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Contributors

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Aspull

Urban District Council.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending 31st December, 1920.



April 13th, 1921.

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

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ending December 31st, 1920.

This Report is based on a Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health to the Medical Officers of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

(A) POPULATION.—The census population of Aspull in 1911 was 8,276.

The estimated population for 1920 was 7,566. This is the figure sent by the Registrar-General, and will be used for the calculation of the birth-rate and death-rate of the district. Last year, owing to the fact that many males of this district were still in the Army, the Registrar-General sent two numbers from which were calculated the birth and death-rate respectively. There is now no need to differentiate between the birth-rate population and the death-rate population. The fluctuations of the number of population are shown in the following table:—

The Census Population in 1881 was	8,111
The Census Population in 1891 was	8,952
The Census Population in 1901 was	8,380
The Census Population in 1911 was	8,276
The Estimated Population in 1920 was	7,566

This table shows a steady fall in population since 1891, and it is feared that the figure will continue to decrease, unless fresh industries are set up or the present ones become more prosperous.

The density of population for 1920 was 3.96 persons per acre.

(B) PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.—Aspull lies N.E. of the County Borough of Wigan, its acreage being 1906. The ground has an upward trend from the Wigan to the North-East boundary. Its height above sea level varies from 250ft. to 500ft.

Except in the New Springs Ward the houses are sparsely scattered throughout the District, large tracts of open moorland intervening. The New Springs Ward is the most low lying part, and is the most densely populated.

(C) SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The chief occupations are Coal Mining, Cotton Manufacture, and Iron and Steel Working. A small portion of the population is engaged in Farming. Except for the tramway service to Wigan the larger part of the population is isolated.

The open moorland is used for recreative purposes, and provides in summer grazing facilities for cattle.

(D) VITAL STATISTICS.—(1) The estimated population for 1920 is 7,566. This has been dealt with above.

(2) BIRTHS.—The total number of births registered during the year was 236. The number is comprised as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	100	126	226
Illegitimate	7	3	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	107	129	236

This figure gives a birth-rate of 31.1 births per 1,000 per annum, which is an increase on last year's birth-rate (24.8 per 1,000 per annum), of 6.3 per 1,000, and an increase over the mean birth-rate of the previous ten years (27.4 per 1,000 per annum) of 3.7 per 1,000.

(3) DEATHS.—The total number of deaths registered for the year was 144. This gives a death-rate of 19.0 per 1,000 per annum. It shows an increase of 3.4 per 1,000 over the previous year's figure 15.6 per 1,000), and an increase of 2.7 per 1,000 over the average rate (16.3 per 1,000) for the previous ten years.

Analysing the total number of deaths we find the causes were:—

	Males.	Females.
All causes	73	71
Enteric Fever	3	—
Measles	3	9
Diphtheria	2	—
Influenza	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	4
Tubercular Meningitis	1	—
Other Tubercular Diseases	—	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	5	2
Rheumatic Fever	1	—
Meningitis	1	1
Organic Heart Disease	4	2
Bronchitis	7	12
Pneumonia (all forms)	14	16
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	4	1
Appendicitis	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
Nephritis	—	1
Congenital Debility, etc.	5	2
Violence (apart from Suicide)	7	2
Other Defined Diseases	11	14

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 27, of which 14 were males, 12 females, and one illegitimate female. This gives an infantile mortality of 110 per 1,000

births. Last year (1919) the rate was 132 per 1,000 births; whilst this figure (110 per 1,000 births) shows a great improvement over last year's figures, yet it does not compare favourably with the figures given for other parts of the country.

The infantile death-rate for 96 large towns, i.e., towns with a census population of over 50,000, was 85 per 1,000 births.

During the past year the County Council have instituted a Child Welfare Centre, and we hope to see our large death-rate (under 1 year) reduced considerably in the next few years.

The following table summarises the figures already given:—

			Birth Rate	Death Rate	Epidemic Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Rate of Deaths under 1 year
1920	31.1	19.0	2.90	0.79	110
1919	24.8	15.6	1.09	0.96	132
Mean of 10 years 1910 — 1919	}		27.4	16.3	2.74	0.81	138
Increase or Decrease in 1920 on previous year	}		+6.3	+3.4	+1.8	-0.17	-22
Ten Years' Average...			+3.7	+2.7	+0.16	-0.02	-28

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) WATER.—The water supply of the District is derived from the Bolton Corporation Watershed at Rivington. The supply is constant and sufficient. The quality is excellent, and there is no danger of contamination.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The district is sufficiently drained and sewered. The Wigan Corporation takes the sewage and deals with it.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—The Ministry of Health is now paying special attention to this matter:—

The number of Privies in Aspull is	746
The number of Fresh Water Closets is	538
The number of Waste Water Closets is	1
The number of Pail Closets is	4

During the past year the following numbers of privies, etc., have been converted into W.C.'s:—

Privies converted	44
Pail Closets	2

Comparing these figures with last year's figures we find that during 1919, 13 water closets were erected and 4 privies were converted to Fresh Water Closets. The past year's record shows a great improvement in that direction. It is hoped that next year's report will give even a better figure.

(4) SCAVENGING.—This is efficiently done by the Council's workmen.

The number of Middens is	360
The number of Dry Ashpits	60
The number of Portable Receptacles for Refuse	405

The refuse from privies and pail closets is taken away and deposited on agricultural land.

The refuse from the ashpits and ashbins is buried.

(5) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.—The number of houses visited by the Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances is 119.

The principal defects discovered were that the houses were damp and dirty, and required repairs principally to roofs and windows. I append a more detailed table of the premises visited.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses inspected under Section 17 of the Act of 1909 with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-houses are fit for habitation: 65.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses inspected under (1) which are considered unfit for human habitation: 20.

(Note this figure includes 10 empty houses.)

(3) Number of Representations to Authority with a view to Closing Orders: None.

(4) Number of Closing Orders made: None.

(5) Number of houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders: 8.

(6) Number of dwelling-houses demolished: 3.

(7) Number of dwelling-houses inspected for purposes of the Housing Acts and other than those inspected under (1) above: 54.

At this point of the Report I beg to present the Annual Report of the Nuisance Inspector for the year 1920.

March 4th, 1921.

L. COOKE, Esq., Medical Officer of Health.

I beg to submit my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1920.

INFECTIOUS CASES.

The number of Infectious Cases reported during the year ending December 31st, 1920, is as follows: Scarlet Fever 22, Diphtheria 13, Typhoid 3.

REMOVED TO SANATORIUM.—Four cases were removed to the Sanatorium.

RETURNED HOME.—Four persons have returned home from the Sanatorium.

One left in the Sanatorium on December 31st, 1920.

FUMIGATION.—I have fumigated 50 houses where infectious cases have occurred.

HOUSES CLEANED.—Forty-three houses have been cleaned down after Fever.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—During the year I have made periodical visits and everything is carried out satisfactorily.

The following is a summary of cases dealt with:—

Scarlet Fever	22
Typhoid Fever	3
Diphtheria	13
Removed to Wigan Sanatorium	4
Returned from Wigan Sanatorium	4
Left in the Wigan Sanatorium	1
Houses Fumigated	39
Houses Cleaned	43
Stopped Drains	36
Defective Slop-Stone Pipes	5
School Closed	3
Number of Houses Inspected by the Medical Officer and Inspector	65
Number of Privies converted into W.C.'s	36
Number of Privies in the District	746
Number of Ashpits in the District	360
Number of Dry Ashpits in the District	60
Number of Ashbins in the District	405
Number of Pails in the District	4
Number of Pails at Works	30
Number of W.C.'s Outside of Houses	396
Number of W.C.'s Inside of Houses	56
Number of W.C.'s at School	60
Number of W.C.'s at Works	26

2,417

I am, yours, etc.,

HY. GIBSON, Sanitary Inspector.

STOPPED DRAINS.—I have notified 36 Owners and Agents of drains being stopped up and the work has been carried out.

DEFECTIVE SLOP-STONE PIPES.—Five Owners have been notified with regard to defective slop-stone pipes, and these have been made right.

SCHOOLS CLOSED.—Council School closed from 16th day of March, 1920, to the 5th day of April, 1920—Measles. St. Elizabeth's School closed from 13th day of April, 1920, to the 25th day of April, 1920—Measles. Wesleyan (Infants) School from 13th day of April, 1920, to the 2nd day of May, 1920.

UNDER THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT 54 houses have been inspected by the Medical Officer and myself, and these were reported to the Council.

PRIVIES CONVERTED TO W.C.'s.—The number of privies converted to water closets during the year 1920 are as follows:—36 W.C.'s put in place of 30 privies, 46 ashbins in place of 17 ashpits, and 8 W.C.'s put inside of houses.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the past year was:—

Diphtheria	14
Erysipelas	13
Scarlet Fever	22
Typhoid	2
Puerperal Fever	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3
Pneumonia	68
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6

During the early months of 1920 we experienced an epidemic of Measles and Scarlet Fever.

Antitoxin for Diphtheria cases is kept at the Council Offices.

The number of primary vaccinations during the year was 86. There were no re-vaccinations.

The two cases of Enteric Fever were removed to Wigan Sanatorium. Two cases of Scarlet Fever were also removed to the same place.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

(1) The Staff consists of the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is supplied by an arrangement with the Wigan Sanatorium.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

It will be noted that the population has been steadily declining for some years, and although all available houses are occupied there is no shortage of houses for the residential population.

Over-crowding is not generally prevalent, only a few cases come under notice occasionally.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing is fair. The general character of the defects are due to lack of cleaning inside by either tenant or owner and outside neglect of repair. Owners of property are persistently urged to remedy any defects, with on the whole satisfactory results. The cost of material and difficulty in obtaining skilled labour help largely in delaying repairs.

(a) The number and nature of inspections made by the Nuisance Inspector during the year:—

Number of houses inspected with the Medical Officer 65 and 54 = 119. (See table above for details.)

(b) The number of informal notices served during the year was 50. The number of Statutory notices served was 41.

(c) The result of these notices was satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

The school buildings are good, their water supply being adequate. The Sanitary arrangements are satisfactory, and the ventilation is good.

The following Schools were closed on account of the large epidemic of Measles, which occurred in the New Springs district, and which affected chiefly children attending the Council Infant Schools, these Schools were consequently closed from March 16th to April 5th.

As a result of the same epidemic St. Elizabeth's School in Bolton Road and the Wesleyan Infant Schools were closed during parts of the months of April and May.

The inspection of School Children is under the authority of the County Council.

FOOD.

(1) MILK.—The supply of milk to the District comes mainly from the farms situated within Aspull. The supply is good and adequate.

(2) MILK (MOTHERS' AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1918.—No action has been taken by the Council under this heading.

(3) MEAT.—

(a) The inspection of meat is conducted by the Nuisance Inspector. The condition of the slaughter-houses in the District is good.

(b) There is no public abattoir and the inspection of meat at time of slaughter is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

(c) There was no action taken under Section 117 Public Health Act, 1875.

(d) There were no carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis.

Number of Slaughter-houses:—Registered (Licensed), 1914, 2; January, 1920, 2; December, 1920, 2; total 2.

The Water Carriage System is being pushed forward vigorously, especially in densely populated parts and where sanitary arrangements are most defective.

In June special inspections and efforts were made on Simm's Square, Bolton Road.

In August on premises behind 59, 61, 63, Wigan Road.

In November on houses No. 72 to 82, Wigan Road.

In August on Lucas Square, Leigh's Yard, Alker's Yard, and Sunny Side.

I may confidently say that a general improvement is taking place in the sanitary aspect of the Township, which will, under favourable conditions, show a material improvement during the coming year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. COOKE, M.O.H.

(b) That he be duly appointed and the appointment of him
of the Court be entered on the Court's records.

It is the order of the Court that the appointment of the
Judge be entered on the Court's records.

(c) That he be duly appointed and the appointment of him
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Law



THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AUDENSHAW.

Annual Report

OF THE

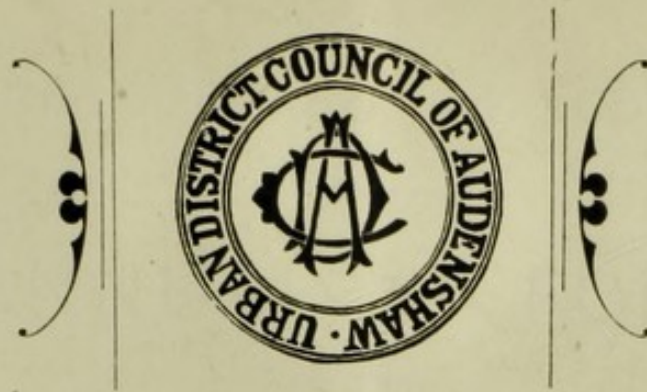
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1920.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE:

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Annual Report

Medical Officer of Health

1910

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Wellington, New Zealand.

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AUDENSHAW.

—•••—
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1920.
—•••—

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the Year 1920.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE
DISTRICT.

The population at the census 1911 was 7978, and the population estimated to the middle of 1920 was 8164.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Audenshaw is a flat district with a clayey subsoil. It is about 320 feet above the sea level. There are no rivers running through the area, but the river Tame forms the eastern boundary of the district.

The area is composed of a small but well-populated portion, and a larger portion which is somewhat rural in character, the land being chiefly used as meadow and pasture land, these having only a small quantity of arable land.

The area of the district is about 1041.748 acres

without water, together with an area of 199·75 acres occupied by the Audenshaw Reservoirs, belonging to the Manchester Corporation, making a total area of 1241·498. These reservoirs are situated in the more rural part of the district.

The population is chiefly an industrial one, the occupation of the people being somewhat varied. The chief industries are engineering, felt hatting and subsidiary trades. There is one Colliery in the area. There are also many colliers, cotton operatives and railway servants.

The amount of poor law relief for the year was £732 8s. 10d.

There is a considerable amount of gratuitous medical relief obtained from the Ashton and District Infirmary and also from Manchester Hospitals. A very great amount of work is also done by the District Nursing Association.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

During the year the number of births registered as belonging to the district was 167, of these 88 were males, and 79 females, 4 males and 1 female being illegitimate, giving a birth rate of 20·4. The average for the past ten years being 19·7.

DEATHS.

There were belonging to the district 106 deaths during the year. Of these deaths, 59 were males and 47 females. The death rate for the year being 12·9. The average for the past ten years, was 13·6.

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 23 deaths of children under one year of age, 13 being males and 10 females, of these one was illegitimate. This gives an infant death rate of 131 to 1,000 births, average for ten years being 127.

PHTHISIS.

The death rate for the year from this cause, was $\cdot 97$ per 1,000 of the population, whilst the average for the previous ten years, was $\cdot 72$.

EPIDEMIC DEATH RATE.

The rate per 1,000 of the population was $\cdot 85$ while the average for the last ten years was, 1 $\cdot 04$.

The following table gives the birth rate and death rate, also the Epidemic, Phthisis and Infant death rates, each being within year, and means for last ten years:—

		PER 1000 OF POPULATION				Rate of deaths under 1 year to 1000,
		Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Epidemic Death rate.	Phthisis Death rate.	
1920	...	20 \cdot 4	12 \cdot 9	\cdot 85	\cdot 97	131
1919	...	16 \cdot 8	12 \cdot 2	\cdot 25	\cdot 50	115
Mean of 10 years, 1910-19.		19 \cdot 7	13 \cdot 6	1 \cdot 04	\cdot 72	127
Increase or De- crease in 1920 previous year.		+3 \cdot 6	+0 \cdot 7	+0 \cdot 60	+0 \cdot 47	+16
Ten years' Average		+0 \cdot 7	-0 \cdot 7	-0 \cdot 19	+0 \cdot 25	+ 4

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is an ample and constant water supply

of very pure water, furnished by the Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield Joint Waterworks Committee, of which the Council are members as part owners.

One house in the district is supplied with water by the Manchester Corporation.

The water is upland in character and before being supplied to the district any acidity is neutralized, and the water is passed through mechanical filters and so is of excellent quality. The water supplied from Manchester is of very good quality and from a similar source.

There are no wells or streams used for drinking or domestic purposes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Tame having passed through a thickly populated area is somewhat polluted before it reaches the district, but being situated at a distance from the populous part of the area, it does not affect the health of the inhabitants, also being at a lower level, it is impossible for the area to be flooded by it. It merely forms the eastern boundary of the district, and is not polluted from the district.

The streams are not important being only small and no sewerage is now turned into them. The streams when near houses are mostly in culverts.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The district is well sewered on the combined system, The sewerage is treated at the Dukinfield and Stalybridge Joint Sewerage Works. This treatment chiefly consists in precipitation with lime and aluminoferric, and subsequent filtration in the filter beds.

Two very small areas, owing to their situation

preventing it, are not connected with the main drainage system. These are Stelfox Lane and a portion of Hanover Street South.

CLOSET ACCOMODATION.

There are at present four kinds of closet accomodation in the district namely, Privy Middens, Pail closets, Waste Water Closet, and Fresh water Closets. Their number is as follows :—

Privy Middens	5
Pail Closets	55
Waste Water Closets.....	1416
Fresh Water Closets	670

Thirteen conversions have taken place during the year as follows :—

No of Privy Closets converted	{	to Fresh Water Closets, 5.
		to Waste Water Closets, 5.
		to Pails etc., 1.
No. of Waste Water Closets converted to Fresh Water Closets, 2.		

SCAVENGING.

This is now done by the Sanitary Authority.

The house refuse is carted to a tip situated in a low-lying part of the area away from the houses.

The Privy middens are all emptied during the early morning, also all the pail closets, this material being carted to a tip outside the area by agreement.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following report has been furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Doxey.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for purpose of the Housing Acts.	83
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under Section 17 of the acts of 1909, i.e., with a view to ascertaining whether any houses are unfit for habitation.	0
Dwelling-houses considered unfit for habitation....	0
Representation to authority with a view to making closing orders.....	0
Closing orders made	0
Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making closing orders	11
Dwelling-houses demolished	0

In addition to the above the following table gives a list of general inspections made and work done in the removal of refuse etc.

Notices (Informal)	290
„ (Formal)	2
Nuisances abated	243
„ unabated	47
Drains inspected.....	250
Houses disinfected.....	51
Notices sent <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases and Disinfection (to Schools)	152
Visits to Infectious disease cases... ..	238
„ Factory and Workshops	207
„ Bakehouses	44
„ Offensive Trades	11
„ Laundries	9
„ Outworkers.....	26
„ Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops	66
„ Slaughterhouses.....	29
„ Snipe Race Course	10
„ Miscellaneous.....	50
Total.....	690

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Month 1920	Ashbins	Ashpits	Pails	Cesspools	Loads	
					Cemetery	Moorside
Jan.	2133	76	235		150	19
Feb.	2751	145	183		155	11
March	1749	146	198		145	10
April	2105	134	206		179	10
May	2356	121	210	2	157	10
June	2055	109	165	3	146	12
July	2421	204	220		208	11
August	1571	77	165	3	115	8
Sept.	3260	126	330		209	13
Oct.	2351	130	220		152	7
Nov.	1820	130	220		143	20
Dec.	1903	174	275		187	19
Totals	26475	1572	2626	8	1946	150
Average per month.	2206	131	219	...	162	13

NUISANCES, &c.

Defective Closets	12
Choked Closets	82
„ Drains	37
Defective Rain Pipes.....	7
„ Gutters	10
„ Roofs	12
„ Floors	4
„ Gullies	28
„ Ventilating Pipes...	7
„ Yards and Passages	5
„ Manhole Covers ...	3
Manure Accumulations	5
Housing defects	26
Dirty Premises	2

Rubbish Accumulations	7
Foul Ditch	1
Loose Brickwork	4
Dilapidated Buildings	4
Privy Middens.....	18
Miscellaneous	16
	<hr/>
Total.....	290

The Medical Inspection of School Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council Education Committee.

FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Examinations concerning the quality of milk supplied in the district, are attended to by the County Police.

The arrangements for the supply of milk are all under private control and are adequate for the needs of the district.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops in the district are all in a satisfactory condition.

(b) MEAT.

(i) There are two Slaughterhouses in use in the area. These are both well kept and in a satisfactory condition.

There is no public abattoir in the district.

(ii) There are no existing arrangements for the inspection of all meat at the time of slaughter, but frequent inspections are made.

(iii) No action was taken under Section 117 of the Public Health Act 1875, or Section 47 of the Public Health (London) Act 1891.

(iv) No carcase or parts of carcases were condemned for tuberculosis during the past year.

Number of Slaughterhouses in use in the district:—

	In 1914.	In Jan. 1920.	In Dec. 1920.
Registered	0	0	0
Licensed	5	0	2
	—	—	—
Total	5	0	2

(c) OTHER FOODS.

No unsound food has been exposed for sale. The sanitary condition of places where foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale, are in a satisfactory condition.

The Bakehouses, eight in number, are clean and in good condition.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

During the year there were notified, 88 cases of infectious diseases, as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	49
Diphtheria	8
Enteric fever	1
Erysipelas	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2
Malaria	1

Acute Primary Pneumonia and Influenzal Pneumonia ...	8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4
	<hr/>
Total.....	88

SCARLET FEVER.

This was the most prevalent disease, there being 49 cases; they were scattered throughout the area, and also throughout the year, though chiefly in the first and last quarter of the year, as follows:—

January, 5.	April, 5.	July, 4	October, 9.
February, 4.	May, 2.	August, 2.	November, 4.
March, 2.	June, 0.	September, 3.	December, 9

DIPHTHERIA.

28,000 units of antitoxin were supplied free during the year. A supply is always kept by a local chemist.

MALARIA.

The one case notified was contracted abroad.

PNEUMONIA.

The cases notified occurred as follows:—2 in March, 3 in April, and 2 in May.

CHICKEN POX.

There were a number of cases of this ailment scattered throughout the area.

MEASLES.

There were a considerable number of cases during

the months of March and April. In consequence of this, all the Schools in the district were closed from March 13th, to April 12th.

DISINFECTION.

All bedding, after cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever, is sent to the steam disinfector at Ashton-under-Lyne, and the rooms are disinfected.

A circular was sent to all medical men practising in the area, asking for more prompt notification of infectious diseases, as in a few cases delay had occurred.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There is a well attended Child Welfare Centre under the control and management of the County Council.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

- (1). The Sanitary Inspector is Mr. H. M. Doxey.

HOSPITAL ACCOMODATION.

This Authority, along with Ashton-under-Lyne and Stalybridge, are the joint owners of the Small-pox Hospital at Hartshead, near Ashton-under-Lyne, where as many beds as required can be used. There have been no cases during the year.

- (2). Other cases of infectious disease can be sent to the Infectious Disease Hospital at Hyde. Two beds are retained, but others can be had as required. Four cases of Scarlet Fever were sent to this Hospital during the year.

- (3). The following is a list of Acts in force in the district:—

Title of Act.	Date of Adoption.
1. The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	Mar. 5th, 1891.
2. Public Health Acts Amendment Acts, 1890, Parts 1, 2 and 3	" "
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part 4	July 2nd, 1903.
3. The Private Street Works Act, 1892 ..	April 6th, 1893.
4. The Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889	" "
5. The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part ii., Part iii. and Sections 52-66 and 68 of Part iv., with certain variations, date came into force	
6. Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889, (Ophthalmia Neonatorum)...	July 7th, 1910.
7. Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889, (Cerebro Spinal, Fever and Acute Poliomyelitis)	Feb. 1st, 1912.
8. Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893	July 3rd, 1913.

LOCAL ACT.

Audenshaw Urban District Council Act.....	1908.
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(4). Examination for detection of Tubercle in sputum are now usually done at the Tuberculosis Dispensary of the County Council at Ashton-under-Lyne. Other specimens can be sent to the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester. Six throat proabs were examined for Diphtheria.

HOUSING.

I. General housing conditions in the district :—

(1) The district being chiefly an industrial one ; the majority of the houses are of the artizan dwelling type, most of them having two rooms upstairs and two rooms downstairs, all have water taps inside. There are no back-to-back houses.

(2) (a) There is not a great shortage of houses at the present time.

(b) A scheme has been adopted for the construction of 50 houses.

Nine houses have been completed during the year by private enterprise, six being of the working class type.

(3) There are no important changes in population expected in the near future.

II. OVERCROWDING.

(1) There is not much overcrowding in the district.

III. (1) (a) The general standard of housing in the area will compare favourably with that in industrial areas generally.

(b) General character of defects are those due to wear and tear and weather, defective spouting, roofs, &c., and walls that require pointing.

(2) No action has been taken under Public Health Acts, and Housing Acts.

(3) Wherever houses are found to be unfit, the owners or managers usually have repairs carried out to remedy faults pointed out to them.

(4) The water supply is good and constant to every house in the district; every house has a water tap inside. The great majority have a separate closet to each, usually in their own yard, almost all, now, are on the water carriage system.

IV. UNHEALTHY AREAS.

There has been no complaints received or representations made in regard to unhealthy areas. There are no specially unhealthy areas in the district.

V.

VI. There are no common lodging houses, but there are Bye-laws in case such should exist.

VII. 1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	8164
(2) General death-rate	12·9
(3) Death-rate from tuberculosis	·97
(4) Infantile mortality	131
(5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	1905
(6) Number of working-class dwelling- houses.....	1790
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	6

2,—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

1.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses in-

pected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	83
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Houses (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	83
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	11

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	11
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- (5) Staff engaged on housing work in hands of the Architects.

All the roads and streets are kept in good condition and well cleaned. In dusty weather the main roads are well watered, and in frosty and snowy weather are freely salted, when necessary.

In conclusion, I am glad to say that I consider the district to be in a good sanitary condition

I remain,

Yours obediently,

D. HUBERT CHEETHAM, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.