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U.D.C.**

Contributors

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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
URBAN DISTRICT.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

For the Year 1899.

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→ Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District. ←

Medical Officer's Report
for 1899.

March, 1900.

TO THE ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December last, with tabular statements of the Births, Deaths, and Cases of Infectious Sickness which occurred during the year 1899 in the Ashby Urban Sanitary District.

The registered number of Births was 128, which gives a rate of 28·2 per thousand of the population, against 138 or a

rate of 30·4 per thousand in the year 1898. The number of deaths registered was 110, or a rate of 24·2 per thousand, against 96 or a rate of 21·1 per thousand in the previous year. On reference to Table A it will be noted that 18 of these were Infants under one year of age, and 36 occurred at 65 years of age and upwards. There were 3 deaths from Injuries, 3 from Whooping Cough, and 1 from Enteric Fever; the largest number of deaths from any class of disease, and amounting in all to 28, was due to Affections of the Respiratory Organs, and of this number 10 were certified under the head of Phthisis, viz.: 5 at the Union Workhouse, and 5 in the Urban District. All these latter occurred in Cottages. This is a very unusual mortality in this District from this disease, and in a previous report, I took occasion to remark on the comparative immunity of this District from Tubercular disease. In this connection I drew the attention of your Council last November, to a communication from the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, suggesting "that the Sanitary Authority of this District should undertake the disinfection and cleansing of rooms occupied by Phthisical patients," and requesting "that they should make arrangements for carrying them out if agreeable to the patients or their friends." Referring to this matter in my report last November I advised that the Council should adopt this suggestion, and to that end make Phthisis a notifiable disease, in order that the houses might be known in which the disease existed. (This was embodied in a Resolution and passed by the Council, some time later, with, it is to be hoped, satisfactory results.)

It will be seen on reference to Table B that there were in all 21 cases of Infectious Sickness notified during the year, viz.: 13 Scarlatina, 2 Diphtheria, 1 Enteric, 1 Puerperal Fever, and 4 Erysipelas. Influenza was again epidemic during the early part of the year and during the closing month, and 4 deaths were registered as due to this disease.

During the last year the Council laid out a New Sewage Farm of 60 acres at Packington, 2 miles from the town, on the broad irrigation principle, enlarged and relaid a new outfall sewer, and also enlarged and relaid to better gradients nearly the whole of the main sewers in the streets. Ventilation of the sewers is also provided for and, there is every reason to believe that the scheme which has been completed will prove a great sanitary success.

The Scavenging of the District is done by the Council with a distinct staff of nightmen and horses, and this important matter is one which cannot have too complete a staff to carry out the work.

In the course of the year I made numerous inspections of premises in the District for the purpose of finding out insanitary conditions, the Slaughter-houses, Dairies, and Cowsheds were regularly inspected. There are practically no Milk-shops, the milk being now either sent to London or other towns, or retailed from house to house.

The Lodging Houses which are 4 in number, were regularly inspected during the year. No step has, as yet, been taken in this District as to the housing of the working classes, and there is no Bye-Law at present urgently required.

The Acts adopted and in force now are the Public Health Amendment Act, and Notification of Diseases Act.

The New Water Supply which has been installed within the last 2 years, in conjunction with the Swadlincote Urban District Council, and which is obtained at Milton, near Repton, then pumped to a reservoir at Woodville, and from there distributed to the district, is proving a great success. The town water mains which have been relaid and re-modelled on the best and latest system, are now in thoroughly good working order, and the quality of the water is all that could be desired.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. R. WILLIAMS.

TABULAR STATEMENTS.

TABLE A.

Table of DEATHS
during the Year 1899, in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban
District, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Ashby Urban District, (excluding Union Workhouse) :—

Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...	18
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	15
15 " " 25 "	...	...	...	...	...	2
25 " " 65 "	...	...	...	...	...	23
65 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	20
						—78

Union Workhouse :—

15 and under 25 years	...	...	...	...	...	1
25 " " 65 "	...	...	...	...	...	15
65 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	16
						— 32

At all ages ... 110

CAUSES OF DEATH.

*Ashby Urban District,
(excluding Union Workhouse) :—*

	Under 5 years.	5 years and upwards.
Enteric or Typhoid	0	1
Whooping Cough	3	0
Diarrhœa and Dysentery	1	0
Rheumatic Fever	0	1
Phthisis	0	5
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	3	7
Heart Disease	0	4
Influenza...	0	4
Injuries	3	0
All other Diseases	23	23

Union Workhouse :

Phthisis	0	5
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	0	8
Heart Disease	0	1
All other Diseases	0	18
		—
		33
		77

110

TABLE B.

Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS,
and of New Cases of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming
to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during
the Year 1899, in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District;
classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

POPULATION.

Last Census	...	...	...	...	...	4,535
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BIRTHS.

Registered Births	...	...	...	...	128
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NEW CASES of SICKNESS in each Locality coming
to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.

*Ashby Urban District,
(excluding Union Workhouse) :—*

				Under 5 years.	5 years and upwards.
Scarlatina	...	...	...	3	10
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	2
Enteric or Typhoid	...	...	...	0	1
Puerperal ...	...	...	...	0	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0	2

Union Workhouse :—

Erysipelas...	...	...	...	0	2
				3	18
				} 21	

