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Contributors

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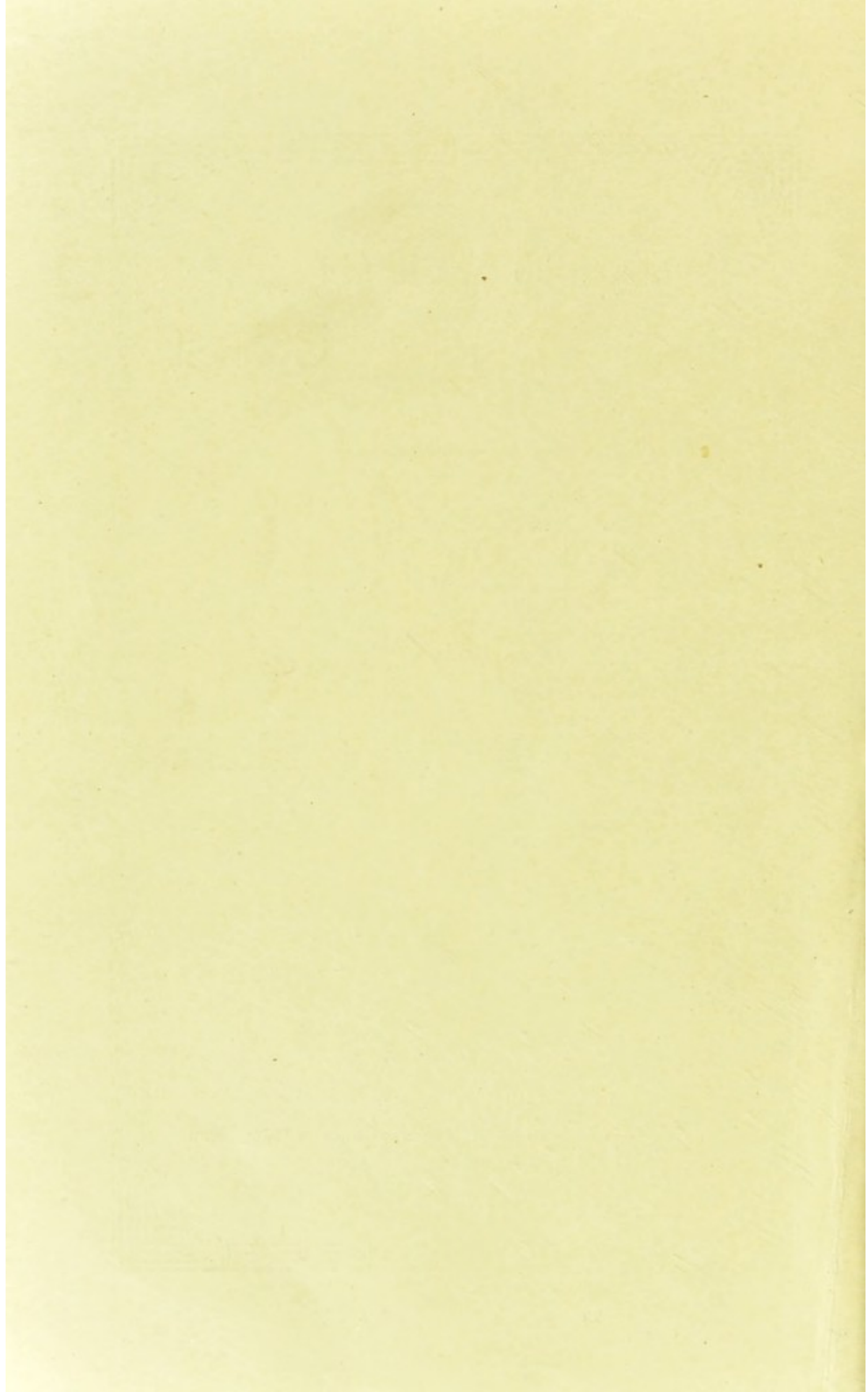
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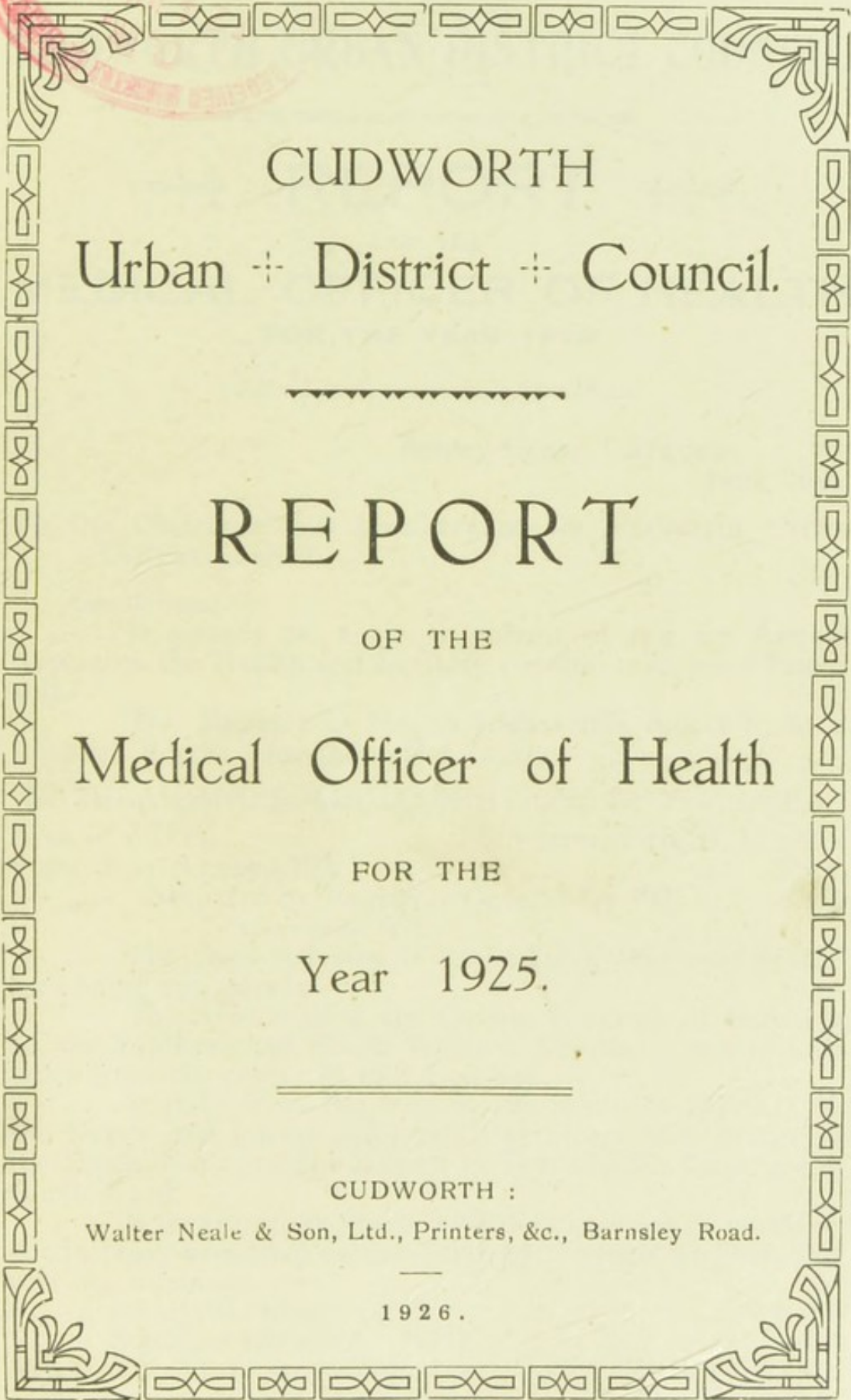
CUDWORTH
Urban † District † Council.

REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
Year 1925.

CUDWORTH :
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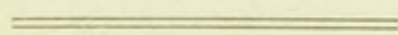
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CUDWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Ashley House, Cudworth,
June, 1926.

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

Gentlemen,—

It pleases me again to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your Township.

The Minister of Health wishes this report to be a "Survey Report" for the past 5 years.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of C.U.D.	...	...	1,615 acres, 3 roods, 15 poles
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	7,790
" estimated by Registrar General for 1925	...	...	8,455
			(Increase of 665.)

The chief industry is coal mining—the rest of the area being agricultural.

The Area adjoins the County Borough of Barnsley on the Southern and South Western Boundary, and is four miles from the centre of that Borough.

It rises from 100 O.D. in the South to 275 O.D. in the North—the lowest point being at Storrs Mill Bridge in the South Ward and the highest in Three Nooks Lane in the North Ward.

It is open to all winds with the exception of northern winds, being protected on the North by the high land forming Brierley Common.

No. of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	1,487
No. of Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	1,487
Rateable Value (Assessable)	...	...	£19,001 11s. 7d.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£79 per annum.

Most of the population consists of coal miners and their dependents.

A large family is the order of the day—this along with the scarcity of houses, and in many cases, two families in one being unsatisfactory through overcrowding.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Males.	Females
Births—Legitimate ...	212	105	107
Illegitimate ...	9	3	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	26.13
Deaths during the year	94
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.11
" " Pthisis (Pulmonary)	0.59
" " Other Tubercular Diseases	0.11
" " Respiratory Diseases	3.31
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births	90.49
" " (a) Under 1 year old	20
" " (Legitimate 18—Illegitimate 2)
" " (b) Between 1 and 2 years old	15
Excess of Births over Deaths, or natural increase of the year	127
Total Notifications of Infectious Diseases	332
(245 of these were due to Measles.)			
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	6
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	7
" " Diarrhoea under 2 years	3

29 less babies were born in 1925, as compared with 1924, being equivalent to 2.93 decrease per 1,000 births.

The Birth Rate for England & Wales for 1925 is 18.3

There were 9 Illegitimate births (3 males and 6 females)—3 less than in 1924—2 of them died.

Of the 94 deaths—16 were of residents dying outside the district (Hospitals, Collieries, etc.)

There were 6 inquiries held by the Coroner.

The Death Rate for England & Wales for 1925 is 12.2

No record of still-born babies is kept.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

20 Children died under one year old, being 4 more than in 1924.

The Death Rate is 90.49 per 1,000 births, being 1.61 less than that for England and Wales (92.1 per 1,000).

CAUSES OF DEATH, UNDER 1 YEAR OLD:—

Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Syphilis	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	...	...	1
Abscess of Neck	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Prolonged Labour	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhage from Bowel	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					20

In addition to the 20 deaths under one year of age—20 died between 1 and 5—5 between 5 and 15—4 between 15 and 25—12 between 25 and 45—22 between 45 and 65 and 11 from 65 upwards (4 of these being between 65 and 70, 6 between 70 and 80, and 1 between 80 and 90).

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUDWORTH URBAN
DISTRICT, 1925.

Causes of Death				Males.	Females.
All Causes	...	...	...	52	42
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
2	Small Pox	...	...	...	...
3	Measles	...	...	1	5
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	4	3
6	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...
7	Influenza	...	...	2	...
8	Eucephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...
9	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...
10	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	4	1
11	Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	1	...
12	Cancer (malignant disease)	...	...	...	7
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	1
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	2
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	3	3
16	Heart Disease	...	...	5	3
17	Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	4	...
18	Bronchitis	...	...	3	3
18	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	8	2
20	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...
22	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	1	2
23	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	1
24	Cirrhosis of the Liver	...	...	...	...
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	1
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...
27	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	1
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	3	3
29	Suicide	...	...	1	...
30	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	5	...
31	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	7	3
32	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	...	...	...	...
Deaths of Infants ... Total ...				12	8
under 1 year ... Illegitimate ...				1	1
Total Births				108	113
Legitimate				105	107
Illegitimate				3	6
Population ... (Registrar General's Estimation) ...				8,455	

The infantile mortality is fairly satisfactory when one considers the state of the housing conditions in an industrial area.

Measles and Influenza were prevalent during the first 4 months of the year—6 deaths from the former and 2 from the latter were registered.

245 houses (the first case only being notified) were reported as having measles.

There were many cases of unemployment during the year and many (both underground workers and surface workers) complained of low wages—too low to meet the high rentals in the new houses.

The amount of Poor Law Relief for the area during the year was £2,173 12s. 0d.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

No hospital exists in the area. When necessary, patients are mostly sent to the Leeds General Infirmary—The Sheffield Royal Infirmary—The Barnsley Beckett Hospital and occasionally The Barnsley Poor Law Institution.

Infectious Diseases are removed to the Kendray Infectious Hospital, Barnsley, except Small Pox Cases which are taken to the Lunn Wood Hospital, Barnsley.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

1. For Infectious cases:—Barnsley Borough provide two Ambulances for removing infectious cases to Kendray Hospital. Your district provides its share towards their upkeep.
2. Accidents and cases of sudden illness occurring at the Collieries are removed in the Colliery Ambulances to their homes or Hospitals.
3. Non-infectious cases and accidents occurring in a defined area are removed by The Cudworth and District Ambulance at a cost of 4d. per mile to the Hospital the Doctor in attendance desires them to go to.

Measles are treated at home and nursing is provided by the County Council when necessary—no such call was necessary during the Epidemic in the earlier months of the year.

Motor cars and Taxis are available for urgent cases should the District Ambulance be out.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Cases of Tuberculosis are sent to the Tuberculosis Dispensary at Queen's Road, Barnsley—this hospital being subsidised by the West Riding County Council. They are seen by the Doctor in charge, who confirms the diagnosis, and if suitable cases for Sanatorium Treatment, they are got away as soon as convenient to the various Sanatoria in the West Riding, etc.

The School Oculist and Dentist visit the Schools periodically.

Venereal cases are treated at home in some cases—the others attend Leeds Infirmary and Barnsly Beckett mostly

It pleases me to state that only an occasional venereal case has come under my observation during the last 3 or 4 years—neither have I heard of other cases, so one can almost safely say that venereal disease is not very prevalent in this area.

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC.

This Clinic was begun April 28th, 1920. It is held for children under 5 years of age—school age children i.e. 5 to 14, and expectant mothers. It is held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. Your M.O.H.—the School Nurse, assisted by a staff of interested ladies, carry out the duties.

It has done good work since its formation and is very well attended. The afternoons are occasionally brightened by songs, pianoforte solos, teas, etc., also a trip is generally arranged during the summer. The Nurse also visits the mothers and Babies at their homes from time to time.

The Public Health Offices to the Local Authority are the M.O.H. (part time) and the Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

NURSING.

Cudworth has one District Nurse who is responsible for the general nursing of the district to contributors—but attends non-contributors at a specified fee agreed upon by the Nursing Committee.

This Association is maintained partly by voluntary subscriptions and partly by one penny weekly contributions. Her work at times is heavy and a second nurse should before long be engaged to cope with the increasing population of the district.

Nearly every case of infectious disease is removed to Kendray Hospital—by an arrangement with the Barnsley Borough. There are no special arrangements for the nursing of measles and whooping cough, except that the County Council would provide nurses for the former if found necessary.

No such call has been necessary.

MIDWIVES.

There are 2 Certified Midwives living in, and 3 living out, practising in the District—all being under the control of the County Council. The service on the whole is satisfactory—complaints being nil.

More than half of the cases are attended by midwives only—medical aid being obtained in cases of emergency

The County Authority pay no subsidy so far.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act ...	1890
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act ...	1890
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act ...	1907
Private Street Works Act	1892
Public Health Act	1925
Building Byelaws (adopted)	1924
New Streets and Buildings	1925 Feb. 20

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY:—

The water for the district is supplied by the Barnsley Water Works at Midhope and Ingbirchworth i.e. from the Penistone Moors. There were no developments during the year. The supply was plentiful and constant. It is of good quality and fairly soft and has practically no plumbo solvent action. No diseases of any kind were traced to it. No dis-used sources were re-used.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no developments during 1925. The Sewage Works and Drainage of the area are adequate and doing their work satisfactorily. No sewage complaints were made. No sink wastes needed disconnection.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 17 Privies with open middens. There are no Pail or Tub Closets. There are 594 Privies with covered middens. No privies were reconstructed during 1925 as W.C.'s. No additional W.C.'s or Closets were provided to old property in 1925.

75 W.C.'s. were constructed for new houses in 1925.

SCAVENGING.

There was no change during the period and was efficiently carried out by the Council's own Staff under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Very few complaints were made by householders. The total cost was £900.

3 Cesspools still exist—these are attended to when required.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

- (a) No Destructor.
- (b) To two tips (dry ashes and rubbish).
- (c) To farmers' land (night soil).

No inadequacy exists, and waste material is not utilized in any way.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A stream known as Small Bridge Dyke forms the Urban District Boundary on the South—this was seriously polluted by Coal Washing at the Monckton Main Colliery.

This was reported to the West Riding Rivers' Board, and after notice from them, alterations were carried out at the Colliery, but the alteration is too recent to give a definite result.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints were made with regard to excessive smoke being given off from the Collieries or neighbouring Brickworks.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Owing to scarcity of houses there is a tendency for people to live in vans. There are 5 in the district and 5 inspections were made.

They were in good order and kept clean, but at the same time they should be discouraged, for too many would in time be a menace to the health of the district.

There are about a dozen Fish Frying Shops.

This is looked upon as an offensive trade—but the Council have not as yet declared it as such.

The majority have up-to-date pans, and I think there is no reason for any complaint, so long as they are kept clean as they are to-day.

There is one other offensive trade, viz: Fellmongering—4 inspections were made during the year and no complaints were made.

SCHOOLS.

There are four Council Schools and one Roman Catholic School. These are satisfactory and up to modern standards, except perhaps, the old "Church School" on School Hill.

No closure was necessary during the year.

HOUSING.

There is a big shortage and demand for houses in the district, no less than 300 applicants being on the waiting list.

Many of these are in lodgings, consequently overcrowding exists throughout the area, owing to the building of new houses not keeping pace with the increase in population.

Not only that, houses requiring repairs have to take a back seat very often owing to scarcity of labour. It is very important that all possible means should be taken to relieve this shortage of houses, if not, it means the health of the people, (particularly of the children) will, sooner or later, become seriously affected.

Congested housing conditions cannot improve the Tubercular—neither lessen the number of infectious diseases.

The general standard of houses in the area is good, except in some of the old blocks of property. Some of these could be improved, if only attended to before getting into a dilapidated state, defective roofs, defective fall pipes and spouts being the chief causes,—causing dampness and unfitness for habitation.

Excuses for delayed repairs to property are many—the chief being difficulty in obtaining extra labour—costly materials, and the heavy cost for repairwork generally.

No part of the area was scheduled as an unhealthy one.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK SUPPLY.

Two registers are kept as required by Section 2 (3) of the 1922 Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act. No licences have been granted under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act 1922 to distributors of "Certified" Milk—Grade A—Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)—Grade A (Pasteurised) or Pasteurised.

No retailers were removed from the register.

Bi-Annual Inspections by an appointed Veterinary Surgeon, to safeguard the milk supply from Tuberculosis, are made.

The supply of milk was adequate and the quality on the whole good, but when on my daily rounds I occasionally heard remarks about it not being as clean as it might be.

The milk is distributed in cans and taken round in carts.

A fair quantity of milk (cans and sealed bottles) comes into the district.

No instance of disease was attributed to milk during 1925.

There are 100 milk cows in the district. There are 12 Cowkeepers in the district, producing and selling milk. All are on the register.

There are 11 Retail Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers.

There are 6 who are milk retailers only.

The total number of Retail Milk Sellers registered is 17.

There are 26 Cowsheds and these were inspected 104 times (i.e.: 4 times each).

Oct. 12th, 1910 was the date of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.

No case of Foot and Mouth Disease was met with.

For the most part the cows look healthy, but in some of the cowsheds, the conditions are not quite as satisfactory as they might be—this being one of the causes of dirty milk.

MEAT.

There are 6 slaughter houses (private), unregistered and unlicensed. Each was inspected 50 times during the year (i.e.: 300 inspections altogether). The general condition of

them is good and most of them are up to modern requirements.

No legal proceedings were necessary during the year in connection with the slaughtering, meat inspection, or unsound food offered for sale.

BAKEHOUSES.

These are four in number, none being underground.

12 Inspections were made during the year, and all were found in a satisfactory condition.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases—Infectious Diseases Generally:—

SCARLET FEVER.—(The Dick Test not tried).

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. removed to Hospital	Deaths.
1921	6	6	Nil.
1922	14	14	Nil.
1923	24	24	Nil.
1924	25	25	1
1925	14	12	Nil.
	—	—	—
	83	81	1
	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.—(The Schick Test not tried).

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. removed to Hospital	Deaths.
1921	8	7	1
1922	9	9	Nil.
1923	26	26	1
1924	11	11	Nil.
1925	12	12	Nil.
	—	—	—
	66	65	2
	—	—	—

ENTERIC FEVER.

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. removed to Hospital	Deaths.
1921	6	5	1
1922	3	3	1
1923	1	1	Nil.
1924	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
1925	2	1	2
	—	—	—
	12	10	4
	—	—	—

MEASLES.—(Notifiable).

Year.	No. of Houses.	Deaths.
1921	58	Nil.
1922	132	2
1923	97	3
1924	22	Nil.
1925	245	6
	<hr/> 554	<hr/> 11
	<hr/>	<hr/>

By the above table it will be noticed that Measles was very prevalent in 1922, 1923 and 1925—particularly in November and December of 1922, the beginning of 1923, and the earlier months of 1925.

The Infant School in Pontefract Road was closed from Nov. 27th, 1922 for one month.

These Epidemics were general throughout the surrounding districts—but not of a severe type, but unfortunately 11 deaths were registered during the 5 years.

Isolation was almost impossible in some of the cases owing to the present housing conditions.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

In 1921	there were	4	Deaths.
„ 1922	„	1	„
„ 1923	„	Nil.	„
„ 1924	„	1	„
„ 1925	„	7	„
		<hr/> 13	
		<hr/>	

In the early months of 1921 there was an epidemic of Whooping Cough—of rather severe type, causing 4 deaths. In the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, only 2 deaths occurred—but in the latter months of 1925 it again became prevalent, but of a milder type than in 1921—but in spite of that no fewer than 7 deaths occurred.

SMALL POX.

A few cases were notified in July, 1922 in the immediate neighbourhood, so I advised Chicken Pox to be made

a notifiable disease for 3 months, only one case being met with during that period.

Then again in November, 1923, for a period of 6 months—one case only being met with up to December 31st, 1923, but during 1924, 168 cases were notified, and in 1925, 11 cases. Fortunately no case of Small Pox was come across—so only a very few submitted themselves for vaccination (primary and secondary).

EUCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Year.	No. of Cases.	Sent to Hospital			Deaths.	
1921	...	1	...	1	...	1
1922	...	Nil.	...	Nil.	...	Nil.
1923	...	Nil.	...	Nil.	...	Nil.
1924	...	Nil.	...	Nil.	...	Nil.
1925	...	1	...	1	...	Nil.

On the whole, taking into consideration the scarcity of houses and the large proportion of children in the population of the district, I think the report for the year as far as notifiable infectious diseases are concerned is very satisfactory.

When bed accommodation at the Fever Hospital is available, all Scarlet Fevers, Diphtherias, and Enteric Fevers are removed as soon as possible by Motor Ambulance—and all children remaining in the house excluded from school for recognised periods.

No return cases of Scarlet Fever occurred.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chicken Pox	11	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	12	12	Nil
Scarlet Fever	14	12	Nil
Enteric Fever	2	1	2
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	12	Nil	Nil
Measles (Notifiable)	245	Nil	6
Erysipelas	19	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis—			
Respiratory	10	Nil	Nil
Non-Respiratory	4	Nil	Nil
Eucephalitis Lethargica	1	1	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS, 1925

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 Year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 Year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Years ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Years ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
15 Years ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Years ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
25 Years ..	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
35 Years ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
45 Years ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
55 Years ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 Years and upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	4	6	4	...	...	1	...	...

The above Table shows the number of cases of Tuberculosis (Lungs and other parts) and the deaths at each age.

I am pleased to notice that this year shows a slight decrease when compared with the 3 previous years. The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 5 and from Non-Pulmonary 1.

Tubercular cases diagnosed by the patients' doctors are notified and then are sent forward to the Clinic at Queen's Road, Barnsley, for confirmatory diagnosis—all suitable cases are then got into the various Sanatoria in the West Riding, etc., as soon as possible for a period of 3 months usually.

When they return home they are treated by their own doctors and also attend the Clinic in Barnsley.

Unfortunately much of the good that is done at the Sanatorium is not maintained when the patients return home, partly from overcrowding or living in unhealthy areas or unable to have a bedroom to himself or herself.

The Council have decided to give preference to Tubercular patients when letting their new houses, as they become available, so I feel sure some good will be done by those means.

No action relating to cases of Tuberculosis was taken during the year under the 1925 Public Health Acts.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This is under the care of the County Council who appoint a Health Visitor who also acts as School Nurse, and in connection with this work an Infant Welfare Clinic is doing good work—so much so—that the infantile mortality rate is very satisfactory.

During the year no case of Puerperal Fever, and only one of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was met with.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness.	Deaths
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

CONCLUSION.

I am pleased to state that the statistical results of the report are very satisfactory, and I hope that during the next 12 months the housing shortage will be overcome. Steady progress is being made in improving the sanitary conditions of the district.

The Vital Statistics are most satisfactory—the death rate 11.11 being 1.1 below the average for England and Wales (12.2).

Another satisfactory feature of the report is the decrease in cases of Tuberculosis. The health of the area was affected by minor infectious diseases, such as Influenza, Measles and Whooping Cough—for 15 deaths were attributed to these alone.

Tables C and D for the County Medical Officer of Health, giving full details of the work done in the area in relation to Housing and Sanitary matters, have been completed and sent.

Once more I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council for the courtesy and consideration they always show to me, and acknowledge the assistance I always receive from the Sanitary Inspector and other Officials of the Council.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. ELLIOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria:	Enteric Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis
1921	35.43	13.86	105	6	8	6	12	3
1922	30.12	11.72	87	14	9	3	20	3
1923	30.72	11.32	78	24	26	1	21	5
1924	29.06	10.34	64	25	11	Nil	19	7
1925	26.13	11.11	90	14	12	2	10	4



