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REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH OF BILSTON

FOR THE YEAR 1896,

BY

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SANITARY AUTHORITY



BILSTON :

"MIDLAND HERALD" PRINTING WORKS, BOW STREET.

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REPORT

OF THE

LENGTH OF RAILROAD

ON THE ROAD

AND

THE



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AT THE OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER, NEW YORK

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BILSTON.

Gentlemen,

Herewith I present you with the following Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Town for the year ending December 31, 1896, being my TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

Scarlet Fever.—During the year 118 cases of Scarlet Fever in 89 houses were notified as compared with 48 cases in the previous year ; 94 in the year 1894 ; 235 in 1893 ; 168 in 1892, and 63 in 1891. Of these cases 10 terminated fatally, 9 being in children under five years of age.

A subsequent table will show that the disease was distributed over the whole year, and that in no single month was it absent from the town. The highest number of notifications, viz., 17 were received in March, but towards the end of the year the number decreased somewhat and only 4 were sent in in the month of December. All the cases were visited and where isolation at home was impossible removal to the temporary Cottage Hospital was effected.

Great difficulty is experienced in keeping the friends and neighbours out of an infected house. Even between the first visit of inspection and the removal of the patient they flock in, partly no doubt through misplaced sympathy, with the result that the disease is spread. In one case a mother so visiting took the disease home to three of her children who had to be removed to the Hospital !

Typhoid Fever.—Cases of Typhoid Fever were notified in every month except December. In all 31 in 28 houses occurred during the year. In every instance endeavour was made to discover the probable cause, the insanitary conditions found were at once dealt with and disinfectants supplied.

It is well-known that the Micro organisms of this disease can be conveyed to the human system not only through drinking water, milk, &c., but also by the consumption of certain articles of food, and particularly of oysters. Mussels, &c., that have been living on sewage beds or in their neighbourhood. The following account is most instructive and deserving of being placed on record.

On October 6th a case of Typhoid Fever was notified in High Street. On enquiry it was found that the patient was a young lady, who had just returned from Blackpool, and after much difficulty it was ascertained that she and thirteen others had been staying together at a certain lodging house in that town. The patient with two other ladies and her brother, during their stay, partook of a quantity of mussels. Shortly afterwards they were seized with vomiting and became so ill that they determined to return home. Three came to Bilston and the fourth—a lady—went to Birkenhead. Two of the persons recovered in a few days, but in the case of the other two—one the young lady in High Street, and the other the lady at Birkenhead—the illness developed into Typhoid Fever. The young lady here recovered after some weeks, but her mother, who nursed her, contracted the disease and died. The lady at Birkenhead also recovered in time, but her mother, who nursed her, and two others also contracted the disease too, and again, unfortunately, the mother succumbed, while the others recovered.

These facts were forwarded to Dr. Jasper Anderson, the Medical Officer of Health for Blackpool, who, in reply, wrote to me as follows:—

“The valuable information you give me confirms the conclusions which I had already arrived at. I may state that in the latter half of October there were at least six cases of Typhoid Fever caused by eating mussels, whilst in a raw condition which had been collected from a bed where Sewage Contamination was probable. There were also a few other cases which were possibly due to the same cause. I at once wrote letters to the newspapers and had notice boards placed up on the gathering grounds warning the public against eating such mussels. I have not the slightest doubt that your cases contracted Typhoid Fever from eating mussels. The matter has already been before our Committee, and measures have been taken during the last season, and more effective measures will have to be taken next.”

Measles.—A very extensive and fatal epidemic of Measles prevailed in 1895, but the commencement of the year (1896) very few cases indeed existed. 3 deaths were registered in the month of April; 2 in June, and 1 in August. In October and November the disease spread, though the type was mild as is evident from the fact that no deaths from it were registered in either month. The great proportion of cases seemed, however, to be identified with one institution—the Holy Trinity Catholic Schools—and on my recommendation these were closed from December 2nd to 24th, with the view of preventing a further development. In December only one death was registered, and the total for the year was only 7, all in children under five years of age, as compared with 51 in the previous year.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—Diphtheria has very largely increased, especially in populous districts, in recent

years and 16 cases—of which four were fatal—were notified here. It is a disease that is specially identified with defects in drainage, but it also appears under circumstances that make it difficult to determine its exact causation.

Membranous Croup is a similar—and by many believed to be the same—disease and 7 cases were notified all of which ended in death.

Whooping Cough.—17 deaths have been due to Whooping Cough, viz., 1 in January; 1 in February; 3 in March; 3 in April; 2 in May; 3 in June; 2 in July; 1 in August; and 1 in December. This is the greatest fatality in any one year of the past decade except 1892 then the number was 23.

Diarrhœa.—29 deaths—26 being in children under 5 years of age—were attributed to Diarrhœa, as compared with 42 in the previous year. This disease, though usually, and most correctly, regarded as due largely to atmospheric conditions is—in this district certainly—frequently also the result of improper feeding of infants, want of care and cleanliness, and insanitary and dirty surroundings. The following figures give the number of deaths, above and below five years of age for the past ten years.

<i>Deaths from Diarrhœa</i>	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887
Infants under 5 years ...	26	38	9	27	13	15	23	17	6	11
Above 5 years ...	3	4	1	8			2	1	1	5
	29	42	10	35	13	15	25	18	7	16

Influenza.—A peculiarly mild form of influenza has appeared from time to time during the year, but only 3 deaths, one in February, one in November, and one in December, were attributed to it. Indirectly, however, it probably still contributes even more to our mortality.

Zymotic Diseases.—81 deaths were registered during the year as due to zymotic causes, as compared with 118 in the preceding year, and giving a death-rate of 3·4 per thousand of the whole population.

The subjoined table enables a comparison to be made of these deaths during the ten years 1886 to 1895 with the year 1896.

<i>Deaths from</i>	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	Aver. No. of deaths in the Ten Years 1886-95.	Total deaths in 1896.
Scarlet Fever ...			2	3	1		6	9	8	1	3·0	10
Smallpox ..		1	3						1	1	·6	
Measles ..	4	42		5	12	9	13	15		51	15·1	7
Whooping Cough ..	6	11	5	14	3	6	23	7	12	3	9·0	17
Typhoid Fever ..	4	7	2	4		1	6	4	1	8	3·7	7
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	6	8	9	5		5	4	3	8	12	6·0	11
Diarrhœa ..	31	16	7	18	25	15	13	35	10	42	21·2	29
	51	85	28	49	41	36	65	73	40	118	58·6	81

Vaccination.—It is gratifying to note that in the Report of the Royal Commission the majority are decidedly of opinion that the protecting influence of Vaccination has been clearly proved. Their recommendations are given with a view to encourage, rather than diminish Vaccination, and only serve to emphasise the fact that it is expedient in the interest of Vaccination itself, that the present law should be modified. No doubt the “dangers” of the operation—which are usually much exaggerated—would be greatly decreased if the improvement in the performance of Vaccination suggested by the Commissioners were adopted.

The returns of the Vaccination Officer are given for the six years 1890-5, and for the first half of the year 1896.

	Half Year to June 30 1896.	Year 1895	Year 1894	Year 1893	Year 1892	Year 1891	Year 1890
BIRTHS REGISTERED ...	431	955	926	939	929	946	891
Successfully Vaccinated...	319	670	731	734	736	755	744
Insusceptible ...	2	6	4	6	9	2	5
Died before Vaccination...	56	133	114	145	117	119	93
Postponed ...	7	29	10	19	41	40	20
Removed from District ..	14	53	34	35	26	30	29
Refusals and not fit cases...	33	64	33				
	431	955	926	939	929	946	891

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

At the end of the year 1895 there were seven patients in the temporary Cottage Hospital recovering from Scarlet Fever. During the past year thirty-nine were admitted suffering from the same disease—of whom two died. Two patients remained at the end of the year.

I have to congratulate the Council upon the possession of a modern Ambulance, in which patients can be removed to Hospital, and of a Mortuary. A proper disinfecting apparatus for the thorough disinfection of bedding, clothing, &c., is much needed.

SANITARY WORK.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1888

During the year 1895 certificates under this Act were received as compared with 109 in the previous year and 170 in 1884, viz., 118 of Scarlet Fever; 31 of Typhoid Fever; 23 of Diphtheria and Croup, and 13 of Erysipelas. It is very satisfactory to note that no case of Small-pox was reported.

The following table of the monthly notification in 1896, and the total for this and the five previous years show very readily the rise and fall of these diseases.

	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria and M'braneous Croup	Erysipelas.	Totals
Jan.	14	5				1	
Feb.	14	4			5	3	
Mar.	17	2			5	1	
Apr.	15	3			2	2	
May	3	2			1	1	
June	13	2			4		
July	7	3				3	
Aug.	5	1			2		
Sep.	7	4			3		
Oct.	11	2				1	
Nov.	10	3				1	
Dec.	4				1		
1896	118	31			23	13	185
1895	48	30		3	11	17	109
1894	94	14	2	32	9	19	170
1893	235	18	5	4	8	23	293
1892	168	36	1		5	34	244
1891	63	18	2		2	12	92

Dairies, Milkshops, &c.—These are regularly visited and the Milkshops as a rule have been found clean and well ventilated. The cow-sheds, however, are in most cases capable of much improvement. They are mostly overcrowded, the ceiling or roof is low, the windows covered and ventilating spaces blocked up, the idea being to keep the cows warm and the result is that they breathe the same air over and over again. There should be proper bye-laws to regulate these matters, and also the supply of water which in one case was derived from a questionable source.

Workshops and Bakehouses.—These also have been frequently inspected. In Workshops where both sexes are employed separate privy accommodation must be provided in the proportion of one closet to each 25 persons, and under this regulation 7 closets have been erected. Eight of the Bakehouses were found to require lime-washing and this has been done.

The Registered Lodging Houses have been found in a clean and satisfactory state.

Ash-pits, &c.—In a large number of instances these are far too large and allow of too great an accumulation of refuse. Vegetable refuse and slops are frequently emptied into them with the result that bad smells easily arise. There is also a great want

of closet-seats for children who use the yard and the approaches to the closets, and give rise to many nuisances,

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.—During the year 867 children, 459 males and 408 females were born, being a decrease of 90 on the previous year, and giving a birth-rate of 37·02 per thousand. The following gives the number of births, distinguishing the sex, in each quarter of the last three years.

	1896			1895			1894		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1st Quarter ...	100	86	186	128	146	274	102	107	209
2nd Quarter ...	124	112	236	112	111	223	133	127	260
3rd Quarter ...	111	104	215	125	104	229	121	107	228
4th Quarter ...	124	106	230	120	111	231	118	104	222
	459	408	867	485	472	957	474	445	919

Table shewing the number of births from 1886 to 1896.

Year	Males	Females	Total
1886	481	455	936
1887	420	418	838
1888	449	428	877
1889	437	458	895
1890	434	461	895
1891	469	481	950
1892	484	439	923
1893	466	449	915
1894	474	445	919
1895	485	472	957
Yearly average			
1886-95	459·9	450·6	910·5
1896	459	408	867

For comparison it will be useful to give the average birth-rate of the County of Stafford, and of the Urban and Rural Districts respectively, for the seven years 1889-95 and the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the large towns in England, as taken from the Register-Generals returns, and quoted by Dr. Reid in his annual report on the County.

		Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population						
Districts		1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895
Stafford-shire	Combined Urban & Rural	33·5	32·7	35·7	35·5	35·7	34·3	35·1
	Urban ...	35·2	34·5	37·3	36·3	36·6	35·4	36·2
	Rural ...	29·5	28·6	31·6	32·2	33·3	31·6	32·0
England and Wales...		31·1	30·2	31·4	30·5	30·8	29·6	30·3
Large towns in England		30·9	30·4	32·5	21·8	31·8	30·6	31·2
Bilston ...		38·08	38·08	40·4	39·2	38·9	39·1	40·7

The birth-rate it will be thus seen is high throughout the county, and here exceptionally so. A fact, the cause of which as has on other occasions been pointed out, is due to the large artisan population, and the consequent large proportion of young adults.

Deaths.—The deaths registered in the year from all causes were 460, 244 males and 216 females, being a decrease of no less than 174 on the previous year, and giving a death-rate of 19·4 per thousand of the population. The average number of deaths for the past five years is 522 and for the decade 1887-96, 520, so that there is considerable reduction this year on the ordinary mortality.

TABLE OF DEATHS

Shewing the number under 1 year, under 5 years, under 15 years under 65 years and above 65 years.

	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891
Children under 1 year of age	157	215	161	85	203	200
Above 1 year and under 5 years	93	163	61	80	201	89
„ 5 years „ 15 „	18	22	21	26	29	22
„ 15 „ „ 25 „	17	15	16	22	11	19
„ 25 „ „ 65 „	112	96	99	91	90	104
65 years and upwards ..	63	123	95	130	95	122
	460	634	453	534	529	556

In this and subsequent tables for all years previous to 1896 the figures given are “under 60 years” and “above 60 years” instead of “65 years.”

The following Table gives the number of Deaths during the past ten years, distinguishing the sex.

Year	Males	Females	Total
1886	244	251	495
1887	314	268	582
1888	218	234	452
1889	267	252	519
1890	260	230	490
1891	282	274	556
1892	286	243	529
1893	277	257	534
1894	239	214	453
1895	327	304	634
Yearly Average			
1886-95	271·4	253·0	524·4
1896	244	216	460

Table of Deaths during the past decade, classified according to age.

Year	at all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
1887	582	189	115	28	26	106	118
1888	452	141	66	24	19	106	96
1889	519	183	98	25	21	83	109
1890	490	163	82	23	17	110	95
1891	556	200	89	22	19	104	122
1892	529	203	101	29	11	90	95
1893	534	185	80	26	22	91	130
1894	453	161	61	21	16	99	95
1895	634	215	163	22	15	96	123
1896	460	157	63	18	17	112	63

See note on previous page.

TABLE OF DEATHS for the Four Quarters of 1896, 1895, and 1894, classified according to Diseases and Ages.

1896.	Age.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not "spasmodic")	Whooping Cough.	Con'd Fevers			Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fev.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Other Diseases.	Total at Ages Stated.	TOTAL.
1st QUARTER	Under 5	4	2	1	5						2						25					35	74	121
	5 upwds.	1						1								3	16	1	2		1	22	47	
2nd QUARTER	Under 5	5	3	4	8						2		1			1	11			1		19	55	101
	5 upwds.							2				1				3	13	2	2			23	46	
3rd QUARTER.	Under 5	1			3			1		20			1				7		2	2		26	61	115
	5 upwds.									3			1			6	7	6	5			26	54	
4th QUARTER	Under 5	1	2	2	1			1		2						1	13		3	2		30	60	123
	5 upwds.							2								7	17	2	3	1	2	29	63	

MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

1895.	Age.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not "spasmodic")	Whooping Cough.	Con'd Fevers				Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyæmia.	Puerperal Fev.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Other Diseases.	Total at Ages Stated.	TOTAL.
		Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.	Thyphoid.	Other or Doubtful.	Thyphus.
1st QUARTER	Under 5	18				3						5								14		2		1	45	88	166
	5 upwds.		1			1						1							6	25	2	8		2	32	78	
2nd QUARTER	Under 5	25				1	1					3								12		4		3	59	108	171
	5 upwds.	4																4	19	2	2			4	28	63	
3rd QUARTER.	Under 5	1	2			3	1					16								7		2	1		69	102	154
	5 upwds.											2							5	5	2	4		1	31	52	
4th QUARTER	Under 5	1	1			4	1					14								18		1	3		37	80	144
	5 upwds.											1							4	15	6	4	1	2	25	64	

MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

1894.	Age.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not "spasmodic")	Whooping Cough.	Con'd Fevers			Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyæmia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Other Diseases.	Total at Ages Stated.	TOTAL.
		Typhus.	Euteric or Typhoid.	(Other or Doubtful.																						
1st QUARTER	Under 5	.....	.....	2	.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	3	2	.....	34	53	109
	5 upwds.	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	13	5	.....	6	.....	24	56	
2nd QUARTER	Under 5	.....	.....	2	.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	4	2	.....	40	59	131
	5 upwds.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	15	1	7	1	2	42	72	
3rd QUARTER.	Under 5	.....	.....	1	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	2	.....	26	42	81
	5 upwds.	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	3	5	.....	1	21	39	
4th QUARTER	Under 5	.....	.....	1	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	.....	3	.....	1	35	68	132
	5 upwds.	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	17	7	5	.....	4	22	64	

TABLE OF DEATHS classified according to Diseases, distinguishing deaths of children under five years of age, for the past ten years.

Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of children under five years of age.

YEARS.	AGE.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not "spasmodic").	Whooping Cough.	Contin'd Fevers.			Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyæmia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ague.	Phtisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Others.	Totals at Ages Stated.	Total at all Ages.	
1887	Under 5	38				6	10											5	64	1	620		143	304	582	
	5 upwds.	1	4		1	1	1	7		5			1				9	100	10	12	8		118	278		
1888	Under 5					7	5											47	2	3	5		139	207	452	
	5 upwds.	3	2			2		2		1			1				21	69	23	5	7		111	245		
1889	Under 5		5	3		3	14			17				1			1	60			3	13	161	281	519	
	5 upwds.				1	1		4		1			1				23	49	11	7	17		122	238		
1890	Under 5		12	1		1	3			23							2	42			3	15	1	142	245	490
	5 upwds.					1				2							14	75	16	4	11	8	114	245		
1891	Under 5		8			4	6			15							4	55			6	18	2	171	289	556
	5 upwds.	1				1		1					1				29	79	10	15	2	3	125	267		
1892	Under 5		13	3		2	19			13							1	56			14	8	2	174	305	529
	5 upwds.			3	1	1	4	6					1				14	54	8	25	2	3	102	224		
1893	Under 5		15	5		1	7			27							1	42	2	5	4	2	152	265	534	
	5 upwds.			4		2		2		8					1		15	61	18	10	1	2	146	269		
1894	Under 5			6		6	12			9								35			12	6	1	135	222	453
	5 upwds.	1		2	1	1		1		1			1				17	49	16	23	1	7	109	231		
1895	Under 5		146	1		11	3			38								51			9	4	4	210	378	634
	5 upwds.		5			1		8		4							19	64	12	18	1	9	115	256		
1896	Under 5		7	9	4	7	17			26			2				2	56			5	3		110	250	460

Respiratory Diseases.—109 deaths were ascribed to diseases of the chest, as compared with 115 in 1895, 56 being in children under 5 years of age. Of these 13 were registered in January, 14 in February 14 in March, 12 in April, 7 in May, 5 in June, 5 in July, 2 in August, 7 in September, 6 in October, 12 in November, and 12 in December. These figures shew clearly, if partially, how the mortality is influenced by conditions of weather.

Consumption.—21 deaths, 2 being in children under 5 years of age, were registered from consumption as compared with 19 in the previous year, 17 in the year 1894, and 16 in 1893.

Uncertified Deaths.—Four deaths only were not certified by a medical practitioner, which is a continuance of the improvement in this respect seen in the last few years. In 1889 no less than 30, and in 1890 26 deaths were uncertified.

Inquests.—Coroners' enquiries were held in 17 cases as against 27 in 1895, 25 in 1894, 15 in 1893 and 39 in 1892.

Table of the number of Deaths in each quarter of 1896, classified according to age.

Quarter	at all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
1st	121	43	31	4	3	25	15
2nd	101	31	24	4	5	22	15
3rd	115	44	17	4	4	29	17
4th	123	39	21	6	5	35	16
TOTAL	460	157	93	18	17	112	63

Infant Mortality.—An examination of the tables shews that the deaths this year are, with two exceptions, the fewest, and that the number of deaths of infants under one year is, with only one exception—that of the year 1888—also the lowest during the past ten years. The infant mortality is equal to a rate of 181 per thousand of registered births as compared with 224 in the previous year and the mean of 198 for the decade 1885-95. How high this mortality is here—for which the causes were fully discussed in last year's report—is seen by a glance at the following table where the figures are given for the seven years 1889-95, together with comparative figures for the Urban districts of the County of Stafford and for the large towns of England.

Deaths in children under one year per 1,000 registered births.

	BILSTON	Urban districts in County.	Large towns in England
1889	204	161	161
1890	182	176	171
1891	210	175	167
1892	219	174	163
1893	202	179	181
1894	175	163	152
1895	224	181	182
Mean Rate	202	173	168

Child Insurance.—From particulars furnished to me by the Registrar it appears that of the 250 children under five years of age who died during the year 1896 were insured. It is interesting to note that this number is almost identical with the deaths of infants under one year of age (157). What influence on the infantile mortality this matter of Child Insurance has is very difficult to say, but it will be useful to receive and tabulate the figures for a series of years, and this I hope to do with the Registrar's kind assistance.

In August last Mr. Walter Hughes died suddenly. He had been Sanitary Inspector in this town for more than 20 years and as such had commanded the respect and esteem alike of the Council, the Officials and the Ratepayers. Faithful in the discharge of his duties, possessing much tact and discretion, he was ever ready to do his utmost to further the better sanitation and general improvement of the district. Especially during the prevalence of epidemic disease did he spare neither time nor labour to prevent its spread and his memory is, and long will be, cherished particularly among the children of the poor who required removal to the Cottage Hospital and to whom he always shewed the greatest kindness. A more zealous servant, a more devoted colleague the Council and the officials could not have, and it is due to his long and valuable services that I should place on record this testimony to the work of a faithful assistant.

The vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. Herbert Walker, one of the Assistant Inspectors of Birmingham and an Associate of the Sanitary Institute of London. I have no doubt that the appointment will prove a very satisfactory one.

The tables required by the Local Government Board and the Staffordshire County Council are appended, together with the Sanitary Inspector's Statement.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BILSTON, March 1st, 1897.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department, during the year 1896, in the Urban Sanitary District of Bilston.

		Inspections and Observations made	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice
Dwelling Houses & Schools	Foul Conditions Houses Cleansed	17	7	7
	Structural Defects Houses Repaired... ..	5		
	Over-crowding, 10 cases, 5 abated without notice served	10	5	5
	Unfit for Habitation			
	Lodging houses	48		
	Dairies and Milk-shops, 40 inspections made...	40		
	Cowsheds, 44 inspected	44		
	* Bakehouses	14		
	Slaughter-houses, 74 inspections made	35		
	lime-washed	74		
	Canal Boats, 44 inspected, 4 infringements ...	44		
	Ashpits and Privies, 10,569 cleansed, 7 ash-pits repaired, 2 ash-pits erected, 30 privies repaired, 23 lime-washed, 12 erected ...	10643	4	4
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	34		
	Water Closets in an insanitary condition, 1 urinal	7		
House Drainage	Defective Traps	13		
	No Disconnection	nil		
	Other Faults, Obstructions... ..	36		
	Water Supply, Plentiful supply of Tap Water			
	Pigsties required limewashing	6		
	Animals improperly kept and moved	7		
	Offensive Trades	nil		
	Smoke Nuisances... ..	1		
	Other Nuisances, Fowls kept in houses ...	2		
TOTALS		11045	16	16

* Inspections during the three months of my appointment; no previous record.

	Nos.
Seizures of Unwholesome Food, One case of Bad Meat, fined £10 and costs ...	1
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	nil
" " found Adulterated	nil
" of Water taken for Analysis	nil
" " Condemned as unfit for use	nil

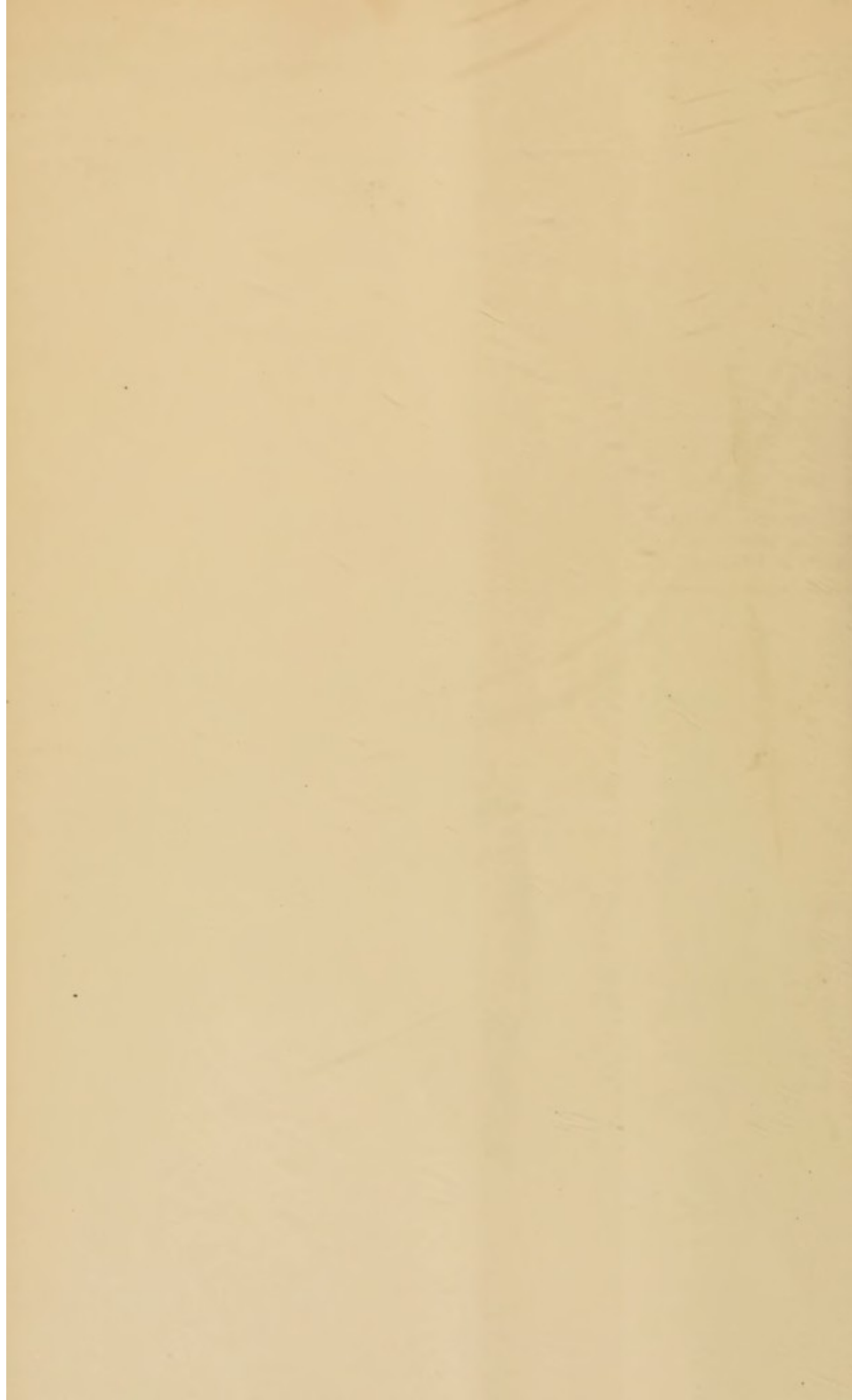
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	nil
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	42
Schools ditto ditto	nil
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease...	nil
Convictions ditto ditto	nil
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	nil
Convictions ditto ditto	nil
Removed to the Infectious Hospital, 39 cases of Scarlet Fever, 5 cases of Typhoid Fever	44

NOTE.—When an Inspection or Notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.

Signed, **HERBERT WALKER, A. San. I.**
Inspector of Nuisances.

Date, February 18th, 1897.



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