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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH

OF THE

Urban Sanitary District of Clevedon

For the Year 1909,

BY

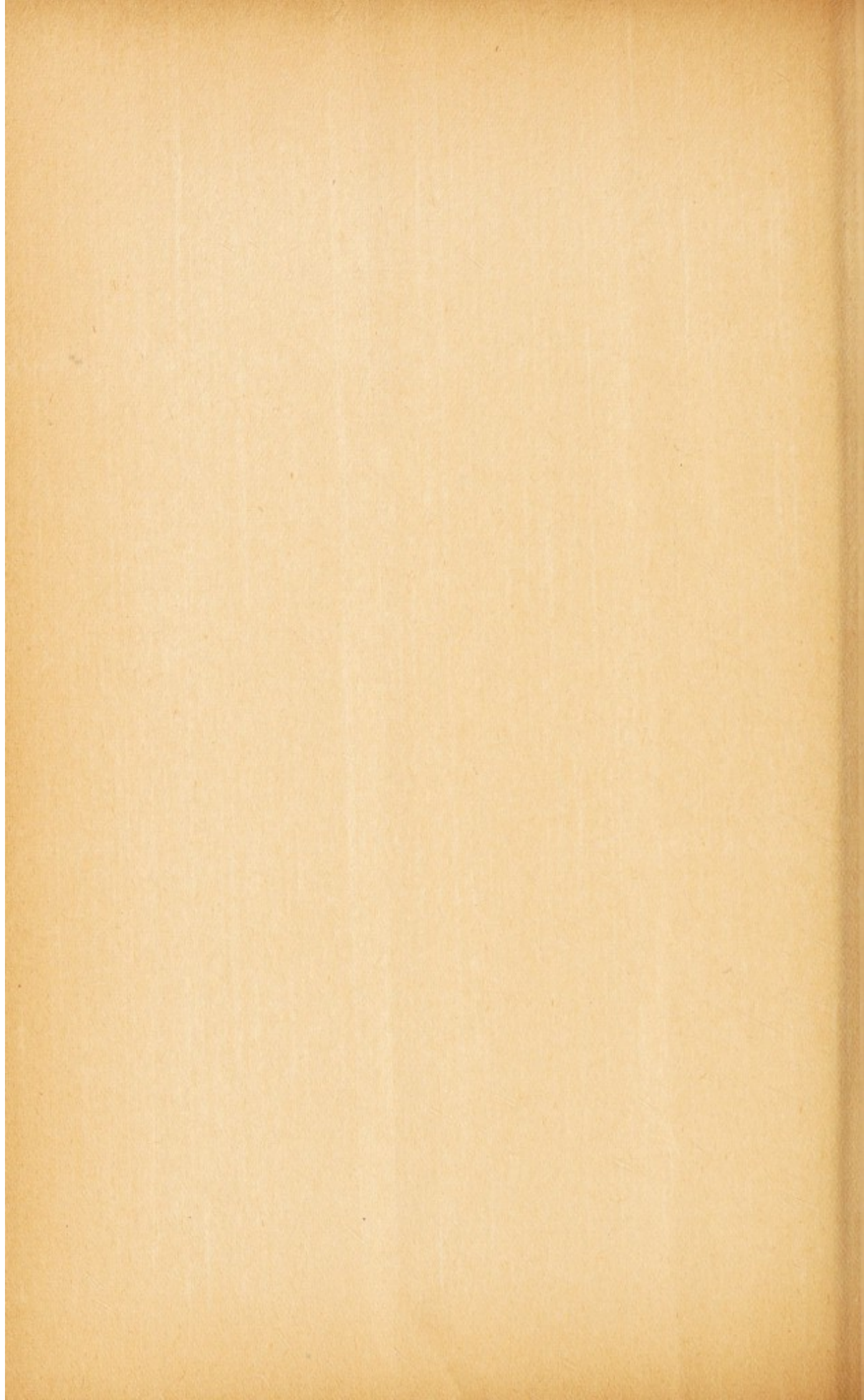
WALTER J. HILL, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.


PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Clevedon:

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Population of the District (Census, 1901)	5,896
Estimated Population to middle of 1909	6,326
Area in Statute Acres	..	..	..	3,027
Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population	..	..	..	15.96
Average Birth-rate for previous ten years	..	..	..	18.06
Death-rate per 1,000 of Population	..	..	..	12.48
Average Death-rate for previous ten years	13.73
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	89.1
Zymotic Death-rate	0.15



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REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Clevedon Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present my Report of the Health of the District for the year 1909.

Clevedon is a Health Resort and Residential Town, situated on the southern shore of the Bristol Channel or "Severn Sea." The residential part of the town lies from 100 to 200 feet above the sea level, and is sheltered from the N.E. by Dial Hill, 296 feet above ordnance datum, and from the E. by Court Hill, 300 feet above ordnance datum. The soil is sandy over rocks of carboniferous limestone.

The climate is mild and equable, the prevailing winds westerly.

House accommodation is adequate and of good quality, most houses being built of stone, with a large amount of open space and pleasure grounds. The Salt House Fields, 11 acres, on the Sea Front, have been acquired by the Council. Plans for new houses and additions are submitted to the Council for approval, and the work supervised while in progress. No action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act has been taken or needed.

The Water Supply of the district is from deep well by public service of Water Company, is ample in quantity, and of excellent quality. Samples are periodically examined for the Council by the Clinical Research Association, whose last report states:—"Results show the water to be of a very satisfactory degree of organic purity." In October it was suggested that a well in Hangstone Quarry might be re-opened for public use, and analyses of

two samples of this water were made by the Association, who reported that the water showed evidence of contamination with organic matter, and was unsafe for domestic use. It was accordingly resolved not to re-open this well.

The Milk Supply is of excellent character, is almost entirely produced within the district, and the condition of the Dairies and utensils is satisfactory; that of the cow sheds in some cases might be improved, though during this year most of them have been more carefully kept. A considerable amount of milk from the district is sent to Bristol and elsewhere by rail.

Public Slaughter House.—(There are no private slaughter houses in the district.) Has been regularly inspected, also at times of slaughtering. The Inspector has not a special certificate in meat inspection. Two suspected carcasses that I examined were not tuberculous, and no action was needed. The butchers' premises and the Public Market, where meat is stored or exposed for sale, are well kept, and their sanitary condition good. Action under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts or under Section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875 (Unsound Food), was not taken or needed.

Sewerage and Drainage is sufficient in all parts of the district. The sewers are flushed twice weekly from 21 flushing tanks and discharge by two outlets into the sea. During the summer months the low level sewers have been cleared by dragging. The drains of all new buildings are tested before being passed.

Rivers and Streams.—The Commission Rivers under the control of the Council have been periodically cleansed. No complaints have been received from the viewers.

Scavenging.—The removal of house refuse is done once a week by contract and tipped at a distance from the town. It is satisfactory to be able to report that under the new contract, which comes into force on January 1st, 1910, the scavengers collect refuse from the premises, and by advertisement householders are requested to take notice that in future house refuse must not be placed on the roads or footpaths.

Bye-Laws.—A complete code is in force for the district.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.—Parts I., General; II., Streets and Buildings; III., Sanitary Provisions (except Sec. 50, Ambulance); IV., Infectious Diseases; V., Common Lodging Houses; VI., Recreation Grounds; X., Miscellaneous, have been adopted.

Common Lodging Houses.—Two in the district, inspected, well-kept, and in good sanitary condition.

Schools.—Public Elementary Schools are in good sanitary condition, with public water supply. Two returns of cases of infectious disease in public elementary schools were received during the year from the Chief Medical Inspector of Schools for the County, referring to cases of whooping cough, mumps, and ringworm; no special action was necessary, and no schools were compulsorily closed.

The newly-appointed Medical Officer of Health for the County, after a conference with the Medical Officers of the various districts, has provided them with precise directions and information as to the new County scheme, and as to their duties as set out in the recently issued Memorandum of the Local Government Board, for dealing with infectious diseases in schools, to take effect from January 1st, 1910.

The Medical Inspection of School children is carried out by the County Authority.

Infectious Diseases.—Notification is compulsory, and where isolation cannot be effectually carried out at home, cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital. Disinfection of premises is done by means of formalin vapour and of articles in Thresh's disinfectant.

156 articles were disinfected during the year, 3 mattresses and beds and 6 other articles were burned.

Isolation Hospital.—A permanent building, of stone, on the Strode Road, about a mile from the town and away from other buildings, has accommodation for 12 patients, and can be used for the concurrent treatment of two diseases. No infectious cases were admitted during the year. One child was isolated there for a few days in July, with a suspicious rash, which proved to be an ordinary skin affection.

Tuberculosis.—No system of notification, compulsory or voluntary, is in operation, except for pauper cases under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, and no cases were notified under these regulations. Disinfection is done in cases of tuberculosis on the request of the medical attendant. There is no special hospital provision for consumption in the district.

Notification.—Only five notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, namely, one of diphtheria, two of erysipelas, one of scarlet fever, and one of enteric fever.

Diphtheria.—One case, notified in October, developed in a child from a distance, a boarder in a private school.

Erysipelas.—Two cases.

Scarlet Fever.—One case, of unknown origin, an adult, isolated at home.

Enteric Fever.—One case, contracted the disease in Egypt, and was taken ill on the way home.

Mortality during the Year 1909.—The total number of deaths registered in the district during the year was 80, deducting two deaths of non-residents in public institutions in the district, and adding one in a public institution beyond the district, gives a nett number of deaths of 79 and a death rate per 1,000 of population of 12.48. This is the lowest rate since 1905, the average for the preceding ten years being 13.73, and that for England and Wales was 14.5 for the year 1909. This is satisfactory, as our population largely consists of old persons and those in feeble health.

The deaths occurred at the following ages :—

Under 1 year of age	..	..	..	9
1 and under 5 years	..	..	..	2
5 and under 15 years	..	..	..	1
15 and under 25 years	..	..	..	2
25 and under 65 years	..	..	..	20
65 years and upwards	..	..	..	45

More than half the deaths were of persons over 65, and of these twelve were between 80 and 90, and five over 90 years. Thirty-four deaths were of males and 46 of females.

Causes of Death.—The chief causes of death were :—

Tuberculosis	..	..	6	Premature Birth	..	..	4
Cancer	..	..	5	Old Age	..	..	6
Bronchitis	..	..	10	Accidents	..	..	4
Heart Diseases	..	..	8				

Zymotic Diseases.—The deaths from the “seven principal zymotic diseases,” namely, small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, “fever” (typhus, simple continued, and enteric), and diarrhœa, numbered one only, from whooping cough. This gives a zymotic death-rate of 0.15.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths of children under one year of age numbered nine, which gives an infantile death-rate per 1,000 births registered of 89.1, the average for the preceding ten years being 89.81, and is much lower than the rate for England and Wales, which was 121 in 1908. Of these nine deaths six were under one month, four were due to premature birth, and two to defects at birth, one from bronchitis, and one from whooping cough, the remaining one being from accident. The low infantile mortality in this district probably depends on the fact that very few mothers being employed in factories, they usually nurse their children, and if they do not, good milk is readily obtainable, also the children live under healthy conditions as regards climate, air-space, and house accommodation. The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted for the district, and does not seem to be required. There is no special health visitor appointed, but the two District Nurses do good work in this direction, and are employed partially under the Medical Inspector of School Children.

Births during the Year 1909.—The number of births registered during the year was 101 (47 boys and 54 girls) ; of these five were illegitimate. The birth-rate per 1,000 of population equals 15.96, with one exception the lowest in the last ten years, the average for the ten years being 18.06. The rate for England and Wales for 1909 was 25.6. The exceptionally low birth-rate is due to the fact that the population largely consists of old people and retired persons of mature age.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Inspections have been made. The Boot Factory and Steam Laundry are in good condition as regards cleanliness, air space, ventilation, and sanitary conveniences. There are 15 bakehouses, none being underground, all in satisfactory condition.

Home Work.—No lists of home workers have been received. Two inspections have been made of premises where home work is carried on, and the condition found satisfactory, and no infectious disease has occurred in them during the year.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, is in force in the district. No action was taken or needed.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER J. HILL,

Medical Officer of Health

TABLE I. CLEVEDON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
		Number	Rate.*	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Numb'r	Rate.*
				Num'r	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	5900	100	16.94	14	140.	100	16.94	4	9		100	16.94
1900	5900	120	20.33	18	150.	107	18.13	4	6		107	18.13
1901	5896	106	17.97	8	75.47	93	15.77	10	5		88	14.92
1902	5896	108	18.	6	55.55	87	14.5	7	4		83	13.83
1903	5896	110	18.65	5	45.45	54	9.15	5	2		52	8.81
1904	5896	112	18.9	7	62.5	64	10.85	4	0		64	10.85
1905	5896	94	15.92	6	63.82	66	11.19	0	0		66	11.19
1906	6157	118	19.16	14	118.64	89	14.45	0	0		89	14.45
1907	6157	108	17.54	11	101.85	86	13.96	4	1	1	86	13.96
1908	6157	106	17.21	9	84.9	89	14.45	10	2	1	88	14.29
Averages for years 1899-1908	5975	108	18.06	9	89.81	83	13.83	4	2	1	82	13.73
1909	6326	101	15.96	9	89.1	80	12.64	7	2	1	79	12.48

*Rates in Columns 4 and 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Area of district in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). } 3,027

Total population at all ages ... } 5,896
Number of inhabited houses ... } 1,187
Average number of persons per house ... } 4.95
At Census of 1901.

TABLE III.
CLEVEDON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during
the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in Whole District.								No. of Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Scarlet fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Typhus fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Relapsing fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	5		1	1	1	2		0	

TABLE IV. CLEVEDON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet fever ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croup ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever { Typhus ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Enteric ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Other continued ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic influenza ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	4	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Other tuberculous diseases	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease	5	..	..	..	..	2	3	..
Bronchitis	10	1	..	..	..	2	7	..
Pneumonia ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pleurisy ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venereal diseases ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature birth	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Heart diseases	8	..	..	..	..	2	6	2
Accidents	4	1	..	..	1	1	1	2
Suicides ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes	40	2	1	1	1	7	28	3
All causes	79	9	2	1	2	20	45	7

**TABLE V. CLEVELAND URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.**

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Tl. under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Tl. Deaths under 1 Year.
All causes	Certified ...	5	...	...	1	6	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9
	Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
I. Common infectious Diseases.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria (including Membranous Oroup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Premature Birth	3	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4
II. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Congenital Defects	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
III. Wasting Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
IV. Tuberculous Diseases	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
V. Other Causes.	Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other causes	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
		5	...	...	1	6	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9

Births in the Year—Legitimate, 96; Illegitimate, 5. Deaths in the Year of—Legitimate Infants, 9; Illegitimate Infants, 0.
Population, estimated to middle of 1909, 6,326. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 79.



