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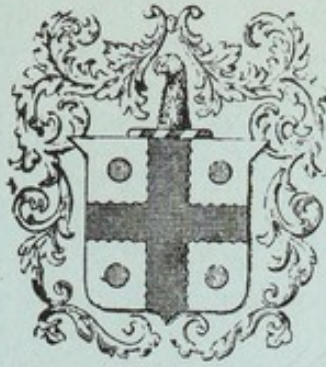
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CLAYTON-LE-MOORS

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.


Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1898.

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS:
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CLAYTON-LE-MOORS
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH, FOR THE YEAR 1898.

GENTLEMEN,

In pursuance of the usual instructions of the Local Government Board, I beg to present the Annual Report of the Health, Sickness, Vital Statistics, and Sanitary Condition of the Township of Clayton-le-Moors, for the year 1898.

The area of the township remains at 1,058 acres ; the density of the population is represented as 8·5 persons per acre, estimating the population at the middle of the year as 9,000.

The climatic conditions of the past year had a favourable average of mildness.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE.

The number of births registered during the past year is 239 (males 127, females 112.) The natural increase of births over deaths is 83. The birth rate is represented as 26·5.

The comparative births and birth rates for the past three years are :—

	1896	1897	1898
Births	222	241	239
Birth rate.....	27	26·7	26·5

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE.

The total number of deaths registered during the year, from all causes, and at all ages, is 156; of this number 81 were males and 75 females, representing an annual mortality of 17·3 per thousand of the population.

The comparative death rates and number of deaths during the past three years are:—

	1896	1897	1898
Deaths	130	121	156
Death rate	15·8	13·4	17·3

MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES
AT SUBJOINED AGES.

Under 1 year.....	46	} Total under 5 years, 68
1 year and under 5 years...	22	
5 years ,, 15 ,, ..	7	} Total, 5 years and upwards, 88
15 ,, 25 ,, ..	5	
25 ,, 65 ,, ..	44	
65 years and upwards	32	
Total	<u>156</u>	

The death rate of children under 5 years of age is 7·5, as compared with 6·3 in the year 1897; forming 43 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

In old people, from 65 years of age, the deaths are equal to 20 per cent. of the total number.

VARIOUS CAUSES OF DEATHS.

	Under 5 years.	...	5 years and upwards.
Scarlet Fever	7	...	4
Diphtheria	1	...	1
Mem. Croup	1	...	—
Influenza	—	...	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	—	...	2
Puerperal Fever	—	...	1
Erysipelas	1	...	—
Measles	4	...	—
Diarrhœa	4	...	—
Rheumatic Fever	—	...	1
Phthisis	1	...	12
Bronchitis, Pneumonia	8	...	12
Heart Disease.....	2	...	7
Injuries.....	1	...	6
Other Diseases	38	...	40
	68	...	88
Total.....			156

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

From the seven principal zymotic diseases 23 deaths have occurred as follows:—

	Under 5 years	5 years and over.
Smallpox	—	—
Diphtheria	1	1
Measles	4	—
Scarlet Fever	7	4
Whooping Cough	—	—
Enteric, Typhoid, } Continued Fever }	—	2
Diarrhœa	4	—
	16	7
	Total23	

The death rate from these diseases is estimated at 2·5 per thousand, and 14·7 per cent. of the total deaths.

The comparative zymotic death rates for the past three years are:—

1896	1897	1898
1·2	1·2	2·5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

The number of infectious diseases reported during the past year, and particulars of the same are:—

Erysipelas	14
Scarlet Fever	127
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	9
Diphtheria	7
Croup (Mem.).....	2
Puerperal Fever	1
	Total 160

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths in children under one year of age are 46 in number, representing a death rate of 5 per 1,000 of the population.

The proportion of deaths per 1,000 births is 192.

The percentage of the deaths to births registered is 19, and form 29 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

In the previous year there were 157 deaths to 1,000 births, in children under one year of age.

SCARLET FEVER.

This zymotic illness made its appearance in May, when 9 cases were reported. In March, 1 case was reported, and then it remained dormant until May, since which time it increased, until at the end of the year, 127 cases have been notified. The locality first attacked was Burnley Road.

The following is a record of cases notified monthly :

January		
February		
March	1 case reported	
April		
May	9 cases reported	
June ..	8	„
July	12	„
August.....	16	„
September ...	20	„
October	19	„
November	25	„
December ..	17	„
	<hr/>	
Total	127 cases	

The mortality from this disease is 11, 7 being under five years and 4 from five years upwards. This represents a death rate from Scarlet Fever at 1.2 per 1,000 of the population, and 7 per cent. of the total deaths, and 8½ per cent. of cases notified.

The comparative death rates from this cause for the past three years are :—

	Deaths.	Death Rate.
1896	3	0.36
1897	1	0.11
1898	11	1.2

It is difficult to deal with an outbreak of zymotic illness without some means of isolation, and as before pointed out to you in my quarterly reports, the efforts of the officials are almost nil when isolation is not effective.

Were it possible that some co-operation with neighbouring districts to provide these means of isolation could be arrived at, we should probably hear no more of epidemic disease. Until this is done we have practically no means of preventing the extension of any infectious diseases.

Every precaution that could be practically adopted to prevent the spread of this illness has been adopted. Handbills of instructions how to act in these cases and what means to use, were extensively circulated, yet notwithstanding, very careless observance of the instructions has been witnessed, and parents probably never trouble themselves to read or attend to them. Such means however as keeping the cases separate from the rest of the family, together with the employment of fumigations and disinfectants were had recourse to.

In some cases attendance at school before freedom from infection, has helped to spread the disease, and I think in future it would be wise if before attendance at school, certificates should be given that the cases were free from liability of infection.

During the holidays at Christmas, it was thought prudent that an extension for one week should be made in order to minimise the illness, and I have every reason to think it has been attended with gratifying results, as the schools, both Day and Sunday, are prolific sources of contagion in many ways from infected families.

The origin of the illness could not be traced, but it was thought to be imported.

MEASLES.

There have been 4 deaths from this illness during the past year, as against 1 in the previous year. We do not have notification of this illness in the township, and have therefore no knowledge of the extent of this illness in the township during the year. We are only aware of its existence when death occurs, and have no means of dealing with this zymotic disease at the outset.

TYPHOID FEVER.

We have had 2 fatal cases of this illness during the year, out of 9 cases notified. In the previous year there were 11 cases reported, but no deaths.

The death rate per thousand of the population for the past three years is as follows :—

1896		1897		1898
0·48	...	0	...	0·22

The case mortality is equal to 22·2 per cent. of attacks of this disease.

I have visited and inspected the cases, and the Nuisance Inspector and myself have tried to find out any defective sanitation to account for this illness, but have failed to trace its origin. We could not attribute it to any fault in the milk supply.

It is difficult to trace this disease to its origin, where the sanitary surroundings are to all appearance satisfactory, and in the matter of milk supply we must rely on the cleanliness and general sanitary observances of the farmers and milk purveyors. In my inspection of farms there have been found delinquents in the matter of general cleanliness and ventilation, together with faulty conditions of the cattle sheds and sewage disposal. However, we do our best to minimise these conditions, and when cases occur we employ every means of disinfection and isolation as far as practicable.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

The mortality from lung diseases, as Bronchitis and Pneumonia, is 20 ; 8 of these being under five years, and 12 from five years and upwards.

During the past three years the deaths and death rates from these diseases are :—

	Deaths.	Death Rate.
1896	27	3·2
1897	26	2·8
1898	20	2·2

These diseases form 12·8 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

Considering the nature of the climate in this part of Lancashire, we may consider that these diseases are not so frequent as we might expect, and as a rule they are in young children serious and fatal. The necessity of the nursing-out of infants by those who attend and work at the mills will no doubt contribute to these diseases, especially if there is any carelessness in exposing them to varying temperatures when taking or bringing them from the nursing home.

PHTHISIS.

This now is ranged among those often occurring diseases resulting at times from infection of persons, and is one just now attracting attention under the name of "Tuberculosis." It is popularly known as "Consumption" and during the past year, 13 deaths are recorded from this disease, 1 is under five years, and 12 from five years upwards.

The comparison of the deaths and death rates from this illness during the past three years is:—

	1896	1897	1898
Deaths	6	7	13
Death rate	0·7	0·7	1·4

We have thus an increase of mortality in this disease of 100 per cent. during the year 1898. It forms 8 per cent. of total deaths.

It may be as well, perhaps, to make a few remarks on this matter in relation to causes of this disease. It has been found that it can arise from infection from other persons suffering from this disease sleeping together, bad ventilation and improperly cooked food, unboiled milk, and general uncleanliness may favor its development. In all cases when a person is known or suspected to be suffering from this disease, he should have a separate sleeping room, if possible, and the expectorations from the lungs should be carefully kept from contaminating the atmosphere, the germs of the disease being contained in the expectorations, and when becoming dry are liable to diffuse themselves in the atmosphere and become a prolific source of this illness.

INFLUENZA.

We have had 2 fatal cases of this illness during the year :—1 in April, male, aged 64 years ; the other in May, female, aged 62 years.

This disease appears to be of a more common character and is an annual infliction, and not a little serious in its effects.

It is thought that the germs of this disease remain in the system, and a slight exciting cause of cold is liable to bring it into existence in all its severity.

CROUP.

From this illness there was only 1 death registered and 2 cases of illness reported,—the death being a child under five years.

DIPHTHERIA.

2 deaths are reported from this disease, 1 being under five years of age.

There were 7 cases of this dangerous illness reported, but I suspect the non-fatal cases were of a mild type.

DIARRHŒA.

From this illness 4 deaths are reported, all under five years of age, as against 2 deaths in the year 1897.

The death rate is equal to 0·44 per thousand.

HEART DISEASE.

There were 9 cases of heart disease that proved fatal—2 in children under five years, and 7 in persons from five years and over. The death rate from these diseases is estimated at exactly 1 per 1,000, and equal to 5·7 per cent. of the total deaths.

INQUESTS.

During the past year there were 7 inquests held—males 5, females 2—the death rate being equal to 0·77 per 1,000 of the population. Particulars as follows:—

Male, 37 years... ..	Natural causes
Female, 17 years	Found drowned
Male, 67 years	Injury from fall
Male, 69 years	Found drowned
Male, 8 years	Killed by a lurry
Male, 61 years	Found drowned
Female, 34 years	Found drowned

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Various portions of the town have been subjected to inspection. Nuisances to the number of 50 were reported, 41 of which have been remedied. No legal proceedings have been necessary.

SCAVENGING.

This portion of sanitary work is carried out in an efficient manner by the Local Authority. During the year the work is represented by the emptying of 2,227 ashpits, 652 tanks, and 3,644 loads of refuse.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

These are of a private character, and although inspected and kept in fairly good, satisfactory condition, they would be better replaced by a public abattoir.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

We find no breach of requirements in this respect, and they are subjected to occasional inspection.

DRAINAGE.

This is ample and efficient for the township, and the sewers are kept in good order.

It has been extended 155 yards in the Lower Barnes Street, Super Street, and Church Alley portions.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This is now much more satisfactory than it has hitherto been, and is now disposed of by filtration through and upon land on the Sewage Works.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

There has been a considerable amount of street paving in Barnes Street, Barnes Square, Lower Barnes Street, and Pickup Street, and new streets have been made in Adelaide Street and Melbourne Street.

196 old closets have been placed in modern sanitary condition.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The conditions of these are subjected to occasional inspection. Most of the buildings are of ancient construction, and the cubic space, 800 to 1,000 cubic feet per cow, required is certainly a long way off being provided. The dairy accommodation is very fair in the majority of cases, but other sanitary improvements are desirable.

BAKE-HOUSES.

Most of these are of a domestic and private character, and what are licensed appear to be in sanitary order—cleanliness here is highly essential.

The house accommodation appears ample for the population; there are nearly 1,800 houses inhabited, 77 new houses have been been certified.

The water supply is abundant for the needs of the township, and the improvements that are now being made with regard to its filtration will be welcome, as not a few complaints have been made as to its colour and smell. As I have pointed out before, the colour and

smell of the water is due to a green vegetable growth which flourishes at certain times upon the the surface of the water, a kind of green scum. It is not necessarily injurious though undesirable, and the best thing to be done is to use some form of filtration domestically, until the Water Company have completed their arrangements.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.

It has not been requisite to undertake any legal action in this respect during the year.

Dr. TATTERSALL,

Medical Officer.

ANALYSIS OF THE REPORT

SHOWING BIRTHS AND DEATHS AND RATE OF MORTALITY.

 Births, 239. Birth Rate, 26·5. Deaths, 156.

Annual Rate of Mortality per 1,000 from—

All Causes	17·3
Seven principal Zymotic Diseases	2·5
Phthisis.....	1·4
Respiratory Diseases	2·2
Heart Disease.....	1

 Percentage of Deaths under one year to Births registered..... 19.

Percentage of Total Deaths :—

Infants under one year.....	29 per cent.
Persons over 65 years	20 ,,
From seven principal Zymotic Diseases	14·7 ,,
Phthisis	8 ,,
Respiratory Diseases	12·8 ,,
Heart Disease	5·7 ,,

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR 1881

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON FEBRUARY 22, 1880

AND BY THE SENATE

ON FEBRUARY 25, 1880

AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON FEBRUARY 25, 1880

AND BY THE SENATE

ON FEBRUARY 25, 1880