Two of the houses differ in character from the ordinary common lodging-houses in that the keepers, who reside on the premises, do not take in casual lodgers; they receive only men employed at certain nursery gardens in the neighbourhood, who are recommended by the proprietor. These lodgers are boarded as well as lodged, and often remain for lengthy periods.

The Vestry have provided a mortuary in connection with a coroner's court, for the use of the parish. The building contains two mortuary chambers and a post-mortem room. I extract from the annual reports of the Medical Officer of Health of the district the following information relating to the use of the mortuary during the last two years. During 1893, 130 bodies were brought to the mortuary, of which twelve were brought at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, six being cases

of infectious disease. During 1894, 123 bodies were removed to the mortuary, five at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, four being cases of infectious disease.

The removal of house refuse and the scavenging of the streets is carried out by the Vestry. As regards the house refuse, it is the custom to have every house called at once in each week, and in order that the collection shall be made periodically, the parish has been divided into six sub-districts, each of which is visited upon a fixed day. The result appears to be generally satisfactory, and during the course of my inspection I seldom noticed any accumulations of house refuse.

The refuse is taken to the Vestry's wharf on the river, and there at once loaded into barges and removed.

The Vestry have not made provision for undertaking the disinfection of articles of clothing, bedding, etc., after the occurrence of infectious disease, but have arranged with a contractor in the district for this purpose. By the terms of this contract, inquiry is made twice daily at the Vestry Hall on behalf of the contractor for the purpose of ascertaining the occurrence of cases of infectious disease concerning which disinfection is required. The articles are removed from and returned to the houses in separate vans. The disinfection is effected by steam. The disinfection of rooms is carried out by an official in the employ of the Vestry.

The Vestry have not up to the present time provided a shelter for the use of the district, under section 60 Public Health (London) Act, 1891, which requires that every sanitary authority shall provide shelter for use of persons during the period necessary for the disinfection of their dwellings.

The water supply for the parish of Fulham is supplied partly by the Chelsea and partly by the West Middlesex Water Works Companies.

The Sanitary staff of the Vestry consists at the present time of:—

- A Medical Officer of Health.
- Four Sanitary Inspectors.
- One Assistant for Disinfection.
- A Sanitary Clerk.

The Medical Officer of Health is not allowed to engage in private practice. The Sanitary staff is under his control, and he attends at the offices of the Vestry daily to supervise the work of the department.

The Inspectors have districts allotted to them, and each performs in his allotted district all duties arising under the Public Health Acts and the Food and Drugs Act. They attend at the offices daily in the morning to carry out certain clerical duties, such as preparing the intimation notices, and also to see builders and others who may seek advice. They also attend in the afternoon if necessary. The Disinfection Assistant is employed in carrying out the disinfection of rooms in which cases of infectious diseases have occurred.

The Clerk devotes his time to keeping the register of complaints, the inspection book which contains a record of the conditions found to exist in all premises visited by the Inspectors, and of the action taken in each case, the register of infectious disease occurring in the district,



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the register of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, and the mortuary and correspondence registers. He also makes out the statutory notices, and notices which are sent to the School Board, the Public Library, and the master of the house, in connection with the occurrence of infectious disease. He also keeps a record of the returns forwarded by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, of the fees paid to medical practitioners for notification returns of houses certified by the sanitary authority as being provided with a proper and sufficient supply of water, and of certificates granted under the Customs and Inland Revenue Acts. Another register has recently been commenced of all the houses in the district, with a view to a record being kept of all cases of infectious disease, and of deaths from other diseases, which occur in each house in the district.

The sanitary authority for the district is the Vestry of the Parish of Fulham. There is a Sanitary Committee for the special consideration of matters arising in connection with the work of the Public Health Department, consisting of all the members of the Vestry, but no powers under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, are delegated to this committee by the Vestry.

Under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, the sanitary authorities in the Metropolis must make and enforce by-laws in respect to the following matters:—

- (1) The prevention of particular nuisances.
- (2) The keeping of water-closets supplied with sufficient water for their effective action.
- (3) The cleansing of receptacles used for storing water likely to be used for drinking purposes.
- (4) Houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family.

The Vestry of Fulham have made by-laws on these subjects, which have been confirmed by the Local Government Board. The by-laws are based on the model by-laws, and are similar to those which have been made and are now in force in most districts in the metropolis. As regards the amount of rental which is considered sufficient to exempt houses from the operation of by-laws which relate to houses let in lodgings, this is not the same in all parts of London. In the case of Fulham, by-laws have recently been confirmed by the Local Government Board giving the sanitary authority power to register all unfurnished lodgings of no greater rental than 6s. a week, and all furnished lodgings which do not exceed a rental of 7s. 6d. a week.

These by-laws require the same amount of cubic space as the model by-laws of the Local Government Board already referred to, namely, 400 cubic feet for each person in rooms used both for living and sleeping purposes, and 300 cubic feet in those used for sleeping only, two children under ten years being regarded as equivalent to one adult. No houses had been registered at the time of my inspection.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out by the sanitary authority under the powers conferred on them by the Public Health (London) Act, and under the Housing of the Working Classes Act as regards houses unfit for human habitation. I find from the reports of the Medical Officer of Health for the years 1893 and 1894 that under the last-mentioned Act, thirty-nine and ninety houses respectively were certified by him as being unfit for human habitation. Of these houses eleven were demolished, and the remainder were either closed by the owners or by a magistrate's order. During my inspection I had opportunities of seeing premises in which drainage improvements were being effected owing to action by the sanitary authority; in all such cases the requirements of the Vestry appeared to be comprehensive, including ventilation and disconnection, and the provision of inspection chambers in the course of the system of drains. All drains, whether in newly-built houses or after re-construction, are now subjected to a water test before being passed as satisfactory.

The work thus carried on is as a rule limited to the case of premises which have been brought to the notice of the sanitary authority by a complaint, or by the occurrence of infectious disease. Some parts of the district, however, known to require periodical visits are thus treated, but it has not been possible to undertake a systematic house-to-house inspection of the whole district.

The results of this inquiry into the sanitary condition of Fulham may be summed up as follows:—

- (1) The general death-rates for the last four years have been less than in London generally, but the infantile death-rates and the zymotic death-rates have been greater in Fulham. The birth-rate, which in 1891 showed a marked excess over London, has decreased.
- (2) Much work has been carried out by the health department for the remedying of insanitary conditions, but in more than two-thirds of the houses visited by me defective conditions were found to exist.
- (3) Systematic house-to-house inspection has not been undertaken, owing to the time of the existing staff being fully occupied.
- (4) No sufficient steps have been taken to carry out the provision of the Factory and Workshops Act.
- (5) No shelter for the provision of families during the disinfection of their rooms has been provided.
- (6) The enforcement by the Vestry of the by-laws relating to houses let in lodgings will cause a considerable increase in the duties of the Sanitary Inspectors and Clerk.
- (7) The Vestry have not provided themselves with proper apparatus for disinfection beyond arranging with a contractor.



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These facts lead to the conclusion that, in order that the duties devolving upon the Public Health Department may be efficiently carried out, the Vestry should take steps to increase their staff. The appointment of another Inspector, making a total of five for the district, would probably at the present time be sufficient, though, in a district which is increasing so rapidly as Fulham, a further increase at no distant date may possibly be necessary. Additional clerical assistance is also needed.

The Vestry should, without further delay, provide a shelter for the use of persons during the disinfection of their rooms.

C. W. F. YOUNG,

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health.*

Town Hall, Fulham, S.W.

March 16th, 1896.

GENTLEMEN,

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER  
TO THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

The report of Dr. Young, one of the Assistant Medical Officers to the London County Council, on the Sanitary Condition and Administration of the Parish of Fulham, has been referred by the Committee to me for my observations.

The first portion of the report—which deals with the situation, area, rateable value, population, the density and age and sex constitution of the population of the parish—requires no comment, as the facts and figures have been given in my reports.

With regard to the death-rates given, with which you are also familiar, it will be noticed that in 1894, as well as in the other years referred to, the corrected death-rate was lower, though only slightly so, in Fulham than in London.

Dr. Young remarks that the zymotic death-rate of Fulham is higher than that of London, but in comparing the zymotic death-rates, the age constitution of the districts must, as I have pointed out, be taken into account, as the most prevalent of the seven principal zymotic diseases are mainly fatal to young children; in fact, upwards of 90 per cent. of the deaths from these diseases are of children under the age of 15 years, so that a district with a population containing a large proportion of children will, other things being equal, have a higher zymotic death-rate than a district with a population containing a small proportion of children. The proportion of children under 15 years of age amounts in Fulham to 36.6 per cent. of the population, and in London to only 32.4, and taking this difference into consideration it will be found that the corrected zymotic death-rate for Fulham is only 5 per cent. higher than that of London, while the uncorrected zymotic death-rate is no less than 16 per cent. higher.

In making these calculations, I have corrected an error in the zymotic death-rate for 1891, as given in the report, which should be 2.3 instead of 3.1.

The infantile mortality which, as Dr. Young points out, is also higher than that of London, is adversely affected by the fact that the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births is higher in Fulham than in London, for, as is well known, the mortality of illegitimate is more than double that of children born in wedlock, though this factor does not by any means entirely account for the difference in the infantile mortality of London and Fulham. On the other hand, the death-rate of children between the ages of 1 and 5, an important sanitary test, is lower in Fulham than in London.

The next matter dealt with by Dr. Young is the general structure and conditions of the houses in Fulham, and this is perhaps the most important feature in the report. Dr. Young says:—"A marked feature which attracted attention in this district is the inferior character of the building which has taken place in some parts. Houses which I found



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had only been built within recent years were already becoming defective, owing apparently to the inferior quality of material used in their construction and to inferior workmanship," and he then gives some typical examples. As to the absolute correctness of these remarks there can be no question, as most of the members of the Committee are well aware. In fact it may be said that a very large proportion of the sanitary defects in Fulham are due to the original faulty construction of the houses. And for this state of things it must be borne in mind the Sanitary Authority in Fulham are in no way responsible, as it is due to the way in which the Building Act has been administered, formerly by the Metropolitan Board of Works and of late years by the London County Council. I regret, too, to have to say that even with the more stringent Building Act of 1894 things are now but little better; at the present moment houses are being erected in Fulham in such a manner that it is almost certain that in a very few years they will be in a ruinous condition, and I have reported to the Council some recent violations of the Building Act in respect of open space at the rear of houses, a point which is also alluded to by Dr. Young as having been neglected in the past.

This report of the Council's own officer is a strong argument in favour of the transfer of many of the powers possessed by the London County Council under the Building Act to the Local Authority, and I would strongly urge the Vestry to endeavour to secure the transfer of these powers, which was, I believe, recommended by the recent Conference of Local Authorities, seeing how they are suffering from the shortcomings of the Central Authority who now sit in judgment on them.

Dr. Young next gives a list of the defects he found in the houses he visited, which shows the necessity for what has often been pressed upon the Vestry, viz., house-to-house inspection. I may say that since Dr. Young's visit a house-to-house inspection of some small portions of the parish has been effected, but not to the extent it should be done.

With respect to the overcrowding mentioned by Dr. Young, as I have already reported, it is evident from the census returns that there is a good deal of overcrowding in the parish, but it escapes notice as the staff of inspection is too small to undertake a systematic examination, even of the very poor property, which is so eminently desirable.

I may say, however, that overcrowding is a very difficult matter to deal with, as, if abated in one house it probably recurs in another, and sometimes, unfortunately, it is a question either of a family living under overcrowded conditions or of having no roof over their heads. I hope, however, when I am able to get all the tenement houses registered this evil will be able to be dealt with.

With respect to the cowsheds, slaughter-houses, milk-shops and bake-houses, I need say nothing, as Dr. Young reports favourably of them. As to workshops some little work has been done of late, but not to the extent I could wish.

The portion of the report dealing with common lodging-houses, the mortuary, and the removal of refuse, calls for no remarks.

With respect to the disinfection I have more than once reported to the Vestry on the question, the last occasion being of recent date, and as the Vestry are about to deal with the question of refuse

destruction and are expecting a report from an Engineer on the matter, it is, I think a favourable time to consider the advisability of erecting disinfecting plant in connection with a destructor, as probably there would be economy both in the cost of erection and in the subsequent working if the two were carried out in conjunction.

In the same scheme, too, provision should be made for a "shelter" for the use of persons during the period necessary for the disinfection of their dwellings, as is required by the Public Health (London) Act.

Dr. Young's remarks on the water supply, the sanitary staff and the By-laws, deal with matters which are perfectly familiar to the Committee and need not be gone into.

The final portion of Dr. Young's report is of a nature that must be satisfactory to the Vestry, bearing testimony as it does to the amount of work accomplished by the Sanitary Authority and also to the thoroughness with which the work is done.

I have briefly touched upon the main features of the report, and to sum up I might say that all the facts mentioned have, at various times, been brought under your notice, and that, looking at it as a whole, the report cannot be regarded as entirely unsatisfactory.

With regard to the recommendations of Dr. Young, I have already dealt with the question of disinfection and the provision of a shelter, and I would urge the Vestry to carry out his recommendation to appoint another Inspector. Although a great deal has been accomplished, an immense amount remains to be done, and, unfortunately, from the nature of the buildings, which has been alluded to, and the character of many of the residents, a large proportion of the property requires frequent and regular inspection, which cannot be, with the present staff, undertaken. I might mention that even with an additional Inspector the proportion of persons and houses to each Inspector would still be considerably over that obtaining in London and in other large towns in England, the figures being:—

	Houses.	Persons.
London ... ..	2556	18787
15 Large Towns ... ..	2700	15000
Fulham, with 5 Inspectors	3000	23000

If another Inspector were appointed, a house-to-house inspection of the parish could be proceeded with more vigorously, steps could be taken to register all the tenement houses and secure the enforcement of the By-laws made in their respect, and the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Acts could also be carried out.

I trust, therefore, the Vestry will see the necessity of appointing another Inspector, so that the various Acts for the administration of which they as the Sanitary Authority are responsible may be efficiently carried out, which would undoubtedly be in every way of benefit to the parish.

I am,  
Yours obediently,

J. CHAS. JACKSON,

To the Chairman and Members,  
Sanitary Committee.



Dr Jackson, med. officer. Fulham.

The District.

Fulham

May 26<sup>th</sup> J.A.

Dr Jackson has been medical officer of health to the Fulham Vestry for 7 years and gives his whole time to the duties. Even in this period he has seen the population grow very largely - the flocking in of the people displaced in Chelsea, and the settling down here of many young married people from other parts, mostly provincial. Fulham has a younger population than London as a whole and a much higher birth rate than any other western district, natural increment being well over 2000 a year. The birth rate is now steadily declining.

The parish may be best described as a working class residential district and one that would quickly feel the pinch of bad trade. Most of it is new, with the houses built for 2 families, but there are older parts about the Kings Road, High Street, and Fulham Road, as well as in the Margravine district, which is known as Fulham New Town, and was built over about 30 years ago. Here the houses are not built for 2 families, though occupied



## Poorest Parts.

by 2 or 3.

The poorest and worst parts of the parish are the Sandilands Road group, slightly improving, but still very poor. Stephendale and Town Mead Roads. the Avenues (Grove, Walham, Rock &c.) & the Margravine district.

He had wished to schedule the Avenues for representation to the L.C.C. as an insanitary area, but Dr. Shirley Murphy, having visited them, said there were so many worse places in London that it was most unlikely the L.C.C. would deal with them so he has abandoned this idea and is now registering the houses.

## Proliferation of Jerry Building.

[Fulham's worst trouble has been the jerry builder. Altogether it has a shocking lot of houses, due largely to the neglect of the <sup>late</sup> district surveyor, an old Metropolitan Board of Works official, who had got past his work. The L.C.C. has got rid of him, now, and has divided up the district and appointed 2 surveyors, who are now actively at work. Builders are being prosecuted at the present time (Clmdale &



Playfair Streets for example) and in one case have been compelled to pull the houses down. //

He thinks the Building Act is not drastic enough in many respects. Taking a number of these jerry houses, he prepared a list of about 80 defects in them, but legal advice showed that only a comparative few of these could be dealt with by law, which seemed to take no account of jamming or badly hung doors, defective windows and fastenings, cracked wainscotting &c. //

He would like the builders to be compelled to obtain from the local authority a certificate of fitness for occupation before letting the houses, but Mr Bripps, legal adviser to the LCC, ridicules this idea, and says no Parliament would ever pass it. Failing this he is urging his Vestry to voluntarily offer to certify houses for tenants, but whilst there is the present rush for houses, this is hardly likely to be of much value.

He knows that in several cases more money has been raised on the mortgage of houses than they actually cost to build.



## Progress of Sanitary work.

D<sup>r</sup> Jackson - Med. Officer - Fulham

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D<sup>r</sup> J. has a varying Vestry to manage (sometimes Moderate, and sometimes Progressive). The Progressives are his best friends. They are more eager for sanitary work. He has succeeded in getting his staff doubled, tho' even now it is a bit below the London average, and has got thro' his bye-laws for the registration of lodging, though not without a struggle, and not in so good a form as he would like. He has prepared an excellent set of registers which will, in time, form a record of every house in the parish, and has got 200 houses registered - before very long it will be 2000, he says. He doubts, however, if he has power to register houses which are built for 2 families and only occupied by the legal number of persons.

He is satisfied generally with both house drainage and water supply, and has much hope, with his new staff, of getting the parish in a thorough sanitary state. He has successfully urged the establishment of baths and wash-houses, disinfecting station, shelter and dust destructor (all these are now being built) and there being but few workshops,



L. Jackson - Med. Officer - Fulham

does not apprehend much difficulty in dealing with such works as obtain by the river side (breweries, distilleries &c) or with the many laundries for which Fulham is famed. There are a number of large stables, (omnibus, tram, cab, carriers &c) which need well looking after and one or two small Italian colonies, which give some trouble. He recently had to interview a bear and its owners, ~~which~~ were all in one room.

There is a good deal of food adulteration, and a vigorous campaign has been entered upon against dishonest traders.

I afterwards walked over parts of the district with the Doctor, who pointed out the defective houses in the Avenues &c. and showed what he had done in closing underground rooms for sleeping purposes, in cementing areas, improving drainage &c.

The Doctor recognizes that he has a hard task to prevent the growth of slums in Fulham, and altho' but a plain ordinary kind of man, I think he knows his work, and is really anxious to do it. Extracts are given elsewhere from his reports, which show more fully what he is doing.



## Chelsea Guardians.

Notes of an interview with Mr. Brass, Chairman of the Chelsea Board of Guardians, Mr. Blore, one of the oldest members of the Board, the Master of the Workhouse, the Matron of the Infirmary, and the Clerk. At the Board Room 250 King's Road. (E.A.) April 26.99.

The interview had been fixed with Mr. Brass, and he, wishing to be helpful, had collected his colleague and the officials around him. There were almost too many of them for a satisfactory conversation, and they were all inclined to be very much on their guard in expressing opinions and in answering questions. Everything had to be got out of them, and spontaneity was absent.

All appeared to be in general agreement that, while the displacement of the poor in many parts of Chelsea had been considerable, the area of poverty in other parts of the Poor Law District had not been increased to any great extent. Districts had got poorer, but they appeared to think that the general effect of the changes that have ~~xxxxxxx~~ taken place in Chelsea ought to be to lessen the task of the Guardians, had there been no other changes also at work. <sup>\*</sup> Oakham St., Pond Place, Manor Gardens, Wellington Buildings, Paradise Buildings, and Slaidburn St. were mentioned as spots from which they were apt to get the largest number of calls.

But they all agreed that such changes had been taking place. First, as regards Out Door Relief. This ap-



Brass- Chelsea Guardians (2)

peers to have been given with somewhat greater freedom of late, and the total of 427 for the week ending April 18, was clearly thought to be large. Last year at the same date it was 408, and the tendency appears to have been towards a greater laxity. In view of the prosperity of the times this was thought to be especially noticeable, and the Chairman and Mr. Blore clearly thought that greater care was called for. But the whole question <sup>appears to be</sup> ~~was clearly~~ one that is exercising the minds of some of the members a good deal, and the Chairman does not seem to be getting his own way. They were all inclined to fight shy of the question, and to smile blankly at each other when I asked a question or two as regards policy, and the only clear answer that I got was the negative one from the Chairman, that there "was none". However, no other reply could have thrown much more light on the situation.

Secondly, as regards the Institutions. All are being made more comfortable and more attractive. On this point, <sup>who was critical, and the class, who looked rather stupid,</sup> all, with the exception of the Matron, appeared to be welcome what is being done, and the Chairman is clearly a leader in these matters of internal reform. The last step has been taken on his initiative, namely the adoption of a proposal to start a Convalescent Home at Margate. This now only awaits the sanction of the L.G.B. In the work-



house, in addition to attempts at better classification, in which a good deal is done but which the Master clearly thought a very difficult task, greater care is being manifested all round, to a considerable extent on the suggestion of the Master himself who appears to be genuinely interested in the welfare of the inmates and to have a very sympathetic backing from his Board. He came about 6 or 7 years ago. Improved conditions show themselves in improved dietary, in the provision of greater comforts, such as tea and coffee, and tobacco, and, perhaps as important as anything, in the abolition of distinctive clothing for inmates of over 60 years of age, who have been in the House for some time and have earned a good character. All agreed that this made an immense difference, especially when they had their days out and went to see their friends, and that one result would be to increase the length of time that the individual inmates would stay, and the numbers who would come. All agree that the House is "sure to be full in the future."

Thirdly, other more general influences were mentioned working in the same direction, especially the increasing difficulty that older people were finding in getting work, gray hairs being so often a bar to employment; and "the action of the trade unions". All were emphatic on this point, the Matron no less than the Master. Mr. Paine







Brass, Chelsea Guardians (5)

(I believe that some Unions appropriate the pensions but I did not gather that this was ever done in Chelsea. Cases of exceptionally quick spending were mentioned, as for instance of one old gentleman who gets rid of £2 or £3 in two or three days.)

The Chairman emphasised his belief in the existence of a considerable number of deserving cases to whom a pension would be a real boon, but he appeared to think that these were a small minority, and we did not discuss the source from which it could be most appropriately drawn.

The Board does not co-operate formally with any outside charitable or philanthropic agency, whatever co-operation there is being entirely personal in character.

All able-bodied are sent to the Kensington test-house on the Medical Officer's certificate.

The excellent Cottage Homes at Banstead were mentioned, and the Chairman was proud of the fact this this Board was the first to adopt this scattered method of dealing with their pauper children.

After the talk, the Master took me round a good deal of the Work-house. It is an old building, or rather a collection of many buildings and houses added by degrees, as further accommodation has been needed. The Master does not like it, and difficulties of administration are probably increased. But the absence of immense rooms and

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Brass - Chelsea Guardians (6)

straight corridors was rather a comfort to the outsider. We were constantly diving into queer corners and awkward passages to reach this or that department. Order appeared to be perfect, and a spotless cleanliness prevailed. The Master was always received with deference, and generally in a friendly way. It was something of a shock to see the aged women rising when he entered a room, and I asked if there was any rule about it. He said not, but preferred that it should be done, thinking that it made for order and respectfulness. In the kitchens and stores departments a great deal of the service is done by inmates, and they <sup>But I was told that some were really strong.</sup> looked very vigorous and comfortable. If any one is suspected of being too ready to make the House a home, he is if able to do it, put in a less comfortable place and given work. But none of the able-bodied were here, and the only labour, apart from that of the <sup>kitchen etc.</sup> ~~House~~, that I saw, was wood-chopping. But the vast majority were doing nothing but walking in the yard, or sitting indoors, talking or reading, or smoking, or, as was very often the case with both sexes, revealing in only the sad, or stolid, or far niente of old age.

The Infirmary, over which the Matron was my guide, unlike the Work-house, is a building especially erected for its purpose. The general impression that a survey leaves corresponds exactly with that of a well-managed



Brass - Chelsea Guardian (7)

Hospital, although perhaps in some of the adult wards a more settled sense of sadness prevailed. But as a rule it was just a Hospital, with the same kind of clean and kind-faced nurses, the same airiness and the same dimity, and in the children's wards, the same brightness, with plenty of toys about, and hanging up or put in places of honour magnificent "Truth" dolls and other delights. The children that were well enough were as jolly as possible as they ran about, and one or two rooms gave the impression of being big nurseries with occupants drawn from many families.

The Master of the Workhouse is a somewhat ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ affected, but very good-hearted fellow, but the Matron is a lady, capable and kindly. It was she that at the general interview appeared to be most impressed by the fact that the provision of various kinds that is being made for the poor is calculated to have a somewhat dangerous attractiveness, and she reverted to this point while we were in the Infirmary, expressing her conviction that many who came in had really no right to use the rates. Indeed, her conviction was rather a certainty, and she cited her nurses as her authority for they have special opportunity of winning the confidence of the patients, and are often told particulars of their home circumstances.

While with the Master in his private office he turned



While with the Master of the Workhouse, he ~~xxxxxxxx~~ said that he thought that 90 per cent of the inmates had been brought ~~to~~ there by drink, and that, although in a certain number of these cases it could not be cited as a proximate cause, it came in and was traceable as a remoter one. The hereditariness of the pauper class is a phenomenon constantly brought to his notice. In discussing this question of causation, <sup>he was in his office and</sup> he turned to a private <sup>large large like</sup> book that he has for some time made it a practice of keeping, in which he enters memoranda of importance connected with the inmates. He sees all who come, and it is possible that the book might have exceptional interest, and deserve longer perusal.



## During the Week

NAME.	AGE.	OCCUPATION.	ADDRESS PREVIOUS TO ADMISSION.	DIS.
Dodman, William	74	Cabman	15, Little Camera street	Pulmona
Lloyd, Daniel	48	Stone Sawyer	C.L.H., 14, Beethoven street, Workhouse	Renal
Tyler, Thomas William	56	Servant	Convalescent Home, Walton-on-Thames, Workhouse	Eczema
Shaw, Richard	61	Bootmaker	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence st., Workhouse	Cardiac
Bolton, Louisa	80	Needlework	20, Luna street, Workhouse	Senectus
Jackson, Margaret	71	Laundress	10, Ellis street, Workhouse	Debility
Manton, Joseph	62	Seaman	C.L.H., 7, Church street, Workhouse	Bronchit
Prior, George Henry	60	Groom	46, Marlboro' road, Workhouse	Cardiac
Bedford, Maria	45	Nurse	25, Beaufort street	Gall sto
Cozens, Jessie	45	Housework	From Camberwell Infirmary, Workhouse	Ulcer of
Heath, George	50	Painter's Labourer	C.L.H., 24, Smith street, Workhouse	Influenz
Jones, Armand	4	Nil	49, Sydney street, Workhouse	Kingwo
Manley, Bridget	75	Nil	22, Gilray square, Workhouse	Abdomi
Wilkins, Henry	40	Labourer	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence street	Injury to
Cooper, Clara	6 wks.	Nil	Born in Workhouse	Marasim
Egan, James	63	Licensed Messenger	24, Ives street	Phthisis
Hicks, Richard	58	Stableman	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence street, Workhouse	Gout
Hutchings, Eliza	67	Nil	5, Slaidburn street	Pulmona
Taylor, Harriet	46	Washing	298, Kensal road	Rheuma
Waizdon, Frederick	34	Clerk	9, Park walk	Tonsiliti
Hardwick, Sarah	81	Nil	From Leazesden Asylum, Workhouse	Jaundic
Lawrence, Mathew	2	Nil	Passed from Marylebone, Workhouse	Ringwo
Robinson, Frederick	30	Labourer	C.L.H., 27, Smith street, Workhouse	Dislocat
Sullivan, John Wm.	20	Nil	From Scorton Hospital, Yorks, Workhouse	Imbecile

## ADMITTED TO THE

NAME.	AGE.	Occupation.	Address previous
Jenkins, Bertha	24	Servant	No home



# THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR, CHELSEA.

STATEMENT for the Week ended 18th April, 1899, shewing the number of Poor in the WORKHOUSE and INFIRMARY, and the consumption of Provisions therein; the number of OUT-DOOR POOR RELIEVED, and the Expenditure for their Relief, and the numbers and Expenditure for the corresponding period of the last year.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Same period last year.						DEATHS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
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# LIST OF PERSONS WHO ARE DEEMED LUNATICS ADMITTED TO AND DISCHARGED FROM THE OBSERVATION WARD OF THE WORKHOUSE.

During the Week ended 18th April, 1899.

## ADMITTED.

NAME.	AGE.	Date of Admission to Workhouse.	Address previous to Admission.
		1899.	
Fendick, Charles Wm.	40	12th April	Brought by Police
Davies, David	38	12th "	21, Pavilion road
Butler, Elizabeth	36	13th "	68, Cale street
McGuinness, Fanny	32	15th "	Brought by Police
Townsend, Mary	35	18th "	197, Kensal road

## DISCHARGED.

NAME.	Age.	Date of Discharge.	Whither Discharged.	Details of Cost and to whom paid.	Medical Certificate.	Nearest Relative.	Who pays Expenses.	Name of R.O.
		1899						
Kessell, Charles	36	12th April	Recovered		Dr. Davies, 21/-	None	Guardians	F. G. Cronchey
Ireland, Augusta	42	14th "	Colney Hatch Asylum	Mrs. Shepherd, 5/-; attendant's refreshments 1/6; R.O.'s refreshments 4/-	Dr. Moore, 21/-	Sister, Annie Lewis, 215, Shirland road	Guardians	W. J. Hughes
McGuinness, Fanny	32	17th "	Given up to Police					
Sullivan, John William	20	18th "	To Infirmary					

# LIST OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO THE INFIRMARY.

During the Week ended 18th April, 1899.

NAME.	AGE.	OCCUPATION.	ADDRESS PREVIOUS TO ADMISSION.	DISEASE.	DATE OF ADMISSION.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEAREST RELATIVE OR FRIEND.
					1899	
Dodman, William	74	Cabman	15, Little Camera street	Pulmonary	12 April	Wife, Mary Dodman, 15, Little Camera street
Lloyd, Daniel	48	Stone Sawyer	C.L.H., 14, Beethoven street, Workhouse	Renal	12 "	Sister, Mrs. Whittaker, 10, Averill street, Fulham palace road
Tyler, Thomas William	56	Servant	Convalescent Home, Walton-on-Thames, Workhouse	Eczema	12 "	None
Shaw, Richard	61	Bootmaker	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence st., Workhouse	Cardiac	13 "	Daughter, Mrs. Morris, 57, Milson road, West Kensington
Bolton, Louisa	80	Needlework	20, Luna street, Workhouse	Senectus	14 "	Stepson, Mrs. Stowe, 101, Church street, Battersea, S.W.
Jackson, Margaret	71	Laundress	10, Ellis street, Workhouse	Debility	14 "	Friend, Mrs. Perry, 3, Cadogan cottages, Cadogan place
Manton, Joseph	62	Seaman	C.L.H., 7, Church street, Workhouse	Bronchitis	14 "	None
Prior, George Henry	60	Groom	46, Marlboro' road, Workhouse	Cardiac	14 "	None
Bedford, Maria	45	Nurse	25, Beaufort street	Gall stones	15 "	Daughter, Minnie Bedford, 25, Beaufort street
Cozens, Jessie	45	Housework	From Camberwell Infirmary, Workhouse	Ulcer of leg	15 "	Husband, Frederick Cozens, 21, Little College street
Heath, George	50	Painter's Labourer	C.L.H., 24, Smith street, Workhouse	Influenza	15 "	Friend, Rev. Mr. Bridgwater, St. Jude's Church
Jones, Armand	4	Nil	49, Sydney street, Workhouse	Ringworm	15 "	Mother, Gladys Gwendoline Jones, in Workhouse
Manley, Bridget	75	Nil	22, Gilray square, Workhouse	Abdominal Pains	15 "	Daughter, Mrs. Moorcroft, 22, Gilray street
Wilkins, Henry	40	Labourer	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence street	Injury to Foot	15 "	Brother, Edward Wilkins, 23, Lawrence street
Cooper, Clara	6 wks.	Nil	Born in Workhouse	Marasmus	17 "	Mother, Elizabeth Cooper, in Workhouse
Egan, James	63	Licensed Messenger	24, Ives street	Phthisis	17 "	Wife, Ellen Egan, 24, Ives street
Hicks, Richard	58	Stableman	C.L.H., 23, Lawrence street, Workhouse	Gout	17 "	None
Hutchings, Eliza	67	Nil	5, Slaidburn street	Pulmonary	17 "	Nephew, Ernest Williams, 5, Slaidburn street
Taylor, Harriet	46	Washing	298, Kensal road	Rheumatism	17 "	Friend, Mrs. Horacastle, 298, Kensal road, W.
Waizbon, Frederick	34	Clerk	9, Park walk	Tonsillitis	17 "	Father, George Waizbon, 29, Kirkland street, St. Helens, Lancashire
Hardwick, Sarah	81	Nil	From Leavesden Asylum, Workhouse	Jaundice	18 "	Sister, Mrs. Daley, 42, Marlboro' road
Lawrence, Mathew	2	Nil	Passed from Marylebone, Workhouse	Ringworm	18 "	Mother, Eliza Lawrence, 51, Seaton street
Robinson, Frederick	30	Labourer	C.L.H., 27, Smith street, Workhouse	Dislocated Shoulder	18 "	Brother, Joseph Robinson, 7, Church street
Sullivan, John Wm.	20	Nil	From Scorton Hospital, Yorks., Workhouse	Imbecile	18 "	Unknown

## ADMITTED TO THE LOCK HOSPITAL.

NAME.	AGE.	Occupation.	Address previous to Admission.	Disease.	Date.
Jenkins, Bertha	24	Servant	No home	Venereal	17th April, 1899







# Fulham Union

## "SEPARATING THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS."

### NEW CLASSIFICATION SCHEME AT FULHAM.

#### INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS.

THE cynics are not disinclined to smile contemptuously when we speak of the "new thought which is moving in the public mind towards the poor and unfortunate." They will tell you that it is a mere platitude—a soporific to a lopsided sentimentalism. Last week at Fulham they had their answer. On the local B.G. are men who talk in a way which would excite the disgust of our social stoics, but they are men of deeds as well; their eloquent generalisations in speech find perfect echo in carefully-conceived and concrete works. But the story is best told by the Rev. P. S. G. Propert, the Chairman of the Board, who presided at the opening of some new classification wards at the great workhouse on the Fulham Palace-road, to which the ratepayers were invited. The wards will accommodate eighty aged persons of either sex. The wards are capacious and comfortably furnished, the old ladies having a garden in which to saunter, and the old gentlemen a

smoking-room, which can be made warm and snug in the winter season. "No doubt," said Mr. Propert in his opening speech, "many of those present are aware that during recent years the public mind, I might almost say conscience, has been roused, not only upon questions of Poor Law reform, but upon all kindred social questions involving principles of justice and humanity to the less-favoured and poorer sections of our ever increasingly complex society. There is, undoubtedly, among all classes a growing desire for more just views of life. Statesmen and politicians of all shades of opinion, and happily," he continued, "without reference to party, are taking a deeper interest in those problems which the Guardians of the Poor have been trying to solve for many years, and," he added, "so far as Fulham is concerned, not altogether without success." Mr. Propert went on to refer to the Committees now inquiring into the question of provision for old age, and also that of providing cottage homes for the aged and deserving poor, and subsequently bade us recall what great changes had taken place in Poor Law administration during the past half-century. He thought it would be quite accurate to say that nearly all the most beneficent social reforms known in the history of England were coterminous with the reign of Queen Victoria. Just three years before she came to the throne, an "Inquiry into the administration and operation of the Poor Laws" was held, and the finding was ordered to be reprinted by the House of Commons on Aug. 12, 1835, and is now known as the Great Commission of 1834. Since that time no further inquiry of first-class importance has been held, but for the good reason that so many evils which had been allowed to spring up prior to that date have been so completely rooted up that they may be said to have been practically eradicated from our Poor Law system. "There is, however, one evil," continued Mr. Propert, "which still remains for us to uproot in our day and generation—namely, the non classification of the inmates of our workhouses with reference to character and previous career. The Local Government Board, until 1895, only allowed Guardians to classify according to age, but early in that year they directed Boards of Guardians, where practicable, to sub-divide these divisions with reference to behaviour and moral character. The Fulham Guardians at once formed a Committee to consider this direction and the result, after much patient labour, is that we have set apart two comfortable and well-furnished wards for the separate accommodation of the aged and deserving poor only." The wards, it should be said, are splendidly bright in appearance and have been made comfortable by the provision of armchairs and dining-tables. The walls are adorned by pictures which, if not evidences of the art of the great masters, at least give a cheerful glow, and instead of bare floors little strips of carpet go to enhance the general comfort. There are books, and cases of stuffed birds—indeed the experiment is a daring one in the matter of furnishing. Mr. Propert is proud of this, and there was sincerity in his subsequent remark: "From what I have said you will gather that the inmates of these wards (both on the male and female side) many of whom have fallen upon hard times from no fault of their own, but from sickness and misfortune, will, if they continue to be well-behaved, be able to spend the evening of their days in peace and comfort. For some within these walls the sun is now beginning to decline, but on the threshold of such a reform as this it cannot sink in darkness or despair."

The Fulham Guardians are hoping very shortly to complete the system of classification by setting aside other wards for those who do not come up to the standard of the class for whom the new provision has been made, while at the same time they hope to educate the undeserving to do better.

After Mr. Propert had declared the new wards open, Mr. Lawson gave a bright address, specially naming those who had helped in this good work. Cheery words of encouragement were offered the Guardians by the Chairmen of the Fulham and Hammersmith Vestries. Moreover, expressions of sympathy were received from Mr. Chas. Booth and Sir Chas. Dilke. The former said: "There can be no two opinions as to the desirability of classification of workhouse inmates so far as it can be carried out, and I hope the arrangements to be made at Fulham will prove successful."

Sir Charles wrote cheerily: "I am delighted to see that your Board of Guardians are taking the lead in the excellent object of classification. I understand that it is probable that the Local Government Board will introduce an important measure upon this subject next year, and I hope that we shall then be able to point to the successful working of your experiment in support of the proposals which may be made to us in the House of Commons." The surrounding circumstances of the ceremony were quite in harmony with the proceedings proper. The "Class A" inmates had *al fresco* tea, the visitors were entertained by music from a band, whilst an organ recital in the workhouse chapel proved no less an attraction than the wiles of the photographic fiend, from which even the unoffending Pressmen could not escape.

From the  
"Pioneer or  
Guardian"  
June 12.99



Mr J. Steward  
Sanitary Inspector  
N.W. Kensington

GLA  
17/6/99

The District

The 'Special Area'

The 'Lodging House' Influence

Mr J. Steward, Sanitary Inspector of the N.W.  
Sanitary district. of Kensington. Seen at his home:  
27 Treadgold Street, Notting Hill, W.

Mr Steward is a quiet mannered young man. Clear-headed, cautious north countryman. Has been 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  years in Kensington, coming from the Potteries district. Came to London with the a view of increasing his experience. His first acquaintance with the neighbourhood made him wish himself back again but he determined to hold on.

His district is included between the Hammermith boundary & Walmer Road and goes south to St James's Square. It includes what is known as the 'Special Area' e.g. St Katherine's Road, Kenley St, Crescent St, Bangor Street and the portion of Sirdar Road south of the Board School. The population of the area is nearly 17000 and of these about 4000 are in the 'special area'.

He attributes the condition of the 'Special Area' to the Registered Lodging house. It contains 23 with accommodation for 705 persons. These led to the furnished rooms  
and



The Roads in the  
Special Area

District has much improved

Steward - Sanitary Inspector

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and formed a nucleus around which the bad elements could gather.

St Katherine's Road (Nos 1-63). This part of the road is practically all let in furnished rooms. Some of the people remain a long time. One woman has been there during the whole of this time.

The other portion of the Road is occupied by ordinary working people. Some own their houses. Even in the bad part of the Road some are respectable. Two of the houses only contain one family each; one is let for 12/-, which the others, let in rooms, are farmed for 20/- a week.

Kenley Street. Half of the north side is occupied by people working for the vestry. The remainder & the south side is furnished rooms. <sup>(about 12 houses)</sup> Population of this street has decreased enormously. Kitchens have been closed.

Crescent Street. Lodging houses and furnished rooms.

Bangor Street. About one third lodging houses. Furnished rooms & some houses let in single room tenement. Some of the people, especially the flower sellers, are not short of money & have a good many things in their rooms.

The 'Special Area' has improved considerably  
and



Mrs Stewards' Methods

Improvements effected

Steward - Sanitary Inspector

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& the bad influence is not spreading. He does not anticipate the same amount of improvement can be made in the next four years as in the past.

His plan has been to make occasional inspections at unusual times. Gathers information from various sources, making no record of either persons or facts so as to avoid any chance of names getting known. When he has sufficient information, he will make a night visit knowing that he will find overcrowding at the place visited. In this way the moral effect has been great. The people don't know how ~~get~~ he gets his information and the owners of the houses are very careful now they find they can be convicted. It came as a surprise to them. Bills (See copy on next page) have been circulated in the houses and the overcrowding has been reduced & except in isolated cases does not exist. By properly distributing the population you could house a greater number in the area than are now living there. Kitchens have been closed or the owner not permitted to let them alone, or for sleeping rooms. The yards of the houses let in furnished rooms have been



Overcrowding Notice

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**OVERCROWDING, &c.**

**CAUTION.**

December 1883  
JOHN HUGH KENNEDY

NEWLY SAVED

WILL CHAMBERS GEELE

By Order

Compliance with the above regulations will be strictly

enforced. The Board of Health, London, 1883. The Board of Health, London, 1883. The Board of Health, London, 1883.

1. The Board of Health, London, 1883. The Board of Health, London, 1883. The Board of Health, London, 1883.

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# OVERCROWDING, &c.

## CAUTION.

At the Kensington Divisional Petty Sessions on the 6th December, 1898, the "Keeper" (Landlord) of a house in Kenley Street, was fined £2 for allowing a room at the said house to be overcrowded, the "Lodger" being also fined Half-a-Crown.

On the same day the "Keeper" (Landlord) of a house in Sirdar Road was fined £2 for allowing a room at the said house to be overcrowded. He was also fined £2 for allowing more than two persons of different sex above the age of 12 years to occupy the same sleeping room. The "Lodger" was also fined Half-a-Crown for each of the two offences.

On the 20th December, 1898, the "Keeper" (Landlord) of another house in Kenley Street was fined £2 for allowing a room in the house to be overcrowded, and was also fined £2 for allowing more than two persons of different sex above the age of 12 years to occupy the same sleeping room. A fine of 10/- was also imposed upon the "Lodger" in respect of each of the two offences making 20/- in all.

The Vestry of Kensington direct the attention of all parties interested in houses in the Notting Dale District to the following Bye-Laws and provisions of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, relating to overcrowding and indecent occupation of rooms, viz. :—

BYE-LAW No. 2.—NUMBER OF LODGERS.—The keeper of a registered house shall not knowingly suffer a greater number of persons to occupy any room in such house, nor shall a lodger suffer any room under his control to be occupied by a greater number of persons, than will allow of air space for each person according to the following rules :—

- (a) The minimum space for each adult in any room in a registered house which may be occupied as a bedroom only, shall be not less than 300 cubic feet.
- (b) The minimum space for each adult in any room in a registered house which may be occupied as a sitting room and as a bedroom, shall be not less than 400 cubic feet.
- (c) For the purposes of the forgoing rules, two children under the age of 12 years may be counted as one adult.

BYE-LAW No. 3.—SEPARATION OF THE SEXES.—The keeper of a registered house, and any lodger therein, shall not suffer more than two persons of different sex, if above the age of 12 years, to occupy the same sleeping room.

SECTION 7 OF PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1891.—Where two convictions for offences relating to the overcrowding of a house or part of a house in any district have taken place within a period of three months (whether the persons convicted were or were not the same) a Petty Sessional Court may, on the application of the Sanitary Authority, order the house to be closed for such period as the Court may deem necessary.

Compliance with the above requirements will be strictly enforced.

By Order,

WM. CHAMBERS LEETE,

*Vestry Clerk.*

TOWN HALL, KENSINGTON,  
December, 1898.



Steward Sanitary Inspector

been cemented; additional W.C.'s have been put in. He has had nearly 100 put in while he has been there.

In Mrs S's opinion, you could not have houses built better than those in St Katherine Road for letting in single rooms (if you must let this way). They have large yards behind, are structurally well built; nothing unsanitary about them, all the drains are ventilated throughout and the greater part have been re-constructed.

Place is dilapidated, e.g. fittings etc, but far less than when he came.

Regards the question as essentially a moral question. If the vestry bought the houses, he does not think it possible for them to manage them as well as they are done at present. They could not put the pressure upon the people, without raising an outcry.

The Jubilee Committee has bought a piece of ground in Kenley Street as a site for a Crèche but Mrs S. does not expect much from the Com<sup>tee</sup> as they cannot get the necessary funds. So far as buying the houses and letting them, it is out of the question at present so far as this Com<sup>tee</sup> is concerned.

Houses are well built

A Moral Question

The Jubilee Committee



Many decent people  
in the district

Land agents boycott  
residents in the area

House accommodation insufficient

The Public house influence

Steward - Sanitary Inspector

St James' Church has ~~been~~ bought a few houses at the corner of Crescent Street & let them to fairly respectable people. [These houses are easily distinguished from the rest of the street.]  
G.L.

A considerable number of decent people live in these streets. & Some don't care to move but those who live here cannot get houses elsewhere. The fact that they come from these streets is sufficient. Mentioned the case of a family - 11 years in Crescent Street. Children had scarlet fever & they wanted to get a house elsewhere. The woman told Mr S. that directly she said they lived there it stopped negotiations entirely.

There is need for additional house accommodation - practically nothing to let. People go to Acton, Hammersmith and Fulham. There is no accommodation for these people (e.g. nothing daler) and nobody cares to provide it.

Mr S. would like to see all the public houses & beer shops in the Special area closed. He connects them with the condition of the people and mentioned specially the number of drunken women that are to be seen outside these houses, especially one which he did not specify.



Other parts have their bad cases

The Infirmary is Popular

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Steward - Sanitary Inspector

Whilst the special area is bad, other parts of the district furnish cases equally bad. The houses in Tobin Street are not so good as in the streets scheduled. Furnished rooms are let in Mersey St. Cases of infectious disease are as frequent if not more so elsewhere. From a report <sup>(1898)</sup> just issued by the Medical officer (We should have it <sup>8th</sup>) he quoted figures showing that two streets in the N. district furnished more infectious cases than all the Special area. The figures were for a year & are as under:

Special area		Two streets	
Bangor St.	9	Southam St.	22
Crescent St.	3	Wilmington Rd.	16
Kentley St.	3		<u>38</u>
St Kath's Rd.	11		
Siddons Rd.	<u>9</u>		
	<u>35</u>		

From the 'Special Area' ~~the~~ the admissions to the Infirmary are about one-fourth of the total admissions. One reason for this is the good reputation of their infirmary. People come for a few days to qualify for admission [ We found a similar condition at Stepney, where the people liked to be sent to the Sick Asylum <sup>9th</sup> ].



Steward - Sanitary Inspector

Mr. Steward is a capital officer. He has worked quietly, doing one thing at a time as he found he could get the support of the Sanitary Com<sup>tee</sup>. Talking of the cementing of the yards & the overcrowding summonses he said "I knew I could do it when first I came but I did not wish to make a rush" ~~at the~~ This is the man; noting everything and seizing his opportunity as it offered. He has not been obstructed though occasionally some of them "have cursed a good deal" & he has been threatened but it "has come to nothing yet". He is considerate in dealing with cases of overcrowding. As he remarked "It is very hard to drive out a man, wife & 3 children because they have only accommodation for the man, wife & 2 children". He has never advised summonses where the case has been a family but has made the pressure indirect. Cases he has summoned have been those of men who were bullies and prostitutes living with them "but I did not say so in court".

After the interview, we walked over the Special Area. It was about 4 pm on Saturday and the people were standing about in the streets. A crowd

A walk over the District



Steward - Sanitary Inspector

of people were gathered at the corner of Sirdar Road. A row was in progress. The people ~~for~~ of the immediate locality formed the group; those a short distance away did not concern themselves. a row was evidently no uncommon sight. In Kenley Street two buxom middle-aged women were dancing and singing a snatch of some song. Both were half drunk. ~~One~~ The husband of one of them, owned 8 houses on the south side of the street. Presently he came along - a rough looking specimen of the Coster type & one of the women, not his wife, came over & danced before him.

We went into several of the houses in Crescent Street, Sirdar R<sup>d</sup> & St Katherine's Road. The noticeable fact was the cleanliness ~~of the~~. It was the same in each case. The passages & floors were clean: in one case a woman was scrubbing as we entered. The yards were well kept, the cement being clean W.C.'s were in good order. Quite a contrast to the filth and nastiness that one sees in such places as Dulwich Bldgs, Islington, and Booth St Bldgs. & the tenement houses of these districts. The front of the houses are their worst part.

Pointing to some cemented houses in Sirdar Road, the cement cracked in various ways & partially peeled off. Mrs S. said you can say that is unsanitary, it is only <sup>not</sup> unsightly.

The Cleanliness of the Houses



St Margaret & St John Westminster - Extracts from  
Medical Officers Report for 1898.

Birth & Death Rates

Disease spread by Schools.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The number of births registered during the year 1898, when all the corrections have been made, was 1,088, showing a birth-rate of 19.6 per 1,000 of the population. 277 births occurred in St. Margaret's parish, of which 140 were males and 137 females, giving a birth-rate of 12.9 per 1,000; and 811 births in St. John's parish, of which 401 were males and 410 females, giving a birth-rate of 23.7 per 1,000.

The number of deaths of parishioners duly corrected amounted to 1,093, showing a recorded death-rate of 19.7, and a corrected death-rate of 22.2 per 1,000 of the population. Of these deaths 373 occurred in St. Margaret's Parish, giving a recorded death-rate of 17.4, and 720 in St. John's parish, giving a recorded death-rate of 15.2 per 1,000.

The following comparative table shows the birth and death rates per 1,000 during the past seven years for the United Parishes, viz. :—

YEAR.	BIRTH-RATE.	DEATH-RATE.	
		Recorded.	Corrected for age and sex distribution.
1891	26.8	19.7	22.2
1892	24.7	23.0	26.0
1893	24.4	23.1	26.1
1894	21.9	18.0	20.3
1895	22.9	20.7	23.4
1896	21.9	17.7	21.1
1897	22.2	18.0	20.3
1898	19.6	19.7	22.2

At St. James the Less Infant School, Upper Garden Street, during October and November several cases of Diphtheria occurred. As an example of how such a disease is spread in a small way by the aggregation of children at school, I may mention that the first case occurred in the main room in a boy who was attacked on October 21st; the second case occurred in the class-room on October 27th; the third case in the main room on October 28th in the person of a girl who sat next the boy referred to. On November 1st the boy who sat next the girl just mentioned was taken with the disease, and the girl who sat next this boy was taken with Diphtheria on November 4th. I may also state that in all these cases, with the exception of one case, they all lived in different streets some way distant from each other, and in the one case mentioned of the two children who lived in the same street, their houses were some distance apart from each other.



Deaths in Common Lodging Houses.

Density of population - Westminster.

In the United Parishes 20 fatal cases of diphtheria occurred, compared with 22 in 1897; 126 cases were notified, 43 from St. Margaret's Parish and 83 from St. John's.

CP

Phthisis 133 Deaths were registered from this disease, of these 45 occurred in St. Margaret's & 88 in St. John's Parish. 18 of the deaths were reported as having occurred in people living in common lodging houses - chiefly in St. John's Parish; that is:- about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the deaths occurred among the occupants of common lodging houses, which in this district, as in others in London, help to swell the death rate from this disease. Only 3 deaths are reported as having occurred in children under 5 years of age. Apart from the above, 3 cases were registered as 'tabes mesenterica' aged 3 years & under, and 5 cases as marasmus, all under 1 year. With regard to the density of the population of Westminster it is generally given as  $67\frac{3}{4}$  persons per acre, and in some statistics as 65: but as Mr. Smith, the Vestry clerk, points out (Annual Report 1895) the number of persons per acre in what may be called the inhabitable parish is just over 120, whereas the average for the whole of London is 57. St. John's Parish has a population of  $162\frac{2}{3}$  per acre. This makes a vast difference in dealing with the death rate from phthisis.



## Reduction in Tuberculous Disease.

in Westminster, as compared with other districts in London, showing Westminster as an apparently bad district.

With regard to the spread of tuberculosis by milk Sir R. Thorne's three Harben lectures delivered during the past year are well worthy of notice. He shows that the period of 45 years ending with 1895 has been marked by a reduction of almost 40% in the aggregate mortality of tuberculous diseases. The reduction has been remarkably steady & continuous throughout that period, and has affected all the age-periods of both sexes into which the span of life is divided in the official tables, and what is especially encouraging is the fact that the chief part of the life saving represented by this fall in the death rate has been experienced at those age periods when

human life is economically the most valuable—namely, during adolescence and early maturity. In the mortality due to pulmonary phthisis, the most important member of this group, there has been since the decade ending with 1860 even greater reduction than in that resulting from tuberculous diseases generally; a fall has taken place in the death-rate at every stage of life, and in the several age groups comprised within the interval between the fifteenth and forty-fifth years the fall since that decade has ranged from 32 to not less than 58 per cent.

Amongst young children pulmonary phthisis is seldom fatal nowadays, and among infants under five years old such mortality as still occurs averages only one-third of what it was forty-five years ago. But there is one member of the tuberculous group, *tabes mesenterica*, to which children are especially liable, and the mortality from this malady instead of falling has actually increased since 1860 by nearly 28 per cent.



### Factories & Workshops

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Sir R. Thorne points out that whereas pulmonary phthisis is generally produced by the inhalation into the lungs of particles of dried sputa from persons already suffering from phthisis, tabes mesenterica is chiefly caused in young children by the ingestion of food and especially of uncooked milk from diseased cows which contains the tubercle bacillus in an active and infective state, the latter finding its way into the mesenteric glands and so infecting the whole body. He also expresses the opinion that compulsory notification of phthisis is impracticable and undesirable in the best interests of public health, and that it would cause infinitely more mischief than it could possibly avert or cure.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With a view to assisting Medical Practitioners in the district in the diagnosis of Infectious Diseases, the Vestry has now provided at the Town Hall, an incubator, sterilizer and a powerful microscope. The apparatus can be used free of charge on application to the Public Health Department, between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. (Sundays excepted), and between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. on Saturdays.

S. Margaret &  
S. John Westminster  
Med. Off's report

These have been regularly inspected during the year. In one factory it was found necessary to have increased water closet accommodation. The Army and Navy Stores factory in Johnson Street was duly inspected at the request of the Public Health Committee, and all the sanitary arrangements were found to be in a perfectly satisfactory condition. Messrs De Selincourt furnished extra water closet accommodation for their employees. The Incandescent Gas Light Company, on request, also did likewise, and supplied thermometers to gauge the temperature of the workrooms, which in some of the rooms was too high. Messrs. Woolland, of Knightsbridge, have been requested to rearrange the



S. Margaret & S. John Westminster M. C's report

we accomodation during the building operations which are now progressing.

Underground Rooms

In two cases it was found necessary to serve notices as to illegal occupation.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING 1898.

During the year a considerable number of houses has been voluntarily demolished in Westminster. The principal improvement has been the pulling down of the block of houses on the western side of Parliament-street. "An uninterrupted view of Westminster Abbey can now be had from Whitehall, and Parliament-square lying to the north of the Abbey, can now be seen to the advantage it deserves."

The houses in King Street are now being demolished.

In Wards 1 and 3, St. John, the following houses have been voluntarily demolished or closed, viz. :—

	Population displaced.
Greycoat-place, Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 12	30
Mills'-buildings, Greycoat-place, 12 houses	70
Regency-street, eleven houses	90
Vincent-street, six houses	50
Hide-place, four houses	30
Moreton-street, two houses	14
Rochester-row, six houses	36
Bond-court, eight houses	56
Old Rochester-row, five houses	25

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

Proceedings were taken under the above Act and closing orders obtained in respect of—

- Nos. 6 and 7, Frederick-street.
- Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Povey's-cottages.
- No. 8, Gulston's-cottages.



S. Margaret &  
S. John  
Westminster

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SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS AND MARGARINE ACTS, AND  
UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year the following samples have been purchased for the purpose of analysis; and in addition two samples of butter were submitted by a parishioner and analysed, and certified as being genuine :—

Articles Purchased.	No. of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Fines.	Costs.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Arrowroot .....	9	9	—	—	—
Bread .....	6	6	—	—	—
Butter.....	24	22	2	5 0 0	1 5 0
Cocoa (see Vi-Cocoa)	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee .....	9	8	1	no	action.
Flour .....	3	3	—	—	—
Ice-creams .....	6	6	—	—	—
Lard .....	3	3	—	—	—
Milk .....	24	20	4	4 10 0	1 17 6
Mustard .....	6	6	—	—	—
Vi-Cocoa.....	1	1	—	—	—
Whisky (Irish and Scotch).....	6	2	4	1 0 0	0 12 6
Total.....	97	86	11	10 10 0	3 15 0

The following articles were dealt with and destroyed during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

4,368 lbs. of lamb.  
515 lbs. of beef and one hind-quarter of beef.  
120 lbs. of mutton.  
44 lbs. of veal.  
65 lbs. of turbot.  
3 trunks of soles.  
1 trunk of mixed fish.  
3 trunks of plaice.  
1 barrel of herrings.  
2 boxes of kippers.  
4 boxes of fish roe.  
4 trunks of mackerel.  
16 baskets of cherries.  
2 barrels of grapes.

CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE ACT.

Sections 4 of the Acts of 1890 and 1891.

A certificate under the above Act for exemption from inhabited house duty was granted on application to the owners of Chapter-chambers, Chapter-street.

The premises comprise four blocks of dwellings containing 38 separate tenements—

8 of the tenements have 2 rooms, kitchen, scullery.  
25       "       "       3       "       "       "  
5       "       "       are shops with two rooms.

Each tenement is provided with a sink, a proper water supply, a copper, and water closet.

The sink waste pipes and the soil pipes are carried down on external walls to the drains.

The premises are clean and well kept.



Water Supply to Newly Erected Dwellings

Millbank Site

S. Margaret & S. John Westminster M. O's report

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During the year, 71 certificates have been granted, under s. 48 of the Public Health (London) Act to premises newly erected. The Committee also passed the following resolution, which has been faithfully carried out, viz: "That it be an instruction to the inspectors to report to this Committee upon the condition of the tenement and lodging houses visited during each month, with special reference to the adequacy of the w.c. accommodation, the sufficiency of the water supply and cleanliness of cisterns &c., and the sanitary condition of the houses generally

Hogarth block of dwellings erected by the London County Council are now almost finished. They consist of 54 dwellings and will house about 350 people. It is proposed to proceed immediately with the erection of two similar blocks of buildings.

SANITARY CONDITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN THE PARISH.

The Committee received a letter from the Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the Poor, dated 19th April, forwarding a report on the condition of seventy-nine houses in the parish.

From the reports made by the inspectors thereon, it appeared that of the seventy-nine houses alleged to be defective, more than half were in a satisfactory condition, and that in reference to the remaining houses, in the majority of cases the defects mentioned were of such a trivial character as would not justify the Vestry taking any action. The Public Health Committee also ascertained that, prior to the receipt of the report in question, several of the persons responsible for the more serious defects were under notice to remedy the same.



S. Margaret &  
S. John  
Westminster

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The Committee directed that a communication embodying the above facts be addressed to the Mansion House Council.

With regard to the above report, taking for instance two of the most serious cases in Ward No. 2, St. Margaret, where it was alleged that a closet had no water supply, the inspector found a good closet with a special 30-gallon tank for flushing the same, and in another case where it was alleged that a closet was stopped up, the closet was found to be in perfectly good working order.

In other cases where it was alleged there was no water supply to several closets, the supply had only temporarily been suspended owing to the cisterns being cleansed.

In another case where it was reported that there was a broken ceiling, this was found to be the case, but the occupier had an ejectment order made against him, and the ceiling was not, for obvious reasons, repaired until the order had been carried out.

I may state that in nearly every case of complaints being made as above, the defects were found to be of a most trivial character.

#### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

About 1,250 houses are now registered under the above bye-laws in the United Parishes. With regard to the working of these bye-laws the great advantage in legal procedure lies in the fact that a breach of them is a finable offence, with a further daily penalty after written notice, and is not a nuisance subject to an order for abatement within a certain time.

The special advantages of the bye-laws are that, for the purpose of this foregoing procedure, the local sanitary authority is the judge of the conditions which shall prevail in such houses—for a magistrate's duties are purely ministerial—because overcrowding is defined. Proper ventilation is required; the ceilings, walls and floors of the premises are to be kept cleansed, and the former whitened at certain periods; a sufficient number of closets is required in proportion to the number of occupants: a defective drain is an offence, and a definite period for the removal of solid or liquid filth from rooms is provided.

Used with discretion the bye-laws have no tendency to depreciate the value of property, for where cleanly persons occupy the houses as landlords the conditions obtainable under them are procured by the responsible persons themselves, whilst in other cases the constant loss of rent which is incurred by the removal of tenants because of the neglectful habits of

the other tenants or the landlord is at least as great as the cost of keeping the premises in the sanitary condition required by the bye-laws.

If the conditions imposed by the bye-laws are carried out, no doubt one of the best methods for preventing overcrowding is thus achieved.

During the month of March a copy of the bye-laws was left at each house and 73 notices were served requiring cleansing of rooms, passages, staircases and provisions of extra water-closet accommodation. In two cases proceedings were taken for non-compliance with the bye-laws and penalties were inflicted in each case.



## Legal proceedings.

S. Margaret &  
S. John  
Westminster

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

With regard to the abolition of private slaughter-houses suggested by the Public Health Committee of the London County Council, a letter was received from the Meat and Cattle Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce and the London Butchers' Trade Society, dated 5th November respectively, forwarding copy letter and petition addressed to the London County Council, protesting against the scheme for the abolition of private slaughter-houses and the establishment of public abattoirs.

As the result of a full consideration of the question, the Committee have to report that they have every reason to be satisfied with the condition of the slaughter-houses in Westminster, and therefore see no necessity for alteration in the present system.

The opinion of the Medical Officer of the London County Council is that in order to insure the inspection of meat killed in London, it is absolutely necessary that all animals should be killed in public slaughter-houses, where alone an adequate and systematic inspection of the meat could be made. The chief arguments raised against the proposed abolition are:—

"The extent of the area which would be required for an abattoir in which to kill all the animals now slaughtered in the numerous private establishments; the cost of buildings and machinery; the storage room required in which the meat could "set" after killing; the amount of lairage which would be necessary in order that cattle might rest after a journey before they are killed; and the probable gross amount of extra labour, which the butchering trade would have to employ to conduct one part of their business in many cases a number of miles away from their retailing establishments."

Legal proceedings were taken in 32 cases, and nearly all with success, fines and costs amounting to about £60 being recovered. Most were against vendors of adulterated food, but owners of insanitary property were punished in some cases.

The only case in which the Vestry was unsuccessful was that in which an attempt was made to enforce the provision of water closets for workmen employed on a building in course of erection. The Magistrate in adjourning the case said that it would be advisable for the defendant to comply with the requirements of the Vestry, which he thought were reasonable, and although he might decide in defendant's favour as far as the legal question was concerned, yet he would certainly grant a case if the Vestry asked him to do so. This case is



important in so far as it shows that it is doubtful whether it is compulsory to provide sanitary accommodation for workmen employed in erecting new buildings, although as in this case, the work may be two or three years in progress, and often one hundred men or more are employed.

The defendant, however, in this case wisely provided the proper accommodation, and at the adjourned hearing the Vestry was enabled to withdraw from the case without any risk to the health of the neighbouring population.

*There are 3 sanitary inspectors, who present a long list of visits made and defects remedied during the year.*

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128,000. Thus, during the last eight years nearly 40,000 people have been added to the population and the municipal responsibilities of the local authorities—an increase at the rate of close upon 5,000 every year. The growth of the parish has not, however, been by any means even or regular during this period, and so it has come about that during the last three or four years no part of the metropolitan area could furnish such an example of building activity and consequent municipal exertion as that of Fulham; and it was as much as the surveyor and works department of the Vestry could do to keep pace with the demands which were made upon them. It must be said, to the credit of the much-abused local body, that its record of work during that period will compare very favourably with that



MR. F. OSCAR DREW, J.P.,  
Chairman of the Fulham Vestry.

of any vestry in London. It has not been held up as a model parish in the Press by any means, yet the administration of the district, the improvements that have been effected, the precautions that have been taken and the provision made for the public health and recreation, will not be dimmed by the work done in St. Pancras, Shoreditch, or any other of the "Progressive" parishes in the Metropolis. Not only that, but many things have been managed in this riverside parish so well that some of her pretentious neighbours might imitate her example with advantage.

Probably the most remarkable improvement effected by the Vestry was the conversion of the strip of waste land between the river and the grounds of Fulham Palace into a public park, and the building of the embankment along its whole length. This has provided the parish with one of the pleasantest promenades in the Metropolis, and, with certain extensions which are now going on at the Putney Bridge end, will have entailed an outlay of close upon £20,000. The money has been well



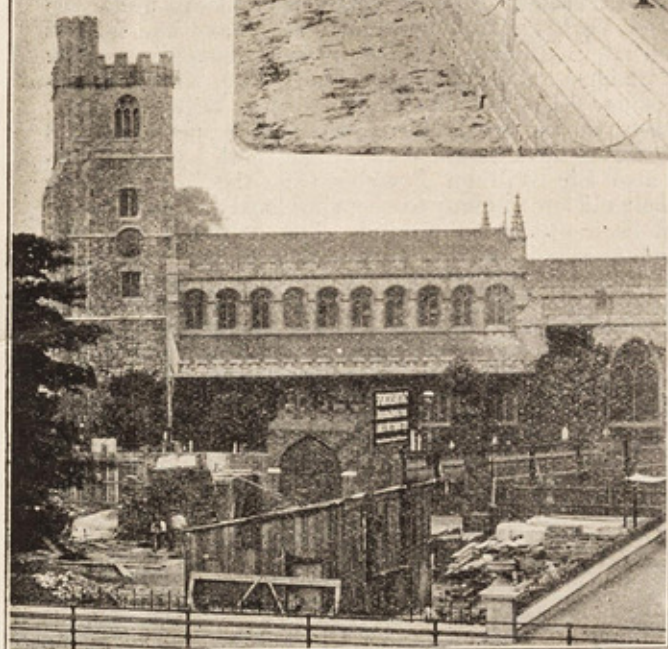
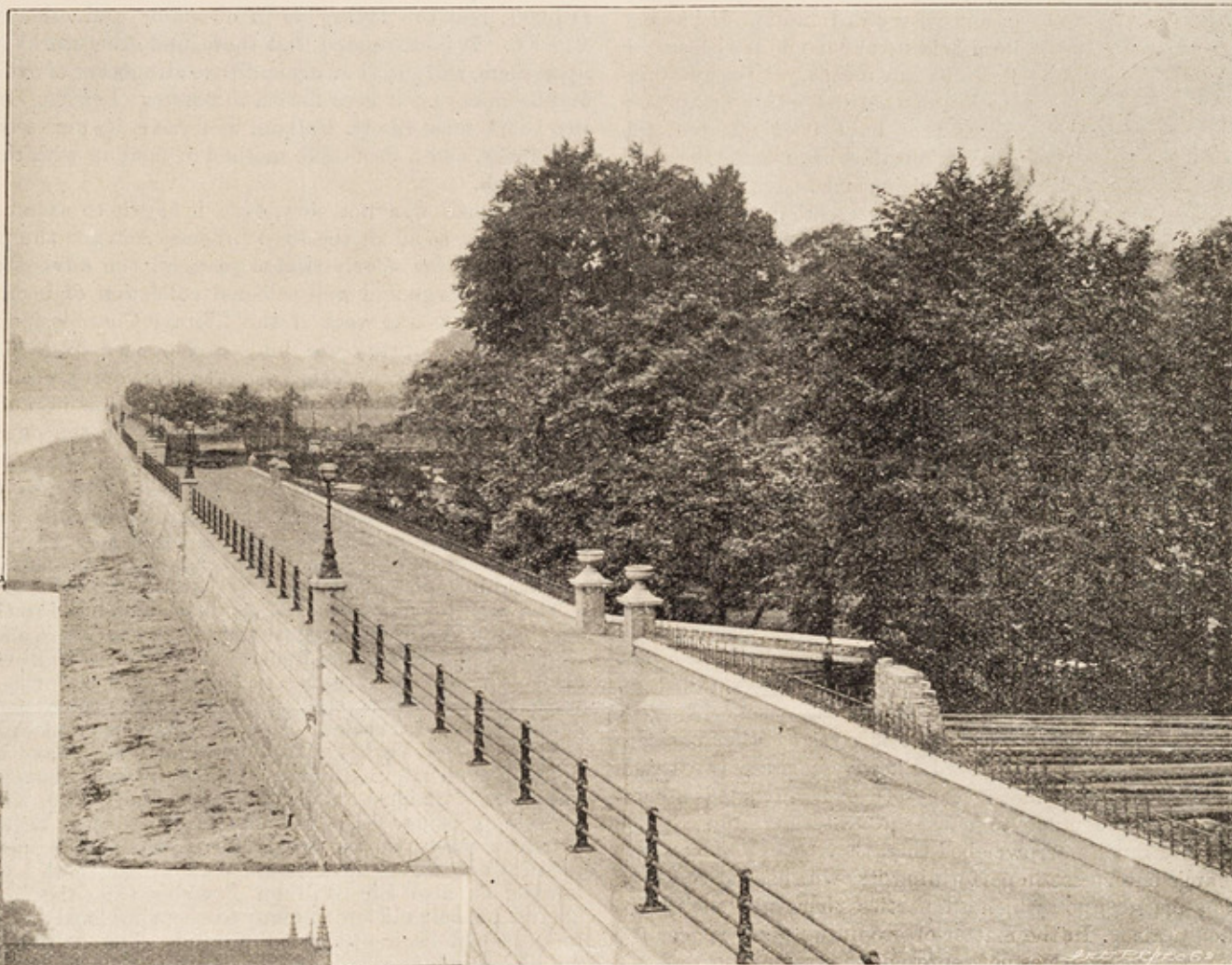
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*Specially photographed for THE LONDON ARGUS by R. W. Thomas, Cheapside.*

## FULHAM'S NEW EMBANKMENT AND THE PARISH CHURCH.

witness this lava-like advance of human habitations from day to day the puzzle is—Where are occupants to be found for them? Yet they are no sooner out of the builders' hands than the pantechnicons appear at the doors, and in a few days all are occupied. The occupants have come from somewhere, and Greater London thus goes on extending its boundaries and increasing its population every day.

In the course of our references last week to Wandsworth we mentioned what remarkable strides that important district has lately been making. Its population and its inhabited houses have nearly doubled within the last fourteen or fifteen years, and what was then almost a rural village will become, in consequence, a great and responsible municipal borough before the end of next year. But across the river in the parish of Fulham the changes that have taken place are no less remarkable; indeed, the local authorities say that the rate of increase there constitutes quite a record in the matter of extension in London parishes during the last few years. In 1861 Fulham was still to a large extent an outlying village, with a population of only 15,000 souls all told. In 1891 the residents were just six times that number, or over 90,000. To-day the estimated population has grown to

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF FULHAM.

### *Some Notes on its Recent Progress.*

IF there is one thing more than another noticeable about the great suburban and outlying parishes of the Metropolis it is the rapidity with which they are being covered with houses. North, South, East and West there is the same story to tell, the same sights to be seen. The green fields, the market gardens and waste lands generally, which were intact a few years ago, are now making room for blocks upon blocks of buildings, and London seems to be pushing its wide extent of bricks over every available vacant space within its reach. To those who

P.T.O.



128,000. Thus, during the last eight years nearly 40,000 people have been added to the population and the municipal responsibilities of the local authorities—an increase at the rate of close upon 5,000 every year. The growth of the parish has not, however, been by any means even or regular during this period, and so it has come about that during the last three or four years no part of the metropolitan area could furnish such an example of building activity and consequent municipal exertion as that of Fulham; and it was as much as the surveyors and works department of the Vestry could do to keep pace with the demands which were made upon them. It must be said, to the credit of the much-abused local body, that its record of work during that period will compare very favourably with that



MR. F. OSCAR DREW, J.P.,  
Chairman of the Fulham Vestry.

of any vestry in London. It has not been held up as a model parish in the Press by any means, yet the administration of the district, the improvements that have been effected, the precautions that have been taken and the provision made for the public health and recreation, will not be dimmed by the work done in St. Pancras, Shoreditch, or any other of the "Progressive" parishes in the Metropolis. Not only that, but many things have been managed in this riverside parish so well that some of her pretentious neighbours might imitate her example with advantage.

Probably the most remarkable improvement effected by the Vestry was the conversion of the strip of waste land between the river and the grounds of Fulham Palace into a public park, and the building of the embankment along its whole length. This has provided the parish with one of the pleasantest promenades in the Metropolis, and, with certain extensions which are now going on at the Putney Bridge end, will have entailed an outlay of close upon £30,000. The money has been well spent however, if only for the practical hint it gives to other parishes on the river's banks to go and do likewise. There can be no doubt that before many more years are over our heads a combined effort will be made to tuck the waters of old Father Thames into a much narrower bed than they occupy at present; and Fulham's enterprise in performing its own share of the work so soon is a matter upon which all parties there are entitled to unqualified praise. In the matter of providing open spaces the Bishop's Park Gardens does not represent the sum of the Vestry's activity. There is also the Recreation Ground in Fulham Palace-road. This pleasant inland open space is about five acres in extent, and secures to the rising generation of Fulhamites a generous playground of which they take the utmost advantage. In addition to these there is "The Eelbrook" and Parsons Green in the south end of the parish which is maintained by the London County Council, but it is quite probable that the Vestry will in time take this also, like the others, under its own control. When one thinks how quickly all the available land in the parish has lately been pegged out or built upon, the action of the Vestry, hampered as it has been by constitutional and other limitations, appears all the more worthy of commendation. Without these much-needed breathing spaces, the crowded population would be in a very bad plight indeed.

It is only natural that in a place which has witnessed the building of so many new houses and the laying down of so many new streets in the course of a few years, there should have been ample scope for the local authorities to take advantage of all the latest improvements in sanitary work. This, we are happy to say, they have done to a considerable extent. The greatest care has been taken to provide the newly-built-upon area with a satisfactory system of sewerage, and the requirements of the Building Acts, as regards foundations, etc., have been enforced with discretion and firmness by the Vestry's officers. Wood paving has been largely employed, especially in the main thoroughfares, while in others asphalt has taken the place of macadam and granite sets. In fact, no opportunity of making a useful improvement has been wasted through

indifference, and under this head and paying no less a sum than £19,000 was expended in the years 1898-9. The lighting of the parish has also received a good deal of attention. The Vestry has not been quite so quick to enter upon a scheme of electric lighting as some other parishes; but the delay is obviously due to the fact that the situation locally was scarcely ripe for it. Now that the place has been fully developed, the local authority has grappled the question, and during the past few months contracts have been entered into for the erection of a dust destructor in connection with the necessary machinery for the generation of the electric current. The dust destructor will cost upwards of £17,000; the generating station and offices on the Vestry's wharf, near Wandsworth-bridge, will run to £21,000; and the laying down of mains and other machinery £46,000. It is estimated that these, and other works consequent upon them, will entail an expenditure altogether of over £100,000; and to meet that it is proposed to borrow £108,000. In less than two years, most likely, Fulham will have its own electric lighting works, and a profitable method of dealing with the refuse of the parish.

The parish was not slow, once it began to assume vigorous proportions, to adopt the Free Libraries Act, and the people have now enjoyed for nearly twelve years all the advantages of free access to a large and well selected collection of books. Indeed so popular has the work of the Library Commissioners proved that a branch library was built and opened in 1896. A handsome Town Hall was erected about twelve years since, and already it has been decided to considerably enlarge it, and adjacent buildings and lands have been acquired for the purpose. The Burial Board, whose powers have now been taken over by the Vestry, has provided a good cemetery, and the Baths and Washhouses Commissioners, whose duties have also been merged in the Vestry, secured a site in Melmoth-road at a cost of £10,000, and before long the parish will have another of the essential institutions of every well ordered municipal area.

The wish for unity of administration which led to the assumption by the Vestry of the powers of the Burial Board and the Baths Commissioners has been fruitful of change in another direction also. The parish is rich in charities and endowments which were administered until quite recently by a multitude of counsellors and trustees. Now they have been placed under the control of the Vestry, which henceforth will have the largest voice in their administration. Some of these bequests are very valuable. For instance, Dr. Edward's and Bishop King's Charity, which brings in a revenue of close upon £1,100 a year, provides many of the poor parishioners with pensions and medical aid, while the Fulham Waste Land and Lygon Almshouses, as also Sir William Powell's Charities, give a cosy shelter in their old age to many a deserving local couple to whom fortune has been otherwise unkind. The cottages near the parish church in which the dependents of the latter bounty are housed, are as beautiful and quaint in their architectural exterior as any of their kind to be met with anywhere.

It is only the commonest justice that we should add that this remarkable record of up-to-date and progressive municipal work is not, as one might be inclined to suppose, the outcome of an advanced Radical or "Progressive" Vestry, using the word in its Party sense. As a matter of fact, the members of that somewhat noisy party are, and have been for many years, in a minority on the local body, and the enlightened policy which has been pursued has been initiated and carried out not by them, but by the members of the Moderate party. Nothing rash has been projected or attempted, but whenever any system of administration in any matter affecting the health or convenience of the whole community has seemed to be needed the Vestry has unhesitatingly adopted it. This has proved by no means an easy business at times, for the Fulham Vestry, unlike nearly all other similar bodies in the Metropolis, seems to have a horror of committees, and insists upon all its members having a voice in the early discussion and determination of every question on the agenda. The whole Vestry of seventy-two members sits as a Committee. Those who were of an obstructive turn of mind, and Fulham Vestry has a fair proportion of these gentlemen, found in this custom a powerful means of delaying or thwarting any proposal that was not to their liking, and the work of the last few years has been treated now and then by certain members in a manner which was scarcely likely to promote the real interests or enhance the reputation of the parish. However, in spite of these drawbacks Fulham occupies in all the matters which go to make up a well-managed parish a position of which the ratepayers and the people generally have reason to be proud. The presence within the parish of the Metropolitan Asylums Board's Fever Hospital is somewhat unpleasant, of course; but then, as a set-off against this, the

Continued on next page (165)



St. Peter's Church, Hoxton, has been brought under notice within the past few days. For some reason, which does not appear, the incumbent, the Rev. J. L. E. Horpell, desired to dismiss his curate, the Rev. F. H. Reichardt, who at once appealed to the Bishop of London. The Bishop straightway summoned the disputants before him, and heard their case. In the result Dr. Creighton became the peace-maker, advised the incumbent to drop his case, and gave written directions to the curate. Mr. Reichardt had fortified himself with petitions signed by nearly 2,000 people, but the incumbent has since written throwing discredit upon the status of some of the signatories. The action of the Bishop is certainly a new departure, which it is hoped will make for peace in the comparatively few cases in which disagreement exists between vicar and curate.

Under the presidency of the Duke of Westminster, a meeting was held at Grosvenor House to present the sum of £2,000 to Canon Fleming on the completion of his twenty-five years' work as Vicar of St. Michael's, Chester-square. Canon Fleming, in acknowledging the gift, said that he had refused the bishopric of Sydney, and the deaneries of Norwich and Chester, and that he was rooted to his beloved parish, which he had no wish or intention to leave.

The Rev. B. S. Lloyd has been appointed by the Bishop of London to the staff of the London Diocesan Home Mission.

COMMANDER CABORNE, R.N., of St. Andrew's Waterside Mission, 5, Fenchurch-street, E.C., appeals to those interested in sailors to be so kind as to send illustrated papers, magazines, and books or distribution by responsible clergy among sailors and fishermen at home and at various places abroad.

As we went to press yesterday (Friday), the new church of St. Etheldreda, Fulham, was being consecrated. Full particulars of the work which has led to the completion of the Church will be found in our special article on the development of Fulham.

The receipts on behalf of the Hospital Sunday Fund, up to Thursday night, amounted to over £44,000.

The Tithe Bill passed the second reading in the House of Commons on Thursday. The Government majority was 138.

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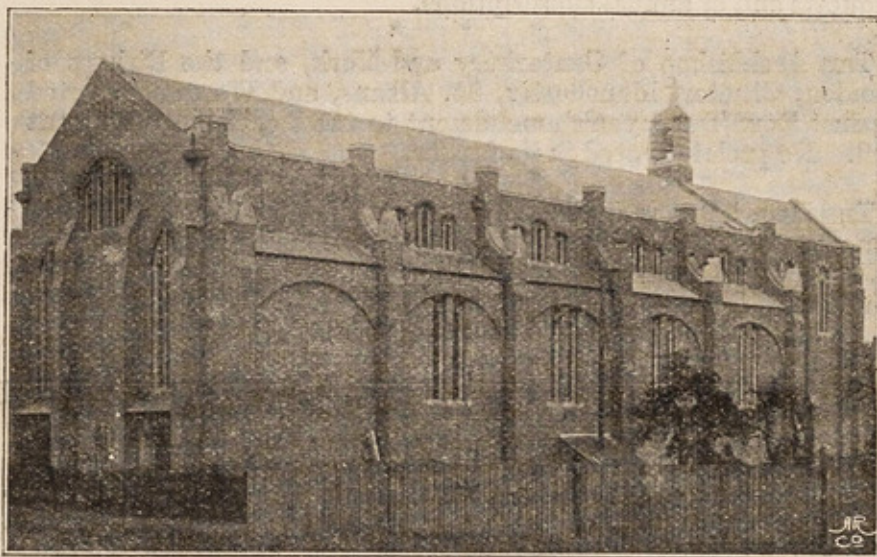


JULY 1, 1899.

THE LOND

parishioners have in St. Paul's Schools one of the best public schools in the Metropolis at their very doors to supplement the elementary education given in the parochial schools both public and private.

It is not in the domain of municipal affairs alone, however, that Fulham has been putting forth her energies. In ecclesiastical matters the parish has also been keeping pace with the growth of the population. Existing churches have been enlarged, new ones have been built, modern missionary methods have been tried wherever they have offered the slightest chances of success, and constant efforts have been made, not by one church merely, but by all the churches, to reach the great mass of the population in need of spiritual comfort and more material help. Indeed, so enthusiastic has the religious zeal of the various ministers of religion been that to do adequate justice to their efforts would require an article to itself. But an event occurred yesterday, the consecration of the second portion of St. Etheldreda's Church by the Bishop of London, which in its own way aptly typifies what has been going on in the other parts of the parish and in other communions during the past few years. This mission was established less than five years ago in the interests of the rapidly growing population in the St. Etheldreda's district, only a very small proportion of whom were already attached to any church in the district. The vicar, who came with an East End experience of church work to assist him, addressed himself to the laborious undertaking, for when he started there was neither church, nor mission-room, nor meeting-house of any kind whatever. There were no available funds, and no shred of an organisation locally to which the reverend gentleman might turn for assistance. How he began the services in a laundry ironing room, then reached the dignity



ST. ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH.

of being able to take the upper portion of a house, after a few years built a mission-hall, and then began to raise a large church near the Fulham Palace gates, to cost some £6,000, is in itself almost romantic. Yet of such persevering struggles modern church work among the poor is everywhere made up, just as in Fulham. None the less a word of praise and encouragement is due to labourers in the Church's service like the vicar of St. Etheldreda's, the Rev. Sadler Phillips, and we hope he may not have long to wait for the joyful moment which will witness the completion of the sacred edifice, and the payment of the last penny of debt, not only upon that but upon all the other admirable institutions which he has started for the benefit of his people.

Abrupt as the transition may be, reference must be made to the surprising developments of the district without referring to the successful efforts which have been made to supply the wants of the place in the matter of amusements. The Grand Theatre and the Theatre of Varieties are a striking testimony to the newly-grown power of the suburbs, and when next year the parish becomes a municipal borough, and the various authorities now exercising local control are concentrated in one, an emphatic stage will be reached in its history, which, may be, will be only the stepping-stone to still more remarkable developments in the future. At all events, we hope so.

It would be scarcely fair to close this brief sketch of what is being done in Fulham without mention of one to whom so much of the local development is due—we refer to Mr. F. Oscar Drew, J.P., Chairman of the Fulham Vestry, and leader of the Moderate party in the parish. Mr. Drew was born in 1856, and has for many years taken the lead in all local municipal reforms and Conservative progress. Mr. Hayes Fisher, M.P. for the division, has indeed no more energetic supporter. In addition to having been People's Churchwarden, Overseer, Charity Trustee, and Chairman of the Fulham Library, Mr. Drew stands in the unique position of being the last Chairman of the Fulham Vestry—and, it is whispered, may possibly be chosen the first Mayor of Fulham.



Fulham Vestry - Extracts from Annual Report

POPULATION.

The subjoined statement will show the rateable value, population and number of houses, at various periods, from 1856 to 1898.

Date	Rateable Value	Number of Houses	Population.
	£		
1856	47,492	2,350—estimated.	14,100—estimated.
1861	55,916	2,583	15,539—census.
1871	100,121	3,909	23,378 do.
1881	190,136	6,685	42,895 do.
1891	426,551	12,869	91,640 do.
1896	560,965	16,270	113,871 do.
1898	612,564	17,186	120,335—estimated.

Copy Scheme. The Secretary of the Conference having sent the Vestry a copy of the scheme approved by them for the construction of the lock and weir below Wandsworth Bridge, and asking for their views thereon, the matter was referred to the Works Committee for consideration and report, which Committee appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. Green, Atkinson, Avern, Tapp, Drew, Steel and Barker to consider the scheme. On the 16th February, 1898, the Works Committee having received a report from their Sub-Committee, reported as follows:—

Report of the Works Committee. Having carefully considered the scheme for the construction of sluices and lock on the Thames, below Wandsworth Bridge, at an estimated cost of £220,000, as set forth in the supplemental report of Mr. Edward Pritchard, C.E., &c., dated the 6th November, 1897, and approved by the Conference of delegates appointed by several riparian authorities, we recommend that, subject to a satisfactory apportionment of the cost being arranged, the Vestry signify their approval of the scheme.

Assessments &c.

The Parish of Fulham comprises an area of some 1,700 statute acres, with a rateable value on the 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1898 of £612,564



Fulham Vestry report

## Rateable Value

The annual rateable value of the property in the Parish, as per County Rate assessment or like estimate, and the amount 1<sup>d</sup> in the £ will produce.

Year	Rateable Value.	Amount which would be raised by a rate of 1d. in the £ gross
	£	£ s. d.
1855—1856	47,492	197 14 8
1856—1857	51,154	213 2 10
1857—1858	51,428	214 5 8
1858—1859	51,528	214 14 0
1859—1860	51,739	215 11 7
1860—1861	55,916	232 19 8
1861—1862	58,296	242 18 0
1862—1863	58,944	245 12 0
1863—1864	61,964	258 3 8
1864—1865	62,882	262 0 2
1865—1866	77,236	321 16 4
1866—1867	77,565	323 3 9
1867—1868	83,238	347 4 0
1868—1869	91,725	382 3 9
1869—1870	96,118	400 9 10
1870—1871	96,661	402 15 1
1871—1872	100,121	417 3 5
1872—1873	104,915	437 2 11
1873—1874	106,286	442 17 2
1874—1875	107,995	449 19 7
1875—1876	109,579	456 11 7
1876—1877	118,991	495 15 11
1877—1878	122,476	510 6 4
1878—1879	129,152	538 2 8
1879—1880	135,678	565 6 6
1880—1881	149,899	624 11 7
1881—1882	190,136	792 4 8
1882—1883	206,834	949 6 2
1883—1884	238,549	993 19 1
1884—1885	268,169	1,117 7 5
1885—1886	292,427	1,218 8 11
1886—1887	334,183	1,392 8 7
1887—1888	343,572	1,431 11 0
1888—1889	360,354	1,501 9 6
1889—1890	373,152	1,554 16 0
1890—1891	385,407	1,605 17 3
1891—1892	426,551	1,777 5 11
1892—1893	452,086	1,883 13 10
1893—1894	471,168	1,963 4 0
1894—1895	484,851	2,020 4 3
1895—1896	511,738	2,132 4 10
1896—1897	560,965	2,337 7 1
1897—1898	590,302	2,459 11 10
1898—1899	612,564	2,552 7 0



Fulham  
Vestry

# LOANS FOR IMPROVEMENTS ON WORKS SCHEDULE.

Early in 1897 a schedule of numerous improvement works carried out or to be carried out, was ordered to be prepared in detail for application to the London County Council to obtain a loan for as long a period as possible. On 29th September, 1897, the Vestry resolved that application be made to the London County Council for a loan of £6,900 as per schedule supplied. This schedule has been varied on several occasions by deductions, alterations of amounts and additions, but at 25th March, 1898, the Vestry had not received the Council's sanction to the loan.

Schedule of Road Widening and Improvements for £6,962 16s. 4d.

Particulars	Gross Cost			Less promised Contributions			Net amount asked for			Remarks
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
North End Road by Lillie Road, etc. ...	1674	8	7	540	0	0	1134	8	7	£640 since granted
Ditto Lovibond's Corner	500	0	0	nil			500	0	0	£450 do.
Fulham Palace Road opposite Cemetery ...	2621	0	7	634	15	0	1986	5	7	£1381 do.
Marshall's Alley, widening ...	1991	13	5	nil			1991	13	5	£1484 do.
Broughton Road Extension ...	367	18	9	nil			367	18	9	£350 do.
Hurlingham Road by Omnibus Yard ...	1310	0	0	327	10	0	982	10	0	Since withdr'n.
	8465	1	4	1502	5	0	6962	16	4	

With regard to the previous schedule of £9,000, mentioned on page No. 65 of last year's report, the Council have granted a further loan of £3385, making together with the loan of £4150 taken up in 1896-97, the sum of £7,535.

RETURN I.—This return embraces the whole debt of London for Local Government purposes (excluding the City Corporation), and by it is shown the entire indebtedness of each Parish for not only the loans contracted by the local authorities, but also for the proportion of the central and county authorities' loans.

With regard to the Parish of Fulham, this return tends to show that it is the fifteenth highest, in point of total indebtedness, in London. The percentage of indebtedness on the rateable value of £560,965 being, for local purposes 28·18, and for both country and local purposes 114·90.

This will not hold good for more than the year mentioned, as will be seen by last year's report when the position was seventh highest, and the percentages were 31·50 and 120·46 respectively.

## EQUALISATION OF RATES ACT, 1894.

This Act, which came into operation on the 30th September, 1894, has been of great benefit to Fulham Parish.



The total amount of the Fund for the Year 1897-98 was £902,468 1s., and Fulham Parish has contributed thereto and received therefrom as follows:—

	Half Year to 29th Sept., 1897.			Half Year to 25th March, 1898.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Grants from Fund, equals 2/0½ (about) per head on a population of 115,335 ... ..	11,638	3	4	11,638	3	4
Contributions to, equals 3d. in the £ on Rateable Value of £589,658 ... ..	7,370	14	6	7,370	14	6
Difference in favour of Parish ... ..	£4,267	8	10	£4,267	8	10

The above sums have been received and credited to the General Rates of the Parish, thereby reducing the amount called for by the Vestry from the Ratepayers by nearly a sum of 4d. in the £.

### LABOUR, &c.—WAGES ACCOUNT.

The parishioners will form some idea of the rapid development of the Parish by the comparative statement of the Labour Wages Accounts for 1886, and that of 1898.

On the 27th day of January, 1886, the Vestry passed the following resolution, on the recommendation of the Works Committee:—

“That in order to efficiently carry out the works required in the making, maintaining, and cleansing of the streets and sewers in the Parish, a staff of Artisans and Labourers be employed as follows:—

30 Scavengers, 4 Spreaders and 1 Ganger	}	Average weekly wages, £76 0 0
12 Ground and Sewermen and 1 Ganger		
1 Bricklayer and 1 Labourer		
1 Mason and 1 Labourer		
6 Flushers and Gulleymen		
1 Storekeeper and 1 Watchman		
1 Steam Roller Driver		
Pecking Gang (about 4 men) when required		

At the same time the Stable Department staff was as follows:—

15 Dustmen (10 with horses)	}	Average weekly wages, £32 0 0
9 Carmen with horses		
1 Horsekeeper and 1 Stableman		
1 Yardman		

The following shows the approximate number of men constantly employed, and cost, in 1897-98:— (see next page)



Fulham  
Nestry  
report

Works Department :—

40 Spreaders, Flushers, Ground and  
Sewermen  
2 Gangers to ditto  
6 Masons and 6 Labourers  
4 Bricklayers and 4 Labourers  
2 Wood Paviers  
1 Asphalter and 1 Labourer  
1 Steam Crane Driver and 1 Roller Driver  
3 Followers (sweepers)  
8 Watchmen and 3 Depotmen  
2 Store Clerks and 1 Wharf Keeper  
Barge and Pecking Gangs as required  
Mechanics and Labourers on Improvement  
Works, &c.

Average weekly wages,  
£230 0 0

Cartage Department

1 Dust Inspector  
34 Dustmen, (24 with horses)  
24 Cartmen (with horses)  
2 Stablemen, 1 Watcher  
2 Horsekeepers, 1 Painter  
3 Wheelwrights, 3 Carpenters  
4 Farriers, Smiths &c.  
80 Scavengers, 2 Foremen  
4 Men at Dust & Slop Shoots

Average weekly  
wages £230 0 0

In addition to the above, extra men are constantly  
being put temporarily for special works, fall of snow &c.

The actual rates made by the Overseers for the two years are as  
follows, viz. :—

						1897-8.	1896-7.
						s. d.	s. d.
General Rate	...	...	...	...	...	2 7½ in £	2 4½ in £
Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	0 2½ „	0 2½ „
Sewer	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 „	0 4 „
						<hr/> 3 2 „ <hr/>	<hr/> 2 11 „ <hr/>



# AREA OF THE PARISH.

The area of the Parish of Fulham is	...	1,700'324 acres
Area of Foreshore	...	56'561 "
Area of Tidal Waters	...	99'614 "
Total	...	1,856'499 "

## COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Showing the increase in the population, mileage of roads, footpaths, etc., of the Parish since the separation from Hammersmith in 1886. The increase in these items is very marked during the last ten years.

Date	Length of Carriageway			Length of Footway			Length of Public Footway where no Carriageway			Estimated Population	Estimated Inhabited Houses	Rateable Value
	M.	F.	YDS.	M.	F.	YDS.	M.	F.	YDS.			£
1886	35	1	44	63	6	166	7	2	0	72,142	11,265	336,674
1887	36	5	199	66	6	132	7	1	22	77,997	11,277	343,572
1888	38	2	112	70	6	125	6	7	215	79,605	11,890	360,354
1889	40	5	41	75	1	118	6	6	183	86,124	12,181	373,159
1890	44	6	102	83	2	118	6	6	183	91,000	12,620	385,407
1891	45	3	173	84	5	22	6	6	183	91,640*	13,496	426,551
1892	46	1	108	87	1	58	6	6	183	96,514	14,447	471,074
1893	47	1	75	88	1	169	6	6	183	101,889	14,906	483,909
1894	48	7	81	89	0	6	6	6	183	106,680	15,682	510,782
1895	49	6	5	89	7	43	6	6	183	111,850	16,472	511,738
1896	53	6	77	94	4	0	7	0	17	113,781†	16,757	560,965
1897	54	1	65	95	3	17	7	0	17	118,835	17,500	590,302
1898	55	3	75	97	7	37	7	0	17	120,835	18,249	612,564

\* 1891 Census.

† Quinquennial Census.

## TOWN HALL EXTENSION.

It has been long felt that the accommodation of the Town Hall as at present is very inadequate with regard to the departmental needs, and this becomes more marked as the Vestry takes upon it more powers and duties, and the population increases.

An opportunity having arisen to purchase Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 7, Harwood Road at a very fair price, the sale has been completed, and designs will be prepared to make this desirable addition ready for execution.

The Vestry in acquiring this property have succeeded in obtaining the London County Council's consent to an advanced building line up to the pavement of Harwood Road, so that the value of the land is very largely enhanced.



DUST.

Table showing the number of loads removed :—

Year	Loads	Horses one day each	Average loads per Horse per day	Cost of Horse and Cart per day	Cost of Horse and Cart per load	Wages per load	Cost of Tip or Barge per load
1887-88	11,791	3,162	3.729	s. d. 6 0	s. d. 1 7½	s. d. 1 6	From 1s.6d. for Tips to 2s. 9d. for Barging 1s. 7d.
1888-89	12,319	3,418	3.604	4 9	1 3	1 6	
1889-90	14,033	3,829	3.923	4 9	1 2	1 6	
1890-91	17,380	4,173	4.159	{ 4 9 and 5 9 }	1 2	1 6	
1891-92	19,154	4,746	4.035	6 0	1 6	1 6	1s. 7d.
1892-93	20,666	5,814	3.554	6 0	1 8½	{ 1 6 1 9 }	2s. 3d.
1893-94	20,352	5,559	3.661	6 0	1 7¾	1 9	2s. 3d.
1894-95	21,932	5,574	3.952	6 0	1 6¼	1 9	2s. 3d.
1895-96	24,584	6,252	3.932	6 0	1 6¼	1 9	2s. 3d.
1896-97	27,380	6,484	4.221	6 0	1 5	1 9	2s. 3d.
1897-98	27,356	7,037	3.887	6 0	1 6¼	1 9	2s. 3d.

STREET CLEANSING AND SLOPPING.

For this work the following staff and plant are engaged :—

74 day } Scavengers,  
 12 night }  
 30 Horses,  
 8 Horse brooms,  
 8 Horse scrapers,  
 18 Orderly hand-trucks,  
 6 Sanding machines,  
 35 Slop carts,  
 20 Shoot carts,  
 26 Water vans,  
 2 Water carts.  
 302 Vestry horses }  
 61 Hired „ } as chain horse at slop shoot



## WOOD PAVING (LAID UP TO DATE).

Locality	Area in yards	Date relaid	Description	Cost of Wood Paving			Cost of Work to Footpaths		
King's road ... ..	5,052	May, 1888	Plain 9in. x 6in. x 3in. deal blocks	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
				1,969	6	8	278	12	7
North End road ... ..	8,385	Jan., 1889	Do.	3,231	10	5	224	0	2
Lillie road ... ..	4,885	June 1889	Do.	2,010	13	7	299	19	8
Fulham road from "The George" to Fulham and Putney Bridge	20,073	Sept., 1890	9in. x 5in. x 3in. creosoted deal blocks	10,235	2	9	578	4	9
North End road, from Melmoth place to Star road	7,309	May, 1891	Do.	3,944	17	2	140	2	2
Dawes road, Vanston place, Jerdan place, Melmoth place	9,600	Feb., 1892	Do.	6,183	19	10	195	9	8
Jerdan place (part of)	542	Feb., 1892	9in. x 5in x 3in. Jarrah blocks						
Harwood road ... } Broxholme road ... }	6,055	Sept., 1892	9in. x 5in. x 3in. creosoted deal blocks	3,464	7	0	55	13	0
Crown road, from An- cill street to Fulham Palace road	2,612	April, 1893	Do.	1,742	9	0	New Street		
Fulham road, from Stanley Bridge to "The George"	a11,600	July, 1893	Do.	4,300	6	3	None		
Parts of Rylston and Sherbrooke roads	1,977	Aug., 1893	Do.	1,088	11	10	None		
King's road, from Broomhouse road to Ashington road	b1,715	Mar., 1894	Do.	1,394	9	10	New Street		
New King's road, from Bagley's lane to Wandsworth Bridge road and Wands- worth Bridge road to Hazlebury road	6,161	Nov., 1895	Do.	3,038	19	8	1	24	16 7
					13	5 7			
Lillie road ... ..	a4,885	April, 1896	Do.	1,711	7	8	—		
King's road ... ..	a5,052	June, 1896	Do.	1,781	5	10	4 9 10		
Dawes road, from "Salisbury," part of Munster road and Lillie road to Police Station	3,808	Sept., 1896	Do.	3,604	11	11	—		
Melmoth place ... ..	1,004	Oct., 1896	Do.	545	12	2	—		
North End road, from Star road to Morn- ington avenue	a8,500	April, 1897	Do.	—			—		
Lillie road, from Fulham road to North End road	8,980	Sept., 1897	Do.	—			—		
Moore Park road ... ..	940	—	—	—			—		

a. Relaid in old Concrete.

b. The crossings were paid for out of New Streets Account.

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## Population Statistics

## Kensington Medical Officers Report 1898. Extracts

The 166,308 persons comprised in the population in 1891, were in occupation of about 22,000 houses or an average of 7.56 to each house. An error, somewhat widely disseminated, that Kensington is almost wholly a parish of rich or well-to-do persons, may be corrected by a reference to the official report of the census of 1891, from which we learn that 70,718 persons, or 42.5 per cent. of the population, were living in 20,052 tenements of *less* than five rooms. The 166,308 persons comprising the entire population of the parish at that date, were in occupation of 35,953 tenements and certain public institutions. No fewer than 6,398 of these "tenements" consisted of a single room each; these rooms being inhabited by 13,655 persons. The two-roomed tenements were 6,965, and their inhabitants numbered 26,020. The three-roomed tenements were 4,115, and their inhabitants 18,119. The four-roomed tenements were 2,574, and their inhabitants 12,924. Stated in another way, it appears that 8.2 per cent. of the parishioners lived in one-room tenements; 15.6 per cent. lived in two-room tenements; 10.9 per cent. lived in three-room tenements, and 7.8 per cent. in four-room tenements. In North Kensington there were approximately 8.7 persons to a house; in South Kensington about 6.7. But many houses of eight rooms, in North Kensington more particularly, contained, and contain now, upwards of twenty persons to a house, and some even more than thirty persons.

The population of the parish estimated to the middle of the year was 172,000: it comprised, approximately, 67,970 males, and females 104,030: excess of females, 36,060. In the Town sub-district (estimated population 123,600) the males numbered about 51,400, the females 72,200; excess of females 20,800. In the Brompton sub-district (estimated population 48,400) there were about 16,640 males, and 31,760 females: excess of females, 15,120. This population of 172,000 was in occupation of about 22,700 houses, equal to 7.57 persons to a house on an average. In the poorer parts of the parish, where population is most dense, the number of persons to a house is greatly in excess of the average.



GROWTH OF THE PARISH.—The following table, brought up to date, exhibits the growth of the parish since the Metropolis Local Management Act came into operation, in 1856 :—

	1856	1898	Increase in 42 years
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,600	22,700	15,100
Population ... ..	57,000	172,000	115,000
Rateable Value of Property ...	£308,600	£2,135,981	£1,827,981

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE.

The births registered were 3,633, viz :—males 1,830, and females 1,803 ; the numbers being, in the Town sub-district (which includes the parish infirmary) 3,078, and in Brompton 555. The births were 185 below the corrected decennial average, 3,818 ; 182 of them were of illegitimate children. The births were 50 fewer than the number registered in 1897 ; but 53 weeks were included in the return for that year : they were, moreover, 408 fewer than the number in 1872 (4,041) when the population (127,400) was 44,600 less than in 1898. The birth-rate, which is considerably below that of London, as a whole (29·5 in 1898, the lowest on record) has been declining since 1868, in which year it was 33·1 per 1,000 persons living. In 1898 it was 21·1 per 1,000, and 1·1 below the decennial average (22·2). The rate in the sub-districts was—Town 24·9, Brompton 11·5 per 1,000. In the Town sub-district, the registered births were 776 more in number than the deaths, whilst in the Brompton sub-district the excess, of births over deaths was to the number of 59 only : excess, whole parish, 835. The excess of births over deaths in the whole of London was 48,496.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE.

The deaths registered, inclusive of 286 deaths of parishioners at outlying public institutions, etc., but exclusive of deaths of non-parishioners at public institutions, etc., within the parish, were 2,798 (males, 1,335, and females, 1,463), and 71 fewer than the corrected decennial average, 2,869. Of



these deaths 2,302 were registered in the Town sub-district, and 496 in Brompton. The death-rate, which in the preceding three years had been 16·2, 16·7, and 15·6, per 1,000, respectively, was 16·3 in 1898, and 0·4 below the decennial average (16·7), and 2·4 below the rate in the metropolis, as a whole (18·7); this, moreover, being 1·0 below the decennial average (19·7). The rate in the sub-districts was: Town, 18·6; Brompton, 10·2 per 1,000, as compared with 17·7, and 10·3, respectively, in 1897. The sex death-rate was, approximately, of males 19·6 per 1,000, of females 14·1 per 1,000, as compared with 19·9, and 12·9, respectively, in 1897.

The deaths in North Kensington were 1,836; the death-rate 21·0 per 1,000. The deaths in South Kensington were 962; the death-rate 11·4 per 1,000.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE IN THE SANITARY DISTRICTS. The death-rate in the sanitary districts was as follows:—

North	684 deaths, or 20·5 per 1,000 persons living.
North-East	437 deaths, or 14·4 per 1,000 persons living.
North-West	522 deaths, or 31·0 per 1,000 persons living.
Central	449 deaths, or 16·4 per 1,000 persons living.
South-East	278 deaths, or 8·6 per 1,000 persons living.
South-West	428 deaths, or 13·4 per 1,000 persons living.

It is somewhat of an opprobrium to Kensington that the rate of infantile mortality, calculated upon the basis of the number of deaths under one year to 1,000 births registered, is invariably above that of London as a whole. The year to which this report relates was no exception to the rule, for whilst the deaths under one year in London were at the rate of 167 per 1,000 births\* (the rate in England and Wales being 161), the corresponding ratio in Kensington, as a whole, was 180; the comparative numbers in 1897 having been 159 and 166. The rate differed greatly in different parts of the parish, the bad pre-eminence of which, in this respect, is due to the excessive infantile mortality in certain districts in North



Kensington. The deaths of infants in North Kensington under one year to births registered, 517 in number, after distribution of the deaths at the parish infirmary, were equal to 202 per 1,000 births, the corresponding ratio in South Kensington being 129 per 1,000, the deaths numbering 138 only. Of the 655 deaths, 62 occurred in the Brompton sub-district, being equal to 112 per 1,000 births, and 543 in the Town sub-district, being equal to 212 per 1,000 births. In the several sanitary districts the deaths and death-rate of infants under one year, were as follows:—

North	214 deaths	equal to 201 per 1,000 births.
North-East	101 deaths	equal to 176 per 1,000 births.
North-West	165 deaths	equal to 253 per 1,000 births.
Central	87 deaths	equal to 151 per 1,000 births.
South-East	35 deaths	equal to 101 per 1,000 births.
South-West	53 deaths	equal to 103 per 1,000 births.

\* The London average rate in the preceding ten years, 1888-97, was 151 per 1,000. the rate in 1898 exceeded that recorded in any year since 1871. In the 33 great towns in England and Wales the rate was 178, and in the 67 towns next in order of importance, 173 per 1,000 births.

#### "NOTTING-DALE" SPECIAL AREA.

*Vital and Mortal Statistics, 1898; those for 1897 and 1896 being added by way of comparison.*

Population estimated to the middle of the year—

	1898	1897	1896
Births ... ..	4,000	4,000	3,740
Birth-rate ... ..	117	130	118
Deaths ... ..	29.3	32.5	31.6 per 1000 persons living.
Death-rate ... ..	182	223	187
	45.5	55.7	50.0 per 1,000 persons living.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths under One Year of

Age ... ..	49	56	51
Death-rate ... ..	419	431	432 per 1,000 registered births.

#### ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Deaths from the seven principal ... ..

Number of Deaths ... ..	22	25	30
Death-rate ... ..	5.5	6.3	8.0 per 1,000 persons living.

(Causes of Death:—In 10 cases, diarrhoea; in 6 cases, whooping-cough; in 5 cases, measles; in 1 case, scarlet fever).

The death-rate, per 1,000 persons living from all causes, in the thirteen four-weekly periods, successively, was: (1) 39.0; (2) 48.7; (3) 42.2; (4) 52.0; (5) 35.7; (6) 52.0; (7) 68.2; (8) 61.7; (9) 45.5; (10) 35.7; (11) 39.0; (12) 42.2; (13) 29.2.



Of the total deaths, 91 took place at the homes of the deceased persons, 79 at the parish infirmary, and 12 at other public institutions: 34 of the deaths were of persons who had previously resided at common lodging-houses, at which houses 5 deaths took place.

The sex of the deceased persons was: males 97, females 85.

The ages at death were: under 5 years of age 81 (including 49 under one year); between 5 and 20 years, 8 deaths; between 20 and 60 years, 62 deaths; at 60 years and upwards 31 deaths.

The deaths were connected with streets as follows: Bangor-street, 50 deaths; Crescent-street, 29 deaths; Kenley-street, 11 deaths; St Katharine's-road, 66 deaths; Sirdar-road, 26 deaths.

In the early part of 1898, an outbreak of typhus fever occurred in Western Buildings, Ladbroke Grove, involving 15 cases in all, and 3 deaths, one being that of a Doctor. Cause of illness found to be the dirty and overcrowded condition of the flat where the outbreak occurred. Father, mother and 5 children slept in one room, which abounded in dirt and vermin. There had not been a case of typhus in the parish for 15 years previously. Consequently, the Doctors failed for a long while to recognize it and diagnosed the first 7 or 8 cases as influenza, pneumonia &c. Subsequently the disease was effectually stopped by sanitary



precautions and there has been no outbreak since.

#### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1878 to 1895.

DUTIES OF THE SANITARY AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO WORKSHOPS.—The duties devolving upon the Sanitary Authority under the Factory Acts were set out in considerable detail in the annual report for 1896 (pp. 97-103 inclusive). Reference thereto will suffice to show how serious are the responsibilities which the legislature has imposed on sanitary authorities throughout the kingdom. An effort to cope with these responsibilities was made by your Vestry, in October, 1893, by the appointment of two ladies as inspectors of workshops, workplaces, and laundries, where women are employed. Both of these ladies, Miss Deane and Miss Squire, have since been appointed, by successive Secretaries of State, to the even more responsible position of factory inspector under the Home Office. Miss Deane's successor, Miss Duncan, who ceased to hold office in July, 1895, has since been appointed to the office of factory inspector by the Government of New South Wales. The appointment held by her in this parish has not been filled. Miss Squire's successor, Miss de Chaumont, does her best to carry out the work of inspection and supervision for the entire parish. Her report for the year is subjoined (page 86).

With respect to the workshops, &c., where men only are employed, nothing has been done to give effect to legislation in any way comparable with the work so well carried out by the female inspectors of workshops, etc., where women are employed. These establishments should be taken in hand, but it is impossible with the present limited and reduced staff of sanitary inspectors. We do not so much as know, at present, the localities of any large proportion of men's workshops, but no doubt their whereabouts could be ascertained from Her Majesty's Superintending Inspector of Workshops, &c., should it ever be put in my power to take up this branch of sanitary administration.



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In the final report by Miss Squire, it was stated, and it is a matter for satisfaction, that there had become manifest, on the part of the employers, an increasing willingness to conform to the requirements of the law, with which many of them had been more or less unacquainted, until they were made known by the visits of the lady inspectors, and by the notices issued by the Sanitary Committee. There has been no abatement since of the friendliness with which the inspector's visits are received. In no respect has greater good been done than by the prevention of overcrowding, and the improvements effected with regard to the warming of workrooms, and the ventilation of gas iron-heaters, &c. The good work begun by Miss Deane, Miss Squire, and Miss Duncan, has been well carried on by Miss de Chaumont, who has performed her duties with tact and discretion, to my entire satisfaction, and, what is of more importance, to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Committee, the body to which, as has already been stated, the carrying out of the duties which devolve upon your Vestry as the local authority under the Acts has been delegated.

672 Workshops in which females are employed are on Miss de Chaumont's list. She gives various particulars of defects remedied and adds,

"GENERAL.—I am pleased to report that my visits, as a rule, are welcomed by employers, who now generally recognise the obligation and propriety of carrying out the duties devolving upon them under the Acts of Parliament, and the Orders issued by the Factory Department of the Home Office. I regret to say, however, that on visitation of four premises, two in North Kensington and two in South Kensington, I was received with much incivility, a determination being expressed by the occupiers not to admit me again. But I am glad to be able to add, that, in each case, when next I called, I was pleasantly and courteously received. To the best of my ability I have endeavoured to carry out the duties devolving on the sanitary authority, so as to prevent overcrowding of workrooms, and to enforce cleanliness and ventilation, and so as to secure freedom from effluvia, in conformity with the provisions of the several Acts. Her Majesty's Superintending Inspector of Workshops has forwarded to me complaints of nuisances observed by the factory inspectors, and notifications of new workshops as required by the Acts. And, in accord-



## Sanitary Work

## Sewer Ventilation

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ance with the requirements of the Acts, I have reported to that official numerous cases of the employment of 'protected persons,' i.e., 'children' between 11 and 14, 'young persons,' i.e., females between 14 and 18, and 'women,' i.e., persons over 18 years of age. Nuisances observed in the discharge of my duties have been duly reported to the Public Health Department."

Mr Dudfield is not at all satisfied with the number of his assistants. He writes:-

The staff now comprises seven inspectors, six male and one female, a reduction of two, one of each sex, as compared with the number in 1895. The inspector for the south-east district also acts as chief sanitary inspector (*vide page 3*). The staff, as I have repeatedly informed the Sanitary Committee, is quite inadequate for the discharge of the duties devolving upon your Vestry as Sanitary Authority.

The Local Government Board has decided to hold an inquiry into the sanitary administration of the Parish.

In Kensington, as elsewhere, the question of sewer ventilation has engaged much attention. As a result of the action of this and other Vestries, a conference of surveyors and engineers was called by the London County Council at which the following resolutions were passed:-

1. That the closing of sewer ventilators in response to complaints increases the general evil, the diminution of which is to be attained by the multiplication of the ventilators at regular frequent intervals,



"2. That in connection with any interceptor hereafter fixed on a main house drain, it is advisable to carry up a ventilating pipe from the sewer side of the interceptor, up the front, side, or back of the house, to the satisfaction of the local sanitary authority, and that the outlet drain from the interceptor shall not be flap-trapped in sewer, unless required by the local Sanitary Authority.

"3. That pipe ventilators up buildings, or otherwise, when possible, should always be adopted, in addition to surface ventilators."

The Engineer reported that—

"The general result of the conference confirmed the action of the Main Drainage Committee and the Council in recent years, and that the remedy for sewer emanations is to be looked for from the maintenance of more ventilating openings, both at the street level and by means of pipes carried up houses and other buildings."

*Mr Dudfield is of opinion that the best remedy is to flood the sewers with fresh air, so as to oxidize and dilute the foul emanations from the sewage.*

#### INSUFFICIENCY OF SEWERS: FLOODING OF BASEMENTS.

In times of heavy rain the Counter's-creek main sewer has on many occasions proved unequal to the task of carrying off the storm water, thus leading to flooding of the basements of many houses with more or less diluted sewage. A terrible experience of this sort befell the occupants of numerous houses in this parish, 29th October, when 300 basements are known to have been flooded, including 56, 40, 30, and 167, in the Central, the North-West, the North, and the North-East sanitary districts respectively. To what exact depth, was not ascertained,\* as it was impossible to take up flooring boards to

\* The Surveyor in a report on the subject stated that the depth of the flood water in the basements was, in St. George's-road 9 to 17 inches, in Talbot-grove 18 inches, in Elsham-road (east side) 1 to 14 inches, &c.



House to House  
Inspection

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determine the depth between the floor and the subjacent earth, which, unlike the flooring, does not admit of cleansing, and remains defiled by the deposit from the sewage, &c. It is unnecessary to dwell on the inconvenience and suffering inflicted by the visitation upon the occupiers of the flooded houses, which, of course, was greatest in the numerous instances of families actually living in the submerged basements. The consequences to health may yet be serious, but will probably remain unknown in the majority of cases, if not in all. Among the incidents of this calamity, it may be mentioned that at several bakehouses the kneading troughs were set floating, and sacks of flour were submerged. This matter has received attention from the Sanitary Committee at various times over a long period of years. It formed, in 1897, the subject of a conference with the sanitary authorities of the adjoining parishes of Chelsea, Fulham, and Hammersmith. The Main Drainage Committee of the County Council was approached by a deputation from your Vestry, the outcome being that the Council decided, in December, 1895, to proceed with the erection of a new pumping station at Lot's-road, Chelsea, at a cost of £60,000, and to apply to the Secretary of State for consent to the compulsory acquisition of the land required for the purpose. It is devoutly to be desired that this measure, when completed—it had not been begun at the end of 1898—may suffice to rid us of the nuisance, which, in the nature of things—owing to the increase in the number of inhabited houses draining into the local sewers—would have become worse but for palliative measures adopted by the local authorities in the reconstruction, deepening, and enlargement of the said sewers.

So far as time permitted, house to house inspection was carried on during the year, as required by section 1. of the Public Health (London) Act 1891: streets being dealt with as a whole in conformity with the instructions of your Vestry. This work had long been in practical abeyance owing to more



pressing engagements of the Sanitary Inspectors in regard to matters requiring attention day by day. But when, in 1896, these officers were relieved of the duty of supervising works of repair of underground drainage, it was felt that some of their time should be devoted to this important duty. I was of opinion, moreover, that their attention should be given to some of the better class streets, the houses in which are not always so well sanitated, structurally, as the houses in many of the poorer streets, which have properly received attention to the largest extent. I was led to suspect that this might prove to be so by observing in the Inspector's diaries, that when they had had occasion to inspect houses of a superior class, on complaint, or by reason of the occurrence of infectious disease thereat, sanitary apparatus was but too commonly found to be defective in construction or condition. It would be well to have made a complete and systematic sanitary survey of all the houses in the parish, but it is not



practicable with the present limited staff of inspectors.

REGISTERED HOUSES.—At the request of the Sanitary Committee a return was prepared, in 1896, showing the streets in which houses have been registered, the number of the houses registered in each street, and the number of houses not registered in the several streets. This return, which was made for each of the sanitary districts, was printed in the annual report for 1896, pp. 136-38. The detailed particulars there given may be summarised as follows :—

DISTRICT	Number of Streets dealt with.	Number of Houses in Streets.	Number of Houses Registered.	Number of Houses not Registered.
North Sanitary District ...	7	303	271	32
North-East Sanitary District ...	3	183	119	64
North-West Sanitary District ...	8	412	267	145
Central Sanitary District ...	16	537	393	144
South-East Sanitary District ...	7	141	100	41
South-West Sanitary District ...	19	569	393	176
Totals ..	60	2,145	1,543	602

Many of the houses included in the last column of the return were not let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family when the other houses in the same streets were registered, between the years 1886-89. Inspection

made in 1895 showed that many of the non-registered houses were then let in lodgings and a report to that effect was made to the Sanitary Committee. The Committee, however, decided, at that time, not to register any more houses pending the confirmation by the Local Government Board, of the proposed new bye-laws. A few houses, nevertheless



have since been registered, such as are wholly let in tenements, including 25 in the "Notting Dale" area.

In the fourth monthly report for 1895 (April 25<sup>th</sup>) this subject was fully dealt with (pp 50-63) and I submitted "a list of some of the principal streets, the houses in which, so far as they are let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, would appear to be proper to be registered" as follows.

- ① North District Branstone St, Rackham St,  
Raymede St, Swinbrook Rd, Tottenham St,  
Treverton St and Wheatstone Road
- ② North East District All Saints Rd, Buckingham  
Terrace, Wulford St, Lonsdale Rd, St. Georges Rd,  
Talbot Grove and Western Terrace
- ③ North West District Blechynden St (N. of Bramley  
Rd), Hurstway St, Mersey St, Royal Crescent  
Mews, St. James Place, Testerton St, Tobin St,  
and Walmer Rd (S of Lancaster Rd)
- ④ Central District - none
- ⑤ South East District Chapel Place, Lloyd's Place,  
Middle St, New St, and Rutland St



South West District Barker St., Emma Place, Holmes Place, Kensington Buildings, Park Terrace and Providence Terrace.

I think it right here to state that registration, whilst facilitating the work of the department, has given rise to none of the evils feared by the owners and occupiers of houses proposed to be registered; and that the existing byelaws, made in 1885, have worked smoothly and practically without objection by any of the parties affected by them; and that the extension of the operation of bye-laws to all tenemented and other houses occupied in lodgings by the poorer classes, would, with an adequate inspecting staff, be an unmixed benefit, from the public health point of view, by enabling the sanitary authority to maintain the conditions necessary to secure healthy homes for the people who, in regard to such matters, have little power to help themselves.

#### OVERCROWDING.

Several instances of the dangerous nuisance of overcrowding came to light and were dealt with during the year. This nuisance is but too common, arising from the dearth of accommodation and the consequent inflation of rents. Some bad cases found in the "Notting-dale" special area are deserving of note, all of them having been discovered on inspection made by Inspector Steward, under police protection, in the early morning, and before the people had left their beds. In one (so called "furnished") room, having a cubic capacity of 1,000 feet, five adult females (the required air space being 2,000 cubic feet) were found, of whom two young women were hidden under the bed. At another house in Sirdar-road, five adults (one a man) and two children were found in one ("furnished") room. In this case also two young women were found hidden under the bed. The air space of the room is 1,650 cubic feet, the required amount being 2,400 feet. The Sanitary Committee directed proceedings to be taken against the "Keepers," of the houses, and the occupiers of the rooms, both of the houses being registered. It was hoped that the publicity obtained by prosecutions for breach of your Vestry's bye-laws,



would put a check upon overcrowding in the district. But although substantial fines were imposed upon Keepers and lodgers alike, for the double offence of overcrowding and indecent occupation, subsequent "surprise" visits revealed a similar state of affairs in two houses, one of them being the property of one of the keepers fined in respect of a previous offence. Proceedings were taken, and two penalties of forty shillings each were imposed upon the keeper, and two of ten shillings each upon the lodger: one of the keepers had not long previously been fined six pounds for allowing underground rooms to be occupied after notice to discontinue the illegal occupation of the said rooms. By direction of the Committee a hand-bill was prepared, and circulated in the district, setting

*out the above described offences, and the fines inflicted for breaches of the Vestry's bye-laws with respect to registered houses*

HOUSE REFUSE.—The work of collection of ashes and miscellaneous rubbish from our 23,000 inhabited houses, has been systematised by division of the parish into districts, and provision has been made for inspection of dust-bins, and oversight of the dusting-gangs, the arrangements being under the supervision of the Surveyor. A call is, or should be, made at every house once a week—twice a week in the "Notting-dale" district—and, subject to removal on that basis, further improvement is scarcely possible, until the objectionable practice of refuse-harbourage shall have given place to the more rational system of daily collection from moveable receptacles.

Nuisance from house refuse does not arise from the proper contents of the receptacle—ashes—but from the addition thereto of matters of organic origin. With the object of preventing, as far as practicable, nuisance from this cause, a printed notice is periodically issued by your Vestry to every householder, calling attention to the danger, on sanitary grounds, of vegetable and other objectionable refuse being placed in the dust-bin, and requesting that directions may be given for all such refuse to be burned. Such a notice was issued last year. At present, a portion of the refuse, from the northern part of the parish, is conveyed out of London by Grand Junction Canal, the refuse from the southern part of the parish being taken, by the contractor, down the Thames; but not to your Vestry's dépôt at Purfleet,



where the land, which lies below high-water mark, is let to the contractor for the deposit of other matters of a presumably less objectionable sort. The time must ultimately come when the refuse will have to be cremated in or near the parish: the otherwise waste-heat thus produced could be employed for the production of "current" for the illumination of the streets by electricity—a practice which has already been adopted with success in other districts. Your Vestry now possess a site at Wood Lane, where a "destructor" and an electric light installation might be advantageously located.

#### DISINFECTION.

The Public Health (London) Act, 1891, imposes additional duties on the sanitary authority in the matter of disinfection, the practical effect of the legislation of late years having been to throw upon the rates the cost of disinfecting houses, and cleansing and disinfecting bedding, clothing, &c. The cost of this work has increased since the Act came into operation at the beginning of 1892: the amount expended in 1898 was £717, as compared with £381 in 1891. In the latter year the weight of the articles disinfected was under twenty tons, and their number about 9,400 only; whereas in 1898, 19,473 articles were dealt with, of an aggregate weight of 37 tons 8 cwt. Seven hundred and ninety-six rooms, in 713 houses, were disinfected after infectious disease by your Vestry's staff, as compared with 364 in 1891.

The expenditure under this head is too great, and, as I have reported, on several occasions, might be reduced by some hundreds of pounds per annum, were the work done without the intervention of a contractor, as recommended by the London County Council and by the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The money that might thus be saved could be put to good use in making provision for carrying out, more thoroughly, the duties of the sanitary authority, viz., by the appointment of additional inspectors.

Disinfecting Station      The Vestry, after inquiry, refuse to adopt the urgent recommendation of the Medical



officer, to provide a disinfecting station and shelter, and prefers to have the work done by contractors. The need for a shelter, Mr Dudfield says, is

sufficiently indicated by the fact that in this parish, in 1898, 124 cases of infectious disease occurred in families in occupation of three rooms only; 210 cases in families occupying two rooms, and 80 cases in families herded in single rooms. Of the sufferers in families living in single rooms, 44 had scarlet fever, 18 had diphtheria, and 18 had typhoid fever. It need hardly be said that the need of shelter is imperative in the case of families living in single rooms. This subject was referred to the sanitary committee, who requested me to report as to any premises which the Vestry might obtain for the purpose referred to—meaning the hiring of one or more houses. No suitable premises have been found, and in my opinion the only satisfactory plan would be to erect a shelter and provide it with a proper equipment. Such provision could be most economically made in connection with a public disinfecting station. In the absence of accommodation, the sanitary inspectors have been authorised to pay for lodgings for people dispossessed of their home during the process of disinfection. It is, however, not easy to obtain accommodation for the people, many of whom, being respectable, object to go to a common lodging-house, where, indeed, they would be neither welcome nor, in their infective condition, desirable guests. The best solution to the existing difficulty would be found in compliance with the provisions of the law—in the interests of public health and humanity alike.

### Public Baths & Washhouses

The baths and washhouses at the junction of Lancaster Road and Silchester Road, Notting Hill, opened in April 1888, were well supported. The



washers in the 12 months ended 25<sup>th</sup> March 1899, were 63,743, a decrease of 604 compared with the number in the preceding official year; the bathers 103,566, a decrease of 7,291. But it must be admitted that, for the great majority of parishioners, the site is not sufficiently central for baths, and obviously it is too remote for use for washing purposes. The same objection would apply, more or less, to

any single site in the parish. Much good might be effected by the provision of buildings, on a modest scale, in convenient localities, to which the poor could resort for the purpose of washing clothing, &c. The statistics contained in the successive annual reports of the commissioners for baths and washhouses, show a constantly increasing use to be made of the washhouses, and are of a nature to encourage the hope that it may be found practicable to provide, at no distant date, for the wants of the poor in the central and southern districts of the parish.



## Kensington Annual Report Extracts

Improvements have been effected by the widening of Silver Street, Church Street, and the laying of asphalt paving in St Katherine's Road, Sirdar Rd, and Tobin Street (Notting Dale). Negotiations are in progress with L.C.C for widening Kensington High Street to 60' between Church Street and Cumberland Place, Vestry paying  $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$  of cost.

### LIGHTING OF MAIN ROADS.

The lighting of the main roads in the Parish by Incandescent Gas lights, which had already been adopted in part of Kensington High Street, west of Earl's Court Road, and in Brompton Road and High Street, Notting Hill, has been extended by the fixing of new hexagonal lanterns fitted with incandescent burners, in the following thoroughfares, viz. :—

- Allen Street.
- Church Street.
- Earl's Court Road.
- Fulham Road.
- \*Ladbroke Grove.
- \*Old Brompton Road, from Earl's Court Road to the Oratory.
- \*Redcliffe Gardens.

Incandescent gas burners have also been fitted in the existing lamps in the following positions, viz. :—

\* The fixing of Incandescent burners in the lamps in these roads has been delayed pending the result of experiments which are being made with a new form of mantle.



Kensington High Street, from Earl's Court Road to the Parish boundary by Queen's Gate.

Refuge at junction of Earl's Court Road and Cromwell Road.

Directions have also been given for incandescent burners to be fixed in all the refuge lamps in the Parish, when the existing flat flame burners require renewing.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

A Special Committee of the Vestry of Kensington was appointed in June, 1882, to consider matters relating to Electric Lighting, and a Report, dated 24th January, 1889, was adopted by the Vestry; the result of which was that four Electric Lighting Companies have been at work in the Parish, viz. :—

- (a) THE NOTTING HILL ELECTRIC LIGHTING COMPANY, LIMITED.
- (b) THE KENSINGTON AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHTING COMPANY, LIMITED.
- (c) THE CHELSEA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED. (Purchased by the Kensington and Knightsbridge Electric Lighting Co., Limited, and now included in their district.)
- (d) HOUSE TO HOUSE ELECTRIC LIGHT SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.

The total authorised capital of the three Companies supplying Kensington is £1,032,260.

The total capital said to have been invested in Kensington (including a part of St. Margaret and St. John's, Westminster), by the Companies and as officially reported up to the 1st January, 1898, was—

Kensington and Knightsbridge Electric Lighting Company	...	...	...	£
				252,162
House to House Electric Light Supply Company	...	...	...	158,115
Notting Hill Electric Lighting Company				113,184
				<hr/>
Total				£523,461



In 1893 a Special Meeting of the Vestry again decided not to take the necessary steps to obtain a Provisional Order for Kensington.

ELECTRICITY FOR STREET LIGHTING.

The question of supplying the public lamps with light by Electricity has been before the Vestry upon several occasions, but the Estimates submitted by the Electric Lighting Companies to whom the Vestry have granted concessions, have hitherto been so high as to render it almost impossible for them to make use of Electricity for street lighting. Some of these estimates have been as much as £40 per lamp per annum.

Food

3. Table I. shows the number and names of the Genuine, Adulterated, and Inferior samples reported upon during the year :—

TABLE I.

NAME OF SAMPLE.			Genuine Composition or not Adulterated.	Adulterated.	Inferior.	Total.
Milk	...	...	102	37	11	150
Butter	...	...	40	5	3	48
Sago	...	...	32	4	—	36
Sweets	...	...	27	2	—	29
Vinegar	...	...	21	1	6	28
Coffee	...	...	23	1	—	24

1. During the year ended on the 31st March, 1898, four hundred and ninety-five samples of Food and Drugs were submitted to me for analysis by the Inspectors appointed under the Acts. The number of samples analysed during each of the previous twelve years is shown in Table II.

2. Taking the population of Kensington (in 1891) as 166,321 the number of samples of all kinds taken in the year is equivalent to one for every 336 persons. The nature of the samples submitted and the general procedure in taking



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Sago ... ..	32	4	—	36
Sweets ... ..	27	2	—	29
Vinegar ... ..	21	1	6	28
Coffee ... ..	23	1	—	24
Flour ... ..	18	—	—	18
Oatmeal ... ..	18	—	—	18
Whisky ... ..	12	5	—	17
Brandy ... ..	11	2	—	13
Rum ... ..	11	1	—	12
Bread ... ..	12	—	—	12
Ground Rice ...	10	—	—	10
Tapioca ... ..	10	—	—	10
Mustard ... ..	9	1	—	10
Ground Ginger ...	10	—	—	10
Cayenne Pepper ...	10	—	—	10
Castor Sugar ...	10	—	—	10
Arrowroot ... ..	8	—	—	8
Black Pepper ...	6	—	—	6
White Pepper ...	6	—	—	6
Gin... ... ..	5	1	—	6
"Skim" Milk ...	1	—	—	1
Margarine... ..	1	—	—	1
Paregoric Tablets	1	—	—	1
Sulphur Tablets ...	1	—	—	1
Totals ... ..	415	60	20	495



Hammersmith Vestry.

Vestry property

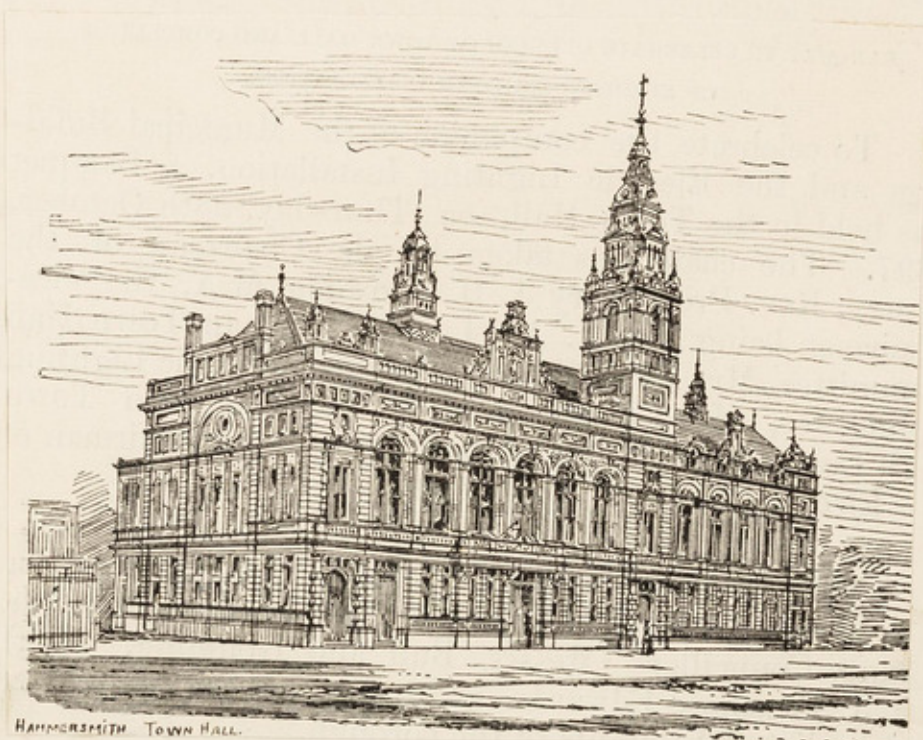
Hammersmith Vestry

Extracts from Annual Report

Vestry has 72 members, and boasts a coat of arms.

Vestry elects 6 overseers, 2 churchwardens, 12 "poor  
rent trustees"; and 6 trustees to Latimer Charity.

(1) Town Hall - cost £25,000



(2) 2 Wharves and Stables.

(3) Cemetery, Margravine Road - Purchased for £14,000, all  
of which has been repaid.

(4) Libraries in Ravenscourt Park & Uxbridge Road



New Lock &c. on Thames

Separation from Fulham

Technical Institute

Baths

(5) Recreation Ground, Great Church Lane.

Vestry taking part (with Fulham, Chiswick, Isleworth, Putney, Barnes and Mortlake) in a "proposal" to make new sluices and lock between Wandsworth and Battersea Bridges, at cost of £220,000. London, Middlesex, and Surrey County Councils and Thames Conservancy approached for help and with a view to legislation on subject.

Vestry unanimously support separation from Fulham for Poor Law purposes. Local Government Board say Hammersmith would have to provide new workhouse and infirmary, at cost of at least £230,000.

Vestry given land for erection of Technical Institute, on the condition that such Institute, if erected, become property of Parish and vested in the Vestry. Committee elected to raise funds &c.

No public baths or washhouses. Vestry decided



against adopting the Act.

Also decided not to provide conveniences for women.

Improvements

(a) Brook Green Road (by Broadway)

" The account for the improvement of widening the approach to Brook Green Road from the Broadway, which was undertaken by the L.C.C. at the joint expense of the Council and the Vestry, has been wound up during the year. The total cost of the improvement amounted to £3642 . 15 . 0 less receipts for rent (£217 . 1 . 8) and sale of surplus land (£1500) the nett cost being £1925 . 13 . 4.

(b) Brook Green Road (East side).

~~As recorded in the Eleventh Annual Report (page 125),~~ The Vestry has secured the freehold interest in the premises Nos. 2 to 36 (even numbers) Brook Green Road. Since then negotiations have been pending with some of the leaseholders for the purchase of their interests, and ultimately the following premises were secured, viz. :—

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Luckett's Cottages.

Nos. 26, 28, 30, 34 and 36, Brook Green Road.

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, Oldham Place.

at an outlay of £1,740.

Subsequently the Vestry has acquired a strip off the forecourts of Nos. 38 and 40, Brook Green Road for the sum of £98 10s., and a strip averaging 8ft. 6in. in width and 400ft. in length off the land abutting thereon (northwards), for the sum of £1,300. This sum includes the cost of building a new wall along the whole length of the land.



The road has been widened, and the footpath paved to the great improvement of this important thoroughfare.

(c) *Wood Lane (entrance from Uxbridge Road).*

The Vestry has paid £1,356 5s. 4d. on account of the improvement which has been carried out by the London County Council at the joint expense of the Vestry and the Council, and a further sum of £452 2s. 8d. is payable to the Council, being the Vestry's proportion in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1898.

(d) *Wood Lane (waste land).*

The attention of the Vestry having been drawn to an encroachment made by the Central London Railway upon the waste land on the east side of Wood Lane, it was resolved to refer the matter to the Copyholders Court, asking then to assist the Vestry in obtaining the land necessary for widening Wood Lane on the east side.

(e) *Elm Gardens.*

Negotiations have been completed with the leaseholder of the premises on the east side of Elm grove (abutting on the pathway leading to Elm Gardens), by which he is to receive £250 for his interest, he to pull down the outside wall and raise his own boundary wall, the Vestry to pave and construct a crossing over the footpath.

The improvement is now in course of completion.

(f) *King Street West.*

The Vestry has forwarded a plan of a proposed widening of King Street West, between the Broadway and Hampshire Hog Lane, to the London County Council for their approval (Vestry Minutes, 10th March, 1898).

(g) *Fulham Palace Road (east side).*

The Council having agreed to contribute one half of the cost of improving Fulham Palace Road (east side) between the Britannia Public House and a little to the south of No. 55, Fulham Palace Road, such contribution not to exceed £2,500; negotiations were entered into with the owners, and ultimately the whole of the interests were acquired (including vendor's legal, &c., costs) at an expenditure of £5,315 10s., from which has to be deducted a recoupment of not less than £700 value of surplus land.

The work of widening the road and paths will shortly be put in hand.



Hammersmith  
Vestry

(h) Dewhurst Road.

Negotiations are now in progress for effecting a minor improvement by widening the entrance to Dewhurst Road from Blythe Road.

(i) Ravenscourt Park (addition to).

The Vestry has entered into an arrangement with the London County Council for them to acquire the freehold or copyhold, and other interests in the land abutting

on Paddenswick Road, adjoining Ravenscourt Park, the Vestry to contribute half the cost. There is some little difficulty in arranging the leasehold interest, and until that can be satisfactorily settled, the matter is in abeyance.

(j) Roadway (E side of Olympia)

The question of extending the roadway at the eastern (main entrance) end of Olympia, from Addison Road Station to the Hammersmith Road, and opening same for through traffic, has received considerable attention during the year. It has given rise to a great deal of correspondence with the L & NW R<sup>y</sup> Co. The most recent letter from the General Manager of that Co. regrets that they do not see their way to entertain the proposal.

It was then decided to ask the LCC to include the proposed improvement in one of the Bills to be introduced into Parliament by them next Session

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Bridges - North Pole Road & Dalgarno Gardens

A draft agreement providing for the reconstruction by the L & NWR<sup>Y</sup> & Co of the Bridges carrying the West London Ry. over North Pole R<sup>d</sup> & Dalgarno Gardens at the joint cost of the LCC and the Vestry at the reduced estimated cost of £ 6,750 was received and approved by all the parties concerned, and the works are now in progress.

GOLDHAWK ROAD WOOD PAVING.

The Vestry is glad to be able to report the successful termination of the negotiations with the London United Tramways, Limited, for paving with wood the whole of the surface of the Goldhawk Road, and the Company have undertaken to lay a double line the whole length of the road.

Population, Area, Rating &c.

POPULATION.

A STATEMENT showing the number of Houses, Population, &c., of the Parish at certain periods from the first regular Census taken in 1801 to the Census taken in April, 1896.

YEAR.	Inhabited Houses.	Houses Building.	Uninhabited Houses.	POPULATION.		
				Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
1801	871	10	49	2497	3103	5600
1811	978	16	32	3262	4131	7393
1821	1406	22	68	4032	4777	8809
1831	1712	78	173	4645	5577	10222
1841	2214	59	95	6262	7191	13453
1851	3115	140	199	7819	9941	17760
1861	4164	91	258	10770	13749	24519
1871	6719	320	874	19304	23387	42691
1881	10543	416	1492	32743	39173	71916
1891	14049	99	1926	44195	53044	97239
1896	14538	—	—	—	—	104199
1897	14698			Estimated ditto		106016
1898	15498					107352



Hammersmith  
Vestry.

RATEABLE VALUE.

A STATEMENT showing the Rateable Value of the Parish as shown in the Valuation Lists coming into force on 6th April, as follows:—

1821	...	...	£27,225
1831	...	...	27,563
1856	...	...	67,500
1861	...	...	77,084
1871	...	...	179,440
1881	...	...	355,718
1887	...	...	503,472
1890	...	...	510,681
1891	...	...	539,399
1892	...	...	543,878
1893	...	...	545,818
1894	...	...	548,459
1895	...	...	551,856
1896	...	...	586,417
1897	...	...	590,600
1898	...	...	598,207

AREA OF THE PARISH.

		Acres.
Land and Water North of High Water		
Line of the River Thames	...	2,286·041
Island (part of Chiswick Eyot)	...	·104
Total Area	...	2,286·145

The length of the Parish from north to south is 3 miles 1 furlong, and the breadth is varied—the narrowest width being at the north end of Wormwood Scrubbs, which is 5½ furlongs, and the greatest width is east from Stamford Brook, which is 1 mile 5 furlongs.

The highest point above the ordnance datum is at the north end of Scrubbs Lane, which is 129·000 feet, and the lowest point on the Lower Mall, which is 14·00 feet above such level.

MILEAGE OF ROADS  
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE VESTRY.

Date.	Carriageway.			Footways to same.			Footways where no Carriageways exist.			
	Miles.	Fur.	Yds.	Miles.	Fur.	Yds.	Miles.	Fur.	Yds.	
March, 1897	...	47	3	89	94	6	178	4	5	80
March, 1898	...	47	6	204	95	5	131	4	5	80

Loan Indebtedness

The Vestry has borrowed about £300,000, for municipal



Hammersmith Vestry

works, public improvements &c., of which £160,000 is outstanding. Loans include about £60,000 for wood paving works, which have been going on gradually since 1885: nearly £40,000 for electric lighting works and £25,000 for new Town Hall.

Food and Drugs Act

Of the 235 samples examined, 15 were found to be adulterated, which is equivalent to 6.38 per cent. of the total number examined. This figure compares favourably with former years.

Of the remaining samples, 18, equal to 7.66 per cent., were of such poor quality that they were reported as of inferior quality. As usual the majority of these inferior samples consisted of milk, and it is to be regretted that the high percentage still continues.

The following table gives the percentage of adulteration, and of the inferior samples, as compared with former years.

TABLE III.

Year.	Total number of samples examined.	Percentage of pure.	Percentage of Inferior.	Percentage Adulterated.
1886-87	160	83.75		16.25
1887-88	183	91.90		8.10
1888-89	196	74.50	12.24	13.26
1889-90	186	77.97	11.82	10.21
1890-91	184	76.70	8.70	14.67
1891-92	204	74.52	15.19	10.29
1892-93	250	82.00	5.20	12.80
1893-94	234	80.34	7.69	11.97
1894-95	254	85.82	7.87	6.30
1895-96	245	87.76	4.08	8.16
1896-97	258	87.59	7.36	5.04
1897-98	235	85.96	7.66	6.38

Dust Removal

DUSTING.

The following statement gives a close approximate cost of the department for the year, viz :—

see next page



Hammersmith  
Vestry

	£	s.	d.
Proportion of cost of dust horses engaged 6317 days, including maintenance of harness and Veterinary expenses ...	699	10	5
Proportion of rates, taxes, tools, oils, and colours ...	474	6	3
Dust Shoots and Barging away ...	2241	1	9
Dust baskets, tarpaulins, &c. ...	25	0	0
Wages of men engaged in dusting ...	2576	19	0
Proportion of wages of those partly employed on same ...	597	18	9
Approximate proportion of rental value of stables, wharf weighbridge, &c. ...	358	11	2
Total ...	6973	7	4

During the year 22575 loads=23,201 tons, or an average of 20 cwt. 2 qrs. per load, were shot at the Wharf, and 1468 loads were shot elsewhere, making a total of 24043 loads. The number of horses engaged in collecting dust was 6,317, and they were out on 306 days; the daily average of loads removed was 3.80 per horse per working day. The number of inhabited houses is approximately 15498, from which dust is collected.

### Wood Paving

- Laid in following streets: (1) Uxbridge R<sup>d</sup> East of Railway Bridge: (2) King St between Shaftesbury R<sup>d</sup> & Youngs corner: (3) Uxbridge R<sup>d</sup> from end of Beech wood paving to Parish Boundary: (4) King Street - between Broadway and Shaftesbury Road: (5) Broadway - between "Sussex" P.H. and King Street: (6) Hammersmith R<sup>d</sup> between Rowan R<sup>d</sup> & Addison R<sup>d</sup> Bridge

### Mortuary

#### MORTUARY AND CORONER'S COURT.

A letter having been received from the London County Council asking the Vestry to take into consideration the question of a proper Mortuary and Coroner's Court being erected in Hammersmith, a Special Committee was appointed in January, 1896, to go into the question and report to the Vestry.

In March, 1896, the Surveyor presented a plan of proposed site for Coroner's Court and Mortuary at 57, Fulham Palace Road, and after some discussion it was decided to send a copy of the same to the London County Council for their approval.



*Hammersmith  
Vestry*

In October, 1896, the Surveyor was instructed to prepare plans for a suitable building, and in November draft plans were submitted and approved. The detailed plans and elevations were submitted and approved in January, 1897, and copies of same forwarded to the London County Council.

In March, 1897, a letter was received from the London County Council approving of the plans.

The Committee then recommended the Vestry to carry out the work at an estimated cost of £3,500.

Mr. T. Woodbridge Biggs was appointed to take out the quantities for the buildings.

Tenders were received for the erection of the Coroner's Court and Mortuary in July, 1897, and after careful consideration the tender of Mr. T. W. Thomas was accepted, and the buildings are now in course of erection.

Section 92 Public Health (London) Act, 1891, provides that the County Council shall provide and maintain proper accommodation for the holding of inquests. An arrangement has been made with the County Council to pay the Vestry a certain sum of money each year for rent, and a proportionate cost of maintenance, cleaning, lighting, &c. of the Coroner's Court, the Mortuary being provided by the Vestry.

*Labour*

#### WORKMEN'S WAGES.

Applications having been made to the various Committees by the workmen in the employ of this Vestry, the following increases were recommended and passed, viz.:—

Stablemen, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. and 3s. 8d. to 4s. per day.

Painter, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. per day.

Carmen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per day.

Groundmen, 6d. to 6½d. per hour.

The Groundmen also made application to have their hours reduced by working only 6½ hours on Saturdays instead of 8½ hours, and this application was also granted.



Lighting

Gas

Electric Light

Hammersmith Vestry

245

There are 19 large lamps in the district of the Brentford Gas Company, giving an illuminating power varying from 60 to 100 candles.

GAS LIGHTING.

The total number of lamps in the parish and under the control of the Vestry is 1,434.

The Lighting Committee have considered applications for additional lamps and removals, and recommended the Vestry to erect 14 new lamps and alter the position of 13 as shown in the annexed list:—

The cost of ordinary lamps in the Brentford Gas Company's district is £3 7s. 2d. each.

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDING MARCH 25TH, 1898.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Vestry.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to report that by the end of June last, the progress which had been made by the several contractors in the erection of the machinery and the laying of the mains was so far advanced as to enable a supply of electricity to private consumers to be commenced. An evening supply was given on June 21st, and continued until September 14th, since which date a continuous day and night supply has been maintained.

The electric lighting of the public street lamps was inaugurated on September 30th, when 87 arc lamps, each of 2,000 c.p., superseded 176 gas lamps varying from 14 to 120 c.p. each, so that the amount of light has been considerably increased.

When the supply was started in June, 9 consumers were connected to the mains; on March 25th this number had increased to 132. In November it was found that the plant installed at the works would be inadequate to supply the increasing demand for electricity. A scheme was prepared by Mr. A. H. Preece, A.M.I.C.E., your Consulting Engineer, for extending the generating plant and bringing additional streets within the area of supply. This scheme includes the erection of two generators of 500 h.p. each, consisting of vertical open-type Robey engines directly coupled to two iron-clad alternators built



by the Electric Construction Co. These machines will be placed in the extension of the engine-room to be built in accordance with the plans prepared by Mr. H. Mair, C.E., your Surveyor. Another water-tube boiler, by Messrs. Babcock & Wilcox, will be erected in the present boiler-house. Mains are to be laid in the following streets—King Street to Young's Corner, Goldhawk Road, Young's Corner to Starch Green, Askew Road, Uxbridge Road, Hammersmith Road, Brook Green, and part of Blythe Road—in which streets an additional 50 arc lamps will be installed. The accounts for the short time the scheme has been working are published on pages 158-162. An exhibition was held in the Town Hall on September 30th and October 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th, to illustrate the uses and advantages of electricity for various purposes. Seventeen stands were erected by the various exhibitors. Mr. J. H. Dowsing gave lectures during the evening upon the various uses and advantages of electricity; Miss A. M. Watson (First Class Diploma National Training School of Cookery) gave demonstrations in the use of electrical cooking utensils. The exhibition was opened by Dr. Collins (Chairman of the London County Council) and the street lamps were switched on for the first time by Mr. W. J. Searle (Chairman of the Committee). This exhibition was visited by over 5,000 persons, thus proving the great interest taken by the public in the work of the department.

ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS FOR NINE MONTHS ENDING MARCH 25TH,  
1898.

1. Year of Working	...	...	...	1897-8—1st
2. Capital Expended March 25th, 1898	...	...	...	£39,614 7s. 9d.
3. Revenue from Electricity Supply	...	...	...	£3,455 8s. 7d.
4. Revenue from Meter Rents and Other Sources	...	...	...	£36 0s. 0d.
5. Total Revenue	...	...	...	£3,491 8s. 7d.
6. Total Costs	...	...	...	£2,077 9s. 1d.
7. Gross Profit before setting aside Instalments for Interest, Depreciation, Sinking Fund, &c....	...	...	...	£1,413 19s. 6d.
8. Percentage of Costs to Revenue	...	...	...	59 per cent.

See back



9. Percentage of Gross Profit to Capital (outlay averaged) ... ..	4½ per cent
10. Interest on Loans for Year ... ..	£1,160 5s. 5d
11. Amount of Capital Redeemed to date ... ..	£953 0s. 0d
12. Percentage of Capital Redeemed to Amount Borrowed ... ..	2·36 per cent
13. Financial Result after paying all Charges, Interest, Depreciation, Sinking Fund, &c., Deficiency of ... ..	£699 5s. 11d
14. Capacity of Dynamos, March 25th ... ..	400 K. W
15. Maximum Load reached ... ..	303 K. W
16. Capital Outlay per K. W., March 25th ... ..	£104 0s. 0d
17. Number of 8 c.p. lamps (motors, arcs, and incandescent) ... ..	10,538
18. Number of Units Sold ... ..	234,772
19. Units Sold per Lamp ... ..	22·29
20. Revenue per Lamp ... ..	6s. 7½d
21. Statutory Price ... ..	8d
22. Average Price obtained—Public ... ..	2½d
"      "      Private ... ..	4½d

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. GILBERT BELL,

*Engineer*







