

[Report 1915] / Medical Officer of Health, Blyth U.D.C.

Contributors

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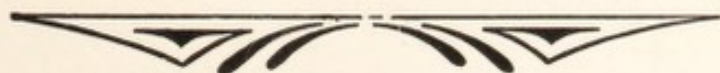
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.. BLYTH ..

Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

.. OF THE ..

Medical Officer of Health.

1915.

BLYTH :

Thomas Robson, Printer and Bookbinder, Percy Street.

Members of the Council.

Chairman—JOHN TWIZELL, ESQ.

Vice-Chairman—JOHN SUMMERS, ESQ.

CHRISTOPHER HUNTER, ESQ., J.P.

SAMUEL KNIBB YOUNG, ESQ., J.P.

DR. NEWSTEAD.

CHAS. NEALE, ESQ.

JOHN R HERRON, ESQ.

HENRY MURRAY, ESQ.

JOHN T. DALBY, ESQ.

THOMAS LORIMER, ESQ.

GEORGE DUNN, ESQ.

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HENRY HARRISON, ESQ.

JOHN GOULDING, ESQ., J.P.

WILLIAM CLARK, ESQ.

DR. OGLE.

DANIEL KELLY, ESQ.

R. H. HOGG, ESQ.

CHARLES BARRON, ESQ.

GEORGE LAMBERT, ESQ.

WILLIAM CALLAWAY, ESQ.

JAMES R. FERRELL, ESQ.

ANDREW CARR, ESQ.

AARON WALTON, ESQ.

Officials.

Clerks—Messrs. R. T. & T. R. GUTHRIE.

Surveyor—Mr. ROBT. GRIEVES.

Inspector of Nuisances—Mr. JOHN FAWCETT.

Medical Officer of Health—J. M. MACLACHLAN, M.B., C.M.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
Blyth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1915.

The acreage of the area (land and inland water) remains the same, viz. :—4509 acres.

Population.

According to the census of 1911, the population of the district was returned as 30,626, and estimated to the middle of 1915 it is 33,232, but with the number of the male population who have joined His Majesty's Forces, the Registrar General return the population as 29,196, and it is on this figure that I have based my statistical returns.

The principal industries of the district are as in previous years :—

- (1) Coal mining ;
- (2) Ship-building and repairing.

Births.

During the year 815 births were registered in your area, and with 7 births transferred from outside districts, makes a total of 822 births (of these 30 were illegitimate), giving a birth-rate of 28·15 on the population, as against a birth-rate of 30·90 in 1914.

Deaths.

470 deaths were registered as having occurred in your area, and with 53 deaths transferred inwards and 1 death transferred outwards, gives a total of 522 deaths as belonging to your locality. The death-rate is therefore 18·48, as against 15·28 in 1914.

Infant Mortality.

136 deaths of children under 1 year occurred in your area during 1915, and with 3 deaths transferred from outside districts gives a total of 139 deaths, giving a death-rate of 114·25 per 1,000 births, as against a death-rate of 129·09 per 1000 births in 1914. While this reduction in the death rate is satisfactory, it is still too high, but with the appointment of a Health Visitor by your Council, under the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, who takes up her duties in the beginning of 1916. I am hopeful, that in future years the infantile mortality rate will be greatly reduced.

Zymotic Death Rate.

Under this heading are included the Eruptive Fevers, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Croup, Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years). 100 deaths from these diseases were registered in your area during the year, and are as follows:—

Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	2
Diphtheria and Croup	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	12
Measles	...	43
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	39
		<hr/>
Total	...	100

This gives a death rate of 3·42 in the estimated population.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

During the year 194 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were reported as occurring in your area. This number as compared with 633 cases reported in 1914 shows a very marked reduction. The numbers of each disease: civil, military, and naval, are as follows:—

	Civil.	Military.	Naval.
Scarlet Fever	51	10	1
Typhoid Fever	7		1
Diphtheria	18	8	2
Erysipelas	19		2
Puerperal Fever	1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	13		
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	41		
Tuberculosis (other organs) ...	20		
	170	18	6

Scarlet Fever.—The 51 civil cases were distributed:

South Ward ...	4
East Ward ...	27
West Ward ...	18
New Delaval Ward...	2
Total ...	51

Of the 62 cases reported—3 civil, 10 military, and 1 Port Sanitary case were removed to the Port Sanitary Isolation Hospital, all of whom made a complete recovery and were discharged cured.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever.—Of the 8 cases reported—7 were civil, and 1 Port Sanitary case. The civil cases were distributed as under:—

South Ward ...	2
East Ward ...	3
West Ward ...	3
Total ...	8

3 civilians and 1 sailor were removed to Hospital, and in 2 civil cases from the West Ward the disease proved fatal.

Diphtheria.—28 cases were reported, and of those 18 were civilians, 8 military, 2 sailors, the civil cases were distributed as under :—

North Ward	...	6
South Ward	...	3
East Ward	...	4
West Ward	...	5
		<hr/>
Total	...	18

The 8 military cases were reported from Newsham Camp and with the 2 sailors were removed to Hospital, all of whom made a good recovery and were discharged cured. The disease was responsible for 4 deaths in children under 5 years of age.

Erysipelas.—21 cases were reported, of those 19 were civilians and 2 sailors who were removed to hospital.

The civilian cases were distributed as follows :—

North Ward	...	5
East Ward	...	11
West Ward	...	2
New Delaval Ward		1
		<hr/>
Total	...	19

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—The 13 cases reported were distributed as under :—

East Ward	...	12
New Delaval Ward		1
		<hr/>
Total	...	13

Puerperal Fever.—The 1 case reported from the East Ward proved fatal.

Tuberculosis.

61 cases of Tubercular disease were reported during the year, viz. :—

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	41
Tuberculosis (other organs)	...	20
		<hr/>
Total	...	61

Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phthisis Pulmonalis) the 41 cases were reported as follows :—

North Ward	...	6
South Ward	...	4
East Ward	...	29
West Ward	...	1
New Delaval Ward		1
		<hr/>
Total		41

All of which were notified to the Secretary of the Local Tuberculosis Committee.

Tuberculosis (other organs) : the 20 cases reported were distributed as under :—

North Ward	...	2
South Ward	...	1
East Ward	...	11
West Ward	...	6
		<hr/>
Total	...	20

Infectious Diseases (not Notifiable).

Influenza was responsible for 2 deaths, both of whom were elderly people.

Whooping Cough.—12 patients under 5 years of age died from this disease during the year.

Measles.—This disease was very prevalent during the spring and summer months, and from the heavy mortality, it was of a more severe type, as with its pneumonic complications is responsible for 43 deaths of whom—

18 were under 1 year.
 15 between 1 and 2 years.
 8 between 2 and 5 years.
 2 between 5 and 15 years.

The large number of deaths from this disease is very serious, and evidently point to the fact that parents of children developing the disease, don't realize the seriousness of the complaint, in many instances no medical assistance being sought for, until the little patient is beyond recovery.

The Local Government Board with a view to minimise and reduce if possible, the heavy mortality from Measles have made the disease notifiable from the 1st January, 1916, and by the distribution of pamphlets by your Council to every householder in the area, pointing out the great dangers arising from this disease and advising that medical assistance be sought for in every case. I sincerely trust, that in future years the heavy mortality from this disease will be greatly reduced.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis is responsible for 46 deaths, 40 of whom were under 5 years of age. In July, pamphlets were distributed to each householder, and bills were posted in prominent places all over the area, pointing out the dangers of summer diarrhœa, and the preventative means to take relative to the preservation of the milk and to the covering of all food-stuffs.

Water Supply is as in the previous year, viz. :—North and South Wards being supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Company's water, to the East and West Wards by the Hepscott and Healey Wood water.

The Cowsheds and Dairies—Common Lodging Houses—Slaughter Houses and Bakehouses in your area are all in a satisfactory sanitary condition, and have been inspected at various times throughout the year.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—No action was taken under this Act during the year.

Scavenging.—As in former years, this work has been carried out entirely by your own staff. Owing to war conditions, the ashpits during the latter part of the year have been cleaned out during the day, and this has been done with the minimum of inconvenience to the public. During the year some 4,000 soldiers have been stationed in the district in the summer months in tents at Newsham, and in the winter months billeted in various buildings in the town. At Link House Farm and Horton, huts have been erected to accommodate a large number of men; and at both places the water-carriage system has been installed, also a number of shower baths have been erected at these two camps, which must prove a great boon to the soldiers.

At several of the billets in the town, extra water-carriage was put in.

The scavenging of all these billets, has involved a great amount of extra work on your sanitary staff and with nothing being done after dark, they deserve great credit for the efficient manner the work of the district has been carried out.

New Houses Erected.

During the year only 2 houses were built, as against 50 in 1914, and 189 in 1913.

1 North and 1 South Wards.

Factories and Workshops.

145 Factories and Workshops were on the register at the end of the year, a list of which is included in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

House and Town Planning Act, 1909.

During the year 6 Houses have been voluntarily closed, no formal notices were served, the owner agreeing to discontinue letting the rooms for human habitation. The rooms are now being used as store rooms in connection with business premises.

Privy Conversions.

Fifteen Conversions from the privy system to the water carriage has been effected during the year, there would have been a considerable larger number of conversions effected had normal conditions obtained. The Sanitary Inspector submitted a scheme to your Council for the conversion of 11 privies at properties in Burt Street, Albert Street, and Clive Street ; but owing to the desirability of incurring as little expense, either public or private, it was considered that the present was not a proper time for this work to be carried out ; the need for this reform in the sanitary conditions of the district, however, becomes more urgent as time passes, and I observe that the County Medical Officer of Health considers that the number of conversions are much too few, and that the work should be done at a much quicker rate.

Schools.—In the spring after the soldiers vacated the Schools, they were all thoroughly disinfected, the work being carried out by your Sanitary Staff.

The Roadways.—The main roadways of the district during the past year have been maintained in a satisfactory condition, those in the town being kept in fair good condition, although not much has been done in the colliery districts towards improving their roadways.

Hospital Tables.

Port Sanitary Hospital.—During the year, 33 patients were admitted :—

	Civil.	Military.	Sailor.
Scarlet Fever ...	3	10	1
Typhoid Fever ...	3		1
Erysipelas ...			2
Diphtheria ...	3	8	2
	9	18	6

Discharged :—

Scarlet Fever ...	14 cases (cured).
Typhoid Fever ...	2 " "
Diphtheria ...	13 " "
Erysipelas ...	2 " "
Typhoid Fever ...	2 " (fatal).

On 31st Dec., 1915, no patients were under treatment.

Requirements of the District.

Owing to the unusual condition of affairs existing in the country at the present time and the great need for economy, I have refrained from recommending to your Council any scheme to spend money, at the same time the Council must not forget that the requirements of the district as mentioned in the 1914 report will not be lost sight of, and at a more favourable time, their claims will be put forward.

The usual Tables are appended.

I have to express my indebtedness to Messrs. Guthrie, Clerks, Mr. Grieves, Surveyor, and Mr. Fawcett, Sanitary Inspector, for their very able assistance during the past year.

Copies of this Report will be sent to the Local Government Board, the Home Office and the Northumberland County Council.

I have, Gentlemen, the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MORTON MACLACHLAN, M.B., C.M. (Glas.),

Medical Officer of Health.

Blyth Urban District Council.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' ANNUAL REPORT.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1915.

Scavenging of House Refuse.—The work of this department has been carried out in a fairly satisfactory manner. The ashpits throughout your district have been cleansed 31 times, which averages 11·77 days between visits. During the year the total amount of refuse dealt with was 28,793 loads, which is a decrease of 485 loads when compared with 1914; considerable difficulties have been experienced, particularly with respect to team labour, unfortunately two of the horses engaged upon this work had to be put down owing to being entirely worked out, and as these have not been replaced the scavenging staff has been for a considerable part of the year two horses short of its complement. This shortage very quickly began to have a very adverse effect upon the length of time taken to get round the ashpits, and the time was soon increased from 10 days to 24 days. Application was made to the military authorities for the loan of two horses, which was fortunately granted, this assistance soon enabled the scavenging staff to reduce the time taken to get round the district to the normal, *i.e.* from 10 to 12 days.

Disposal of Refuse.—Whenever possible the refuse has been deposited upon agricultural land, and during the year 22,297 loads have been disposed of in this manner. The remainder has been tipped at the Blyth Brick Works at a point 300 yards from the nearest highway. There has not been any serious difficulties experienced with respect to obtaining deposits, as the farmers throughout the district continue to place a high value upon the refuse as a manure, the most serious objection to land tips, provided they are sufficiently removed from any public highway or property, is that during wind storms a considerable quantity of paper is blown about before it is possible to get the ashes ploughed into the land; the ploughing is, however, done

with as little delay as possible. The troops stationed in your area have occasioned a very considerable amount of extra scavenging to be done by your staff; at Newsham and Link House, camps were formed early in April and continued until October. The latrines were scavenged every morning, while the various billets throughout the area, 40 in number, have also had daily attention. Since May the scavenging of the ashpits has been done during the daytime; this is owing to the drastic lighting regulations in force in the district, and as it is not possible to do this work at night-time without artificial light, the only alternative course was to revert to day scavenging. Every care has been observed to cause as little inconvenience to the public as possible. The refuse is not put out the ashpits until near the time that the carts are ready to lift it, and the sweeping is done immediately the carts are loaded. The erection of stables and workman's cottage at Newsham and Bebside has proved a great success in every respect.

Privy Conversions.—During the year there have been 15 privies abolished and water closets substituted; the whole of these have been done voluntarily. I brought a scheme before your Council for the conversion of 11 privies at properties in Burt Street, Clive Street, and Albert Street. Your Council, however, considered that the work should be deferred until the termination of the present crisis, I have therefore refrained from bringing any further conversion schemes before your Council for consideration. As I pointed out in last year's report the Council can enforce the substitution of water carriage for privies under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, under which Act the Council are not required to contribute towards the cost of conversion. The County Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report comments upon the slow progress made in the district with respect to privy conversions, and considers that the time has arrived for the entire abolition of the privy system in your area.

Infectious Disease.—There has been a marked decrease in the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified as compared with 1914. 170 notifications having been received, as in previous years each has been visited and supplied with disinfectants, and printed instructions; and a warning letter has been posted at the door of every infected house.

Nine civil and 18 military cases were removed to the Port Sanitary Hospital. Very few military cases have been treated in the Port Sanitary Hospital since January, due no doubt to the charges being higher than those of other hospitals in the country. The Medical Officers in charge of the various camps and billets have, however, looked to the sanitary authority of the

district to carry out the necessary disinfection of the premises or camp, whenever cases occurred, this has always been done with dispatch, a strong solution of formalin being used. During the year 84 infected houses have been disinfected.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—There are 18 persons registered as cowkeepers in the district, this is one less than last year, the number of cows kept being thereby slightly reduced, the present number being 186, last year the number was 200. I have visited the cowsheds regularly, and seen that the limewashing and general cleaning was duly performed. Hot lime has been supplied free by your Council to the various dairymen for lime-washing purposes; this has proved a great boon as otherwise lime would have been very difficult to obtain; local supplies being practically cut off owing to the slackness in the Building trade. The Purveyors of Milk have conducted their business in a satisfactory way, the receptacles being kept clean and covered.

New Houses erected.—The Building trade in the district has practically been brought to a stand still, there having been only two houses erected during the past year, this is probably the smallest number of new houses erected in any year during the past half century. I need not attempt any explanation of the cause of the depression as the same condition of affairs exists in almost every part of the country. The present population is considered to be about 4,000 below the estimated population in August, 1914. There is not a dearth of houses, although the Military Authorities are in possession of 30 dwelling houses of various classes, in addition to the Public Halls, Schools, &c. which they occupy.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 145 Factories and Workshops on the register, this is five less than last year's list, they comprise the following :—

Bakehouses	...	...	11
Dressmakers and Milliners	...	...	14
Tailors, &c.	...	...	8
Shirt and Hosiery Factory	...	...	1
Builders and Joiners	...	...	26
Printers	...	...	5
Smiths and Engineers	...	...	12
Mineral Water and Beer Bottlers...	...	...	4
Plumbers and Tinsmiths	...	...	8
Boot and Shoe Makers and Repairers	...	...	13
Laundries	...	...	2
Sugar Boilers	...	...	2
Painters and Decorators	...	...	6
Saddlers	...	...	3
Cycle Repairers	...	...	3
Fish Curers	...	...	27

Six notices have been served under the Factory and Workshop Act, as follows: one for the lime-washing of bake-house; one for the erection of sanitary convenience; two for the lime-washing of workshop, and two for the cleansing and improvement of sanitary conveniences. With the exception of two smoke-curing houses, the whole of the fish-curing establishments have been closed during the year.

Slaughter Houses.—The number of Slaughter Houses upon the register remains the same as last year, viz., 19—10 of which are the property of the Council. As in the past the Council has done all the necessary scavenging, the refuse being removed twice weekly. The several occupiers have availed themselves of the Council's offer to supply lime free of charge for lime-washing purposes.

Common Lodging Houses.—There has not been any increase in the number of Common Lodging Houses in your area, which remains the same as heretofore, viz., 4. Although the premises in each instance have been kept going, there has been a dearth of lodgers during the whole year; as I stated last year this is largely due to the great number of men at present serving in His Majesty's Forces. The bedding and floors have been kept clean and the walls lime-washed and distempered, and the ventilation of the several sleeping apartments has been seen to. There has not been any serious cases of infectious disease in any of the lodging houses.

School Fumigation.—As in former years I have disinfected the Elementary and Secondary Schools in the area. Several of the schools have been occupied by the military for a considerable part of the year. The whole of the schools were, however, at the disposal of the education authorities during the spring months, at which period the troops in the district went under canvas. Advantage was therefore taken to have all schools thoroughly cleansed and sprayed with formalin. This was repeated during the summer vacation.

Inspection of District.—Whilst making my general inspections of the district I have had occasion to serve 240 notices for the abatement of nuisances and improvements to properties under the following headings.

	Nuisances.	Structural Def.
Defective and Choked Drains ...	29	29
Provide Traps to Scullery Sinks ...		9
Defective Ashpits and Ashbins ...	69	69
Foul Water Closets ...	3	3
Defective Spouting ...		80
Defective Water Services ...		1
Defective Ventilation to Bedrooms ...	17	17
" " Living Rooms...	25	25
Overcrowding ...	1	1
Dirty House and Overcrowding ...		1
Defective Water Services ...		1
Defective Roofing ...		3
Unpaved Yard ...		1
Dangerous Building ...		1
	144	240

Notices have been served upon the Seaton Delaval Coal Company, Cowpen Coal Company, and Bebside Coal Company, requiring them to complete the covering in of the open ashpits in connection with their respective properties. As far as the Seaton Delaval Company is concerned, I expect that the conveniences will be entirely rebuilt. When this comes about it will be a splendid opportunity to abolish the privy system entirely and substitute the water carriage system throughout the village.

The Cowpen Coal Company have made a start with the work of covering in ashpits that remain uncovered at their properties at Isabella Pit.

The Bebside Coal Company have rebuilt and covered in a few ashpits at Bebside Furnace. Nothing has as yet been done at Bebside Village, the Wood Row, or the Brick Row, Bebside Furnace, in this respect.

Housing and Town Planning Act.—Under this Act I have made records of 75 houses. Several of these houses were altered two years ago by converting four-roomed houses into two three-roomed cottages, the third room being added by building a combined scullery-kitchen at the back of the living room of each house; the addition of this scullery is a great improvement both from the utility and comfort standpoint. The bedroom over the living room is of the kind found in the older type of colliery house, the ventilation being faulty, owing to the window

being low and fixed near the floor line, the spouting was defective, and notices were sent to the owners requiring new guttering to be fixed. A commencement has been made with this work, which will be completed as soon as sufficient labour can be got to do the work.

Five houses have been closed in the East Ward. These were situated over business premises and were in a very dilapidated and insanitary condition. On representations being made to the owner he agreed to close the houses; the rooms have now been added to the business premises and are used as store rooms.

There remains an enormous amount of work in front of the Council with respect to the administration of this important Act, and the Local Government Board have pointed out the necessity of assistance being provided in this respect. This, however, has been deferred until a more opportune time. In the meantime I shall endeavour to do as much inspection under the Act as circumstances will permit.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN FAWCETT.

1915.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS 1910.

Tabular Statement as required by Article V.

SANITARY DISTRICT. BLYTH URBAN.	No. of dwelling houses inspected.	No. of dwelling houses which, on inspection, considered unfit for human habitation.	No. of representations made to local authority with a view to closing orders being made.	CLOSING ORDERS.		No. of dwellings in which defects remedied without closing orders being made.	No. of dwellings put into fit state for human habitation after closing orders made.	GENERAL CHARACTER OF DEFECTS FOUND.	ANY OTHER INFORMATION.
				No. of Orders made.	No. of houses vacated at end of each year in consequence.				
PARISHES OR SUB-DISTRICTS.									
1. NORTH WARD...									
2. SOUTH WARD...	66	None.	None.		66			Defective spouting and unpaved back area, faulty ventilation of Bedrooms.	Work of re-spouting commenced with at end of year 1915. New Kitchen recently built.
3. EAST WARD ..	9	5	closed without order being made.	5	4	None.		Dilapidated stairs and ceilings, sanitary conveniences and yard.	Situated over shops now used as store rooms.
4. WEST WARD ...		None.							
5. NEW DELAVAL WARD ...									
Total for whole District	75	5							

BLYTH URBAN DISTRICT.

TABLE IIIa.

Allocation of Zymotic Deaths to Sub-Districts,
1915.

Zymotic Disease.	North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	New Delaval Ward.	Whole District.
1. Enteric Fever	...	...	...	2	...	2
2. Small Pox ...	...	...	...	..	...	...
3. Measles ...	3	3	23	13	1	43
4. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough ...	1	...	6	5	...	12
6. Diphtheria and Croup ...	2	...	1	1	...	4
7. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years) ...	...	1	25	12	1	39
Totals ...	6	4	55	33	2	100

TABLE X.

BLYTH URBAN DISTRICT

1915. STATISTICS OF SUB-DISTRICTS.

Sub-Districts.	Population (middle of 1915.)	Births (nett).	Deaths (nett).	Infant Deaths under 1 yr. (nett).
NORTH WARD ...	4525	90	62	14
SOUTH WARD ...	3973	72	27	12
EAST WARD ...	16093	429	251	75
WEST WARD ...	6231	165	87	29
NEW DELAVAL WARD	2410	59	43	6
WHOLE DISTRICT ...	33232	815	470	136

(Table I.) Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 & previous Years in BLYTH URBAN DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS, KINETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-registered 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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	28545	919	919	32.19	391	13.69	0	9	129	140.3	400	14.01
1911	28405	910	914	32.17	415	14.61	3	28	138	150.9	440	15.45
1912	31351	1008	1013	32.31	440	14.03	9	35	118	116.48	466	14.86
1913	32066	977	977	33.15	487	15.16	5	32	111	113.61	514	16.01
1914	32877	1005	1007	30.90	447	13.68	4	45	130	129.09	488	15.28
1915	33232 29196	815	822	28.15	470	16.09	1	53	139	114.25	522	17.81

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In the district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a net population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

o In column 6 are to be included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.
In column 12 is to be entered the number in column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in column 8 and by addition of the number in column 9. Deaths in column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in column 9.

x The Medical Officer of Health will be able from the returns made to him by the local Registrar of Deaths, as well as from the quarterly lists furnished by the Registrar-General, to fill in column 8 in accordance with the rule in the next paragraph below. The Registrar-General either directly or through the County Medical Officer of Health will supply the Medical Officer of Health with the particulars of deaths to be entered in Column 9, and all such deaths must be included in this column, unless an error is detected and its correction has been accepted by the Registrar-General. For column 4 the Registrar-General will furnish to the Medical Officer of Health a statement of the number of births needed to be added to or subtracted from the total by the local Registrar.

k "Transferable Deaths" are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, e.g., casuals, must not be included in columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (b) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in column 8 the number of transferable deaths of "non-residents" which are to be deducted, and will state in column 9 the number of deaths of "residents" registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the net death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to transferable deaths:—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses, and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission, the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one such institution to another, the death is transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (a) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (b) if this district is unknown, or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (c) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known; and (d) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Total population at all ages, 32,877; number of inhabited houses, 5,819; average number of persons per house, 5.3; at census, 1911. Area of district in acres (land and inland water) 4509.

Table II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1915 in BLYTH URBAN DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District,							Total cases removed to Hospital.												
	At all Ages.	At Ages †—Years.								North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	New Delaval Ward.	6		7											
		Under 1.	1 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.																				
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
† Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	18	8	7	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	19	...	1	10	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3		
Scarlet Fever	51	16	27	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Enteric Fever	7	...	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
† Relapsing Fever (R)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	41	3	2	7	19	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	20	6	7	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	170	14	33	46	21	37	19	...	20	13	97	35	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	

NOTES.—State in space below the name and position within or without the district of the isolation hospital or hospitals, sanatoria other institutions to which the residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, have usually been sent, and the name of the authority by whom the hospital is provided.

* This space may be used for record of other diseases the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

‡ Specify the disease by initial against the figure.

Port Sanitary Hospital within district provided by B.P.S.A. Isolation Hospital within district provided by B.U.D.C.

Table IV.—Infant Mortality during the year 1915 in

BLYTH URBAN DISTRICT.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
	All causes { Certified Uncertified	30	4	...	3	37	25	19	25	30	136
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	10	15
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Whooping-Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	4	9
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	1	...	...	1	3	1	4	4	12
{ Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	2	2	16
{ Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	5	1	12
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation overlying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
{ Congenital Malformations (c) Premature Birth ...	6	1	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	1
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	15	1	...	1	7	4	1	1	1	7
Other Causes ...	8	1	...	2	11	3	2	6	3	14
Totals ...	30	4	...	3	37	25	19	25	30	136

Nett Births in the year : Legitimate, 792 ; Illegitimate, 30. Nett Deaths in the year : Legitimate Infants, 128 ; Illegitimate Infants 8.

TABLE V.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. 1	Number of		
	Inspections, 2	Written Notices 3	Prosecutions 4
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	77	2	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	166	3	Nil.
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL	243	5	Nil.

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

		Number of Defects.	
		Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	... ..	1	1
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	... ..	2	2
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	... ..	1	1
Defective Drainage	... ..	1	1
Total		5	5

3. Home Work.

Nil.

4. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. 1	Number. 2
Bakehouses	12
Dressmakers and Milliners	14
Tailors, &c.	10
Joiners and Cabinetmakers	22
Printers	5
Engineers and Smiths	13
Mineral Water Manufacturers	4
Plumbers	8
Boot and Shoemakers	13
Laundries	2
Painters	7
Saddlers	3
Fish Curers	32
Sugar Boilers	2
Other Trades	3
Total number of workshops on Register	150