

[Report 1913] / Medical Officer of Health, Calne U.D.C.

Contributors

Calne (England). Urban District Council.

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Calne

To the Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

In making the Annual Report for the year 1913 the exact instructions issued to Medical Officers of Health by the Local Government Board have been followed.

A.—Nature and Social Conditions of the District—

See last year's Report.

The rainfall for the year was 26.81 inches, more than 1 inch below the average.

B.—Sanitary circumstances of the District.

a. Water Supply.

This is for the most part supplied by wells and springs.

There is a water supply at Foxham under the control of your Board, and in 1913 two extra houses have been supplied from this source. There is a semi-private supply (also under your control) for the village of East Tytherton, and a private supply for the village of Hilmarton. The District as a whole is amply supplied with good water. The water from three wells has been analysed, and in two cases the water was found to be contaminated with Sewage or other animal matter, and both these wells have been permanently closed. Fresh sources of supply are being obtained at both these places. In the other case the water of a well unused for domestic and drinking purposes was found to be of an excellent quality, and is again in use.

b Rivers and Streams.

Three cases of pollution of Streams with sewage have been found. Two have been remedied. In the case of Quemerford the best way of dealing with the sewage pollution of the Marden is still under consideration.

c. Drainage and Sewage.

There are no public drains or sewers.

d. Closet Accommodation.

The privies are mainly of the pail closet type. There are no available statistics as to the number of W.C's in the District.

e. Scavenging.

No scavenging is done by the Sanitary Authority. The privies, &c., are cleansed by the Occupiers who dispose of the sewage.

f. Sanitary Inspection of the District.

The Sanitary Inspector has done the following work—

Inquired into 77 cases of Infectious Disease.

Disinfected 7 houses after Infectious Disease.

Made 48 informal notices for the removal of accumulations of offensive refuse.

Inspected 89 Dairies and Cowsheds under the Dairies and Cowsheds' Order.

The Medical Officer of Health has, with the Sanitary Inspector, made inspections at the Council's request at Compton Bassett, Quemerford and East Tytherton. He, the Medical Officer of Health, visits the homes in which Infectious cases occur, and also inspects the village schools in connection with any outbreaks of Infectious Disease.

g. Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws and Regulations.

There is one offensive trade, no nuisance has arisen or complaint been made.

There are no cellar dwellings in the District.

Schools.

The following Schools have been closed for Infectious Disease :—

East Tytherton for Measles.	
Foxham	„
Hilmarton	„
Cherhill	„
Calstone	„

Food.

a. Milk Supply.

The several Dairies which send milk into Calne for sale have been inspected and found satisfactory. The milk produced at the farms of the District is sent either to local Milk Factories or to London. All the Cowsheds and Dairies are inspected. They are kept clean and tidy.

b. Other Foods.

There are no Slaughter Houses. The Nine Bake-houses are kept clean, only one informal notice has been required this year for whitewashing.

c. Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

No action has been required.

Housing.

In accordance with Art. XIX (14) (k) of the Local Government Board's General Orders of 13th September, 1910, and Art. V. of the Housing and Town Planning Act, the following work has been done during the year ending December 31st, 1913:—

The number of dwelling houses inspected under and			
for the purposes of Sect. 17 of the			
Act of 1909		...	168
„	„ dwelling houses which on inspection		
	were considered to be in a state so		
	dangerous or injurious to health as		
	to be unfit for human habitation	...	2
„	„ representations made to the Local		
	Authority with a view of making		
	Closing Orders	...	2
„	„ Closing Orders made	...	1
„	„ dwelling houses the defects in which		
	were remedied without the making		
	of Closing Orders	...	43
„	„ dwelling houses which after the making		
	of Closing Orders were put in a fit		
	state for human habitation	...	0

The dwelling house for which the Local Authority did not make a Closing Order, after representation was made, has been repaired, (the defect being an unsafe bedroom floor.)

The general character of the defects found on inspection may be thus classified :—

a. EXTERNAL—faulty roofs ; damp walls and foundations, due to defective spouting and drainage ; faulty sanitary arrangements.

b. INTERNAL—windows which cannot be opened ; no ceilings or faulty ones ; faulty stairs ; dirty walls.

The defects which have been found by your Inspector and for which he issued informal notices have been repaired quickly and in a proper manner, and as a consequence the cottages are greatly improved as dwelling places.

Four houses have been demolished and replaced by new and excellent cottages. Eight new cottages and one new residence have been erected during 1913. The farm and village cottages in the District are quite adequate.

One case of overcrowding has been dealt with informally and remedied.

There are no Byelaws in force for the supervision of the construction of new houses, except in the case of Quemerford. No new house is, however, allowed to be built without an adequate water supply is easily obtainable.

Workshops, Workplaces, &c.

These are 1 Steam Flour Mill.

1 Steam Saw Mill.

7 Flour Mills.

8 Carpenters' Premises.

8 Blacksmiths' Shops.

9 Bakehouses.

6 Wheelwrights.

There is no home or outwork done in the District.

C.—Sanitary Administration of the District.

a. The Officers are Medical Officer of Health, Sanitary Inspector, and an Assistant Inspector to carry out the necessary instructions required under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

b. The Calne District Isolation Hospital is available for the reception of Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria cases. This Hospital has a Medical Superintendent, a Caretaker, and a Matron. Nurses are obtained when necessary.

c. Adoptive Acts. None are in force in the District, but regulations under the Cowsheds and Dairies' Orders are enforced.

d. The Local Authority defray the expenses of the examinations of swabs from Diphtheria cases and also for analysis of drinking water. 12 Bacteriological examinations of swabs have been required. 3 Analysts' reports on well water.

D.—Prevalence of & Control over Acute Infectious Disease.

Scarlet Fever.

Five cases at Studley, no cause was discovered for this small outbreak. Two cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, three cases were isolated at home. No further case occurred.

Diphtheria.

Two cases in one house were notified. On investigation it was found that one of the family had been away from home in a district where there was an outbreak of Diphtheria, and when away she had a slight sore throat which did not make her ill. On her return home she slept with the two cases notified. A swab of her throat was taken which gave a positive Diphtheria result. Two

more cases were notified from the same house. All five cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital and the rest of the family isolated. No further case occurred.

Measles.

There has been a wide-spread epidemic in all parts of the District, for which it has been necessary to advise the closing of 5 Schools.

The Head Teachers of the Village Schools promptly notify the Medical Officer of Health of all cases of absence from School due to infection or contagious disease.

E.—Prevalence and Control of Tuberculosis.

a. Visits to all notified cases are paid as soon as possible. Steps are taken to isolate infected persons as far as possible by day as well as by night, and advice given as to the disposal of sputum, &c.

b. No subsequent visits are paid unless asked for.

c. Whenever possible steps are taken to discover any possible contact cases.

d. In all cases the advice and assistance of the County Tuberculosis Officer is obtained, and every case is notified in addition to the County Medical Officer of Health.

e. In case of death the rooms used by the patient are thoroughly cleansed: the paper is removed and burnt; the room is whitewashed and then subjected to formalin disinfection. The infected clothing and bedding is destroyed if possible.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

*Name of District—***CALNE RURAL.**

YEAR.	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-cor- rected number	Nett.						Under 1 Year of Age		At All Ages.	
			Num- ber.	Rate.								
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	4615	103	103	22.5	73	15.8	0	0	9	87.3	73	15.8
1909	4615	98	98	21.5	51	10.0	0	0	6	61.2	51	10.0
1910	4654	103	105	22.5	60	12.9	1	3	9	85.7	62	13.3
1911	4600	98	100	21.7	59	12.8	0	8	6	58.8	67	14.5
1912	4662	101	101	21.6	41	8.79	0	8	6	56.4	49	10.3
1913	4712	86	86	18.2	56	11.8	0	6	8	93.02	62	13.1

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)	} 27279	Total Population at all ages	...	4600
		Number of inhabited houses	...	1127
		Average number of persons per house	...	At Census, 1911 4.05

Table II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1913.

Name of District—CALNE RURAL.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases notified in each Locality of the District.					Total cases re-moved to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Calne Without	Calstone.	Bremhill.	Yatesbury.	Heddington.		Hilmarston.
		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.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	5			2	2	1		5						5
Erysipelas ...	2						2	1	1					
Scarlet Fever ..	5		2	3				5						2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11			1	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	1	2	
Totals ...	23		2	6	4	6	4	14	2	2	2	1	2	7

Isolation Hospital, or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.—Calne District Isolation Hospital.

Table III.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913. Name of District—CALNE RURAL.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District. (a)									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District (b).
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 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.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes { Certified Uncertified	62 <i>nil</i>	8	1	1	2	1	7	14	28	56
3. Measles	2	1			1					2
6. Diphtheria and Croup	1				1					1
9. Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	3						1	1	1	3
12. Cancer (malignant Disease)	4						1			4
15. Organic Heart Disease	12						3	5	3	10
16. Bronchitis	2								4	2
17. Pneumonia (all forms)	5		1	1					2	5
18. Other diseases of respiratory organs	1	1							3	1
20. Appendicitis & Typhlitis	2						1		1	1
22. Nephritis and Bright's Disease	1					1				1
25. Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	5	5								5
26. Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	2								2	2
28. Other Defined Diseases... <i>e.g.</i> 3 Measles	22	1					2	7	12	19
Totals	62	8	1	1	2	1	7	14	28	56

(a) All "Transferable Deaths" of residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident in the District who have died outside it, are to be included with the other deaths in columns 2—10. Transferable deaths of non-residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident elsewhere in England and Wales who have died in the District, are in like manner to be excluded from these columns.

The total deaths in column 2 of Table III. should equal the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

(b) All deaths occurring in institutions for the sick and infirm situated within the district, whether of residents or of non-residents, are to be entered in the last column of Table III.

Table IV. *Name of District*—**CALNE RURAL.**

Infant Mortality.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.		1-2 weeks.		2-3 weeks.		3-4 weeks.		Total under 4 weeks.		4 weeks & under 3 months.		3 months & under 6 months.		6 months & under 9 months.		9 months & under 12 months.		Total Deaths under 1 year.	
	...	{ Certified Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes
Measles	1	...	1	...
Laryngitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Congenital Malformations	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Premature Birth	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Causes	1	...	...	...	1	...
Totals	4	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	8	...

Nett Births in the year { legitimate 84
illegitimate 2

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 8
illegitimate infants 0

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I, II, III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

RALPH S. FERGUSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Feb. 25th, 1914.

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