

[Report 1907] / Medical Officer of Health, Aspull U.D.C.

Contributors

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ASPULL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

—000—

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1907.

R. PLATT, LTD., PRINTERS, WIGAN.

TABLE XII.

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1907.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

Area in Statute Acres—1905. Population (Census) 1901—8380. Population (Estimated) 1907—8380.
 Name of Medical Officer of Health, L. COOKE. Salary £35.

Births Registered—Male, 126; Female, 115. Total, 241.

Deaths registered (^{Nett Deaths belonging to the District})—Male, 70; Female, 67. Total, 137.

No of Illegitimate Births registered—9. Deaths of Illegitimates under one year of age—4.

Birth Rate—28·75. Death Rate—16·34. Rate of Infant Deaths, under 1 year, to 1,000 Births—161·8.

Death Rate from the *seven principal epidemic Diseases per 1,000 of population—2·980.

Diseases prevalent—Measles. Period—January, February and March.

What action taken? Any Schools Closed—Yes. If so, for what disease—Measles.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation? For Small-pox, Good; For other Infectious Diseases, Good.

† Is it joint or otherwise? (*See footnote*). Joint—Two Guineas per week for each patient, but no retaining fee is paid.

Number of Beds available for your District—50.

Number of cases treated—Enteric Fever, 6; Scarlet Fever, 2. Total, 8.

Deaths in Hospital—None.

How is Disinfection carried out? Houses—Fumigation. Clothing, Bedding, &c.—Treated at the Wigan Sanatorium.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease Notified—80.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken Pox, &c.)? If so, what are they? No.

Has any arrangement been made for the "voluntary" notification of Phthisis—No.

Is Diphtheritic Anti-toxin supplied to Medical Practitioners free of charge.—Yes.

Action taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act."—No. of Houses condemned, 10; Closed, None; Demolished, None; Made habitable, 10.

From where is the Water Supply obtained, and what is its condition? Is it subject to your Inspection? Rivington Watershed, via Bolton—The supply, owing to want of pressure in the mains, is deficient.

The appearance of the water is at times not good.

Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily—Yes. By Sanitary Authority, Contract, or otherwise—Contract.

How is the Refuse disposed of—Deposited on Farm lands. Has a Destructor been provided—No.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal—Good, taken by Wigan.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses—Good.

Slaughter Houses—One condemned. Has a Public Abattoir been provided—No.

Lodging Houses—None.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops:—Are they periodically inspected—Yes. What is their condition—Good.

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the Local Government Board—Yes. Are they enforced—Yes.

What amount of air space in cubic feet is required for each Cow—600 Cubic Feet.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances:—No. of Notices served—126. Nuisances remedied—126. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result—None.

Closet Accommodation of the District:—No. of Privy Middens—935. Pail Closets—24. Fresh Water Closets—46. Waste Water Closets—15. No. of Privy Middens converted during 1907—To W.C.'s, None; To Pails, &c., None.

* Small-pox; Scarlet Fever; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup; Fever—Typhus, Enteric, and continued; Measles; Whooping Cough and Diarrhoea.

† If you have the Joint use of the Isolation Hospital belonging to neighbouring Authority state nature of agreement. Is any retaining Fee paid?

TABLE XIII.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1907,
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ASPULL,

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of Inspections. (2)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	2
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	34
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	2
Total... ..	<u>38</u>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Premises. (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>			
Want of cleanliness	1	1	...
Sanitary accommodation—unsuitable or defective ...	1	...	1
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Total number of Workshops on Register 26.

Dated February 10th, 1908.

(Signature)

L. COOKE,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE XI.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1907.

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	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	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	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes—Certified ...	7	...	...	2	9	2	3	3	5	2	3	2	3	4	1	2	39
Measles... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Diarrhœa, all forms ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, } Gastro-enteritis }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal } Catarrh }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Births ...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Congenital Defects ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Want of Breast-milk Starvation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculous Peritonitis: } Tabes Mesenterica }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	4
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Other Causes ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	7	...	...	2	9	2	3	3	5	2	3	2	3	4	1	2	39

Population (Estimated to middle of 1907)—8380.

Births in the year—Legitimate 232; illegitimate 9.

Deaths in the year of—Legitimate infants 35; illegitimate infants 4.

Deaths from **all causes at all ages**—137.

TABLE IX.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1907.
DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT. At Ages—Years.					Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At All Ages.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	5	4	1	...	...	...
Erysipelas... ..	14	...	1	3	10	...
Scarlet Fever	46	8	35	3	...	2
Enteric Fever	15	1	3	4	7	6
Totals	80	13	40	10	17	8

Isolation Hospital: SANATORIUM, WIGAN.

TABLE X.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1907.

Cause of Death.	DISTRICT OF ASPULL.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Measles	7	1	6	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	3	1	2	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Fever—Enteric	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
Diarrhoea	11	8	3	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Other Tubercular Diseases...	6	2	3	0	1	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease	4	0	0	0	0	3	1
Bronchitis... ..	13	2	1	1	0	3	6
Pneumonia	25	9	7	0	2	6	1
Pleurisy	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	1	1	1	0	1	0
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver...	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Premature Birth.....	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Heart Diseases	8	0	0	1	0	7	0
Accidents	5	0	0	0	2	3	0
All other causes	35	10	3	1	12	9	0
All causes ..	137	39	30	4	17	39	8

Area of District in acres }
 (exclusive of area } 1905.
 covered by water).

Total population at all ages ... 8380 }
 Number of inhabited houses ... 1616 } At
 Average number of persons per house 5 } Census
 of 1901

I	II	III
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
Nil	Wigan Infirmary Wigan Sanatorium for Infectious Disease.	Nil

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No: at Wigan.

TABLE VIII.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1907 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
 DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

YEAR	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year.
1897...	8952	308	166	49
1898...	"	291	169	45
1899...	9000	313	162	64
1900...	"	309	173	57
1901...	8380	310	187	47
1902...	"	308	166	47
1903..	"	316	178	58
1904...	"	327	151	49
1905...	"	291	154	61
1906...	"	292	133	33
Averages of Years 1897 to 1906	8618	306	163	51
1907...	8380	241	137	39

Total number of Closets in District	...	...	...	...	...	935
" " Fresh Water do in District	...	...	...	...	...	46
" " Waste do.	"	...	...	...	...	15
" " Pail do.	"	...	...	...	...	24
Total						1080

No offensive trades have been carried on during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

L. COOKE,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE VII.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1907 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED. IN THE DISTRICT				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					Number	Rate*
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births regist'd	Number	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1897	8952	308	34.7	49	159.0	166	18.5	...	...	...	166	18.5
1898	8952	291	32.5	45	154.6	169	18.8	...	...	...	169	18.8
1899	9000	313	34.7	64	204.4	162	18.0	...	...	...	162	18.0
1900	9000	309	34.3	57	184.1	172	19.2	...	...	...	173	19.2
1901	8380	310	36.9	47	151.6	187	22.3	...	...	7	187	22.3
1902	"	308	35.5	47	152.5	166	19.3	...	...	4	166	19.3
1903	"	316	37.7	58	183.5	178	21.3	...	...	10	178	21.3
1904	"	327	39.0	49	149.8	151	18.01	...	...	10	151	18.01
1905	"	291	34.6	61	209.6	154	18.3	...	...	3	154	18.3
1906	"	292	34.8	33	113.01	125	14.9	...	...	8	133	15.8
Averages for years 1897-1906	8618	306	35.3	51	166.2	163	18.8	...	...	7	163.9	18.9
1907	8380	241	28.7	39	161.8	133	15.8	...	...	4	137	16.3

* Rate in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

It has not been necessary to draw your attention to any insanitary condition of workshops. The larger number are small,—only employing two or three workmen,—and without exception they are kept clean and in good condition.

Drainage is good, and Sewage dealt with by the Wigan Authorities.

Cowsheds and Dairies are satisfactory.

Periodical inspections of the district have been made by myself and your Nuisance Inspector, and any sanitary defects of minor importance have been remedied.

I regret to have to report unfavourably upon the water supply. Last year I drew your attention to this vital question, but since that time there has been no improvement,—rather the reverse. During the greater part of several days in each week a large part of the Township is without water, the consequence being that water is drawn in the evening and stored in buckets or other receptacles for the next day's use. Much waste of water and inconvenience is entailed; but this is trifling when compared with the danger to the health of the consumers. The quality of the water after being churned up in the pipes leaves much to be desired,—it is often discoloured, and presents a most unpalatable appearance. Your frequent representations and deputations to those responsible for the supply have so far been fruitless.

The Township is steadily improving in its general sanitation; the paving of back streets and yards is kept well in hand, and privy accommodation is good. I should like, however, to remind you of a previous suggestion to substitute water-carriage wherever possible, especially in crowded districts where the conveniences are close together.

On October 17th, Mr. Hy. Gibson, your Sanitary Officer reported that two carcasses of cows were partially buried in a field belonging to the Lucas Nook Farm. These were removed and buried in an efficient manner, being covered with lime. He also reported two cows in an emaciated condition on the premises of the same farm. The owner consented to their destruction, which was carried out, and the carcasses buried under the direction of your Sanitary Officers.

The Sanitary Officer's Report will be found below.

SANITARY OFFICER'S REPORT.

Nature of Nuisance				Abated.		Not Abated.
Dirty Houses	...	...	75	...	75	...
Overcrowded Houses	...	...	12	...	12	...
Defective Drainage, including						
Stopped Gullies	...	...	39	...	39	...
			<u>126</u>	...	<u>126</u>	...
Houses Fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	50
Schools Fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Closets	...	...	...	...	...	17

TABLE IV.

SHEWING DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN 1907

Diseases.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fevers {	Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
	Relapsing ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Puerperal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles ..	0	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Chickenpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Scarlet Fever.....	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Totals.....	0	1	7	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	14

Table (IV.) gives the number of deaths during each month from the principal Infectious Diseases, and shews the distribution of the fatal cases during the outbreak of Measles already referred to.

TABLE VI.

Disease.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Death Rate per 1,000 Total Deaths.
Zymotic Disease	25	2.980	182.48
Pulmonary Disease.....	44	5.250	313.87
Tubercular Disease	8	.954	58.39.

Before passing on to other matters, I should like to draw your attention also to the attached Table (VI.), which contrasts the Death-rate from three great groups of Disease, viz., Zymotic, Pulmonary, and Tubercular disease respectively.

This Table also gives the Death-rate per 1000 total deaths from these diseases, and shews that for every 1000 persons who die, approximately 182 are carried off by Zymotic Disease, 313 by Pulmonary complaints, while 58 deaths are due to infection with Tuberculosis.

In July the inadequate sanitary accommodation at Dicconson Mill Weaving Shed was brought under your notice. I had two interviews with the managers, who expressed themselves willing to carry out any suggestions of your Sanitary officers, but asked for an extension of time, owing to proposed alterations and additions to the weaving shed then about to be undertaken, which would necessitate the removal of the present sanitary conveniences to another site. Your Council agreed to allow a period of six months for the completion of the sanitary alterations, and this arrangement received the sanction of H.M. Inspector of Factories.

The unhealthy condition of various dwelling houses has been brought under your notice during the year, and generally there has not been much difficulty in getting the defects remedied.

In October I condemned the Slaughter-House situated behind Nos. 43-45, Bolton Road, as unfit for its purpose,—for reasons detailed in my report for that month.

TABLE II.

SHEWING MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Mem- branous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Totals.
January.....	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
February	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	9
March	4	0	2	4	1	0	0	11
April	8	1	0	1	2	0	0	12
May	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
June	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	7
July	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	7
August	7	0	1	1	2	0	0	11
September	3	0	1	2	2	0	0	8
October	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	5
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
Totals...	46	1	4	14	15	0	0	80

Table (II.) shews the monthly incidence of Zymotic disease, and from it it will be seen that the greatest number of cases occurred in March, April, and August respectively.

TABLE III.

SHEWING AGE-INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diseases.	Under 1 Year.	1—5 Years.	5—15 Years.	15—25 Years.	25—65 Years.	Over 65 Years.	All Ages.
Scarlet Fever	0	8	35	3	0	0	46
Diphtheria	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Membranous Croup	0	3	1	0	0	0	4
Erysipelas	0	0	1	3	10	0	14
Enteric Fever	0	1	3	4	7	0	15
Continued Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	0	13	40	10	17	0	80

Table (III.) gives the Age-Incidence of the various notifiable diseases, and shews, as might be expected, that by far the greatest numbers of children attacked are between the ages of 5 and 15.

From both these Tables it will be seen that the total number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in accordance with the Act during the year was 80.

The attached Table (I.) gives particulars of the Births and Deaths in the various wards, and in the whole Township during the year.

With regard to Zymotic Disease during the year,—in January a few cases of Measles came under notice in Withington Lane, Top Lock. The disease was of a mild type, and in all probability some cases not discovered were allowed to attend school. That this was most likely was confirmed by the occurrence of an outbreak among the children attending St. John the Baptist Schools,—for whereas in January only 8 cases could be discovered, no less than 73 cases came under notice in the following month. The schools were closed, and by the end of March the outbreak had subsided, seven deaths being attributed to this disease and its complications, Bronchitis and Pneumonia. The epidemic was at first almost exclusively limited to the schools above mentioned, but afterwards the children attending Holy Family Schools became infected, and these were also closed. Measles is looked upon by many parents as an inevitable concomitant of childhood, and consequently many cases do not come under observation until a considerable area has become infected,—with the unfortunate consequences mentioned.

Forty-six cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, the number in each month being as follows: January 2, February 8, March 4, April 8, May 1, June 4, July 5, August 7, September 3, October 2, November 0, December 2.

These were scattered over the various parts of the Township, could not be looked upon as a distinct outbreak, and in most instances it was impossible to find a tangible cause of infection. Isolation was carried out with a fair amount of success, and in nearly every instance the disease was limited to the families attacked.

Five cases of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup were reported,—with one death.

Fifteen cases of Enteric Fever were reported, resulting in 2 deaths. These were scattered over the whole district. The sanitary surroundings were carefully enquired into, and any discoverable defect received the attention of your Sanitary Officer.

TABLE V.

SHEWING ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE FOR 1907.

Disease.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate.
Measles	7	·835
Scarlet Fever	3	·357
Diphtheria	1	·119
(Including Membranous Croup)		
Whooping Cough	1	·119
Enteric Fever	2	·238
Diarrhoea	11	1·312
Totals	25	2·980

The Zymotic Death-rate for the year is 2.980 per 1000, and the total number of deaths attributed to these diseases is 25. This is shewn in the attached Table (V.), which gives the number of deaths, and death-rate for each of six diseases coming under this heading.

The attached Tables (II.), (III.), and (IV.) should also be studied in connection with the above remarks on Infectious Disease during the year.

ASPULL,

Nr. WIGAN,

La

February 10th, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the Aspull Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1907, together with the lists and tables required by the Local Government Board and the County Council.

The health of the Township during the past year has been good, and the Death-rate, although slightly in excess of the previous year, may be considered satisfactory.

The Infantile Death-rate is greater,—six more deaths under 1 year having been registered than in 1906, and this, together with the fact that there were 51 less births in the district during 1907, accounts for the increase in this rate. I should like to take this opportunity of advising your Council to adopt the Notification of Births Act (1907); by its adoption there is a strong probability that the Infantile Mortality rate would in course of time be considerably reduced.

During the year 137 deaths were registered: Males 70, and Females 67.

Births during the year, 241: Males 126, Females 115.

Death-rate for the year	16.34	per 1000.
Average Death-rate for previous 10 years...	18.8	„
Birth-rate for the year	28.759	„
Average Birth-rate for past 10 years	35.3	„
Infantile Mortality-rate	161.8	per 1000 Births.
Average do. do. for past 10 years.	166.2	„

It may be noted that the Birth-rate has been declining for the past 3 or 4 years, and for the past year it is considerably below the average.

TABLE I. BIRTHS AND DEATHS DURING 1907.

BIRTHS.													DEATHS.												
North Ward.			East Ward.			New Springs Ward.			Total.				North Ward.			East Ward.			New Springs Ward.			Total.			
	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	M	F	To- tal	
1907.																									
Jan.	8	3	11	3	4	7	4	5	9	15	12	27	2	—	2	1	2	3	2	1	3	5	3	8	
Feb.	4	10	14	6	3	9	2	1	3	12	14	26	4	1	5	1	—	1	1	3	4	6	4	10	
Mar.	4	5	9	5	2	7	6	2	8	15	9	24	2	3	5	—	2	2	6	4	10	8	9	17	
April	1	1	2	1	1	2	5	3	8	7	5	12	1	1	2	4	1	5	3	5	8	8	7	15	
May	3	2	5	6	3	9	9	3	12	18	8	26	3	—	3	—	3	3	4	1	5	7	4	11	
June	—	1	1	3	2	5	1	7	8	4	10	14	1	1	2	1	2	3	4	4	8	6	7	13	
July	2	—	2	3	3	6	2	4	6	7	7	14	1	1	2	—	2	2	2	2	4	3	5	8	
Aug.	4	1	5	2	2	4	5	8	13	11	11	22	3	3	6	3	1	4	—	2	2	6	6	12	
Sept.	4	3	7	3	1	4	4	3	7	11	7	18	1	1	2	1	—	1	2	3	5	4	4	8	
Oct.	2	5	7	2	2	4	6	3	9	10	10	20	2	2	4	2	2	4	1	4	5	5	8	13	
Nov.	1	3	4	6	3	9	3	5	8	10	11	21	—	2	2	3	3	6	2	1	3	5	6	11	
Dec.	3	2	5	1	2	3	2	7	9	6	11	17	2	1	3	—	1	1	2	1	3	4	3	7	
36 36 72 41 28 69 49 51 100 126 115 241													22 16 38 16 19 35 29 31 60 67 66 133												

Deaths beyond district ... 4

Total Deaths ... 137