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Contributors

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Brightlingsea
Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1915.

To the *Brightlingsea Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Report for 1915, together with the Tables required by the Local Government Board.

In view of the present circumstances the Report is short and is confined to a record of what has taken place during the year.

Population.

The population is estimated at 4,370. The excess of births over deaths is 5. The number of deaths which occurred in the district is 64; and to this total are added 9 deaths of residents occurring outside the district.

Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—Three cases occurred in the beginning of the year; and a small epidemic (seven cases) broke out in the summer. Three of these cases were sent to the Colchester Fever Hospital owing to there being insufficient accommodation in their homes for isolation. The Council's Marquee Hospital was erected outside the town and placed at the disposal of the Military Authorities for the isolation of "contacts."

Enteric Fever.—Four cases occurred.

Scavenging, etc.

The attention of the Council having been drawn to the fact that several houses were not provided with proper dustbins, the Council ordered that all unsatisfactory ones should be reported by the scavengers to the Sanitary Inspector, when steps would be taken to remedy defects.

Food.

The bake-houses, slaughter-houses, dairies, and milkshops have been periodically inspected, and found clean and in good order.

In consequence of a complaint concerning the oysters in a private laying, the Council took immediate steps under Article V. of the Regulations as to Shell-fish. The Council's request was complied with, and the oysters re-laid, and Quarantined for the stated period. No complaint has been received since.

Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws.

The following Acts or parts thereof have been adopted as stated below, and apply to the whole area :—

| | Date of Adoption. |
|--|-------------------|
| Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 | 23rd Jan., 1897 |
| Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890 | 9th Jan., 1897 |
| Private Street Works Act, 1892 | 9th Jan., 1897 |
| Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907 | 21st Nov., 1909 |
| Secs. 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, in Part ii. | |
| Secs. 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, in Part iii. | |
| Secs. 52 to 66 (inclusive) and 68, in Part iv. | |
| Part vi. | |
| Sec. 81, Part vii. | |
| Secs. 87, 88, 89, Part viii. | |
| Secs. 92, 93, 94, Part x. | |
| Nuisances Bye-laws | 12th Jan., 1898 |
| Slaughter-houses | 27th Jan., 1898 |
| New Streets and Buildings | 8th May, 1897 |
| Dairies, etc , Regulations | 1st Jan., 1904 |

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. TRAVERS KEVERN,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Brightlingsea,

15th March, 1916.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT.

| YEAR. | Population estimated to middle of each year. | BIRTHS. | | | TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT. | | TRANSFERABLE DEATHS | | NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT. | | | |
|---------|--|----------------------|---------|-------|--|-------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|--------------|---------|
| | | Un-corrected Number. | Nett. | | Number. | Rate. | of Non-Residents registered in the District. | of Residents registered in the District. | Under 1 Year of Age. | | At all Ages. | |
| | | | Number. | Rate. | | | | | Number. | Rate per 1,000 Nett Births. | | Number. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1910 .. | 4,419 | 82 | 82 | 18.5 | 44 | 9.9 | .. | 1 | 1 | 12.0 | 45 | 10.2 |
| 1911 .. | 4,402 | 72 | 72 | 16.5 | 61 | 13.8 | .. | 8 | 11 | 152.0 | 69 | 15.6 |
| 1912 .. | 4,392 | 91 | 91 | 20.7 | 56 | 12.7 | .. | 9 | 2 | 21.79 | 65 | 14.7 |
| 1913 .. | 4,382 | 69 | 69 | 15.7 | 48 | 10.9 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 86.9 | 52 | 11.8 |
| 1914 .. | 4,372 | 80 | 80 | 18.2 | 47 | 10.7 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 37.5 | 49 | 11.2 |
| 1915 .. | 4,370 | 77 | 78 | 17.8 | 64 | 14.6 | — | 9 | 8 | 102.5 | 73 | 16.7 |

Total population at all ages .. 4,404
 Total families or separate occupiers .. 1,181

At Census of 1911

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 2,873.

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. | NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED. | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| | At all Ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | |
| | | Under 1. | Under 5. | 5 to 15. | 15 to 25. | 25 to 45. | 45 to 65. | 65 and upwards. |
| Small-pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cholera or Plague | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | 5 | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | .. | .. |
| Scarlet fever | 10 | .. | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. |
| Typhus fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enteric fever | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 | .. | .. |
| Relapsing fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Continued fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Poliomyelitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 9 | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 1 | 2 | .. |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Totals | 31 | — | 1 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 4 | — |

Total cases removed to Hospital.....4.

TABLE III.

**Deaths registered during the Calendar Year 1915,
classified by age and cause.**

BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at subjoined Ages. | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | All ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 2. | 2 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 45. | 45 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| All causes { Certified | 69 | 8 | — | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 15 | 35 |
| { Uncertified | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Enteric fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Small Pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet fever | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Whooping-cough | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria and Croup | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Influenza | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Erysipelas | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Tuberculous Meningitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Tuberculous Diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cancer, Malignant Disease | 9 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 6 |
| Rheumatic fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Meningitis | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. |
| Organic Heart Disease | 11 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 4 | 6 |
| Bronchitis | 5 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 |
| Pneumonia (all forms) | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diarrhoea and Enteritis | 5 | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Appendicitis and Typhlitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cirrhosis of liver | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Alcoholism | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Nephritis and Bright's Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth | 4 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Suicide | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Other Defined Diseases | 7 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 4 |
| Diseases ill-defined or unknown | 19 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 17 |
| Totals | 73 | 8 | — | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 17 | 37 |

Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Urban District of Brightlingsea during the year ending December 31st, 1915.

| | Total Number for year. |
|--|---------------------------|
| Complaints received | 5 |
| Nuisances detected without complaint | 2 |
| Nuisances abated | 7 |
| Nuisances remaining unabated | — |
| Formal notices served | 7 |
| Summonses issued | — |
| Convictions obtained | — |
| Lodging Houses inspected | — |
| Frequency of Inspection | — |
| Slaughter Houses inspected | 5 |
| Frequency of Inspection | (each) 3 |
| Bakehouses inspected | 13 |
| Frequency of Inspection | (each) 2 |
| Dairies and Milkshops inspected | — |
| Frequency of Inspection | — |
| Cowsheds inspected | 3 |
| Frequency of Inspection | — |
| No. of samples of milk taken for examination for cleanliness, tubercle bacilli, etc. | — |
| Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875 | — |
| Houses disinfected | 14 |
| Overcrowding abated | — |
| Houses erected or re-built for which water "certificates" were applied | 2 |
| "Certificates" granted | 2 |
| ,, deferred | — |
| Public Wells, total No. in District | — |
| New Public Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded | — |
| Wells cleansed or repaired | — |
| Wells closed | 1 |
| Privies. No. in district | 18 |
| ,, No. abolished during the year | — |
| Pail Closets. No. in District | 29 |
| Water Closets. No. in District without flushing cistern | 595 |
| Water Closets with flushing cisterns | 478 |
| Privies and W.C.'s repaired ; W.C.'s supplied with water | — |
| Water cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered | — |
| Animals improperly kept removed | — |
| Samples of water taken for Analysis | 4 |
| Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding | — |
| Seizures of unsound Meat, etc. | — |

(Signed) H. V. LORD,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.