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Contributors

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THE
Rural District Council
OF
Halesowen.




ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For 1905.

HALESOWEN :

H. PARKES, PRINTER AND STATIONER.



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THE
Rural District Council
OF
Halesowen.

Chairman :

MR. GEORGE HADLEY.

Vice-Chairman :

MR. BENJAMIN MARSLAND.

Members :

Mr. JOHN BLOOMER.	Mr. WILLIAM GREEN.
„ C. H. CLEWES.	„ F. HIPKISS.
„ F. E. CUTLER.	„ JOHN JONES.
Miss E. M. FINEY.	„ G. B. PARKES.

Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

Medical Officer of Health :

T. BRETT YOUNG, M.D., BRUX., M.R.C.S., ENG.
L.R.C.P., & S., EDIN.

Public County Analyst :

C. C. DUNCAN, F.I.C.S., F.C.S.,
WORCESTER.

Clerk :

E. H. GROVE.

Surveyor :

W. WHITWORTH.

Sanitary Inspectors :

J. RUSSELL. W. WHITWORTH.

REPORT

From January 1st, to December 31st, 1905.



To the Chairman and Members of the Halesowen
Rural District Council.

MISS FINEY & GENTLEMEN,

Births. The number of births registered during the year was 804 (392 males and 412 females) giving a birth-rate for the district of 34·1 compared with 36·0 for the previous year. This shows a decline of nearly 2 from the rate of the previous year. It is still well above the birth-rates of England and Wales and of the whole County of Worcester, the former of which for 1904 was 27·9 and the latter 27·3.

Deaths. The number of deaths for the year was 305 (164 males and 141 females) giving a death-rate for the district of 12·4 compared with 14·9 for the previous year. This death-rate includes 10 from the Stourbridge Union, of persons removed from the Halesowen district and 3 of persons from the district which occurred at the Birmingham Hospitals, and excludes a death at the Isolation Hospital, Hayley Green, of a person removed from Stourbridge. The death-rate of England and Wales for the year 1904 was 16·2 and of the County of Worcester 14·3.

Subjoined are comparative statistics for the different localities of the district with regard to the :—

- (a). Population.
- (b). Birth rate.
- (c). Death-rate.
- (d). Zymotic death-rate and
- (e). Infantile Mortality.

Locality.	Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zy. d'th-rate.	Inf. Mort.
Cakmore	2,294	53·6	17·0	·8	130
Cradley	6,722	33·0	12·1	·4	99
Halesowen	4,057	29·0	16·2	·4	152
Hasbury	3,405	31·1	10·2		113
Hawne	1,463	41·0	12·9	·6	116
Hill	3,999	32·5	11·2	·5	107
Illey	131	22·9			
Lapal	361	16·6	2·7		
Lutley	168	29·7	5·9		200
Quinton	974	31·8	17·3		161

**Notifiable
Infectious
Disease.**

For the third year in succession there has been an entire absence of Small Pox, which, considering the fact that there is no provisions for its isolation, is fortunate.

Diphtheria.

1 case only of Diphtheria was notified during the year compared with 10 for the previous year; this occurred at Hill, and was fatal. On investigation no obvious cause was discovered in the surroundings for its production.

Erysipelas.

Eighteen cases were notified compared with twenty-one of which was fatal. The distribution of the cases was as follows:—Cakemore 3, Cradley 8, Halesowen 4, Hasbury, Hawne and Hill 1 case each.

**Scarlet
Fever.**

Although Scarlet Fever cannot be considered to have been epidemic during the year, yet 54 cases occurred compared with 140 for 1904.

4 occurred in Cakemore in 4 families; 20 at Cradley in 18 families; 5 at Halesowen in 5 families; 1 at Hasbury; 5 at Hawne in 4 families; 9 at Hill in 7 families; 3 at Lapal—all in 1 family; 7 at Quinton in 5 families.

47 of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, 3 from Cakemore, 15 from Cradley, 4 from Halesowen, 1 from Hasbury, 5 from Hawne, 9 from Hill, and 10 from Quinton.

Three main causes were, I think, operative in swelling the number of cases :—

- (a). Proximity to at least three neighbouring Urban Districts where Hospital Isolation is not carried out.
- (b). Undetected mild cases which served as centres for spreading infection.
- (c) Difficulty in some cases in securing prompt isolation.

**Enteric
Fever.**

6 cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year compared with 10 for the previous year. Of these 1 occurred at Cradley, 3 at Halesowen, and 2 at Hasbury. The removals to Hospital were one each from Cradley, Halesowen and Hasbury; one of the Halesowen cases proved fatal.

Of the actual causation of the cases there was no very marked evidence. One of the Halesowen cases, the fatal one, was attributed to the eating of some mussels.

The two other Halesowen cases occurred in one family. The first was thought to be due to the stench arising from a man-hole in the vicinity of the house, and the other was almost certainly due to the direct infection from the earlier case. There was a possibility of the Cradley case having been contracted away from home,

in consequence of drinking surface water. Of the Hasbury cases, the first could not be accounted for, but the second was probably produced by intercourse between the two families.

Puerperal Fever. 2 cases of Puerperal Fever were notified compared with one for 1904. 1 at Cakemore which proved fatal and 1 at Halesowen. Neither of the cases was attended by a midwife, but occurred in the practices of medical men. At present attendance on midwifery cases, where a medical man is not engaged, is almost entirely in the hands of women who have been registered on account of being engaged in the work for a considerable time prior to the passing of the Act, and as far as my experience goes, they are all trying to comply with its requirements.

Whooping Cough. 2 deaths were registered from this disease compared with 20 for the previous year. 1 occurred at Cradley and the other at Hill.

Measles. 1 death only occurred from this disease compared with 8 for the previous year, and was at Cakemore.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis. 14 deaths were registered from these diseases compared with 30 for 1904, and 36 for 1903. They were distributed as follows:—Cakemore 3, Cradley 3, Halesowen 2, Hasbury 1, Hawne 1, Hill 2 and Quinton 2. Of these deaths, as usual, the majority were infants; thus 9 were under 6 months and 11 under 1 year. This is a matter which deserves very careful attention because it is one of the directions in which progress may be made by the adoption of sanitary measures towards reducing infantile mortality. The main lines on which progress may be made are in the prevention of soil and air pollution. With regard to soil pollution endeavours should be made in populous parts to have yards and courts, with impervious material, and to discourage the common practice of throwing slops and waste matters generally on unpaved surfaces in the near neighbourhood of dwellings. One

of the greatest factors in the production of air pollution must be the accumulation of large quantities for long periods of fæcal matters. This is really what obtains in all cases where the old fashioned privy midden is in use. Then again, something may be done in the more frequent cleansing and lime-washing, and the ventilation of pantries and cellars where milk and other kinds of food are usually stored.

Phthisis. 22 cases of this disease were registered compared with 9 for 1904. The deaths from Phthisis vary considerably, inasmuch as in 1903 there were 20·0 of the 22 cases—3 occurred at Cakemore, 2 at Cradley, 6 at Halesowen, 3 at Hasbury, 3 at Hawne, 1 at Hill and 4 at Quinton.

Infantile Mortality. I am glad to be able to record a distinct decrease in the infantile mortality for the past year. 118 per thousand, compared with 151 for 1904. Of course there have been fewer births, and that must always influence the infantile mortality, but apart from that there is for the past year evidence of improvement.

House Accommodation. At present this is ample, in fact, in some parts of the district a considerable number of cottages are void. 111 new houses have been erected in various parts of the district during the year.

Excrement Disposal. This to a considerable extent in the more urban parts of the district is carried off by the sewers, and where sewers and a constant water supply are available this is the only permissible method.

Removal & Disposal of House Refuse. This for the most part finds its way into the Ashpit attached to the privy midden and is removed with its contents.

Water Supply. For the greater part of the district this is quite satisfactory.

**Factories &
Workshops.**

Every attention is being given to these to bring them into compliance with the requirements of the Act. Some difficulty has been experienced in a few cases, in getting proper sanitary accommodation for the sexes.

**Dairies &
Cowsheds.**

These are regularly inspected.

Appended will be found the Sanitary Inspectors' Reports and the usual Statistical tables.

With regard to table 5 I regret that I have been unable to get the figures with regard to uncertified deaths, and illegitimate births, so as to enable me to make the table complete.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BRETT YOUNG.



Annual Reports

of Medical Officer of Health for 1905, for the Rural
District of Halesowen.

I.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (including Factories)		42	7
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries)		686	12
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	728	19
		<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

		Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	- -	35	35
Sanitary accommodation	{ insufficient	8	7
	{ unsuitable or defective	3	3
	{ unsuitable for sexes	5	5
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		51	55
		<hr/>	<hr/>

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Notified by H.M. Inspectors	-	-	-	6
Homework---Lists received	-	-	-	1
Outworkers	-	-	-	10
Addresses of Outworkers received from other Authorities				4
Total number of Workshops on Register	-	-	-	485

TABLE I. Vital Statistics of the Whole District during 1905 and previous Years in the Halesowen Rural District.

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 Dist.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.	At all ages.					Number.	Rate.
					Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.					
1897	21963	825	34.6	111	134	316	14.3		1	317	14.4
1898	22551	827	36.6	136	164	361	16.0		5	366	16.2
1899	23519	879	27.3	148	168	333	14.1		6	339	14.4
1900	25844	865	34.2	105	121	345	13.3		1	346	13.3
1901	23574	886	37.5	153	171	386	16.3		15	401	17.0
1902	23574	855	36.0	91	106	307	13.0	8	5	306	12.9
1903	23574	868	36.8	140	161	380	16.1	10	12	386	16.3
1904	23574	849	36.0	129	151	353	14.9	6	10	359	15.2
Averages for years 1895-1904	23522	857	34.8	127	147	347	14.7		7	352	14.4
1905	23574	804	34.1	95	118	293	12.4	1	13	305	12.9

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) — 6,114.

Total population at all ages	...	23574	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	4649	
Average number of persons per house		5	

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Stourbridge & Halesowen Joint Isolation Hospital.	„	„	„	„	the District—Stourbridge Union Workhouse.
„	outside	„	„	„	„

[illegible]

**TABLE II. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years,
Halesowen Rural District.**

Names of Localities.	CAKEMORE.				CRADLEY.				HALESOWEN.				HASBURY.				HAWNE.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.																				
1897 ...	1445	63	24	9	6330	218	100	34	4135	135	52	19	3020	119	55	24	1420	63	21	7
1898 ..	1512	65	25	11	6434	280	111	46	4223	121	60	21	3054	125	54	16	1502	57	30	13
1899 ...	1580	84	34	17	6540	233	110	52	4312	150	47	16	3090	137	50	23	1585	61	17	9
1900 ...	2542	101	34	15	7102	245	116	32	4882	137	60	19	3485	125	41	12	1580	57	20	3
1901 ..	2294	115	49	22	6722	226	131	43	4057	139	71	26	3405	136	45	21	1463	68	35	13
1902 ..	2294	94	45	12	6722	231	89	26	4057	138	50	12	3405	112	39	11	1463	56	9	2
1903 ...	2294	88	31	15	6722	247	103	40	4057	134	86	25	3405	127	57	24	1463	61	20	2
1904 ...	2294	114	54	28	6722	245	88	32	4057	129	72	25	3405	105	38	9	1463	57	16	6
Averages of years 1897 to 1904	2032	90	37	16	6661	240	106	38	4223	135	62	20	3284	123	47	17	1492	60	21	4
1905 ...	2294	123	39	16	6722	222	82	22	4657	118	66	18	3405	106	35	12	1463	60	19	7

TABLE II. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years,
Halesowen Rural District.

Names of Localities.	HILL.			ILLEY.			LAPAL.			LUTLEY.			QUINTON.							
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.				
Year.																				
1897 ...	4055	156	43	15	88	3	2	0	365	13	3	1	175	6	2	0	930	29	14	2
1898 ...	4238	131	66	26	88	3	0	0	374	14	2	0	176	8	1	0	950	33	12	3
1899 ...	4750	167	56	23	90	6	1	1	422	11	4	1	180	5	0	0	970	25	14	6
1900 ...	4510	157	50	17	108	3	2	0	353	8	7	2	192	4	2	1	1089	28	14	14
1901 ...	3999	157	53	23	131	5	1	0	361	9	4	3	168	5	1	0	974	26	11	3
1902 ...	3999	172	58	23	131	5	1	0	361	7	3	1	168	7	2	1	974	29	10	3
1903 ...	3999	163	60	26	131	2	2	1	361	10	3	0	168	5	5	0	974	31	19	7
1904 ...	3999	151	72	27	131	3	0	0	361	5	2	0	168	4	4	1	974	37	13	1
verages of years 1897 to 1904	4194	157	57	22	112	4	1	2	370	10	3	1	176	5	2	4	979	30	13	5
1905 ...	3999	130	45	14	131	3	0	0	361	6	1	0	168	5	1	1	974	31	17	5

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.
Halesowen Rural District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.								NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.								
	At all Ages.	Ages—Years.					Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Lapal.	Lutley.	Quinton.	Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Lapal.	Quinton.
		Under 1.	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65																		65 and upwards.
Diphtheria ...	1			1																			
Membranous Croup ...																							
Erysipelas ...	17	1	2	1	2	8	3	8	4	1	1	1											
Scarlet Fever ...	54	1	15	32	4	2	4	20	5	1	5	9	3		7	3	15	4	1	5	9	3	7
Enteric Fever ...	6		2		2	2		1	3	2							1	1	1				
Puerperal Fever ...	2				1	1	1		1														
Totals ...	80	2	19	33	10	13	8	29	13	4	6	10	3		7	3	16	5	2	5	9	3	7

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—Stourbridge & Halesowen Joint Infectious Disease Hospital.

TABLE IV.

**Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1905,
in the Rural District of Halesowen.**

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the Dist.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen.	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Illey.	Lapal.	Lutley.	Quinton.	
Measles	1	1						1										
Whooping Cough	2	1	1						1				1					
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	1					1							1					
Enteric Fever ..	1					1				1								
Epidemic Influenza ..	1					1				1								
Diarrhœa ..	2	1	1						1			1						
Enteritis ..	12	10	2					3	2	2	1		2				2	
Puerperal Fever	1					1		1										
Erysipelas ..	1						1		1									
Other Septic Diseases	1					1							1					
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	22		2	3	4	10	3	3	2	6	3	3	1				4	
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	6	3	3					3	3									
Cancer, Malignant Disease	12					10	2	1	3	1	2		2		1	1	1	2
Bronchitis ..	51	18	11			10	12	8	18	11	4	1	5				4	2
Pneumonia ..	16	6	6			3	1		4	3	4	1	4					1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1		1								1							
Alcoholism																		
Cirrhosis of Liver	8					6	2		6	1			1					
Premature Births	15	15						2	3	7	2						1	
Diseases & Accidents of parturition	4	1			1	2			2		1		1					
Heart Diseases ..	22				1	14	7	1	5	8	2	3	2				1	1
Accidents ..	4		1		1	1	1	1	1		1		1					
Suicides ..	1					1		1										
All other causes	120	39	8	3	2	24	44	14	30	25	14	10	23				4	7
All causes ..	305	95	36	6	9	86	73	39	82	66	35	19	45		1	1	17	13

TABLE V.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under 1 Year of Age in the Rural District of Halesowen.

Causes of Death.	Under Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total 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.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Measles																1	1
Whooping Cough ..									1								1
Diarrhoea, all forms ..									1								1
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)						2	1	3		2			1	1			10
Premature Birth .. 13				2	15												
Congenital Defects ..		1			1												
Injury at Birth.. ..	1				1												
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus .. 8	2	3	4	17	6	1				1							8
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica..							1			1		1					3
Syphilis						1											1
Rickets											1		1				2
Meningitis, <i>not Tuberculous</i>														1			1
Convulsions		1			1	1	1	1									3
Bronchitis		1			1		1		1	1	3	1	3	1	2	4	17
Pneumonia										2		1	1	1	1		6
Other Causes		1			1			1							1	1	3
	22	6	3	6	37	10	5	5	3	7	4	4	6	4	4	6	57

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages—305.

Inspectors' Report

of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ending
December 31st, 1905.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR RUSSELL,

No. of cases of Infectious Disease enquired into	...	50
„ houses disinfected and cleansed	... ..	50
„ patients removed to Hospital	... ..	35
„ Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected or destroyed		39
„ houses erected	... ..	56
„ „ made fit for habitation	... ..	30
„ „ closed as unfit for habitation	... ..	2
„ „ cleansed and lime-washed	... ..	70
„ overcrowding cases abated	... ..	7
„ insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	... ..	20
„ additional W.C.'s provided	... ..	53
„ W.C.'s repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns		13
„ additional privies provided, 15 ; ashpits, 50	... ..	65
„ privies and ashpits converted to W.C.'s or slop closets		37
„ „ repaired, 40 ; ashpits, 30	... ..	70
„ new dust receptacles provided	... ..	2
„ houses from which refuse removable	... ..	9,730
„ privies cleansed, 8,440 ; ashpits, 4,599	... ..	13,039
„ portable receptacles cleansed	... ..	3,148
„ loads of ashes, excrement and refuse removed	... ..	11,500
„ offensive trades under observation	... ..	2
„ wells sunk	... ..	2
„ wells cleansed and repaired	... ..	5
„ wells closed as polluted	... ..	5
„ houses supplied from waterworks (during year)	... ..	88
17 samples of water tested by Dr. Young—8 good and 9 bad ; 2 by County Analyst (bad)	... ..	19
No. of slaughter-houses registered or licensed	... ..	8
„ „ regularly inspected	... ..	8

No. of slaughter-houses cleansed and repaired	...	8
„ Factories and Workshops under inspection	...	201
„ „ „ certified for limewashing by Inspector	32	
„ insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	...	19
„ persons engaged in milk trade now on register and under supervision	...	39
„ contraventions of Acts, Orders and Byelaws dealt with		30
„ Canal Boats inspected	...	5
„ Lodging Houses on Register.	...	2
„ „ regularly inspected	...	2
„ „ cleansed and repaired	...	2
„ samples taken from analysis—Milk	...	3
„ „ certificated genuine	...	3
„ cases of removal, on notice, of animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	35
„ removals of accumulation of offensive refuse	...	25
„ official letters written	...	310
„ notices served	...	66
„ „ complied with	...	58
„ „ outstanding	...	8

Signed,

JOSEPH RUSSELL,

*February 1st, 1906.**Sanitary Inspector.*

REPORT OF WILLIAM WHITWORTH.

No. of Infectious disease cases enquired into	...	...	28
„ houses disinfected and cleansed	...	...	28
„ patients removed to Hospital	...	...	15
„ lots of bedding, clothing, &c. disinfected or destroyed			19
„ houses erected	...	...	54
„ house-drains relaid	...	...	54
„ additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	54
„ „ privies and ashpits provided		...	40
„ privies and ashpits converted into W.C.'s or slop-closets			17
Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	..		1,437
„ privies cleansed, 828 ; ashpits, 828	...		1,656
„ portable receptacles (cleansed weekly)	...	25 pans.	
„ loads of ashes, excrement and refuse removed			4,243
No. of wells repaired, 1 ; closed as polluted, 1	...		2
„ houses supplied from water works (during year)		54 new houses.	
„ Samples of well water taken for analysis	...		1
„ slaughter-houses registered or licensed	..		8
„ „ regularly inspected	...	...	8
„ „ cleansed and repaired	...	...	8
„ Factories and Workshops under inspection	...		284
most of these were limewashed.			
„ persons engaged in milk trade now on register and under supervision	...		9
„ animals kept so as to be a nuisance (removed on notice)			3
„ removals of offensive refuse	...	...	3
„ official letters written	...	...	150
„ notices served	...	...	39
„ „ complied with,	...	...	34
„ „ outstanding	...	...	5

Signed,

WILLIAM WHITWORTH,

*January 1st. 1906.**Sanitary Inspector.*

