SIR,

I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to transmit, herewith, for the information of the Council, a Memorandum on the objects of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908, to which is appended a summary of its provisions, and also a copy of an Order made by the Board prescribing the forms and stages of Tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, Section 1 of the Act shall apply, together with Regulations relating to the notification of Tuberculosis.

The Board trust that the new powers conferred by the Act for dealing with Tuberculosis will receive earnest consideration from the Council.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. BARLAS,

Secretary.

To

The Secretary of every County Council; and

The Clerk of every Sanitary Authority in Ireland.
(4) If no such earlier statutory certificate is recorded in the Register of Notification the Executive Sanitary Officer shall enter therein all the particulars contained in the statutory certificate, and the recommendation, if any, of the Medical Officer of Health in relation thereto, and the Sanitary Authority shall pay to the Medical Practitioner who has sent the statutory certificate the fee to which he is entitled under the Act.

8. Where the Medical Officer of Health is himself the medical practitioner required to send a statutory certificate, he shall send such certificate to the Executive Sanitary Officer, together with such recommendations, if any, as he considers necessary; and he shall not be entitled to be paid any fee in respect of such certificate until he has so sent it.

9. The Medical Officer of Health shall, within one month after the 31st day of March in each year, send to Us a summary of the particulars (other than names and addresses) contained in the statutory certificates received by him since the 31st day of March in the preceding year, classified according to age, sex, and occupation or description.

10. The statutory certificates in the custody of the Sanitary Authority and the Register of Notification shall not be open to inspection by any person other than the Sanitary Authority, or an officer of the Sanitary Authority specially authorised by such authority in that behalf, or an Inspector of the Local Government Board, or an Auditor of Poor Law Unions designated by the Board to audit the accounts of the Sanitary Authority, and the Sanitary Authority shall not permit the particulars contained in any such certificate or register to be divulged in any such manner as to disclose the identity of any person to whom such particulars relate.

11. If the Medical Officer of Health is at any time satisfied that any person in relation to whom a statutory certificate has been sent has been cured of tuberculosis of the prescribed form, he shall send a certificate to that effect to the Executive Sanitary Officer, and thereupon the statutory certificate and the corresponding entry in the Register of Notification shall be cancelled by stamping or writing the word “Cancelled,” together with the date across such statutory certificate and entry.

12. This Order may be cited as the Tuberculosis Regulations (Ireland), Order, 1909, and shall come into operation on the First day of July, 1909.

Given under Our Seal of Office this Twenty-first day of June in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine

(Signed).

[Signature]

 clerk.

[Signature]

 J. Stafford.

[SCHEDULE]
"Where the medical practitioner required by this section to send a certificate is himself the medical officer of health of the district, he shall be entitled to the fee to which he would be entitled if he were not such medical officer.

"(6) A payment made to any medical practitioner in pursuance of this section shall not disqualify the practitioner from serving as a member of any county or district council or as a guardian of any union.

"(7) The Local Government Board for Ireland shall make regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this section, and such regulations shall, among other matters, prescribe the form of certificate to be sent under this section and the particulars to be inserted therein, and shall provide for the proper custody of all certificates, and for securing that, so far as is, in the opinion of the Board, consistent with the public advantage, no publicity shall be given to any of the particulars contained in any such certificate, and that the certificate shall be cancelled if and when it appears to the medical officer of health that the person to whom it relates has been cured of the disease.

"The sanitary authority shall gratuitously supply forms of certificate to any medical practitioner residing or practising in their district who applies for the same.

"(8) In this section the expression "medical officer of health" means—

\(\text{a) as respects any district for which there is a medical superintendent of health, that officer; and}\)

\(\text{b) elsewhere, the medical officer of health of the dispensary district.}\)

AND WHEREAS we, the said Local Government Board, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland, and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, did by an order under Our Seal bearing date the third day of June, 1900, prescribe the forms and stages of Tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which the said section 1 of the Act shall apply:—

AND WHEREAS our said Order is directed to come into force on the first day of July, 1900:

AND WHEREAS by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Act it is enacted in effect that the said Part I. of the Act shall extend to any urban or rural sanitary district in Ireland after the adoption thereof:

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Local Government Board for Ireland, by this our Order in pursuance of the provisions of the above-mentioned sub-section (7) of section 1 of the Act, and in exercise of all powers in that behalf enabling us, make the following Regulations, that is to say:—

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression "Tuberculosis" means Tuberculosis of the form, at the stage, and occurring in the circumstances prescribed by our said Order of the third day of June, 1900; and the statutory certificate means the certificate required by sub-section (4) of section 1 of the Act to be sent to the Medical Officer of Health.

2. Notice of the adoption of Part I. of the Act by any Sanitary Authority, together with evidence of the fulfilment of the statutory preliminaries and a statement of the date fixed for the coming into operation of the said Part of the Act, shall be sent to us by the Executive Sanitary Officer of the authority adopting it not less than twenty-one days before the date so fixed.

3. Every statutory certificate shall be in the form A in the Schedule hereto annexed, and shall include all the particulars in the said form set out.

4. The forms of statutory certificate to be supplied to medical practitioners by the sanitary authority shall be bound in books, each containing twenty-five forms.

5. The forms of statutory certificate to be issued by a Medical Practitioner in relation to cases of Tuberculosis occurring in an infirmary, public hospital or workhouse shall be printed on pink paper, and those to be used in relation to any other case shall be printed on white paper.

6. Where a Medical Practitioner attending upon any patient in the prescribed circumstances feels himself unable to decide whether such patient is suffering from Tuberculosis of the prescribed form and at the prescribed stage, and a Bacteriologist has been appointed for the purpose, such Medical Practitioner may forward to such Bacteriologist a specimen or specimens of the sputum of such patient for examination. On the completion of such examination the Bacteriologist shall send free of all charge to the Medical Practitioner a certificate stating whether tubercle bacilli are or are not present in the sputum. If the Bacteriologist certifies that tubercle bacilli are present in the sputum, the patient shall be deemed to be suffering from Tuberculosis, and the Medical Practitioner shall with the statutory certificate forward to the Medical Officer of Health the certificate of the Bacteriologist.

7.—(1) The Medical Officer of Health shall on receiving a statutory certificate record the particulars therein contained in a register in the form B set forth in the Schedule hereto annexed, and shall then transmit such certificate, together with his observations as to whether any action should be taken thereon, to the Executive Sanitary Officer of the district, who shall retain the same among the records of the Sanitary Authority.

(2) The Sanitary Authority shall cause a record of all statutory certificates received, and of the action, if any, taken in each case, to be kept by the Executive Sanitary Officer in a Register (hereinafter referred to as "the Register of Notification") in the form C set out in the Schedule hereto annexed.

(3) The Executive Sanitary Officer upon receiving a statutory certificate from the Medical Officer of Health shall examine the Register of Notification and ascertain whether a statutory certificate relating to the same person has already been received, and if he shall find that such a certificate has been so received he shall at once inform the Medical Practitioner by whom the latter statutory certificate was sent, and also the Medical Officer of Health, of the receipt of such earlier statutory certificate.
THE SCHEDULE.

FORM A.

The Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908.

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

District (County Borough).

I hereby certify that in my opinion

Name

Address

Sex

Age

Occupation or

Description

is suffering from Tuberculosis of a form and at a stage to which and in circumstances in which Section 1 of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908, applies.

Dated the _________ day of _________ 19 .

(Signed) ________________________________

Medical Practitioner.

(Address) ________________________________

The Medical (Superintendent) Officer of Health,

District (County Borough).

* ATTENTION DESIRED.

[SEE BACK]
The Local Government Board for Ireland, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, have, by The Tuberculosis (Conditions of Notification) (Ireland) Order, 1909, prescribed as follows:

In every district to which Part I of the Act extends, Section 1 of the Act shall apply to the form of Tuberculosis, known as Tuberculosis of the Lung, at any stage at which the spumum discharged by the person suffering is in the opinion of the medical practitioner attending on such person liable to communicate the disease to other persons.

Provided that the said Section shall only apply in the following circumstances, that is to say, where the person suffering—

1. Habitually sleeps or works in the same room as any other person or persons not so suffering; or

2. Is employed or engaged in handling, preparing, or distributing milk, meat, or any other article of human food intended for sale to the public.

Schedule
Order prescribing the forms and stages of Tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, Section 1 of the Act shall apply.

WHEREAS it is enacted in effect by Section 1 of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), among other things that—

(1). If any medical practitioner attending on any person within any district to which Part I. of the Act extends becomes aware that that person is suffering in any prescribed circumstances from tuberculosis of any prescribed form or at any prescribed stage, the medical practitioner shall within seven days after he becomes aware of the fact send to the Medical Officer of Health a certificate in the prescribed form and containing the prescribed particulars; and that

(2). The Local Government Board for Ireland, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, shall from time to time by Order prescribe the forms and stages of tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, the said section of the Act shall apply, but that no forms of tuberculosis shall be so prescribed save such as by reason of infective discharges are liable to communicate the disease to other persons.

NOW THEREFORE, We, the Local Government Board for Ireland, in exercise of the powers given to Us by the said Section 1 of the Act and of all other powers in this behalf enabling Us, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, do hereby order and prescribe as follows, that is to say:—

1. In every district to which Part I. of the Act extends, Section 1 of the Act shall apply to the form of Tuberculosis, known as Tuberculosis of the Lung, at any stage at which the sputum discharged by the person suffering is in the opinion of the medical practitioner attending on such person liable to communicate the disease to other persons.
2

Provided that the said Section shall only apply in the following circumstances, that is to say, where the person suffering—

(1.) Habitually sleeps or works in the same room as any other person or persons not so suffering; or

(2.) Is employed or engaged in handling, preparing, or distributing milk, meat, or any other article of human food intended for sale to the public.

2. This Order may be cited as "The Tuberculosis (Conditions of Notification) (Ireland) Order, 1909," and shall come into operation on the First day of July, 1909.

Given under Our Seal of Office, this Third day of June, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

(Signed),

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL.

H. A. ROBINSON.

Wm. L. MICKS.

T. J. STAFFORD.
The Local Government Board for Ireland.

Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908.

Order prescribing the forms and stages of Tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, Section 1 of the Act shall apply.

WHEREAS it is enacted in effect by Section 1 of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), among other things that—

(1). If any medical practitioner attending on any person within any district to which Part I. of the Act extends becomes aware that that person is suffering in any prescribed circumstances from tuberculosis of any prescribed form or at any prescribed stage, the medical practitioner shall within seven days after he becomes aware of the fact send to the Medical Officer of Health a certificate in the prescribed form and containing the prescribed particulars; and that

(2). The Local Government Board for Ireland, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, shall from time to time by Order prescribe the forms and stages of tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, the said section of the Act shall apply, but that no forms of tuberculosis shall be so prescribed save such as by reason of infective discharges are liable to communicate the disease to other persons.

NOW THEREFORE, We, the Local Government Board for Ireland, in exercise of the powers given to Us by the said Section 1 of the Act and of all other powers in this behalf enabling Us, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, do hereby order and prescribe as follows, that is to say:—

1. In every district to which Part I. of the Act extends, Section 1 of the Act shall apply to the form of Tuberculosis, known as Tuberculosis of the Lung, at any stage at which the sputum discharged by the person suffering is in the opinion of the medical practitioner attending on such person liable to communicate the disease to other persons.
Provided that the said Section shall only apply in the following circumstances, that is to say, where the person suffering—

(1.) Habitually sleeps or works in the same room as any other person or persons not so suffering; or

(2.) Is employed or engaged in handling, preparing, or distributing milk, meat, or any other article of human food intended for sale to the public.

2. This Order may be cited as "The Tuberculosis (Conditions of Notification) (Ireland) Order, 1909," and shall come into operation on the First day of July, 1909.

Given under Our Seal of Office, this Third day of June, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

(Signed),

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL.

H. A. ROBINSON.

Wm. L. MICKS.

T. J. STAFFORD.
TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION (IRELAND) ACT, 1908.

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTS OF THE ACT.

The main aim and object of the Act and of the Regulations made under it is to place further power in the hands of Local Authorities for preventing the spread of Tuberculosis. Part I. of the Act deals with the Notification of Tuberculosis and Disinfection of premises used by Tuberculous patients.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is now generally regarded as a necessary preliminary to definite action on the part of a Sanitary Authority. Before active steps can be taken, it is essential that persons suffering from certain forms of the disease should be located, and through the form of notification provided for in the Regulations the important point is gained that the Sanitary Authority will be placed in possession of information of the presence of the disease in households where conditions likely to foster its spread exist. They will be enabled thereby to bring into operation certain machinery, mainly of an educative nature, for helping the patient to arrest the disease, and for teaching his friends and members of his family how to avoid contracting it.

Tuberculosis is usually communicated from person to person as a result of prolonged exposure or contact under conditions which generally lead to impaired health, such as overcrowding, insanitary surroundings, insufficient or improper nutrition. As these are conditions which the Sanitary Authority may for the most part either mitigate or remove, it is of prime importance that they should have early and accurate knowledge of the locality of persons suffering from the disease.

The Act limits Notification to cases of Tuberculosis which are a danger to others owing to the infectious nature of the discharge from the patient, and the Local Government Board, aided by the advice of the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, as provided for in the Act, when making their Regulations under Section 1 (2), had in view this fact, and they have limited Notification to those cases in which they deem it imperative that precautions should be taken, namely, to Tuberculosis of the Lung in the case of sufferers so circumstanced that they are likely to prove a means of distributing the disease unless precautionary measures are adopted.

The Regulations, therefore, made by the Local Government Board under the Act, make provision for the notification of such cases only as are housed or work under conditions which may be dangerous to others. Further, the notification form provides that, even when these conditions are present, the physician in attendance may, when notifying in cases where he desires to take the full responsibility of seeing that precautionary measures are carried out, request the Medical Officer of Health not to intervene or direct an inspection by the officers of the Sanitary Authority. By these means it is hoped to spare patients any unnecessary intrusion, and to limit notification and subsequent action by the Sanitary Authority, after notification, to cases where intervention is essential, and all that is sought to be done is to educate and impress upon the sufferers what they should do so as to lessen the danger to their friends and those with whom they come habitually in contact.
As notification is made to a Sanitary Authority, the duty of the Sufferer and Protecting others from contracting the disease, it is of importance that the presence of Tubercle in the Lung should be recognised at an early stage of the disease, and as this is not always an easy matter to determine, provision is made in the Act and Regulations that the services of a Bacteriologist may be retained and placed at the disposal of medical practitioners who have a reasonable doubt whether or not the disease is in certain cases Tubercular. For this reason it is most desirable that, wherever Part I of the Act is adopted, a Bacteriologist should be employed to examine samples of sputum in order to determine whether the Tubercle Bazillus is present.

Notification of Tuberculosis is an important step which a Sanitary Authority may take to prevent or control the disease, and the procedure for taking this step is laid down in Section 3 of the Act. It must, however, be understood that notification is merely a means to an end, and that the knowledge of the location of the disease in the district of a Sanitary Authority is only a first step towards further action.

It was the desire of the Legislature in introducing the principle of compulsory notification of Tuberculosis to safeguard the sufferers from unnecessary intervention or publicity to the greatest extent compatible with the public interest. Consequently the penal provisions applicable to other infectious diseases under the Public Health Acts have not been extended to Tuberculosis, and there is no power given to Sanitary Authorities for compulsory removal of patients to hospital. Moreover, it is expressly provided that no undue publicity shall be given to the particulars contained in the medical practitioner's certificate in a case of Tuberculosis, and it will be the duty of the Sanitary Authorities to give effect to the clear instruction given by enjoining secrecy on all their officers, who, in the course of their duties may have custody of the forms of notification or knowledge of their contents. It will therefore, be advisable for Sanitary Authorities to enthrone obedience to this portion of their sanitary administration, and to impress upon those officers that any disregard of the obligation of secrecy will be treated as a serious breach of discipline.

It is also very desirable that in appointing officers or health visitors to carry out inspections and give advice, where possible, women of experience, such as trained nurses, selected for their knowledge, sympathy, and tact, should be employed by the Sanitary Authority to discharge the less onerous duties devolving on them in advising the sufferers and their friends.

When Tuberculosis of the Lung has been notified as being present in the class of cases provided for in the Order, it then becomes the duty of the Sanitary Authority, through their officers, to aid the person suffering, and those who live with him, by advice and instruction, in order that if the patient is not provided for in a special institution, he may so live in his home as to give himself the best chance of recovery and those who associate with him the greatest protection from contracting the disease. The notification of Tuberculosis in a family is likely in practice to reveal the fact that other members of the family are, in many instances quite unconscious of suffering from the disease in an incubation stage, and the early discovery of this fact is of the greatest importance to both the sufferers and others. Inquiry by the officers of the Sanitary Authority will, in many instances, also bring to light insanitary surroundings and other matters which require to be remedied. In this way, through notification, such questions as defective housing, bad ventilation, and other insanitary defects, are brought directly under the notice of the Sanitary Authority.

Disinfection.

When a case of Tuberculosis has been notified, the Sanitary Authority, upon the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health or other medical practitioner in a position to require the cleansing and disinfection of any premises to be served, will be in a position to require the cleansing and disinfection of any house or part of a house in which the patient is lodged, and of any building or building part of the house wherein the patient is likely to retain infection. The duty of complying with the Sanitary Authority is primarily the responsibility of the owner or occupier of the house, and is to be performed to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health, but in the absence of any action by the owner or occupier, the Sanitary Authority may intervene, and the expenses incurred may be recovered from the owner or occupier. If, however, the latter is unable to do so, the work may be done by the officers of the Sanitary Authority at the cost of the rates.

The further power is conferred on the Sanitary Authority to require any bedding, clothing, or other articles which have been exposed to infection of Tuberculosis, to be delivered to their officers for the purpose of disinfection. In such circumstances it devolves on the Sanitary Authority to disinfect the articles and return them to the owner free of charge, while in the event of unnecessary damage, compensation is to be paid.

The power of disinfecting houses, bedding, etc., in cases of Tuberculosis during the progress of the disease, and also in cases where the patient dies or removes to hospital or elsewhere, is a matter of considerable importance from the point of view of preventing its spread.

Part II of the Act deals with the establishment and management of special Hospitals and dispensaries. Irrespective of whether the notification clauses of the Act have been adopted by any District Council, the hospital accommodation shall be made available for the wants of the county by supplying accommodation for the sick, by the joint or separate action of the hospital accommodation or dispensaries, and for all the acts they may, by special Act, or by co-operation between Sanitary Authorities and County Councils in regard to the interchange of information and co-operation between Sanitary Authorities and County Councils in regard to the interchange of information and the results of inspections should relating to the prevalence of Tuberculosis, and the results of inspections should in an inspection form be placed at the disposal of County Councils with a view to assisting them in the discharge of their duties with regard to the extent of accommodation required for cases of Tuberculosis. It will be the duty of the Local Government Board to furnish County Councils periodically with summary returns of notifications of Tuberculosis in any sanitary district within the county where notification has been adopted.

Hospitals.

In every county there will be a certain number of cases either in the early or late stages of the disease for which it is highly desirable to provide accommodation in either a sanatorium or hospital. From the point of view of the prevention of the disease, the provision of accommodation is of the greatest importance both to the sufferers and others. Inquiry by the officers of the Sanitary Authority will, in many instances, also bring to light insanitary surroundings and other matters which require to be remedied. In this way, through notification, such questions as defective housing, bad ventilation, and other insanitary defects, are brought directly under the notice of the Sanitary Authority.
Disinfectant.

The bulk of the cases, and particularly of the early cases, must, in the natural course of events, for years to come be treated in their own homes. The recognition of this fact, due in the first place to the want of sufficient beds in institutions for the enormous number of cases of Tuberculosis in this country, and in the second place to the difficulty for many reasons of persuading sufferers to go to hospital, forces us to find some system by means of which the patient may be afforded a fair chance of recovery and the community may be protected from the danger of his living and working without due precautions in their midst. The dispensary system, if properly carried out, provides this form of treatment and education. The greatest benefit to be derived from the Sanatorium, as far as the public are concerned, is the education of the patient. In the dispensary system, as now practised, it is endeavoured to teach this lesson, without the costly preliminary of undergoing treatment in a Sanatorium.

The dispensary, as it has been developed and worked by Dr. Philip of Edinburgh, and by others, is now largely adopted in foreign countries, notably in Belgium, France, Germany, and the United States of America. Though spoken of as a dispensary, it is in reality much more than a more outpatient department of a hospital; it is rather an educational depot or clearing house, through which nearly all the cases of Tuberculosis in a district are passed. It is intimately connected with and supervised by the Medical Officer of Health, and its functions are to attend to all cases of Tuberculosis in the area it serves. Some of its cases it drafts into a Sanatorium, others it places in hospitals, the remainder it looks after in their own homes through the services of the Medical Officer and a staff of nurses or health visitors. By means of systematic teaching and nursing the dispensary makes it possible for many people to carry on their ordinary work, and for large numbers who cannot or will not enter an institution to be treated with comparative safety at home.

The dispensary is one of the most effective first steps which a County Council, and more particularly, a County Borough Council, can take in Ireland for the prevention of the disease. Around a well-managed dispensary it will eventually be found that an effective system of provision for consumptives will grow up. The dispensary is not intended to take the place of the hospital or sanatorium, but rather to supplement the work of these institutions. It is a system which is well worth consideration and examination by County Councils as affording a cheap and efficient means of dealing with a large number of consumptive cases.

Literature, &c.

In Part III. of the Act will be found several useful provisions with which County Councils and Sanitary Authorities are armed with the object of preventing Tuberculous disease. One section deals with the distribution of approved literature, and with lectures designed to educate the public as to the infectious character of Tuberculosis and the means of avoiding infection. When we remember the importance of a clear knowledge of the cause of the disease, the necessity for educating the public on the subject is apparent. The Local Government Board will be prepared from time to time to consider applications from Sanitary Authorities who desire to provide lectures and literature which may be useful in disseminating knowledge upon this subject.

Drugs or appliances which would tend to prevent or check the spread of the disease, may also be provided by Sanitary Authorities subject to the controlling direction of the Local Government Board. The appliances which will be most useful in consumptive cases is the special "spit bottle," the use of which should be impressed upon every consumptive patient.

Milk.

Another section deals with the elimination from dairy herds of milk where affected with Tuberculous disease of the udder, and provides for payment of compensation in certain cases for the destruction of diseased animals. Another supplies the long-felt want of many Urban Authorities, who derive their milk from rural districts where inadequate means are taken to provide a clean and wholesome supply. The section empowers Urban Authorities under certain conditions to send their inspectors outside their own districts and into the district from whence they derive their milk supplies to investigate, and, if necessary, to enforce cleanliness and proper supervision in such dairies and cowsheds. The object of the section dealing with milk is to secure a clean milk supply free from tuberculous infective matter, and the power given to Urban Districts to defend their inhabitants from the ill effects of an impure milk supply should have the effect of levelling up the standard of cleanliness in connection with dairies and cowsheds in rural districts.

These short comments on the objects of the Act may serve to bring home to County Councils and Sanitary Authorities some idea of the new powers conferred upon them with a view of lessening the number of cases of Tuberculosis in their districts. It cannot be too prominently put forward and insisted upon that this Act, and particularly the Notification Clauses contained in Part I, which is the portion requiring adoption by Sanitary Authorities, is conceived with the intention of helping and not of penalising sufferers from this very fatal disease. It is not intended to inflict hardship of any kind upon individuals, and every care should be taken by Sanitary Authorities and their officers in administering the Act to see that nothing but benefit accrues to the community by the adoption of Notification and by the use of the other clauses contained in the Act.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS.

Part I of the Act, which relates to Notification and Disinfection, is adoptive, and may be put in force by any Sanitary Authority on complying with the prescribed procedure.

Procedure for Adoption.

Special notice is required to be sent by post to each of every member of the Sanitary Authority at least three days before the meeting at which the question of the adoption of Part I of the Act is to be considered.

If, at such meeting, it is decided to adopt Part I, a resolution that that effect should be passed and forwarded for the approval of the Council of the County within which the Sanitary District is situated.

On receiving an official intimation of the approval of the County Council, the Sanitary Authority shall give public notice of their resolution by advertisement in a local newspaper and by handbills, and in such other manner as they may think sufficient. The Sanitary Authority shall also fix the time at which the provisions of Part I of the Act are to come into operation, and which must not be less than one month from the first publication of the advertisement.
Notification of Tuberculosis.

As soon as Part I. has become operative, it will be the duty of every medical practitioner attending within the district, what for convenience and subject to the explanation given below, may be termed a "prescribed" case of Tuberculosis, to furnish particulars on an official form to the Medical Officer of Health. This expression is defined by the Act to mean the Medical Superintendent of Health in a district where such officer has been appointed, and thereafter the Medical Officer of Health of the Dispensary District.

If a medical practitioner fails to comply with this requirement of the Act, he renders himself liable to a penalty not exceeding £2.

Prescribed Forms, Stages, and Circumstances.

It is to be observed that the Act does not apply the principle of notification indiscriminately to all cases of Tuberculosis, but empowers the Local Government Board, after consulting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, to prescribe by Order from time to time the forms and stages of Tuberculosis to which, and the circumstances in which, the provisions as to notification shall apply, subject, however, to the condition that only forms of Tuberculosis which by reason of infective discharges are liable to communicate the disease to other persons, may be prescribed.

In carrying out this statutory duty, the Board have, after consulting with the Presidents of the Royal Colleges before mentioned, prescribed that in every district to which Part I. of the Act extends, Section 1 of the Act shall apply to the form of Tuberculosis, known as Tuberculosis of the Lung, at any stage at which the sputum discharged by the person suffering is in the opinion of the medical practitioner attending on such person liable to communicate the disease to other persons.

Provided that the said Section shall only apply in the following circumstances, that is to say, where the person suffering

(1) Habitually sleeps or works in the same room as any other person or persons not so suffering; or

(2) Is employed or engaged in handling, preparing, or distributing milk, meat, or any other article of human food intended for sale to the public.

A medical practitioner is therefore only obliged to notify such cases as comply with these conditions. The certificate of Notification should be sent to the Medical Officer of Health, but wherever a Medical Superintendent of Health is appointed, all notifications should be addressed to him.

Fees for Notification.

The medical practitioner is entitled to be paid by the Sanitary Authority in respect of each notification duly sent by him a fee of 1s. if the case occurs in an infirmary, public hospital, or workhouse, or of 2s. 6d. if the case occurs elsewhere, but it is expressly provided in the Act that only one notification fee shall be paid by the Sanitary Authority in respect of the same patient. In order to comply with this requirement, it will be necessary for a full and accurate record of all patients notified to be kept by the Sanitary Authority, to which reference may be made in each case as notified.

Where the Medical Officer of Health is the medical practitioner in attendance, he may be paid a notification fee in the same way as an ordinary medical practitioner, even when he notifies to himself. Where a Medical Superintendent of Health is appointed, he should notify to that officer.

The receipt of a notification fee is not to disqualify any medical practitioner from serving as a member of any county or district council or as a poor law guardian.

Regulations.

It devolves on the Local Government Board to make regulations for carrying into effect the provisions relating to the notification of Tuberculosis. These regulations are to include the form of notification certificate, and to provide for the custody and secrecy of notification certificates, and for the cancellation of such certificates in any case where the patient may have been cured of Tuberculosis. The particulars to be inserted in the certificate of notification will be the patient’s name, address, age, sex, and occupation. Blank forms of certificate are to be provided by the Sanitary Authority and furnished on application without charge to any medical practitioner residing or practicing in the district.

Disinfection in Cases of Tuberculosis.

Having through the notifications obtained knowledge of cases of Tuberculosis that call for administrative action, it will be competent for the Sanitary Authority to exercise their powers under Section 2 of the Act for preventing the spread of the disease, which consists of the application of certain sections of the Public Health Acts relating to infectious disease.

These empower a Sanitary Authority to provide a proper place for disinfection, with apparatus and attendance, to which infected articles may be brought to be disinfected free of charge.

The Sanitary Authority will also be in a position to require the cleaning and disinfecting of any house or part thereof where such a course is certified by the Medical Officer of Health or any other registered medical practitioner as likely to prevent or check the spread of Tuberculosis.

Should the owner or occupier of the premises not at once proceed to carry out disinfection to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health, it becomes the duty of the officers of the Sanitary Authority under the superintendence of the Medical Officer of Health to carry out the necessary disinfection. The cost may be recovered in a summary manner from the owner or occupier.

If the owner or occupier is, in the opinion of the Sanitary Authority or of the Medical Officer of Health, unable to carry out the work of disinfection effectually, the Sanitary Authority may, without notice, but with the consent of the owner or occupier, do the work at their own expense.

The Sanitary Authority, or the Medical Officer of Health acting under a formal authorisation, may require the delivery of infected articles to an officer of the Sanitary Authority for the purpose of removal for disinfection.

The articles are to be disinfected by the Sanitary Authority and returned free of charge.

Compensation for unnecessary damage incurred in the process of disinfection may be paid.
Temporary shelter or house accommodation shall be provided free of charge for the members of any family who are compelled to leave their dwelling while disinfection is being carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

A penalty not exceeding £5 is imposed for obstructing a duly authorized officer of the Sanitary Authority in carrying out the provisions relating to disinfection, and the officers are given a right of entry on premises for the purpose of disinfection.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Part II. of the Act, unlike Part I., does not require any formal adoption. It deals with the provision by the Council of any County (including the Town Council of a County Borough), of hospitals, sanatoriums, and dispensaries for the treatment of inhabitants of their county or county borough suffering from Tuberculosis. This provision may be made, if the Council think fit to make it, either by the establishment and maintenance by the Council of such hospitals and dispensaries or by entering into an agreement with those who have the management of any hospital or dispensary. Where a Council have themselves established a hospital or dispensary, they will be bound to appoint—

(c) A Medical Superintendent possessing such qualifications as the Local Government Board may prescribe at such salary as the Board may approve—this officer cannot be dismissed without the Board's concurrence.

(b) Such nurses, having qualifications to be prescribed by the Board, and such other officers and attendants as are necessary for the requirements of the institution at such salaries as the Council think proper.

Every hospital or dispensary established under the Act will be managed by a Committee of Management, the size of which will be fixed by the County Council, and which, to the extent of three-fourths, must consist of members of the County Council. The members of the Committee will be appointed triennially, in the case of a County Borough at such meeting as the Council may fix, and in the case of any other County Council at the first meeting after the annual triennial election of County Councillors.

The Committee of Management is empowered to make, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, all necessary rules for the conduct and management of the hospital or dispensary and for the admission of patients.

In the case of two or more Councils combining for the purpose of establishing a common hospital or dispensary, those Councils will appoint a Joint Committee in such proportions as may be agreed upon, or, in case of dispute, as may be determined by the Local Government Board. It will rest with the Joint Committee to establish the common hospital or dispensary for the combined counties, to appoint officers, and to exercise the powers of borrowing.

In addition, the Joint Committee will, in relation to the management of the common hospital or dispensary, possess all the powers of a Committee of Management.

It should be borne in mind that the expression "Hospital" is defined by the Act to include a Sanatorium.

Provision as to Expenses.

The expenses incurred in respect of any hospital established under the Act are to be classified as establishment expenses and patients' expenses.

Establishment expenses will include the cost of the establishment, extension, equipment and maintenance of the hospital, together with the salaries of officers, while patients' expenses will consist of the cost of conveying, removing, feeding, providing medicines, disinfecting, and all other things required for patients, individually exclusive of establishment expenses, and are to include the costs incurred under agreements with other hospital authorities.

All expenses of a Committee are to be defrayed out of a common fund, in which separate accounts of establishment expenses and patients' expenses are to be kept. Under the latter heading, a separate account is to be kept for each urban or rural district in the county or counties concerned in respect of the patients who were resident in the district at the time of admission.

The funds required to meet the Committee's expenses are to be supplied by the County Council or Councils on the demand of the Committee.

In a County Borough, all expenses are to be raised by means of the poor rate. In other counties, establishment expenses are to be levied as a county-at-large charge, while patients' expenses are to be charged against the county district concerned, and to be raised as an urban charge or a district charge, according as the district is urban or rural.

The amount that may be raised in any one year by a County Council for the establishment expenses of any hospital or hospitals established under the Act is limited to the produce of 1d. in the £ on the rateable value of property in the county, but the limit may be increased with the consent of the Local Government Board to 2d. in the £.

The expenses connected with a dispensary elsewhere than in a county borough are to be raised in the same manner as the establishment expenses of a hospital, and are subject to a limit of 1d. in the £.

It is provided that, subject to any rules with regard to patients admitted on special terms, the expenses of maintaining in hospital a patient who is not a pauper shall be a debt due from that patient to the Council or Joint Committee, but proceedings for recovery shall not be instituted after six months from his discharge or death in hospital.

No loss of franchise or other disqualification is to follow from admission to a hospital or treatment at a dispensary.

Powers are given to the Local Government Board to make orders and rules regulating the procedure of Hospital Committees, their financial business, and the administration of hospitals and dispensaries.

Miscellaneous Provisions.

Part III. of the Act, like Part II., does not require any formal resolution of adoption by a Local Authority: it comes into force automatically on the 1st July, 1906, and its provisions may be made use of on and after that date by any Sanitary Authority or County Council as the case may be. This Part contains miscellaneous provisions intended to deal with the prevention of Tuberculosis. Sanitary Authorities, subject to the control of the Local Government Board, may arrange for public lectures and for the distribution of literature on subjects relating to Tuberculosis, and they may provide drugs and appliances, for example, splinting flasks, for the purpose of checking the spread of Tuberculosis.
Power is given to County Councils to appoint a bacteriologist, being a medical practitioner, for the examination of meat or milk or milk products, and of sputum or pathological specimens. His services, subject to regulations to be made by the County Council, are to be at the disposal without charge of any Sanitary Authority in the County. The cost is to be defrayed as a county-at-large charge.

In any County in which a bacteriologist has been appointed, power is given to any Medical Officer of Health or any person acting under a written authorisation from a Sanitary Authority, to take within the sanitary district samples of milk or milk products for examination or analysis. The like powers may be exercised outside the district under the authority of a Justice’s Order.

Penalties for obstruction are imposed, amounting in the case of a first offence to £20, and in the case of subsequent offences to £50.

By virtue of the extended meaning given to the expression “sanitary officer” in Section 152 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, it will be open to a Sanitary Authority to approve of a qualified Veterinary Surgeon as an officer for the inspection and detection of unsound food. Hitherto the power of inspection and seizure has been confined to Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Sub-Officers. The remuneration of such Veterinary Surgeon will be subject to the Board’s approval, and he will automatically become an officer of the local authority for the administration of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops (Ireland) Order of 1908.

Where a Veterinary Surgeon certifies any milk cow to be affected with Tubercular disease of the udder, the Sanitary Authority may cause the animal to be slaughtered, and may pay the owner compensation, the amount of which is, in case of dispute, to be determined according to the provisions of Section 274 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, but shall not in any case exceed £10. The carcass shall belong to the Sanitary Authority, and shall be buried or returned to the owner or otherwise disposed of as the circumstances require.

Power is given to the Local Government Board to confer on the authorities of urban areas the right of supervising dairies in outside districts from which the milk supplies of their own districts are derived, and this provision is intended to afford a remedy in cases where Rural Sanitary Authorities fail or refuse to take the proper steps for exercising suitable control over the dairies in their districts from whence milk is being supplied to the inhabitants of the aggrieved urban district.

All expenses incurred by Sanitary Authorities under the Act will, except where otherwise provided, be paid as part of the expenses of the execution of the Public Health Acts, and, in the case of a Rural Sanitary Authority, shall be general expenses.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,

DUBLIN, June, 1909.
The Local Government Board for Ireland.

THE TUBERCULOSIS (PROCEDURE OF COMMITTEES) ORDER, 1913.

WHEREAS it is enacted by section five of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908, that every hospital or dispensary established by a county council under the said Act shall be managed by a committee of management appointed by the council, and that the Local Government Board for Ireland may, by Order, regulate the procedure of committees of management and make provision for the filling of casual vacancies in such committees, including any such vacancy caused by a member of the committee ceasing to be a member of the council:

NOW THEREFORE We, the Local Government Board for Ireland, by virtue of the powers vested in Us for that purpose as aforesaid and of all other powers enabling Us in that behalf, do order, and it is hereby ordered as follows:

SHORT TITLE AND INTERPRETATION.

1. This Order may be cited as the Tuberculosis (Procedure of Committees) Order, 1913.

2.-(1) The Interpretation Act, 1889, shall apply for the purpose of the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the purpose of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(2) In this Order the expression "the Act" means the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act, 1908, the expression "committee" means a committee of management appointed under the Act, and other expressions have the same meaning as in the Act.

MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

3.-(1) The time and place of holding the first meeting of a committee shall be fixed by the Local Government Board in the case of the first appointment of the committee.

(2) After the first appointment the committee shall hold an annual meeting and also meetings at such other times as may be necessary for properly executing their powers and duties under the Act.

(3) The annual meeting shall be held, in the year in which the triennial appointment of the committee is made, on the seventh day next after the appointment has been completed, and in every other year on the same day of the week in the corresponding week of that year, unless in either case the Local Government Board fix some other day for that purpose.
3. The quorum of a committee shall be one-fourth of the whole number present of the committee.

13. Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Order, a committee may, by Standing orders from time to time make standing orders for the regulation of their proceedings and business, and vary or revoke the same.

FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES.

14. Casual vacancies in a committee, including any such vacancy caused by a member of the committee ceasing to be a member of the council, shall be filled, as soon as may be, by the council which appointed the member causing the vacancy, provided that if a meeting of the council shall not be held within two months after the occurrence of such vacancy, a special meeting of the council shall, on the expiration of such period of two months, be forthwith convened by the secretary of the council or town clerk for the purpose of filling the vacancy, by giving seven clear days' notice in writing thereof to each member of the council.

Given under Our Seal of Office this Ninth day of October, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

(Signed)

[Signature]

[Signature]
No. 68 M. 1914.
Miscellaneous.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,

DUBLIN, 11th April, 1914.

SIR,

I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to forward the enclosed copies of "The Tuberculosis (Accounts of Committees) Order, 1914," made by them for carrying into effect certain provisions of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Acts, 1908 and 1913.

The Order applies the provisions of the Union Accounts Order, 1905, to the accounts of Tuberculosis Committees so far as the same may be applicable, subject, however, to such alterations, additions and omissions as the Local Government Board may, from time to time, direct either generally or in the case of any particular Committee.

The Board desire to point out that in the case of every Hospital established or to be established under the Acts—in addition to the accounts of the ordinary financial transactions of Councils or of their Committees—it will be necessary that careful records shall be kept of all particulars affecting the patients, including their periods of residence and cost of maintenance.

As the financial and statistical records necessary for such Hospitals must correspond to a large extent with those found necessary for use in Workhouse Hospitals, the Local Government Board have decided that by simply applying, subject to modifications where necessary, the Union Accounts Order and forms which are in use throughout the country, Committees and their officers will be facilitated in the discharge of their duties, especially as, should any doubts or difficulties arise in the working out of the prescribed forms, full information and advice can be obtained on application to this Department.

Two copies of the Union Accounts Order, 1905, are forwarded herewith. Additional copies can be obtained, if required, either directly, or through any bookseller, from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116 Grafton Street, Dublin

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. BARLAS,
Secretary.

To

The Secretary of each County Council.

The Town Clerk of each County Borough.
The Local Government Board for Ireland.

THE TUBERCULOSIS (ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES) ORDER, 1914.

In pursuance of the powers vested in Us by the Local Government (Ireland) Acts, 1898 to 1903, the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Acts, 1908 and 1913, and of all other powers enabling Us in this behalf, We, the Local Government Board for Ireland, do order, and it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. This Order may be cited as the Tuberculosis (Accounts of Committees) Order, 1914.

2. In this Order the expression "Committee" means a Committee appointed under the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Acts, 1908 and 1913.

3. The Union Accounts Order, 1905, and the appropriate Forms, shall, so far as may be applicable, apply, with the necessary modifications, to a Committee, subject to such alterations, additions, and omissions as the Local Government Board may from time to time direct, either generally or in the case of any particular Committee.

Given under Our Seal of Office, this Seventh day of April, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen.

(Signed)

[Signature]

J. B. Robinson

T. J. Stafford

3. 200-4/14. Printed by A. Thom & Co, Ltd., Middle Abbey Street, Dublin. (238) 10194
The Local Government Board for Ireland.

THE TUBERCULOSIS (ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES) ORDER, 1914.

In pursuance of the powers vested in Us by the Local Government (Ireland) Acts, 1808 to 1902, the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Acts, 1908 and 1913, and of all other powers enabling Us in this behalf, We, the Local Government Board for Ireland, do order, and it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. This Order may be cited as the Tuberculosis (Accounts of Committees) Order, 1914.

2. In this Order the expression "Committee" means a Committee appointed under the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Acts, 1908 and 1913.

3. The Union Accounts Order, 1905, and the appropriate Forms, shall, so far as may be applicable, apply, with the necessary modifications, to a Committee, subject to such alterations, additions, and omissions as the Local Government Board may from time to time direct, either generally or in the case of any particular Committee.

Given under Our Seal of Office, this Seventh day of April, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen.

(Signed)

[Signature]

[Signature]
A Chara,

With further reference to your letter of the 25th June last regarding the provision of alternative accommodation for the Public Health staff located in the Athenaeum Buildings, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that it would appear from the particulars furnished with regard to the proposed use of Messrs Spillane's premises and the premises of the Gas Department of the Corporation that only one-third of these premises could be used for work connected with the School Medical Service, Tuberculosis and School Meals Schemes. As the rent of Messrs Spillane's premises is £40 a year, £13:6:8d per annum would be eligible for recoupment and it is suggested that this sum might be apportioned between the three services and particulars of such apportionment might be notified to this Department. No recoupment can be made in respect of rent from the Gas Department as it is Corporation property.

Mise, le measa,

The City Manager,
City Hall,
Limerick.