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CHORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Medical Officer of Health's  
**REPORT,**  
1915.



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CHORLEY,

APRIL, 1916.

TO THE CHORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I must apologise to you for the delay in presenting my Annual Report, and also for the fewer details that I shall be able to give you. The prolongation of the terrible war in which our country is still engaged has imposed upon me increased duties, which have taken a considerable amount of time to discharge, and the Local Government Board have authorised the Medical Officers of Health to curtail their Annual Reports in some respects and to confine themselves, more or less, to a record of the actual work done during the year.

The County Medical Officer of Health and his Officer made a survey of the Chorley Rural District in the Spring, and sent your Council a copy of the results of his survey, and various suggestions which he thought necessary to be adopted. These matters have received your consideration and will, no doubt, have further attention when the times become more normal.

In the meantime your Officers are endeavouring to bring to your notice and to remedy all urgent sanitary defects until the close of the war.

I give in the first portion of my Report the Vital Statistics and some comments thereon.

The number of Births registered in the Chorley Rural District in 1915 was four hundred and forty-eight (448), to which must be added two (2) Births of Residents in your district which were registered elsewhere.

For the computation of the Birth rate the Registrar-General recommends the estimate of the population given in my last Annual Report, from which I calculate the Birth rate at 20.09 per thousand.

This rate is the lowest on record, 2.87 below that recorded in 1914, and 3.0 below the average rate of the preceding five years.

The Birth rate was the highest in the Second Quarter of the year, and very much the lowest in the Fourth Quarter, as you will see from the following figures:—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Year.
Birth rate	19.9	24.4	20.8	15.3	20.09

Upon the estimated populations of the several sub-districts, as given below, I calculate the Birth rates as detailed in Table A.

**TABLE A.**

	Estimated Population.			Birth Rate
Chorley Sub-district	...	6,800	...	24.4
Brindle	...	3,250	...	17.9
Croston	...	4,570	...	19.0
Leyland	...	5,130	...	18.5
Rivington	...	2,550	...	16.5

Chorley sub-district, as usual, yielded the highest Birth rate, much above the average rate obtaining in the Chorley Rural District in 1915, whilst all the other sub-districts gave lower rates than the average, Rivington sub-district being the lowest.

Two hundred and fifty-one (251) Males and one hundred and ninety-nine (199) Females were born during the year. Of these Births twelve (12) were illegitimate, the same number as occurred in 1914, between 2 and 3 per cent. of the whole number of Births.

The Birth rate throughout England and Wales in 1915 was 21.8 per thousand, the lowest on record for the country, but 1.7 per thousand higher than the estimated Birth rate of the Chorley Rural District.

Whilst the Birth rate throughout England and Wales in 1915 was 1.8 lower than that of 1914 and 3.6 lower than the average of the ten preceding years (1905-1914), the Birth rate of Chorley Rural District was 2.8 lower than that of 1914 and 4.2 lower than the average rate for the decade (1905-1914). This is a very unsatisfactory condition, especially as the Birth rate in towns has not decreased to the same extent as in the country districts.

Two hundred and seventy-two (272) Deaths were registered in the Chorley Rural District in 1915, giving the rate for Registered Deaths of 12.39 calculated upon the civil population of your district as estimated by the Registrar-General, viz, 21,947.

Eight (8) of these Deaths registered in your District occurred in persons not residing there, whilst twenty-five (25) Residents died, and their Deaths were registered in other areas outside the Chorley Rural District. The number of Deaths of Residents in 1915 was accordingly two hundred and eighty-nine (289), and the Death rate of Residents, estimated upon the civil population, was 13.12 per thousand.

This Death rate was slightly higher than that estimated in 1914, viz, 12.74, but is lower than the average for the five years preceding 1915, viz, 13.33 per thousand.

The rate was highest in the Rivington sub-district, and lowest in the Chorley sub-district, as you will see from the following Table:—

**TABLE B.**

	Estimated Civil Population.			Death Rate.
Chorley Sub-district	..	6,520	...	11.7
Brindle	..	3,230	...	14.5
Croston	..	4,550	...	12.7
Leyland	..	5,100	...	13.1
Rivington	..	2,550	...	16.1

The Death rate throughout England and Wales in 1915 is estimated at 15.1, being 1.2 per thousand higher than that obtaining throughout the Country in 1914.

The Death rate in the Chorley Rural District was 2 per thousand less than the average rate for England and Wales in 1915.

The Deaths of Residents occurring during the year comprised those of one hundred and fifty-two (152) Males and one hundred and thirty-seven (137) Females.

Ten (10) Deaths were Uncertified, that is registered without either a Doctor's or Coroner's Certificate.

The Ages at which the Deaths of Residents occurred in 1915 are shown in the following Table, and the numbers dying in the various groups of ages are compared with the numbers of Deaths in the same groups in the four preceding years.

TABLE C.

Year.	Group 1. Under 1 Year.	Group 2. 1 and under 2.	Group 3. 2 and under 5.	Group 4. 5 and under 15.	Group 5. 15 and under 25.	Group 6. 25 and under 45.	Group 7. 45 and under 65.	Group 8. 65 and upwards.	At all Ages.
1915	42	20	13	8	18	31	59	98	289
1914	64	6	8	5	14	34	78	75	284
1913	66	15	18	5	13	33	61	66	277
1912	57	12	15	11	11	35	70	87	298
1911	54	15	21	23	13	40	73	82	321

You may notice that about one-third of the Deaths occurring in 1915 were in persons over 65 years of age, the average for the preceding four years being a little under one-fourth.

Again the comparatively few deaths of Infants under one year of Age, as compared with those occurring in 1915 or the preceding four years may be seen from the above Table.

The Infantile Mortality, that is, the ratio between the number of Deaths of Infants under one year of Age and the number of Births occurring during the year was, for the whole of the Chorley Rural District, ninety-three (93) per thousand. This rate is considerably below the rates obtaining in any of the last five years, as you will see from Table I. (Local Government Board Tables), and still more markedly below the rate in 1914. The average rate for the preceding five years was one hundred and eighteen (118) per thousand Births, whilst in 1915 it was only ninety-three (93).

The rate was highest in the Chorley sub-district, viz, 114, and was lowest in Leyland sub-district, viz, 52.

I give below the Infantile Mortality rates of each sub-district for 1915, and compare them with the rates obtaining in these sub-districts in 1914.

Year.	Chorley Sub-district.	Brindle Sub-district.	Croston Sub-district.	Leyland Sub-district.	Rivington Sub-district.	Chorley Rural District
1915	114	86	104	52	95	93
1914	98	203	84	162	128	125

As I remarked in my last Report, these statistics, obtained from districts with small populations, in the short period of one year, give only slight indications of the severity of the Infantile Mortality in these districts, and in order to discover where the Mortality is of more serious moment it is necessary to take a longer period than one year.

I have accordingly prepared a Table in which I give the Infantile Mortality in each sub-district for the last ten years.

**TABLE D.**

Year.	Chorley Sub-district.	Brindle Sub-district.	Croston Sub-district.	Leyland Sub-district.	Rivington Sub-district.	Chorley Rural District.	England and Wales.
1915	114	86	104	52	95	93	
1914	98	203	84	162	128	125	110
1913	198	95	64	122	115	124	109
1912	118	85	109	120	143	116	95
1911	163	72	49	118	96	109	130
1910	105	158	160	123	103	116	106
1909	126	70	69	68	40	86	109
1908	104	103	97	111	120	106	121
1907	117	159	73	124	77	111	118
1906	105	101	60	181	107	117	133
Average, Decade 1906-15 ...	125	113	87	118	102	110	115

You will notice that the Infantile Mortality average is considerably the lowest in Croston sub-district, that in Rivington sub-district the average is lower than in the district as a whole, that the Brindle average is somewhat higher than that of the whole district, and that Leyland, and especially Chorley sub-districts, show distinctly higher averages than that of the whole of your district.

The full particulars of the Deaths of Infants are given in Table IV. (Local Government Board Tables), and the several diseases from which, and the ages (weeks or months) at which these Deaths occurred are there detailed. To summarise, no Deaths occurred from Infectious Diseases, one (1) from Tuberculous Diseases, seven (7) from Lung Diseases, seven (7) from Diarrhoeal Diseases, nineteen (19) from Congenital Debility, Premature Birth or Malformation, and eight (8) from other causes.

The Causes of Death and the number of Deaths due to each Cause and in the various Age Groups are given in Table III. (Local Government Board Tables). In the following Table I give the number of Deaths due to each Cause in each of the sub-districts in 1915.

TABLE E.

Causes of Death.	Sub-districts.					Total.
	Chorley	Brindle	Croston	Leyland	Rivington	
Measles ... ..	...	1	3	2	...	6
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1
Whooping Cough... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria... ..	1	...	...	1	...	2
Influenza ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	1
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	1
Phthisis Pulmonalis ... ..	6	2	3	8	5	24
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	2	...	1	...	...	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	2	...	1	...	3
Cancer ... ..	6	4	3	6	7	26
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	1
Meningitis... ..	2	1	1	1	1	6
Heart Disease ... ..	5	7	5	5	6	28
Bronchitis ... ..	7	1	5	6	3	22
Pneumonia ... ..	7	2	3	2	1	15
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	...	...	2	...	3
Diarrhoea Enteritis ... ..	3	1	1	1	1	7
Appendicitis ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	2
Nephritis ... ..	1	2	1	1	4	9
Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	2
Congenital Debility, Malfor- mation, & Premature Birth ... ..	8	3	4	3	1	19
Violent Deaths ... ..	1	...	4	5	1	11
Suicides ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	16	17	10	13	6	62
Diseases Ill-defined or un- known ... ..	8	3	10	7	4	32
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>289</b>

Compared with the statistics of 1914, more Deaths have occurred in 1915 due to Tuberculous Diseases, Cancer, and Infectious Diseases, and fewer due to Heart Diseases and Congenital Debility, etc.

The Zymotic Death rate in 1915 was 0.77 per thousand, seven (7) Deaths having occurred from Diarrhoea, six (6) from Measles, two (2) from Diphtheria, and one (1) each from Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough.

The Zymotic rate for 1914 was 0.63 per thousand and the average for the preceding five years was 1.23.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.—One hundred and fourteen (114) cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me in 1915, as compared with seventy-two (72) in 1914, and an average of one hundred and forty-seven (147) for the five years (1909-1914).

In Table F I give the number of each of the Infectious Diseases notified from each township and compare the total number of Infectious Diseases occurring in each township in 1915 with that in the preceding year. I insert in this Table the number of cases of Tuberculosis (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary) notified to me in 1915 and also in 1914.

TABLE F.

Townships.	INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1915.								Totals, 1915.	Totals, 1914.	TUBERCULOSIS, 1915.		TUBERCULOSIS, 1914.	
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	Acute Poliomyelitis.			Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Charnock Richard	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	
Coppull ...	16	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	18	1	9	...	...	
Duxbury	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	1	...	...	
Heapey ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Welch Whittle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Brindle ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	
Hoghton	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	2	...	...	
Wheelton	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	7	1	2	...	...	
Bretherton	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	8	1	2	...	...	
Eccleston	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	
Heskin ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	
Mawdesley	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	
Ulnes Walton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	
Clayton-le-Woods	16	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	4	...	...	...	
Cuerden...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	
Euxton ...	11	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	
Whittle-le-Woods	9	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	6	...	...	
Anderton	9	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	
Anglezarke	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	
Heath Charnock	2	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	5	1	1	...	1	
Rivington	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Totals, 1915...	74	11	9	1	15	2	1	1	114	30	6	...	...	
Totals, 1914...	26	17	14	1	13	1	...	...	72	...	32	...	4	

**SCARLET FEVER.**—The greatest prevalence of this Disease occurred in the latter half of the year, especially in the last quarter. During the year seventy-four (74) cases were notified to me from fifty-six (56) houses, in eight (8) of which there were two (2) cases, in two (2) houses three cases, and in two (2) houses four cases.

Seventy cases or 92 per cent. were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the remainder were treated at home.

Only one (1) Death resulted from Scarlet Fever, the case Mortality thus being 1.4 per cent.

**DIPHTHERIA** was reported from ten (10) houses, in one of which there were two cases. In all the other houses, the disease was limited to one member of the family. Nearly half of the cases occurred in the December Quarter.

Two Deaths were registered from Diphtheria, giving the case Mortality of 18 per cent.

Diphtheritic Antitoxin was supplied by me to several Medical Practitioners for use in manifest or suspected cases of Diphtheria.

Six cases or 55 per cent. were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

**ENTERIC FEVER.**—Nine (9) cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year, three of which were in one house. There was not any Death from this disease during the year. The premises, water supply, etc., in each instance were carefully examined by your Officers in order to find the originating cause of the Fever.

**CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS, ETC.**—One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was reported to me in June. The sufferer died after some weeks' illness. I visited the house on more than one occasion, and endeavoured to discover the origin of the disease, but was unable to do so. Specimens were sent to the Clinical Research Society for bacteriological examination, and the contacts were kept under observation for some time. I am glad to say, however, that there was no further case of this disease.

In October a case of Acute Poliomyelitis was notified to me, which also ended fatally in a few days. Some defects in the drainage of this house have been remedied.

**OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—Whooping Cough was prevalent amongst children attending St. Joseph's School, Brindle, in the early part of the year, and in Anderton and the neighbouring townships towards the end of the year.

Measles began to be rife in Eccleston and Ulnes Walton in November and December, and since Janaury, 1916, has been quite epidemic in Coppull and Charnock Richard, and several cases have occurred in other townships.

I have thought it necessary to recommend your Council to close, temporarily, the following schools.

SCHOOL.	PERIOD.	CAUSE.
St. Joseph's R.C., Brindle ...	Jan. 29th to Feb. 22nd ...	Whooping Cough.
St. Bede's R.C., Clayton ...	Feb. 18th to March 15th...	Scarlet Fever, etc.
St. Joseph's Infants R.C., Anderton ...	Nov. 15th to Jan., 1916 ...	Whooping Cough.
Adlington Council Infants, Anderton ..	Dec. 8th to Jan., 1916 ...	Whooping Cough.
National C.E., Eccleston ...	Dec. 7th to Jan., 1916 ...	Measles.

The Compulsory Notification of Measles Order, which came into force on January 1st, 1916, will be of considerable service in bringing to my knowledge early cases of Measles in any of the townships. In many instances Measles has become prevalent and widely spread in a locality before any report has been sent to me.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.—Seventeen (17) specimens were sent to the Clinical Research Association by the Medical Practitioners in your District, in order to secure confirmation, or otherwise, of Infectious Diseases in doubtful cases.

The number of specimens of each Infectious Disease, and the results of the bacteriological examination, were as follows:—

	No. of Specimens.	Negative Result.
Typhoid Fever ...	3	1
Diphtheria ...	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	3	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	8

Though the negative result does not definitely decide that the disease is not present in the individual from which the specimen is taken—for instance, in one of the suspected cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis the disease became very characteristic some time after the specimen was sent for examination with negative result—yet in most cases the results of these examinations are tolerably conclusive of the existence, or non-existence, of the disease, and are valuable in preventing unnecessary and prolonged isolation, etc., in doubtful cases of Infectious Disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Thirty-six (36) cases of Tuberculosis were notified to me in 1915, of which thirty (30) were cases of Pulmonary and six (6) of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition there were four (4) Residents who died of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and five (5) persons who died of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of whom I received no notification prior to the Registrars' returns of deaths.

In Table II. (Local Government Board Tables) the notified cases of Tuberculosis are classified both as to the age groups and the sub-districts in which the persons resided.

Twenty-four (24) Deaths of Residents from Phthisis Pulmonalis occurred during the year, and six (6) from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, the average number of Deaths for the previous decade (1905—1914) being sixteen (16) from Phthisis and seven (7) from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The Phthisical Death rate was higher in 1915 than it has been for many years, viz, 1.1 per thousand.

The occupations followed by the persons who were notified to me in 1915 as suffering from Tuberculosis were as follows:—

Weaver	...	...	...	...	7 cases
Labourer	...	...	...	...	4 cases
Mill Worker	...	...	...	...	2 cases
Collier	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Warehouseman	...	...	...	...	1 case
Carter	...	...	...	...	1 case
Basket Maker	...	...	...	...	1 case
Soldier	...	...	...	...	1 case
Baker	...	...	...	...	1 case
Insurance Agent	...	...	...	...	1 case
Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	1 case
Pupil Teacher	...	...	...	...	1 case
Housewife	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Children	...	...	...	...	6 cases
Not known	...	...	...	...	3 cases
					—
Total					36 cases

You will notice that, as in 1914, more cases of Tuberculosis occurred amongst Weavers than amongst those engaged in any other occupation.

The Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases were affected in the following Organs:—

Glands	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Meninges of Brain	...	...	...	...	1 case
Pleura	...	...	...	...	1 case
Knee	...	...	...	...	1 case

Five (5) persons suffering from Phthisis were removed to a Sanatorium.

**DISINFECTION.**—The houses where there had been cases of Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, or Tuberculosis, have been systematically disinfected by the Caretakers of the Sewage Disposal or Water Works forthwith upon the removal of the patients to the Isolation Hospital or Sanatorium, and, in the case of those persons who are not taken to one of these institutions, upon the termination of the illness.

The rooms in which the infected persons were living are thoroughly fumigated by sulphur, and all infected clothing, bedding, etc., sprayed with Formaldehyde solution. Directions are also given for the washing of the clothes, floors, etc., and a plentiful amount of Disinfectants supplied.

Though this is not an ideal system of Disinfection, and cannot be compared with the steam apparatus used in towns, yet I have very rarely indeed found that there has been any recurrence of the disease after the premises have been disinfected.

You have further an agreement with the Chorley Corporation allowing you the use of the Chorley Steam Disinfector on certain terms. I have not, however, found it necessary to avail myself of this agreement except in a few cases.

**SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.**—The descriptions of the Sewage Disposal Works situated in those townships which possess systems of sewerage were given in my Reports for the years 1911 and 1914, and it is unnecessary for me to repeat them, as there have been no alterations in any of the works of any magnitude during the last few years.

The cost of purifying the sewage has been markedly increased in 1915, owing to the high prices of the precipitants, but on the whole the results obtained have been satisfactory.

In more than half of the townships there are no sewerage systems, in some of which no such system is practicable or necessary, and in others the cost of providing systems would be so heavy as to render it prohibitive at the present time.

In several townships you have carried out marked improvements in sewerage and draining.

**Euxton.**—A new sewer and enlarged tank has been constructed to deal with the sewage from Club-street.

**Brindle.**—A sewer has been extended from the Dog Inn to St. Helens Cottages.

**Heath Charnock.**—Sewers from Black Horse and Cottages, from Travellers' Rest and from Cottages in Back-lane have been altered and improved.

Cuerden.—Thirty-three (33) Cottages in Dewhurst Row have been sewered, and these houses have been put on the water-carriage system.

Wheelton.—A tank has been constructed at Buckholes for the sewage from these cottages.

In several other localities sewers have been laid or repaired, as you will see from the Table at the end of this Report.

SCAVENGING.—In my previous Reports I have given the list of those townships in which there is a system of scavenging. The method employed by your Council is to let the Scavenging to Farmers, etc., on contract.

There has been very considerable difficulty experienced during the year by the Contractors in getting sufficient labour to carry out their contracts efficiently, and there have been many well-justified complaints by the householders, etc.

The terms of your agreements with the Contractors specifically detail the frequency with which the middens, pail closets, etc., must be emptied, but I regret to say that in many instances these terms are not adhered to.

Under the existing shortage of labour there may be some excuse for a little relaxation in the stringency of your contracts, but in normal times I consider that the Contractors should be rigidly kept to the terms of their agreements.

In my last Report I commented upon the fact that according to the Bye-laws of your District the duty of emptying the ashpits, middens, etc., is solely incumbent upon the occupiers of the dwelling-houses. In those townships where there is no public scavenger, and where there is no place near for tipping the contents of these middens, ashpits, etc., it is often found that there is great difficulty for the householders to carry out this very necessary duty. I think that the Bye-laws ought to be altered in this respect, and that the owners of the property ought to be made jointly with the occupiers responsible for this work.

WATER SUPPLY.—There has been practically no alteration in your District with regard to the water supply during 1915. The extensions of the water mains at Bretherton and Ecclestone, which you had determined upon, have not been proceeded with on account of the war. Only a very few additional connections with the public water supplies have been made during the year.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—No further extensions of the Bye-laws relating to Slaughter-Houses to other townships have been made during the year. I am still of opinion that, when the war is over, there should be further action taken in this matter, and that the Regulations should be enforced in all the district so that the Inspector may be better able to supervise the slaughtering of animals destined for human consumption.

During the year your Inspector and I have examined carcasses at farms, etc., but have not found it necessary to report any illegal traffic in slink meat to your Council. A summary of the carcasses condemned is given in the last Table.

**COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.**—The number of Cowkeepers registered in your District is at present one hundred and twenty-nine (129), a much smaller number than in 1914. Several farmers have during the year ceased to purvey milk.

The work of improving the condition of the Cowsheds, etc., has been very much in abeyance during the year, but some alterations have been made.

Nothing has been done under the Tuberculosis (Animals) Order in 1915.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.**—The Lancashire County Police, as usual, have purchased samples of various Foods, and submitted them to analysis for the purpose of detecting any adulteration.

The Samples were of the following Foods:—

Milk	...	...	...	...	53 samples
Butter	...	...	...	...	4 samples
Pepper	...	...	...	...	4 samples
Lard	...	...	...	...	3 samples
Whisky	...	...	...	...	3 samples
Coffee	...	...	...	...	3 samples
Ginger	...	...	...	...	3 samples
Jam	...	...	...	...	2 samples
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	1 sample
Treacle	...	...	...	...	1 sample
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	1 sample

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Total 78 samples

There was one prosecution of a farmer for selling Milk alleged to be deficient in cream, but the case was dismissed by the Magistrates.

**HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.**—There has been very little action taken during 1915 under the Housing and Town Planning Act.

One Closing Order has been issued by your Council, and the house has been closed.

Two houses have been inspected under Section 15, and the premises have been repaired, and are now in occupation.

Six (6) dangerous buildings have been ordered to be demolished or rendered safe. In four the work has been carried out and in the remaining two it has not yet been done satisfactorily. In the case of one house, for

which a Closing Order was issued in 1914, proceedings had to be taken in 1915 to secure the ejectment of the tenant. The house is now closed. Though very little action has been taken under the Housing Act, forty-eight (48) houses have been inspected under the Public Health Acts, and various sanitary defects remedied in these houses as the result of informal notices sent to the owners by the Inspector.

The defects found and remedied were situated in the roofs, windows, flagging, rain water spouts, closets, ashpits, etc. Only one (1) plan for the erection of a dwelling-house has been submitted to your Council during 1915. In Table G I give a list of the sanitary improvements made and nuisances abated during the year either after informal notice by your Inspector or statutory order from your Council.

TABLE G.

TOWNSHIP.	Drains and Sewers Repaired or Relaid.	Privies, etc., Converted to Water Closets.	Offensive Accumulations Removed.	Overcrowding Abated.	Public Urinals Screened.	Other Nuisances Abated.	Carcases whole or in part Condemned.	TOTALS.
Anderton ...	5	...	...	...	...	9	...	14
Anglezarke ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bretherton ...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
Brindle ...	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	7
Charnock Richard	5	...	8	...	...	3	...	16
Clayton-le-Woods.	4	...	2	...	...	21	...	27
Coppull ...	12	...	14	1	...	11	1	39
Cuerden ...	33	33	10	1	...	1	...	78
Duxbury ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Eccleston ...	3	...	10	...	...	1	...	14
Euxton ...	8	...	25	...	...	1	3	37
Heapey ...	...	...	2	...	...	3	1	6
Heath Charnock...	26	...	...	...	...	...	4	30
Heskin ...	4	...	7	...	...	5	...	16
Hoghton ...	...	...	14	...	1	...	...	15
Mawdesley ...	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	11
Rivington ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Ulnes Walton ...	...	...	10	...	...	2	...	12
Welch Whittle ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Wheelton ...	7	...	6	1	...	...	1	15
Whittle-le-Woods.	19	...	14	...	...	5	2	40
Totals ...	132	33	132	4	1	73	12	387

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—This subject has been on several occasions discussed by you during the year. It was considered by you that the most satisfactory and economical method to carry on this work would be for the Lancashire County Council to formulate and set in motion a scheme for the whole of the administrative county. As your Council have been informed that action by the County Council will not be undertaken until after the conclusion of the war, you have recently appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare a temporary scheme, in order to carry out some portions at any rate of this work, and this scheme will be submitted to your Council.

I hope that in the next Annual Report I may be able to report more work done and more sanitary improvements carried out as a result of the close of the war, which has greatly hindered the work of your Officers.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES A. HARRIS.

**TABLE I.**

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1915 and previous years.

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 not Registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	21240	476	...	22.4	255	12.0	4	18	55	116	269	12.66
1911	21500	495	...	23.0	320	14.9	18	19	54	109	321	14.93
1912	21700	494	497	22.9	293	13.5	14	19	57	115	298	13.73
1913	21990	533	533	24.2	263	11.96	8	22	66	124	277	12.59
1914	22300	512	513	22.96	280	12.56	20	24	64	125	284	12.74
1915	21947	448	450	20.09	272	12.39	8	25	42	93	289	13.12

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 39,983; Total population at all ages, 21,494; Total families or separate occupiers, 4,543, at Census, 1911.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.								Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	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.	Chorley Sub-district.	Brindle Sub-district.	Croston Sub-district.	Leyland Sub-district.	Rivington Sub-district.	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	7	1	6
Erysipelas ...	15	..	..	...	...	...	...	..	2	2	4	2	5	1
Scarlet Fever ...	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	2	38	16	70
Enteric Fever ...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	1	1	6
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	30	...	...	3	7	13	7	...	7	6	4	8	5	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	6	...	2	1	2	1	...	...	1	2	...	1	2	...
Totals ...	150	...	2	4	9	14	7	...	33	14	14	58	31	88

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.: Chorley Joint Hospital, Heath Charnock; Sanatorium, Heath Charnock.

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

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District	
	All Ages.	Under One 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.	Isolation Hospital.	Sana- torium.
All causes { Certified ...	279	40	19	13	8	18	30	54	97		
{ Uncertified ..	10	2	1	...	...	...	1	5	1		
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Measles .. .. .	6	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Influenza ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)... ..	24	...	...	...	...	6	11	7	...	...	2
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	3	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	26	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	12	...	...
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Meningitis... ..	6	...	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ... ..	28	1	...	...	...	2	2	8	15	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	22	2	1	...	...	...	3	3	13	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	15	5	5	...	...	1	...	2	2	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	9	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	3	...	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ... ..	19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ..	11	...	2	2	1	4	2	...	...	...	...
Suicide ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	62	5	1	4	2	3	4	15	28	...	...
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	32	2	1	...	...	...	...	6	23	...	...
Totals ... ..	289	42	20	13	8	18	31	59	98	4	3
SUB-ENTRIES, included in above figures :											
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

**TABLE IV.**  
**INFANT MORTALITY.**

1915. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages  
under One Year of Age.

Causes 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 one year
All causes	{ Certified ...	9	3	3	4	19	7	5	2	7	40
	{ Uncertified ...	1	..	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Tuberculous Meningitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Bronchitis ...		...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	5
Enteritis ...		...	...	...	2	2	...	2	...	3	7
Syphilis ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations..		...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth ...		6	2	1	..	9	1	...	...	...	10
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ...		3	...	...	1	4	3	...	...	1	8
Other Causes ...		1	...	2	...	3	1	1	1	1	7
Totals ...		10	3	3	4	20	7	5	3	7	42

Nett Births registered during the calendar year : Legitimate, 438 ; Illegitimate 12.  
Nett Deaths registered during the calendar year of : Legitimate Infants, 42 ;  
Illegitimate Infants, 0.

TAB. IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

THE INFANT MORTALITY IN THE DISTRICT OF ST. MARTIN, 1881.

DECEASED IN THE DISTRICT.



S. FOWLER & SONS, PRINTERS, CHORLEY.

