

Contributors

Ashton-upon-Mersey (Cheshire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1898

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1898

ASHTON-upon-MERSEY URBAN DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. Charles J. Renshaw.

Population at Census 1891	-	4,234	
Estimated Population 1898	-	5,200	
Area in acres.	-	1,622	
Birth rate per 1000 living		25.3	
Death rate per 1000 living		18.7	
Death rate for seven principal zymotic diseases		3.2	
Deaths under one year to 1000	<i>births</i>	180.4	
<i>Deaths under one year</i> 24	<i>per 1000</i>	2.2	<i>Total deaths 83</i>
	4th. Annual Report.		<i>Total births 133</i>

Cases of Infectious diseases notified.

Scarlet fever - 6 cases - one fatal.

Diphtheria - 9 cases - two fatal

Typhoid fever - ~~4~~ cases

Erysipelas - 6 cases

Measles ¹⁵⁵ ~~146~~ cases - ¹⁰ ~~8~~ fatal

Diarrhoea (not notified -) ~~4~~ fatal

Whooping cough 7 cases

¹⁸⁹⁸ During January, three cases ~~were reported~~ of Diphtheria, ^{these} cases occurred in one house and were traced to importation. The Local Board's attention was called to this; a child in the same house suffered from a very slight attack in October, this case was also supposed to be imported, on each occasion very careful search was made for any possible cause of infection on the premises, but none was found.

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Population at Census 1891	-	4,234
Estimated Population 1898	-	5,250
Area in acres.	-	1,622
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Death rate per 1000 living		17.7

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Deaths under one year to 1000 births 180.4

Deaths under one year to 1000 births under one year 22

4th Annual Report.

Cases of infectious diseases notified.

Scarlet fever - 6 cases - one fatal.

Diphtheria - 9 cases - two fatal

Typhoid fever - 4 cases

Erysipelas - 6 cases

Measles - 176 cases - 1 fatal

Diarrhoea (not notified) - 4 fatal

Whooping cough 7 cases

During January, three cases were reported of diphtheria, these

cases occurred in one house and were traced to importation. The

Local Board's attention was called to this; a child in the same house

suffered from a very slight attack in October, this case was also

supposed to be imported, on each occasion very careful search was

made for any possible cause of infection on the premises, but none

was found.

During the early part of the year there were a few cases of
whooping cough, consequent on an epidemic at the end of 1897, this
as also measles is now a notifiable disease, which gives your Sanitary
Committee much more power to act promptly in case of necessity.

These did not appear to be sufficient to alter the teaching arrange-
ments as far as the schools were concerned, but strict surveillance
was used to keep any child so suffering from attending school.

12/1/98 On the subsidence of whooping cough, an epidemic of measles
appeared in part of your Authority, chiefly that of St. Martin's
Ward, and owing to the numbers of children suffering it was deemed
necessary to close the school of St. Martin's, this had the desired
effect, for the measles very rapidly lessened in number after the
closing.

Of scarlet fever we have had a few sporadic cases, but no
spreading of the disease in any case, showing that the disinfecting
was well done and of a good system.

There have been 4 cases of typhoid, the infected cases
The Moss Side tip at Cross Street has been kept in good order.

but Barton Brook has been a bone of contention, and has been a source
of danger to the community. There have been many complaints from
smells at the north west part of the Authority, especially from the
direction of the Moss Side sewage, and the Authorities
on that side, as well as altering their drainage have been induced
to promise to plant more trees along their land as the smell can so
be to a large extent prevented, especially if these trees be pines
or poplars, the poplars rapidly absorbing moisture from the ground.

and the pines giving off ozone. The effect has been to
keep the air pure and healthy, and the pines have been planted
in the Moss Side tip at Cross Street.

Needers much of which
Two diseases frequent in your Authority, ^{some time} ago, ^{now} consumption and rheumatic fever, have lessened considerably in the past few years, the chief causes ^{are} ^{attributed} to the purer air, partly caused by the number of pine trees planted by the late Mr. Samuel Brooks and Sir W. Brooks in the neighbourhood, ^{and} the better draining of the land, ^{together} with healthier houses and cottages; fresh air and sunlight being a destroyer of the microbe of consumption, and the most powerful aids to health.

The great heat of August and September - 92° in the shade, did good, the illness during these months was slight and the death rate low, there were a number of cases of diarrhoea, ^{how} ^{some} of which in young children were fatal. In connection with this disease, we require the assistance of each householder, to allow no decaying matter, preventible, to remain near the houses, not to put vegetable matter or water into the ashpit, but to use the ashes freely in connection with these pits.

The Vaccination Act, as now passed, was intended to lessen the friction in its working by deleting the compulsory clauses, it remains to be seen if it will be a success or not, A proposal was made for the Bucklow district that it would be necessary to have a small pox hospital, this matter is one for grave consideration, for it is of the greatest possible difficulty to prevent the spread of that dire disease when it invades a district unless free and extensive vaccination be immediately had resource to, vaccination is the only preventive. It is almost impossible to get nurses to watch the cases of small pox especially if the case be in a cottage.

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Consented to by *John*

Your Authority has ~~joined~~ ^{to be built} Withington in their ~~contagion~~ hospital new building at Baguley, an extremely wise course to have adopted, but small pox patients cannot be taken into that hospital; they must either be dealt with in their own homes or in a hospital or building used exclusively for small pox, *Isolation may be a means of lessening its spread.*

Many houses where the drains have been found to be bad have been attended to, but there are still many at fault, these by degrees will be remedied; new drains have been put down and ~~are~~ acting well. ~~No case that could be attributed to faulty sewers has been reported,~~ *The* sewage effluent is satisfactory, the willow drainage beds are acting very well, your effluent being amongst the best reported by Professor Roscoe. These beds in consideration of the increase of the population in the future should be enlarged.

The shippons and slaughter houses are in good order.

No diseased meat or tuberculous cows have been reported.

In October 4 cases of diphtheria were reported, these were all treated by means of antitoxin, and all have recovered.

The water supplied by the Cheshire Water Company has been of excellent quality, though not always in sufficient quantity, this latter will I understand not need to be mentioned in the future.

The following have been issued by your Authority during 1898, not previously

Medical Officer and issuing Order re isolation of infectious cases - prosecution in cases of exposure.

Flushing sewers in hot weather.

Moss Lane (new sewers completed early in this year)

Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops Order adopted.

Tip land purchase - agreement signed

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Harboro Road (new sewer laid to portion of Road)

Nuisances abated at

Eves Hey.

Ba~~z~~wick place.

Church lane.

Mersey Road (recent properties)

Southern Road do.

Stamford Street.

Byelaws are now before the Local Board.

Your Committee visit^{ed} Stretford and Moss Side Sewage Farms.

Circulars, re water in ashpits. *now issued*

Disinfection in cases of consumption, persons dying.

~~Deaths from consumption.~~

Plans approved and application made to Local Government Board
for power to borrow money for

Tip land purchase

Moss Lane new Sewer.

Harboro Road new sewer.

Dumber lane sewer.

Bacteriological examination in connection with Owens College
Laboratory, will shortly be arranged.

Harbors Road (new sewer laid to portion of Road)

Misses Abate at

River Hwy.

Babcock Place.

Church Lane.

Mersey Road (recent properties)

Southern Road do.

Stanford Street.

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Your Committee visited Stanford and Moss Side Sewage Farms.

Circulars, re water in asphalte. (and water)

Disinfection in cases of consumption, persons dying.

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