

[Report 1912] / Medical Officer of Health, Ashton-in-Makerfield U.D.C.

Contributors

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Ashton-in-Makerfield URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THIRTY-EIGHT ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

ROCK HOUSE,

ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD, February 28th, 1913.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have once more the privilege of presenting to you an ANNUAL REPORT on the health of your district, and I may say, that not only from a statistical point of view, but from a general review of sickness and mortality, the same may be considered in every way satisfactory.

I follow last year's, and take the course as indicated in the memo. of the Local Government Board. With regard to the tables, a change was made in the order of the list of diseases in Table III., and new regulations *re* Tuberculosis came in force on February 1st. These apply to all forms of tubercular trouble, as well as the Pulmonary—the probability being that there will be a high percentage of the non-Pulmonary amongst young children, and that notification of these will facilitate investigation *re* infection and assist in improving the child's life.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Having two years ago outlined the *natural and social conditions of the district*, I need only state now that of course there has been no change in the topographical condition of your district.

Industry is for the greater part that of mining and, as before stated, cotton spinning, etc., is to some limited extent carried on; the workers out of this township (females) being employed at Wigan and Golborne. During the last few months the new mill in Flora Street has now got, it is to be hoped, a fair start, which will be a boon for those who get employment there, in so much as traversing to and fro—in all weathers—to mills outside the boundaries, must be a tax in every way. The lock and hinge manufacturers also participate in fair measure to employing a portion of the population; in fact it is the seat, I may say, in Lancashire of this particular trade. Another, but smaller section of industry is found at the several workshops, laundries, etc.

As regards any deleterious effect upon the health of the work-people, I have not yet had occasion to attribute any direct cause in this direction, or had any attention called by medical practitioners to it.

POOR LAW MEDICAL, RELIEF & HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The same conditions as to facilities for obtaining such, remain same as last year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply is from Liverpool (Rivington Works), supplementing that from your own works at Leyland Green. Both waters are good and on the constant service system, but brief temporary stoppages do now and again occur through accidents caused by subsidences.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Sewage from some 58 houses, formerly treated by irrigation on land bounded by St. Luke's School and Bolton Road is now, by completion of a new sewer, carried to Bryn Gates Outfall Works. Serious flooding of the road and houses (on both sides) necessitated a storm-water drain (12 inches diameter) being laid on the west of and parallel to Bolton Road; and on the east side of this road a like proceeding may be found necessary.

The one common cause is again responsible for some sewers having to be re-laid, while in others dislocations or sagging has called for immediate attention by your Council.

What I may designate the new large scheme for the sewerage and disposing of sewage, referred to in my last year's report, is waiting sanction from the Local Government Board.

House Accommodation may be taken as very fair on the whole, and fully occupied. The number of houses being now 4,210 showing 5·26 inmates per dwelling on population at 1st January.

As will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's return, detailed inspection (internal and external) has been largely exercised.

Houses reported on and personally inspected:—

January.—Houses in Chapel Street, and No. 1, Pennington Square; No. 7, Chapel Street and the latter recommended to be made into one. Condition of Flora Street again reported on.

February.—Park Lane (Nos. 5 and 7) inspected and reported thereon. To be made into one.

March.—Detailed report on property in Flora Street, off Warrington Road. "A" Court, concerning in all 21 houses; nine in Flora Street, seven in Green Street, five facing Warrington Road. "C" Court, concerning in all 17 houses; four in Warrington Road, thirteen in "C" Court.

April.—Two yards, common to blocks of property at Edge Green Street and Commercial Square, Heath Road, recommended to be put in proper order.

May.—76, Nicol Lane.

June.—Property in Commercial Square inspected by Sanitary Inspector and myself. Observations thereon were given.

September.—Property in Sumner's Road and Golborne Road inspected along with Sanitary Inspector.

October.—Property in Golborne Road, and streets off, inspected and reported thereon; in all 48 houses.

November.—"Brookside," Old Florida, and three very old cottages (41, 43 and 45, Brockstedes Road), reported as unfit for habitation.

The result of this work will be seen in the Sanitary Inspector's summary of houses condemned during the year.

Houses Condemned during the year.—Ten houses, Bolton Road. Houses been repaired, and six closets and ashpits removed from front of houses to the back, drains re-laid; paving of yard not yet complete.

Chapel Street.—Two back-to-back houses made into through house; common yard been paved.

5 and 7, Park Lane.—Two back-to-back houses made into double house.

Flora Street and "A" Court.—Sixteen houses, which are at present having back doors provided, and the common yard being made into private yards for each house, and paved.

Warrington Road.—Five houses, which are to be repaired; work not yet commenced.

Warrington Road and "C" Court.—Scheme to be submitted to next Committee Meeting.

60, Golborne Road, and 2, Back Golborne Road; 64, Golborne Road, and 2, Edge Green Street.—Back-to-back houses to be converted to through houses.

Commercial Square.—Ten back-to-back houses closed.

Booth's Brow Road.—Three houses; notices been given to tenants, houses to be pulled down.

Golborne Road, Edge Green and Dawber Streets.—Plans submitted and passed for providing each house with separate closet accommodation.

Closet Accommodation.—Conditions of such, and complement of, has essentially been a main point of detail in reporting on property. All old privy forms of closet should be abolished.

Scavenging is undertaken by the Sanitary Authority, and on the whole may be taken as satisfactory. Better facilities will obtain yearly; as back streets get paved, etc., there will be easier access for vans and carts.

School Inspection is under Medical Officers specially appointed and under the County Authority at Preston.

Hospital was painted, decorated and cleaned up last Spring. It is well maintained, in good order and all working satisfactorily, thanks to the continued and efficient attention of Miss ~~Webster~~, the Matron.

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FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The bulk is from farmers, to which number there are three purveyors. No complaints or suspicion of trouble in regard to it has been brought forward.

Other Foods.—Meat stuffs, fruit and vegetables are exposed on the market stalls weekly; and the Sanitary Inspector or myself (sometimes jointly) make promiscuous visits, but there has been no occasion to take any steps in connection.

WAITING ROOMS.

Mortuary and Tramcar Waiting Rooms are both kept clean and in good order; the latter certainly showing an improvement.

I hear many complaints as to the condition of Bryn Station and the waiting rooms, and wish the Council could use some influence with the Railway Company to better matters.

Sanitary inspection of the district is systematically carried out by the officials.

SICKNESS DURING THE YEAR.

Enteric Fever.—Odd cases were noted from time to time, totalling 16 in all. Several of these did not turn out to be of such character, and in some others void of definite typical symptoms, but running a continued temperature, were isolated in hospital as a preventive measure. One death only is attributed to it, which speaks for itself.

Scarlet Fever.—The 37 cases notified, as against 128 in 1911 and 250 in 1910, were pretty equally distributed throughout the twelve months, that of July only being free; this month having the credit of being the first in 21 years without a case being notified. Twenty-three were isolated, or over 60%, and the mortality equal to about 5%.

Diphtheria (and Membranous Croup).—Of these we had a diminution in the numbers notified of 50% on previous year, and like Scarlet were pretty equally spread over the year. Considering the fact that some of the cases are almost in extremis when sent into hospital, it is some satisfaction to note that the fatalities were only 2. *Serum* is supplied free by your Council, both for prevention and treatment, on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

Erysipelas contributed one-half the number of those in previous year, and to which one death was then recorded; this year there was no fatality. It is chiefly of the traumatic type, and does not call for comment further than its notification leads to enquiry and inspection of the *locus in quo*—an essential point if insanitary surroundings are found to exist.

Puerperal Fever.—Of the seven cases reported, one unfortunately proved fatal. This illness, with *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*, is immediately referred to Preston; and special investigation made by Inspectors of Midwives.

Smallpox has luckily been entirely absent again, but protection by vaccination gets seriously less year by year. We have means at hand for isolation in case of need.

Measles was imported towards the close of the year; to which I have to refer specially in reply to the Local Government Board request, and leave it at that for the present.

Whooping Cough was mostly prevalent in April, lingering on through months of June and July; and it occurred in all parts. It occasioned five deaths, showing a rate of 0·22 per 1,000.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis occasioned 11 deaths, all under five years of age; eight being under twelve months. Showing a rate of 0·50. We had not anything like the amount of sickness as we had in 1911; the fatalities then were 57.

Respiratory Diseases (Bronchitis and Pneumonia) caused 70 deaths, of which 15 were under one year old. The rate being 3·19 against 3·46 in 1911. Climatic influences throughout the year no doubt having a marked influence.

Pulmonary Phthisis showed a rate of 0·52 against 0·78 previous year, and against a mean of 0·66 for mean of ten years (1901–1910). As you are aware this white scourge is receiving pressing attention. Compulsory notification of both pulmonary and localised forms is in force. Cards of instructions are issued after notification, and shortly sputa cups will be provided free of cost; a cheap, efficient form being on order—these will be burned after use. Sanatoria or hospital isolation has yet to be decided upon.

Factories and Workshops.—Inspection of these is undertaken by myself, Sanitary Inspector, and the Health Visitor. Generally speaking, we do not find much to complain of. Limewashing, small repairs, and indications as to necessity for cleanliness and fresh air are the chief points brought forward.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

In calculating the several rates I have based them on the population estimated as accurately as possible to 1st July—the middle of the year.

The deaths actually registered in the township were 260, inclusive of four outward transfers. The net, with 22 inward transfers, shows the gross mortality to be 278, therefore the *General Death-rate* of 12·6 against 15·2 the year before is less by 2·6 per 1,000, and is the *record*, being 0·3 less than in 1910.

Zymotic-rate works out (without Diarrhœa) to 0·59 against 1·30 last year. With Diarrhœa and Enteritis (the deaths under two years of age from these now being classified to Diarrhœa, and under a Zymotic character) gives a rate of 1·04 against 2·84, so that these rates are very satisfactory.

Birth-rate, 31, shows a rise of 3 per 1,000 on the previous year; a small increase to be thankful for. And as regards the *Infantile Death-rate*, a decided reduction is notable, it being so low as 104 against 148 for 1911, and against a mean for the decade 1901–10 of 158. This is very appreciable.

The number of illegitimate children born were in Central, 5; North, 0; South, 0; East, 7; West, 2; total 14. As against 8 illegitimates dying last year under twelve months old, not one was referred to in 1912.

Old Age.—Twenty-seven males and 37 females died over 65 years of age. The average age being about 70 years each.

Concerning deaths from violence there were 14 in all, and inquests held, and of which five were referred from outside (Wigan Infirmary); and of the total, one was due to motor car accident, one to fall downstairs, and the remaining twelve to mining fatalities.

<i>Births</i> during the year ...	Males	354	Females	346	—total	700
<i>Deaths</i> .. .. .	..	139	..	139	..	278
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Net increase		215		207		422
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Bringing the population up to 22,160 on 1st January, 1913.

Note.—That in second half-year, with usually a heavy September quarter, the mortality was 39 less than in the first half-year.

Mortality at subjoined ages.—Under one year, 73; one and under two, 14; two and under five, 15; total under five, 102; five to fifteen, 13; fifteen to twenty-five, 19; twenty-five to forty-five, 28; forty-five to sixty-five, 62; sixty-five and upwards, 54; total over five, 176—making gross, 278.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARD TABLE.

1912.	C.	N.	S.	E.	W.	Total.
Approx. population on 1st						
January	6,995	2,685	1,812	5,318	4,928	21,738
Births to 1st July.....	135	36	32	83	76	362
Deaths to 1st July.....	57	24	15	44	17	157
Net increase	78	12	17	39	59	205
Making population on 1st						
July	7,073	2,697	1,829	5,387	4,987	21,943

JULY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST.

	C.	N.	S.	E.	W.	Total.
Births.....	106	45	31	84	72	338
Deaths	45	11	10	37	18	121
Net increase	61	34	21	47	54	217
Making population on 1st						
January, 1913	7,134	2,731	1,850	5,404	5,041	22,160

Means for Preventing Mortality in Childbirth and in Infancy.—In this connection I refer you to my remarks in last year's report, and would advise your reading the Lady Health Visitor's report (appended). In it you will see a note *re* prolonged lactation—breast feeding. The prevailing idea is that the longer this is continued the more deferred is a future pregnancy—a factor perhaps, to some extent, in keeping down birth-rate, but at the same time a task upon the mother's health.

Another point is the use of the "dummy" teat. This is resorted to as a temporary *soother*, but when opportunity serves I always strongly deprecate its use, and advise immediate discontinuance—a course which I trust is followed by all medical practitioners.

I wish to congratulate the Lady Health Visitor on her attention to duty. From outside information I am led to the opinion that her work is annually growing in value as regards attention to the new born, and therefore conducive to some saving of infantile life.

All puerperal cases, as also those of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, are dealt with through Preston, as head centre, and receive the earliest possible attention; and detailed enquiry by the Inspectors of Midwives.

My concluding paragraph in the bulk of my reports in past years has been chiefly one of appeal to the then existing Council to carry out measures and requirements essential for improving the general sanitary state of the district; that the whole associations relative to raising the hygienic status of things should be such as conduced to free us from "preventable" sickness, alleviation of, and reduction in non-preventable illness, to foster and build up from infancy the growing population so that the future physique and stamina of the adult should show something better than the past. To attain such an end the fundamental principles are efficient drainage, lighting, ventilating, streetage, etc., etc., and under the Housing and Town Planning Act we are well assisted in getting gradually cleared of undesirable habitations—the area of which if not again re-built on after demolition affords an additional supply of purer air to circulate in the immediate vicinity.

I beg to thank my Council, and also the several officials, for their continued and courteous assistance given to me at all times.

I remain, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

NATHAN HANNAH,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD,
February 4th, 1913.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have to report that during the year 1912 I paid, under the Notification of Births Act, 2,262 visits; of these 713 were first visits and 1,549 were re-visits.

Some of the mothers with whom I have come in contact have many difficulties to contend with, and although some belong to the careless class, others who are intelligent and careful have not always the time or the convenience to do what is necessary for the baby; to the mothers of these new-born babies the advice leaflet is given and the mother instructed in all matters in which she needs advice; and these measures made possible by the Notification of Births Act, carry help to the home and give assistance at the right time.

The important recommendation to mothers to breast-feed their babies, is always a first consideration; condensed milk is, however, still largely used, and unsuitable articles are often given in the way of food.

The bottles when in use are not always clean. The efforts made to suppress the long-tube bottle have met with an amount of success; the boat bottle has been adopted by many mothers as a substitute.

The breast-fed babies, who escape the perils of the bottle of whatever type, have in some cases the weaning postponed far too long. Many of the babies are exposed to the risks of the "dummy teat"; this appliance being seldom clean and often very dirty.

Some of the mothers are too long in putting warmer clothing on the children. There seems to be a mistaken idea on their part that medicine can take the place of suitable food and sufficient clothing.

An increasing number of infants, varying in age from a few weeks to several months, have been systematically weighed, and details kept of any increase or decrease in weight.

*Investigations were made into the deaths of all children dying during the first year of life ; of the 74 deaths, 25 children survived birth for a very short time ; 19 of these died before the first visit was paid.

249 miscellaneous visits were made ; some of these were at your request. Some were in connection with the dirty and verminous child of school age, to addresses furnished by the School Attendance Officer. Others were to cases of Ophthalmia, Diarrhœa, etc. ; and some were cases which came under my notice when on my rounds.

Some actual nuisances were reported to the Inspector of Nuisances, including overcrowding, dirty and dilapidated walls and ceilings, dilapidated slopstones, waste pipes too short, defective roofs and gutters, defective settings around surface gullies, absence of closet doors, etc.

In addition, I have had " talks "† with the mothers about the late hours of going to bed of the children, the want of cleanliness of the clothing ; and in some instances, the lack of cleanliness and want of ventilation of the beds and bedding, and the condition of the dishes used at mealtimes, etc.

SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC., PAID, 1912.

Notification of Births' Act	2,262
Infant Mortality Investigations	74
Inspection of Workshops.....	39
Miscellaneous Visits	249
Interviews	39

I am,

Yours obediently,

M. E. HAWORTH,

Health Visitor.

Dr. HANNAH,
Ashton-in-Makerfield.

*Footnote by the Medical Officer of Health :—" One of these was an outward transfer to Preston, so that the Tables III. and IV. tally in the totals."
†Referred to in Summary as " Interviews."

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
Factories	21	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops	88	3	Nil.
Workplaces	36	4	Nil.
Total	145	7	Nil.

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of cleanliness	7	7
Sanitary accommodation—insufficient	1	1
Total	8	8

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

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

Dressmakers, Tailors, etc.	34
Lock and Hinge Makers	31
Bakers and Confectioners	23
Joiners, Builders, Painters and Plumbers	15
Boot, Shoe and Clog Manufacturers.....	16
Shoeing Smiths	3
Mineral Water Manufacturers	3
Motor and Bicycle Repairers	3
Stocking Knitters	5
Laundries	2
Miscellaneous	10
Total number of workshops on register.....	145

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	3
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.....	1
Total	5

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH DURING THE
YEAR 1912.

Foul privies and ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Stopped drains, gullies, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
Broken plaster on walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Defective roofs and spouts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Houses required cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
„ waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ paving in yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ around gullies and cement aprons required	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Dilapidated floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ slopstones	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ privies and ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Pail doors off	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Unpaved yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cowsheds required cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Workshops required cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Privy middens converted to pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Articles fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	730
									—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1738
									—

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING INSPECTIONS.

During the year I have inspected 606 houses in accordance with the requirements of the above Act.

Appended is a list of defects found in connection with the houses at time of my inspection:—

Houses required cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Broken walls and plaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Pail doors off	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Stopped drains, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Defective spouts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
„ roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Window frames loose, broken window cords, and fast window	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Dilapidated floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
„ doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ slopstones	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ yard walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Unpaved yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
No pantries or food stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	491

The cowsheds and dairies have been inspected and generally found clean and in good order; practically the whole of the cowsheds are good brick buildings, well lighted and ventilated. The cowsheds number 48, 6 of which required limewashing and cleansing at time of my visits. There are only 2 dairies and 1 milkshop, all of which are kept clean.

The slaughter-houses have been regularly inspected and found clean, some of which are not often used; and I may say there is only one at the present time where any slaughtering is done worth speaking of.

I am,

Yours obediently,

DAVID GAMBLE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1912 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT				
		Un-corrected Number	Nett Number	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non-registered residents in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
									Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907...	21237	711	...	33.4	315	14.8	...	21	122	171	336	15.7
1908...	21601	727	...	33.5	307	14.2	...	21	104	143	328	15.1
1909...	21960	710	...	32.3	323	14.7	...	16	94	131	339	15.4
1910...	22394	706	...	31.5	275	12.2	...	15	96	136	290	12.9
1911...	21636	605	607	28.0	302	13.4	2	25	90	148	325	15.0
1912...	21943	700	...	31.9	260	11.8	4	22	73	104	278	12.6

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)..... 6,125
 At Census of 1911—Total population at all ages..... 21,543
 Number of inhabited houses 4,088
 Average number of persons per house . 5.27

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1912.
District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Notifiable Diseases	Number of Cases Notified at Ages—Years						Total Cases Notified in each Locality					Total Cases Removed to Hospital		
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and Upwds	Central Ward	North Ward	South Ward		East Ward	West Ward
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	25	—	9	9	3	4	—	—	10	3	—	9	3	16
Erysipelas.....	13	—	—	—	3	4	5	1	5	3	1	3	1	—
Scarlet Fever	37	2	12	21	2	—	—	—	8	7	2	7	13	23
Enteric Fever	16	1	1	6	5	3	—	—	5	—	2	4	5	14
Puerperal Fever ...	7	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	3	—	—	2	2	—
Pul. Tuberculosis...	25	—	2	3	8	9	3	—	12	1	3	5	4	—
Ophthal. Neon.	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Totals	127	7	24	39	24	24	8	1	44	15	8	31	29	53

Isolation Hospitals—Bryn Road and Golborne Road.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1912.
District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District (a)										Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the District (b)
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards		
All Cases—Certified	67	14	15	12	19	28	61	53			
Uncertified	6	-	-	1	1	-	1	1			
Enteric Fever	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-		1	
Measles	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-		2	
Whooping Cough	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
Diphtheria and Croup	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-		2	
Influenza	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2		1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	18	1	-	1	7	4	3	-		-	
Tuberculous Meningitis	5	1	1	1	1	-	-	-		-	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	1	1	2	-	1	-	-		-	
Cancer, malignant disease	20	-	2	-	-	2	11	5		-	
Rheumatic Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		-	
Meningitis.....	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-		-	
Organic Heart Disease	19	-	-	-	1	3	9	6		-	

TABLE III.—Continued.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1912.
District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District (a)										Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the District (b)
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards			
Bronchitis.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	10	18			
Pneumonia (all forms)	13	6	5	1	2	3	5	4			
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1			
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	8	2	1	—	—	—	—	—			
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1			
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2			
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—			
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—			
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	—	—	1	—	2	6	6	—			
Other Defined Diseases	5	1	2	2	3	4	14	15			
All Causes	73	14	15	13	19	28	62	54	18		

All Causes 278

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1913.
Deaths from Stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.
 District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
	All Causes—Certified	18	1	—	7	26	12	11	9	9	67
Uncertified	2	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	1	6
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	4
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	1	1	5	—	4	3	13
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4
Enteritis	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	4
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Premature Birth	14	1	—	3	18	3	—	—	—	21
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	5
Other Causes	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	3
All Causes	20	1	—	9	30	12	12	9	10	73
Nett Births in the year—Legitimate	686									
Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants.....	68									
Illegitimate	14									
Illegitimate Infants.....	5									

TABLE C.

Summary of Medical Officers' Report for 1912.

Urban District of Ashton-in-Makerfield.

Medical Officer of Health, Nathan Hannah—Salary £125. Inspector of Nuisances, David Gamble—Salary £130.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation ? For Smallpox (as hitherto), 8 beds, at Edge Green Lane. For other Infectious Diseases, 36 beds, at Bryn Road.

Is it joint or otherwise ? Not joint.

No. of beds available for your District ? For Smallpox, 8. For other Infectious Diseases, 36.

No. of Cases removed to Hospital from your District ? Smallpox, Nil. Enteric Fever, 14. Diphtheria, 16. Scarlet Fever, 23. Total, 53.

Deaths in Hospital of Patients from your District ? From what causes ? Diphtheria, 2. Scarlet, 2.

TABLE C.—Continued.

How is Disinfection carried out ? 4,210 Houses, Sulphur and Formalin. No. of Houses Disinfected ? 96. Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) ? Steam. Where is Apparatus situated ? Hospital.

If Apparatus at a Hospital is available is it used for the Disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital ? Yes.

No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases reported under the Notification Act ? 102.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken Pox, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, &c.) ? If so, what are they ? Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Diseases specially prevalent ? No heavy outbreak (see context).

Any Schools Closed ? No.

Bacteriological Examinations. No. and nature of Specimens Examined ? One on two Diphtheria Swabs examined. Arrangement (if any) made under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910 ? Free Supply, both for prevention and treatment.

Register kept by Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE C.—Continued.

<p>“ The Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909.”</p>	<p>Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Article 2. If so, what officer? Inspector of Nuisances.</p> <p>Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained? Yes.</p> <p>Action taken in 1912:—</p> <p>No. of dwelling-houses inspected under Section 17 of the Act of 1909? 606.</p> <p>No. of Dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation? (See context.)</p> <p>No. of Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders?</p> <p>No. of Closing Orders made?</p> <p>No. of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders?</p> <p>No. of Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders?</p> <p>No. of Dwelling-houses demolished?</p> <p>General character of Defects found to exist? Cracked walls, plaster off, and the like.</p>
<p>From where is the Water Supply obtained?</p> <p>What is its condition?</p> <p>Is it subject to your inspection?</p>	<p>Rivington, and Council's Reservoir.</p> <p>Good.</p> <p>Yes.</p>
<p>Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily?</p> <p>How performed (by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses)?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>By S. A.</p>
<p>How is the Refuse disposed of?</p> <p>Has a Destructor been provided?</p>	<p>At tipping places.</p> <p>No.</p>

TABLE C.—Continued.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of treatment ? What is the character of the Drainage System ?	International. Septic beds and irrigation. General subsidences lead to sagging and dislocation of drains.
Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?	Nil.
Canal Boats: Number Inspected ?	Nil. Number of Infringements of Acts ? Nil.
What is the Condition of the Bakehouses ? Slaughter-houses ? Lodging-houses ?	Very fair. Improved. Has a Public Abattoir been provided ? No. Nil.
What is the Sanitary Condition of the Schools ?	Good.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops. Are they periodically inspected ? Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ? Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ? Number of Cowkeepers ? Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) ?	Yes. What is their condition ? Good. Yes. Are they enforced ? Yes. 800 cubic feet, where cows are kept up. 48. " 3.
Total amount of Food seized as unfit for Human Consumption ? Number of Carcases and parts of Carcases condemned for Tuberculosis ? Number of Legal Proceedings, and result ?	Nil. Nil. Nil.

TABLE C.—Continued.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances ?	Number of Notices served ? 249. Nuisances remedied ? 814. Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result ? Nil.
Closet Accommodation of the District ?	Number of Privy Middens ? 20. Pail Closets ? 3,647. Fresh Water Closets ? 449. Waste Water Closets ? 25. Number of Privy Middens converted during 1912 ? To W.C.'s, Nil. To Pails, &c., 91. Number of Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s ? Nil. Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion of either privies or pail closets, or both ? If so, how much ? No.
Smoke.	No action in regard thereto.
Has the Authority adopted—	“ The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ” ? Yes. “ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 ” ? Yes. “ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ” ? Yes. “ The Notification of Births Act, 1907 ” ? Yes.
Has a Health Visitor been appointed ?	Yes.
Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1912	Paving, curbing, and channelling, &c., of streets. Renovation of ill-conditioned houses. Closing, &c., of houses unfit for occupation.
Chief Sanitary requirements of District.	Continued attention to unpaved streets and yards; the same to houses. The carrying out of Sewage Scheme now awaiting sanction of the Local Government Board. Demolition of old privy middens.