[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Romford].

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Bealth

FOR THE

ROMFORD URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year 1906.

ROMFORD:

WILSON AND WHITWORTH LTD., PRINTERS, HIGH STREET.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Romford Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the health of the Romford Urban District, for the year ending December 31st, 1906.

Urban District of Romford, during the year; I do not include amongst this number those deaths which took place amongst the inmates of the Union Workhouse, except the deaths of actual residents of the district who have died there. 98 deaths were registered as having occurred at that Institution, mainly of aged people, most of whom came from those parts of the Romford Union beyond the limits of the Urban District. Eliminating these and including the deaths of town residents removed to the Union Workhouse, the deaths for the district were 207. The population of the district was estimated to be 16,260. The death-rate would

therefore be 12·1 per 1,000 of the population. The number of births registered during the year was 371, the birth-rate being 22·8 per 1,000.

The following table shows the birth-rate and death-rate for the last five years.

Romford.	BIRTH RATE.	DEATH RATE.
1902	29.5	12-2
1903	29.4	11.6
1904	28*4	10.06
1905	27.4	12.4
1906	22.8	12.1

I think the Council will be satisfied that Romford maintained its reputation for a low mortality.

1.—Summary of Action taken to prevent the spread of Disease.

No.	Date.	Locality.	Disease.	Source of Disease. Action taken.	Result.
1	Jan. 1	Marks Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Origin obscure. Removed to Hospital.	No other case
2	,, 5	Hainault Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Removed.	No other case
#3	" 5	Drummond Road	Diphtheria -	One case. Isolation at home.	No other case
4	,, 5	Medora Road -	Diphtheria -	Ditto	No other case
5	,, 27	Cromer Road -	Scarlet Fever -	Two cases. Infected by a case out of the district. Removed.	No other case
6	Feb. 20	Victoria Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Removed,	No other case
7	,, 20	Shakespeare Road	Enteric Fever -	One case, contracted away. Removed.	No other case
8	Mar. 15	Victoria Road -	Diphtheria -	One case.	
9	,, 12	Prospect Place -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Contracted beyond the district. Removed.	No other case
10	April 2	High Street -	Diphtheria -	One case. Local insanitary defect. Removed,	No other case
11	., 13	Marks Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case Contracted beyond the district, Removed.	No other case
12	,, 26	Marks Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Local insanitary con- cition. Removed.	No other case
13	May 2	Richmond Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Removed,	No other case
14	,, 2	Market Place -	Diphtheria -	Two cases. Local insanitary defects.	No other case
15	,, 12	Globe Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Ditto	

No.	Date.	Locality.	Disease.	Source of Disease. Action taken.	Result.
16	May 25	Collier Row -	Diphtheria -	One case. Local sanitary defects.	
17	,, 25	London Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Contracted out of the district. Removed.	No other case
18	June 15	Birkbeck Road -	Enteric Fever -	Ditto	No other case
19	.,, 27	Knighton Road -	Diphtheria -	One case, Local insanitary defects. Removed,	No other case
20	July 10	Mawney Road -	Diphtheria -	Ditto	No other case
21	,, 25	Mildmay Road -	Enteric Fever -	One case. Contracted out of the district. Removed.	No other case
22	,, 26	Hamilton Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Origin obscure.	
23	,, 28	Marks Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Local sanitary defect. Removed.	No other case
24	,, 31	George Street -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Origin obscure. Removed.	No other case
25	,, 31	Prospect Place -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Contracted in London.	
26	,, 31	Prospect Place -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Infected by previous case. Removed.	No other case
27	., 31	South Street -	Diphtheria -	Two cases. Local sanitary defects.	
28	Aug. 1	Brentwood Road-	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Origin obscure. Removed.	No other ease
29	,, 8	Mawney Road -	Scarlet Fever -	Ditto	No other case
30	,, 10	Wolseley Read -	Scarlet Fever -	Ditto	No other case
31	,, 28	Victoria Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Local sanitary defect. Removed.	
32	,, 28	Eastern Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Origin obscure.	
33	., 29	South Street -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Brought from London.	See No.

No.	Date.	Lo cality.	Disease.	Source of Disease. Action taken.	Result.
34	Sep. 16	Heath Park -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Brought from London.	
35	,, 19	London Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Origin obscure. Removed.	No other case
36	,, 21	Albion Place -	Diphtheria -	Ditto	No other case
37	,, 22	Carlisle Road -	Scarlet Fever -	Three cases in one family. Disease brought by a visitor, Removed.	
38	,, 24	Eastern Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Contracted in London.	
39	,, 25	Mawney Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. A case in this house two months previously. Drain in bad condition. Remedied.	No other case
40	Oet. 7	S. Andrew's Road	Enteric Fever -	One case. Origin obscure, Removed.	No other case
41	,, 8	Albert Road -	Scarlet Fever -	Ditto	No other case
42	,, 14	Albert Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Contracted beyond the district. Removed.	No other case
43	,, 17	London Road -	Enteric Fever -	Two cases. See No. 46.	
44	,, 24	Victoria Road -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Removed.	No other case
45	,, 28	King Edward Road	Scarlet Fever -	Ditto	See No. 47
46	,, 29	London Road -	Enteric Fever -	Nine cases in a row of Cottages where two cases had been pre- viously notified. (No. 43.) Foul refuse pit close to back of dwelling. Report to Council. Removed.	No other case
47	,, 31	King Edward Road	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Infected by No. 41. Removed.	No other case
48	Nov. 6	George Street -	Scarlet Fever -	One case. Origin obscure. Re-	No other case
19	,, 9	Carlisle Road -	Scarlet Fever -	Two cases. Infected by a return case from Hospital. Removed.	No other case

No.	Date.	Locality.	Disease.	Source of Disease. Action taken.	Result.
50	Nov. 22	Albert Road -	Enteric Fever -	One case. Contracted from home. Removed.	No other ease
51	., 22	Kings Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Supposed to have been contracted out of the district.	
52	,, 28	Princes Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Infected by No. 51.	
53	,, 29	London Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Origin obscure. Removed.	No other case
54	Dec. 4	Princes Road -	Diphtheria -	One case. Presumed to have been infected by No. 51	
55	,, 4	St Andrew's Road	Diphtheria -	One case. Origin obscure Removed.	No other case
56	,, 18	Victoria Road -	Diphtheria -	Ditto	No other case
57	,, 29	Pretoria Road -	Enteric Fever -	One case. Contracted in London.	No other case

Small Pox. No case of this disease occurred in the District during the year.

Scarlet Fever. 24 cases of this disease were notified. The disease occurred in isolated instances and nowhere assumed the character of an epidemic. No fatal case.

Diphtheria. 26 cases were notified, several associated with defective sanitary conditions which were remedied by the action of the Sanitary Inspector. One death was caused by this disease.

Enteric Fever. 17 cases occurred in the District, 5 of which were contracted away from home; 12 occurred in a row of cottages, and was attributed to a very foul collection of sewage within a few yards of the back of the houses.—

This was remedied by the Landlord as soon as it was brought to his notice. 3 deaths resulted from this disease.

Infantile Diarrhoea caused 18 deaths. This was much above the average. This disease was unusually prevalent in this and other Districts, a circumstance which was probably due to morbid changes taking place in the milk, owing to the exceptionally hot weather.

Whooping Cough was prevalent to a considerable extent, and caused 3 deaths.

The death-rate from zymotic disease was 0.2. The death-rate from this class of disease for last five years being, respectively, 0.2, 0.8, 0.2, 0.4, 0.4, 0.2.

The following represent the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year:—

Scarlet Fever	 	24
Diphtheria	 	26
Enteric Fever	 	17
Erysipelas		19
Puerperal Fever	 	2
Total	 	88

Every case of Infectious Disease notified to me is reported to the Sanitary Inspector, who visits and reports to me in all cases which I do not personally investigate, and who also supplies disinfectants, sees to the patients removal to the Isolation Hospital, when such a course is adopted, and disinfects the premises, bedding, clothing, &c.

At the end of the year the district was in a healthy condition, few cases of Infectious Disease having been notified.

Periodical inspection of the various parts of the district have been made, a few samples of drinking water, whose purity was suspected, have been analysed by me, and when found to be impure the South Essex Company's water has been laid on. Insanitary conditions have where ascertained been remedied by the intervention of the Sanitary Inspector, a detailed report of such instances being incorporated with this report.

The following are instances in which my action as Medical Officer of Health was required, by your instructions, or by request of the Sanitary Inspector.

Jan. 17th.—Knighton Road.—Complaint made of house refuse being deposited close to dwelling houses. On inspection it was found that all trace of nuisance had been obliterated.

Jan. 17th.—Knighton Road.—Complaint being made that premises and drains were in an insanitary condition, inspection was made, and the same found to be in good condition.

Feb. 23rd.—Attwell's Yard.—Inspected two houses and certified them to be unfit for habitation. Notice served by Inspector, and houses satisfactorily repaired.

Feb. 23rd.—Well Yard.—Inspected a house here and certified it as unfit for habitation. Notice served by Inspector, and house satisfactorily repaired.

Feb. 23rd.—Well Yard.—Inspected a house and certified it to be overcrowded. Notice served by Inspector, and nuisance abated.

May 7th.—Bird's Farm, Collier Row.—Inspected a farm house, and certified it as unfit for habitation. Notice served by Inspector, and house closed.

May 7th.—Bird's Farm, Collier Row.—Inspected cowsheds, stables, etc. Notice served by Inspector to ventilate, drain, re-pave, and limewash these buildings. Work carried out.

May 13th.—London Road.—Bone boiling carried on on premises here, causing a serious nuisance. Notice served by Inspector. Business removed to Rural District, where similar notice was served, and the business was discontinued.

July 9th.—Slaughter House, St. Andrew's Road.—Inspected the carcases of three beasts which had been slaughtered. One was certified as unfit for food, and this was removed to Mr. Poel's yard for conveyance to a knacker's yard. Licensee was cautioned, no proof being obtained that the carcase was intended for human food.

July 17th.—Mowbray's Farm, Prospect Place.—Inspected this house and certified part of it to be in insanitary condition. Notice served by Inspector. Nothing was done here in obedience to notice.

July 18th.—White Hart Lane, Collier Row.—Cowsheds inspected and certified to be unfit for use as such. Notice served. Use of cowsheds discontinued, and new buildings now in course of erection.

July 20th.—Slaughter House, St. Andrew's Road.— Examined the offal of a beast which had been slaughtered here. Certified that the beast had suffered from tuberculosis. The carcase was stated to have been taken to a knacker's yard at Bow.

Sept. 3rd.—Willow Street.—Houses in this street with an imperfect water supply, the well having dried up during the dry weather. Notices served by Inspector. Wells deepened, and a plentiful supply of water obtained, which, on being analysed by me, was found to be good.

Nov. 5th.—Mowbray's Farm, Prospect Place.—This farm house (visited July 17th), was again inspected. Further defects were discovered. Notice again served by Inspector. House closed by owner.

Nov. 5th.—Crown Cottages, London Road.—Several inspections of these cottages, where cases of Enteric Fever had occurred. Found a large accumulation of refuse (some feecal) at the rear of the houses. This was carted away and buried, and arrangements made by the landlord for proper disposal of refuse, etc.

Dec. 4th.—St. Malo, Junction Road.—Attended with the Inspector when testing the drains here, several cases of sore throat having occurred amongst members of the family. Drains found to be defective. These were re-laid, and the insanitary condition thus remedied.

Dec. 19th.—Carcase of a slaughtered pig brought to me by the Inspector for examination, and found to be fit for human consumption.

The Dairies, Bakehouses, Slaughter Houses, and Cowsheds have been periodically inspected. No insanitary conditions have been discovered except one instance of a bakehouse, where coal in considerable quantity was kept in the bakehouse where bread was made. This sanitary defect was pointed out to the occupier and remedied. The lodging houses (two) have been periodically inspected, and at the present time there is nothing insanitary to report as to their condition.

The following is a succinct account of the work done by the Sanitary Inspector, in some of which, where necessary, he has consulted me as to the proceedings connected therewith.

27 : 1.4.1		200
Nuisances abated		 329
Convictions at Petty Sessions		 8
Filthy houses cleansed		 2
Houses disinfected		 45
Overcrowding abated		 1
Houses placed in habitable rep	pair	 3
Houses closed		 1
Improved water supply		 1
Wells closed		 1
Houses connected with sewer		 4
Privies abolished		 4
Privies and w.c.'s repaired, &c		 29
Cisterns cleansed, &c.		 . 1
Animals improperly kept		 5
Water analysed		 5

Tables of mortality and of sickness, compiled in accordance with the Local Government Board's instructions, are appended to this report.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED WRIGHT,

March 14th, 1907.

Medical Officer of Health.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The following cases were admitted into the Isolation Hospital from the Urban District during the year.

		Recovere	ed.	Died.
Scarlet Fever	22	 22		_
Diphtheria	20	 20		_
Enteric Fever	6	 3		3

The Hospital continues to give every satisfaction to the friends of patients admitted.

TABLE I. VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1906 AND PREVIOUS YEARS. ROMFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

		Bir	THS.	TOTAL	DEATHS I	ublic	idents lie In-	ents ic In- the	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District.			
	to to			Under 1	yr. of age	At all	Ages.	E. D.	resi ubli	sid ubli ond	to the	District,
YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Number.	Rate *	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public In- stitutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public In- stitutions beyond the District.	Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896.												
1897.												
1898.					-							
1899.												
1900.	12,500	398	28-7	42	105	226	16.7	66	55		171	12.6
1901.	13,050	395	28-9	55	113	232	16.9	96	80	16	152	11.1
1902.	14,000	414	29.5	42	101	251	17:9	88	79	4	172	12.2
1903.	14,400	424	29-4	42	99	241	16:7	99	73	1	168	11.6
1904.	14,700	418	28-4	49	117	203	13.8	104	79	4	148	10.06
1905.	15,000	412	26-1	53	128	296	19.7	114	91	1	187	12.4
Averages for years 1896-1905												
1906.	16,260	371	22.8	53	158	305	18.2	98	82	3	226	13.2

^{*} Rates in columns 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of estimated population. Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 5,629.

Total population at all ages, 13,656..... Number of inhabited houses, 2.805 At Census of 1901.

Average number of persons per house, 4.8 ...

Is the Union Workhouse within the District?-Yes.

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1	2	3
Institutions within the District receiving Sick and Infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Union Workhouse.	Isolation Hospital.	
Romford Cottage Hospital.		•
Romford Cottage Hospital.		

TABLE 11.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1906 AND PREVIOUS YEARS. ROMFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

Names of Localities		AN DIS	STRICT.			ws W	TARD.		Colli	ER RO	w WA	RD.	HARO	LD Wo	DOD W	ARD.								
YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis-	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	ъ.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	ь	c.	d.	a.	ъ.	¢.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	ъ.	c.	d.
1896														-	-			-			-	-		-
1897																								
1898																								
1899																	1							
1900	12,500	398	226																					
1901	13,050	395	232														-							
1902	14,000	414	251			1																		
1903	14,400	424	241		11,200	353	218	37	1,000	31	11	2	1,500	37	12	3								
1904	14,700	418	203		1,290	352	209	41	1,610	29	12	4	1,600	41.	16	4								
1905	15,000	412	187		12,250	321	168	49	1,735	32	4	1	1,700	50	14	2								
Averages of Years 1896 to 1905.																				-				
1906	16,260	371	207	53	12,600	281	181	53	1,760	31	9		1,900	59	17				-			-	-	

18

TABLE 111.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906, in the Romford Urban District.

	CAS	ES NO	TIFIED	IN W	HOLE	DISTRI	Total Cases notified in each Locality.							
	AT AGES-YEARS.							1.		po				
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Town Ward	Collier Row Ward.	Harold Wood Ward,				
Small-pox			***	***										
Cholera			***	***	***					***	***	***	***	
Diphtheria	31	2	13	12	4			29	1	1			***	.,
Membranous Croup		***								***			**	
Erysipelas	22				7	15	***	20		2	**			
Scarlet Fever	28	1	14	17	2			23	3	2			***	
Typhus Fever			***					***			***		410	
Enteric Fever	16		1	-	2	13	***	16				***		
Relapsing Fever	***	***			***		111						***	
Continued Fever			***				***				***			
Puerperal Fever	2					2		1	1	***				
Plague		***								***				
		***	***			***		-		***	***	***		
Totals	99	3	28	23	15	30		89	5	5		***		

Isolation Hospital—Rush Green, Dagenham.

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1906.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Certified	6	2	2	5	4	9	6	3	6	1		3	3	52 1
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria: Croup. Whooping Cough				••••					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					 1 1
Enteritis (not Tuberculous) Gastritis, Gastro-					1	3	3		2	1		1 1		9 7 2
Premature Birth Congenital Defects Injury at Birth Want of Breast-milk Starvation Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus				****				1						7
Tuberculous Meningitis Tuberculous Peritonitis; Tabes Mesonitis; Tabes Mesonitis; Taberculous Other Tuberculous Diseases				1		3	1							
Erysipelas Syphilis Rickets Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions Bronchitis Laryngitis Pneumonia Suffocation, cverlaying Other Causes							1	····· 1 ··· 1			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		2	1 2 3 8
TOTAL	6	2	2	5	4	9	6	4	6	1	2	3	3	53

TABLE IV.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1906. ROMFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

	" RE		TS"	WHE	THER	OCCU	GES OF RRING	IN	HS IN G TO L	TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESI-		
CAUSES OF DEATH	All Ages.	Under I year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	Town Ward.	Collier Row Ward.	Harold Wood Ward.		DENTS" OR 'NON-RESI- DENTS' IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
Small-Pox		44	***		***		***	***	***		***	
Measles				**		1111		****	***	100	1 100	
Scarlet Fever									***	***		
Whooping-cough	3	1	2	***			***	3		***	***	5
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	1			1	***			1				
Croup	0.0		***	***			***	****	***		***	
(Typhus				**	***	2	***	3	***		***	
Fever Enteric Other contin'd	3		41.	***					444		***	
Epidemic Influenza	2					2		1		1	144	200
C1 -1				***							144	
Y11 - 1	18	16	2					14	43	***		1
		40										***
	1			***		1		1			Com.	
Puerperal Fever	1					***	***			***		1
Erysipelas	***		***			***	***		***			
Other septic Diseases	**	***	227	***					1			
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	9				2	7		8	***	1	***	18
Other tubercular Dis- eases	13	5	2	2	***	4		12		1		7
Cancer, Malignant Disease	20					12	8	16	3	1	***	11
Bronchitis	18	2	1		100	5	10	17	***	1	***	1
Pneumonia	20	8	4	1	***	6	1	16		4		2
Pleurisy			***		***		**	144			***	
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs						1						
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver \				***								***
Venereal Diseases	***								•••		**	***
Premature Birth	8	8		***				7	1			
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1		***			1		1				
Heart Diseases	22				***	7	15	20	1	1	***	17
Accidents	2		**-	1			1	***	2	***	***	***
Suicides	1					1		1			1	
Senile decay	12						12	12		***	***	23
All other causes	53	13	3	4	-	17	16	46		7		22
All Causes	207	53	14	9	3	65	63	181	9	17		98