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Contributors

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HESSLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1908.

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HESSLE, JANUARY, 1909.

To the Hessle Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to present my Report for the Year ending 31st December, 1908, which will, I think, on the whole, be considered highly satisfactory.

In the present Report I have somewhat altered the arrangement of contents observed in past years, by placing the Consecutive Monthly Record of the Sanitary work first, then the Vital and other Statistics, concluding with a resume of the year's work, and suggestions for the future considerations of the Sanitary Committee, then dealing with information required by the Local Government Board.

I trust this arrangement will make the Report more lucid and connected.

On the sixth of January I attended a meeting of the Council, and on the 23rd January I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for December, 1907, in which I mentioned that on the 9th January, the house of Mr. Harniss, with the inmates and all contents had been thoroughly disinfected. The household, suffering from Scarlet Fever, had been rigorously isolated for five weeks, during which period, the Council at my suggestion had allowed the man one pound a week, otherwise the man, his wife, and family must have been removed to the Isolation Hospital at a cost of over Forty Pounds, thus a saving of over Thirty-five pounds was effected.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board, regarding the Sanitary Amendment Act, passed in December, 1907. The Committee directed that the Officers consider and report on this Act. They also directed that the premises in Chapel Yard, where there had recently been a case of Typhoid, should if possible be altered, the yard drain passes under the floor, and the contents of the privy are carried through the house. Unfortunately there was no possible escape from this most objectionable arrangement, short of declaring the premises unfit for habitation.

On February 3rd I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

On February 20th I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for January, only one case of infection was notified: a case of Scarlet Fever, which was isolated and treated at home, beyond this, nothing worth notice occurred, except that there was an extraordinary number of complaints of smells supposed to be from drains, which on inspection, proved to be due to gas escaping from the main service pipes or defective fittings.

On the second day of March I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Sanitary Minutes were confirmed.

At this Meeting I advised the Council to adopt all the provisions of the Act of 1907, in which opinion the Clerk concurred, and said that he would take necessary steps for that purpose.

A Memorandum was received relating to the closing of Schools during an epidemic, in answer to which, I may say that I have always exercised the greatest caution, and shall continue to do so, in closing schools.

On the 26th March I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for February, during that month two cases of Infection were notified, viz.: a case of Scarlet Fever, which was isolated and treated at home, and a case of simple erysipelas.

During March many complaints were received of the neglect of the Collector to clear the dust bins. On enquiry it was found that the neglect was mostly due to the complainants having made arrangements with the Collector, to clear their dust bins only once a month, in the meantime the bin becoming full, and a complaint made. The Collector was written to and told that he must clear every dust bin once a week, and that on no pretence should I permit an arrangement with a householder to be made to the contrary, any breach of that rule, I should at once report to the Sanitary Committee.

A circular from the Local Government Board re the slaughtering of cattle was considered.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector were requested to interview the butchers, and report on the subject at the next meeting of the Sanitary Committee.

On April the 7th I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

On the 22nd April I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee and presented my Report for March. On the 18th of that month a case of Scarlet Fever was notified, which was at once removed to the Hospital. The premises were carefully disinfected, while the inmates, bedding, &c. were sent to Scarborough Street for disinfection. One of the inmates was a Teacher in the Hessle School, and another was a pupil in a Hull school, so that great precautions had to be observed. The School authorities were informed, and the house was treated as an infected area for fifteen days. I am glad to say there was no spread of infection.

On May 4th I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Minutes of the previous Sanitary Meeting were confirmed.

On May 21st I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee and presented my Report for April. One case of infection was notified during that month, in the person of a youth who was in farm service at Swanland Dale. He was sent home to his parents house at Hessle, whilst suffering from Scarlet Fever, and was at once transferred to the Isolation Hospital, and the house disinfected, all inmates, contacts, bedding and clothing being sent to the Scarborough Street disinfecting station for disinfection, and the House was declared an infected area for 15 days. There was no spread of infection.

The Medical Officer of Health for Swanland was informed of the above facts. No sanitary defects of any importance were observed this month, though several minor matters received attention.

The Inspector called my attention to some undrained premises in Northgate which were being used as a stable. The owner at once complied with the request to have the premises drained.

At "Belmont" a maid-servant was suffering from a drain throat, on investigation it was found that a bricklayer had disturbed the connection of a soil-pipe, thus practically connecting the house with the sewer. The mischief was quite out of sight, and but for its timely discovery, the consequences might have been much more serious.

At the request of the Council the Inspector accompanied me on a visit to the Hessle Butchers to consult with them as to whether any more humane method could be used in the slaughter of pigs, sheep and cattle, the result of these visits I embody in the following report.

“Hessle, 21st May, 1908.

Gentlemen,

Re the circular from the Agricultural Board, with regard to the humane slaughtering of cattle. We have one licensed and four registered slaughter houses in Hessle. I am thoroughly acquainted with these premises, and also with the method of slaughter adopted by the butchers. And I have from time to time satisfied myself that the slaughter of cattle, calves, sheep and pigs, was done in as humane a manner as circumstances permitted. I this day again visited these slaughter houses and interviewed the butchers, in company with Mr. Gibson, our object being to ascertain if anything could be devised to further minimise the pain or distress of animals slaughtered or waiting to be slaughtered. The result of these visits is to confirm me in the opinion that as regards the Hessle Butchers everything is done that is practically possible.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MOLINEUX, M.D.”

The Inspector reported having received further complaints of the non-collection of House-Refuse, and asked the Council to give their support in compelling the collector to act up to his agreement. As a result the Council instructed the Clerk to write a strongly worded letter to the Collector, calling attention to the Inspector's report requesting that a collection of House Refuse be made strictly every week from every house, and that particular note would be made of the manner in which the collection is carried out, and that in case of his default, further steps would be taken in the matter.

The Collector also having made a large heap of refuse on land in his occupation, adjoining Itlings Lane, as it was becoming a nuisance, he was ordered to cover the heap with earth, till it could be put on the land, and he was forbidden to place any refuse in such position in the future.

On June 1st I attended a meeting of the Council when the Minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

A communication from the County Council was read, calling attention to a memorandum from the Local Government Board regarding the closing of schools during an Epidemic. I have always been opposed to such closing of schools, unless the attendance becomes so reduced as to make it impossible to carry on education. I contend that where the school is under proper control, as at Hessle, the one place that is most free from infection is the school. I am glad that the L.G.B. have taken up their present attitude, and I hope in future the County Council will adopt the same attitude in the interest of health and education.

On June 25th I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my report for May. Eight cases of Scarlet Fever and one case of Diphtheria were notified. Two cases of fever were in one house and six in another, All were treated at home, and the isolation and disinfection was carried out as usual, and both houses were treated during the progress of the disease as infected areas. The case notified as Diphtheria turned out on bacteriological examination to be ordinary inflamed throat.

The water supply to six houses in First Lane was improved. The privies to the same houses, and also privies to five other cottages were improved by having new doors and frames to the cleansing portion, and other much needed sanitary improvement was carried out under the direction of the Inspector.

A defective drain in connection with "Belmont" was discovered as being the cause of a nuisance, and possibly a danger to the health of the inmates. The landlord was communicated with; the necessary work was done to abate the nuisance.

It was reported to me on May 25th by the Inspector that an assistant mistress was to commence her duties at the National School on that day. I found that she was newly from Preston in Holderness, where the school had been closed three days before on account of Scarlet Fever. I therefore gave instructions that the teacher should not be allowed to commence her duties at the school for a fortnight.

On July 6th I attended a meeting of the Council, when the minutes of June 25th were confirmed.

It was pointed out that an accumulation of garden refuse in the back lane between Davenport Avenue and Ferriby Road was likely to cause a nuisance. Those responsible said they could not remove it, as every carter refused on account of the bad state of the road. The Inspector stated that the road was in a bad

state, but that he would have the rubbish removed, and charge the cost to the occupiers pro rata, to which the occupiers agreed.

The lane in question is a private road belonging to the owners of the adjoining land on either side, many of whom use it as a depository for rubbish. Its condition for years has been a constant source of trouble.

On the 30th July I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my report for June. During that month seven cases of infectious disease were notified, six cases of Diphtheria and one case of Scarlet Fever. Four of the cases of Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the premises cleansed and disinfected, all contacts, bedding, etc. were sent to Scarborough Street for disinfection. Two cases were treated at home, and when convalescent, they, the premises, and all inmates were disinfected as above. The case of Scarlet Fever was a boy who was employed at a confectioner's and refreshment rooms in Prestongate. On Saturday night it was customary for him to go to his parents house at Anlaby and stay till the Monday. On this occasion he returned on Monday as usual, but complaining of feeling ill, a doctor was sent for, who diagnosed Scarlet Fever, and sent him back to Anlaby, at the same time notifying the case, and informing me what had been done. I at once ordered the premises at Hessle to be thoroughly disinfected. All bedding, clothing, etc. were sent to Scarborough Street Disinfecting Station within two hours after notification. By this prompt action any spread of infection was averted.

Only minor sanitary defects called for attention, and some complaints of smells were found to be caused by escapes of gas from the mains. The Gas Works Manager was communicated with on the matter, and the defects remedied.

The outfall to sewer to district behind the Station and discharging into the Humber, was found to require considerable repairs, which the Council ordered to be done.

On August 10th I attended a meeting of the Council, when the minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

The minutes of the last Council meeting relating to a letter dated June 4th were confirmed.

It was decided to adopt the whole of part 7 of the 1907 Public Health Amendment Act, except section 82. That parts 8 and 9 of the said Act be in force in the Urban District of Hessle. It was further decided to adopt the whole of parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10 of the above Act, and the Clerk was accordingly instructed to take the necessary steps.

On September 24th I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my report for July and August. Seven cases of infectious disease were notified, 4 of Diphtheria which were removed to the Isolation Hospital, the premises, contacts, bedding and clothing being disinfected in the usual manner. Three cases of Scarlet Fever in one family were treated at home, and the premises declared an infected area. When convalescent, the patients, contacts, bedding, etc. were sent to Scarborough Street for disinfection, and the house was thoroughly cleansed and disinfected during their absence. Only a few simple sanitary defects came under notice, and such were at once remedied.

On September 17th I received a notification from Mr. Simpson, M.O.H. for Grimsby, informing me that three residents of Hessle were passengers on board the S.S. "Viking" from St. Petersburg, some of the crew having had Cholera. All the passengers were disinfected at Grimsby before being allowed to proceed to their destination.

I communicated the following day with the family alluded to, and received the assurance that they were quite well. I however placed them under observation for 14 days, and during that period informed myself daily of their continued good health.

On October the 5th I attended a meeting of the Council, when the minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

On October 22nd I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my report for September. During that month three cases of infectious disease were notified, two cases of Diphtheria and one of Erysipelas. Both cases of Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital, but owing to exceptional pressure of work some delay was experienced in their removal, and as Anti-toxin was not injected till after their admission, much time was lost. One of the patients (a boy) died, a few days after admission, while the girl was for some time in great danger, and was detained in hospital for an unusual period, and when discharged suffered from paralysis. I may point out that the Hessle Urban District Council supply Anti-toxin gratis to medical men for use in the Hessle District. The case of Erysipelas was simple, calling for no comment. Trifling sanitary defects received attention.

“Hessle, October 22nd, 1908.

To the Hessle Sanitary Committee.

Gentlemen,

Since our last Meeting I have made far reaching enquires into the character of the milk obtained from the Hessle dairies. I find consumers generally complain that it is of poor quality, and yields very little cream.

By the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, of 1875, a local authority has power to appoint an officer to take samples of food and drugs. Parliament finding that local authorities generally did not exercise the powers conferred upon them by the various Acts, granted powers to the County Council to take samples, and if found necessary, to institute proceedings. This Council has since left these powers to be administered entirely by the County Council.

A few years ago the Board of Agriculture fixed a standard for milk, which it stated should at least contain eleven and a half per cent of solids, three per cent of which should be fat; this fat is a very essential constituent of new milk, especially in relation to the feeding of infants. Cows milk is found to be too rich in caseine and too deficient in fat for an infant.

To prepare milk for a young child the cream of half-a-pint of milk should be added to half-a-pint of new milk, thus making the quantity of fat six per cent. This is then diluted with water according to the age of the infant. It is obvious that if the milk is very deficient in fat, the desired result could not be obtained, and the health of the child would suffer.

Milk deficient in fat is not of serious consequence to the adult from a health point of view, but the purchaser is not getting what he has a right to expect. Under existing conditions, I think the time has arrived when it would be to the advantage of the public, that the Hessle Council should take the milk supply and the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Acts into their own hands.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MOLINEUX, M.D.

On November 2nd I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Sanitary Minutes of October 22nd, were confirmed.

After deliberation the Council appointed Mr. Gibson the Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, with the especial reference to the taking of samples of milk for analysis. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Clerk of the County Council and ascertain who was the County Analyst, to whom Mr. Gibson was instructed to submit for analysis his samples of milk, drugs or food.

On November 26th I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for October. Only one case of infectious disease was notified, a case of Scarlet Fever, which was isolated and treated at home. After convalescence, the patient and all inmates clothing, &c. were sent to Scarborough Street for disinfection, and during their absence the premises were thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. Minor Sanitary work received attention during the month, but nothing of importance came before my notice.

On December 7th I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Minutes of the Sanitary Committee's previous meeting were confirmed.

The Clerk reported that he had written to the Clerk to the County Council, re the Analyst, and had received a reply that the Local Government Board had not signified their approval of the Analyst appointed, but that when he heard from the Local Government Board, he would communicate. Nothing further has, as yet been received, until we know the name of the Analyst and the confirmation of his appointment by the Local Government Board, Mr. Gibson's office is a sinecure.

On December 21st I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my report for November. Four cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, all inmates of one house, there were three other inmates, the father, mother and an infant. All the sufferers were in the desquamating stage. Under the circumstances I thought it would be best to treat the children at home, isolating the whole family and treating the house as an infected area. As however, the father refused his consent to this plan, and the Medical man refused to continue his attendance, there was no other course than to remove them to the Isolation Hospital. They were therefore removed after a delay of four days, and the usual disinfection of premises, bedding and clothing was done.

On January 4th I attended a Meeting of the Council, when the Minutes of the Sanitary Committee were confirmed.

At this Meeting Mr. Gibson asked the Council what was his position as Officer under the Food and Drugs Act? as it had come to his knowledge that P.C. Bell had been to Hessle on the 16th December last and had taken four samples of milk, which he heard was satisfactory. The Clerk informed the Council that no further reply had been received by him from the Clerk to the County Council.

The Chairman of the Council thereupon told Mr. Gibson that his appointment was valid, but that he had better not take any samples till the Clerk to the County Council said who was the Analyst appointed by that Council.

Also at this Meeting I made a special Report of a visit to a fish-curing yard, on the 2nd December last, at the North Eastern extremity of the district, two and a half miles from the village. The report says as follows :—

6th December, 1908.

Gentlemen,

On the 2nd instant, accompanied by Mr. Gibson, I visited Mr. Widdowson's fish-curing yard in Mill Lane. The work there had been discontinued about six weeks. The privy was blown down by the September gale, and had not been re-erected as it was so near the close of the season. The privy tank was missing and the woodwork formed a raft on the pond. I spoke to Mr. Widdowson, who told me that the yard would not be re-opened till May, and that it was his intention before resuming work to erect some brick buildings, including a brick privy, as the boys soon wrecked one made of wood. He assured me that everything should be done, and he would let me know before he began work. No women had been employed since the date of my last visit.

I then visited the adjoining cottages, and found the privies of all requiring repair. The drains were good, except that of the cottage nearest to Anlaby Road. This had been attended to, but at the time of my visit it did not run.

Our attention was then directed to the water supply, which is from a pump close to the defective

drain. The water was clear and bright, but of somewhat unpleasant odour. I decided to have it analysed, and took a sample to Messrs Baynes' I also called on Mr. Dufty, the agent for the property, and verbally informed him that I should require the privies thoroughly repairing, the drain putting in good order, and a good supply of water to be supplied within 21 days, should the analysis condemn the present supply. As the analysis shows that it is unsafe to use this water for drinking, I have this day served Mr. Dufty with the requisite notice in writing.

From my interview with Mr. Dufty, I feel sure he will give all the matters complained of, his immediate attention.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES MOLINEUX, M.D.

On January 21st, 1909, I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for December, during that month no case of infectious disease was notified, some minor sanitary defects were remedied. none of sufficient importance to bring before the committee. With regard to the cottages in Mill Lane, the drains and privies have been put in order, but the water supply is still of bad character. The owner having attempted to use the old bore, the pipe of which has perished. He had been instructed to make a new bore, and the water provided must on analysis be proved to be pure.

PARTICULARS OF CHARGES

made to the Hessle Urban District Council during the last 10 years, 1899 to 1908 (both inclusive), with respect to the maintenance, etc., of Patients admitted into the Hull Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospitals; shewing a total for the 10 years of £739 3s. 4d., being a yearly average of £73 18s. 4d.

	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	Total.
Cost of maintenance of Patients.	£ s d Nil	£ s d 0 15 0	£ s d 90 9 0	£ s d 8 11 0	£ s d 6 18 0	£ s d 224 19 0	£ s d 130 2 6	£ s d 27 4 3	£ s d 36 8 7	£ s d 109 5 9	£ s d 634 13 1
Cost of Disinfection	0 10 6	2 2 0	5 15 6	1 11 6	Nil	3 13 6	1 1 0	2 9 9	1 1 0	8 8 0	26 12 9
Cost of Removal of Patients	Nil	0 8 6	5 18 6	0 6 6	0 12 6	9 7 6	18 10 0	0 11 0	2 17 0	10 14 6	49 6 0
Cost of removal of bedding, etc., and persons for bathing.	0 16 0	3 0 6	2 18 0	1 8 0	0 5 6	10 1 0	6 7 6	1 1 0	Nil	2 14 0	28 11 6
Totals...	1 6 6	6 6 0	105 1 0	11 17 0	7 16 0	248 1 0	156 1 0	31 6 0	40 6 7	131 2 3	739 3 4

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1908.

Annual Birth-rates and Death-rates from the Seven Chief Epidemic Diseases.

Year	Annual Rates per 1,000 Living.			Infant Mortality, Annual Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1,000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	Deaths from seven chief Epi- demic Diseases.	
1800	4165	105	10.45	6.50
1801	4226	100	10.45	6.50
1802	4299	97	10.45	6.50
1803	4312	92	10.45	6.50
1804	4334	110	10.45	6.50
1805	4311	105	10.45	6.50
England and Wales	26.5	14.7	1.29	1.21
76 Great Towns	27.0	14.9	1.59	1.28
142 Smaller Towns	26.0	14.0	1.26	1.24
England and Wales less the 218 Towns	26.2	14.7	0.99	1.10

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 1. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths under 1 Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages.	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 Births Registered	Number	Rate				Number	Rate
1902	4214	102	24.20	9	88.23	26	6.16	..	..	3	29	6.88
1903	4614	119	25.57	7	58.82	50	10.85	..	..	3	53	11.48
1904	5413	87	16.07	10	114.94	59	10.89	..	..	5	64	11.08
1905	4738	96	20	3	31.25	36	7.80	..	..	4	40	8.43
1906	4825	126	26.13	15	119	52	10.36	..	..	3	55	11.98
1907	4962	102	20.55	8	78.43	47	9.47	..	..	5	52	10.47
1908	5182	128	24.70	9	70.30	45	8.68	..	..	5	50	9.64

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	...	...	2,111
Total population at all ages	}	At Census of 1901.	3,754
Number of inhabited houses			885
Average number of persons per house			4.24

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Nil.	<p>The Hull Infirmary.</p> <p>The Hull City's Isolation Hospital.</p> <p>The Hull City's Small-pox Hospital, at Sutton.</p> <p>The County Asylum, Beverley.</p> <p>The Sculcoates Workhouse.</p> <p>Victoria Hospital for children, Hull.</p>	Nil.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No!

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 2. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1908 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1902	4214	102	26	9
1903	4614	119	50	7
1904	*5413	87	59	10
1905	4738	96	40	3
1906	4825	126	53	15
1907	4962	102	52	8
1908	5182	128	50	9

*This large increase in population was due to the influx of labour for the North Eastern Railway Company's extensions.

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 3. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year, 1908.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total cases notified in each Locality.	No. of cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.	Total cases removed to Hospital from each locality.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				65 and upwards.	Total cases notified in each Locality.			
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.						25 to 65.
Diphtheria	15	4	8	1	2	...	...	...	10
Erysipelas	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	21	5	11	4	1	...	...	...	5
Totals	37	10	19	5	3	...	...	...	15

Isolation Hospital, The City of Hull Isolation Hospital, Hull.

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 4. Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all Ages.	Total deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
Diphtheria ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epidemic Influenza ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ...	6	...	1	...	1	3	1	...	2
Cancer, malignant disease ...	5	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	3	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Pneumonia ...	3	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1
Heart diseases ...	10	...	...	...	1	4	5	...	...
Suicides ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
All other causes ...	18	6	1	2	...	4	5	...	1
All causes ...	50	9	5	2	3	16	15		5

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 5. Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.

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

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	7-8 Months.	9-10 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes— Certified.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhea ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	3
Other Causes ...	1	...	1	2	...	...	2	...	...	4
	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	9

Population estimated to middle of 1908—5,182. Births in the Year (legitimate) 128, (illegitimate) have no correct knowledge)
Deaths in the year, of (legitimate infants) 9, (illegitimate infants) nil. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 45.
In Institutions beyond the District, 5. Total—50.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries 16).	64	3	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries, 56).	224	6	Nil
Workplaces	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	288	9	Nil

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Number of Defects.		
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—					
Want of cleanliness	1	1	1	Nil	Nil
Want of ventilation	3	3	3	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	1	Nil	Nil
Other nuisances	3	3	3	Nil	Nil
Sanitary accommodations { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	1	1	1	Nil	Nil
Total	9	9	9	Nil	Nil

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's table of Vital Statistics referring to England and Wales for 1894 shows towns recorded from Pt. 1. Mitchell Wilson, the Medical Officer of Health to the East Riding County Council, has a statement from which to judge the position held by the district.

3.—HOME WORK.

No Home Work at Hessle.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

	Number.
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	
Bakehouses	2
Laundries	2
Workshops and Factories	52
Total number of workshops on Register	56

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Cost of disinfection of persons &c. at Hessle. Nil.

Cost of removal of patients &c. 10 14 6

Cost of removal of persons, bedding, clothing &c. 3 14 0

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's table of Vital Statistics referring to England and Wales, less 218 large towns, received from Dr. J. Mitchell-Wilson, the Medical Officer of Health to the East Riding County Council, furnishes a stand from which to judge the position held by the Hessle Urban District.

In such comparison the statistics of the latter come out well, due I think to the regard paid to sanitation and the strict enforcement of Sanitary Law.

Our death rate for 1908 was 9·64 and this rate includes one suicide and five deaths in Institutions beyond the district.

The birth rate was 24·70 per thousand of population. We may particularly congratulate ourselves on the low infant mortality, which is 70·30, whilst according to the Return above mentioned, the Rate for England and Wales is 121 per thousand births. The number of cases of infectious disease notified was 37, viz. : 21 cases of Scarlet Fever, 15 of Diphtheria, and one case of simple Erysipelas. 5 cases of Scarlet Fever and 10 cases of Diphtheria were removed to the Hull Isolation Hospital, the other cases being carefully isolated and treated at home. In all cases great attention was paid to the disinfection of persons, premises, contacts, bedding and clothing.

Hospital Maintenance.

	£	s	d
The cost of maintenance of patients in the Hull Isolation Hospital for the Year was.....	109	5	9
Cost of disinfection of persons, &c. at Scarborough Street	8	8	0
Cost of removal of patients	10	14	6
Cost of removal of persons, bedding, clothing, &c	2	14	0
	<hr/>		
	£131	2	3
	<hr/>		

Though this total may appear large, I am satisfied that it is really a very cheap and efficient arrangement, and to my mind, the best and cheapest possible.

A reference to the accompanying table relating to Hospital charges, will show that in ten years the total charges have been £739 3s. 4d. an average of £73 18s. 4d. per year.

I may here express my satisfaction at the promptness of the Hull transport officers, often a case is removed to the Hull Isolation Hospital, a distance of 7 miles, within 3 hours after notification.

Disinfection of premises is always personally conducted by Mr. Gibson, the Sanitary Inspector, and it is a tribute to the thoroughness of his work, that in no instance where he has disinfected premises, has infection subsequently shown itself.

Bovine tuberculosis has at all times received the attention of this Authority, and we have full powers for dealing with it, but the more serious question of the extension of the disease from individual to individual, has received but little practical attention owing to the condition of the Law on the subject.

Some time ago, I was asked to specially report on this subject, which I did at some length, advising compulsory notification and isolation of all persons affected, a copy of this report was sent to the Local Government Board and the County Council. I much regret that the L.G.B. have not seen their way to the enforcement of such an Act, alike in the interest of the individual, the family and the general public.

Through the loyal assistance I receive from Mr. Gibson, the work of my office is made very pleasant. All matters involving a breach of sanitary law are at once brought to my notice and prompt action taken, thus all matters of sufficient importance to be brought before the Sanitary Committee have already been remedied or are in process of being remedied. The readiness of property owners and others to comply with our instructions is in a great measure due to the support we at all times have received from the Urban Council. Much sanitary work is not of sufficient importance to bring before the notice of the Sanitary Committee, in proof of which I may state that during the past year

Improvements to Privies.

29 privies have been altered and put into better sanitary condition.

Privies converted into Water Closets.

2 such have been converted into w.c.'s with the necessary drainage.

New Drainage.

About 700 yards of new drains have been laid to 29 new houses. This has necessitated 12 Buchan and Winsor traps, several manholes and about 90 ordinary traps all inspected and approved by the Inspector.

Disinfections.

40 disinfection of premises where cases of notifiable infectious diseases have occurred and also after consumption.

Complaints of Nuisances.

69 such complaints have been investigated, but have been generally found to be caused by defective gas fittings and gas escapes.

Visits in District.

4 systematic visits have been made to approximately 1,300 houses in the district.

Promiscuous Visits.

320 visits to premises other than those above mentioned, as necessity required.

Slaughter Houses.

260 visits have been made to slaughter-houses, this being one visit per week to each. 30 other visits have been made as circumstances required.

Factories and Workshops.

288 visits have been made to 72 Factories and Workshops, 9 defects have been found and 9 have been remedied when requested.

Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops.

There are now 34 cowsheds in the district, being one less than last year, also one owner less. These have received 132 visits, and I have only on 12 occasions had to request limewashing to be done or manure to be removed more frequently.

Old Drains.

113 yards of old drains have been renewed.

Gullies.

19 new gullies have been fixed to old drains, or have replaced defective ones.

Drains Tested.

Drains on 8 premises (old) have been tested, in 5 of which they were found defective and put in order.

Water Samples.

One only sample of water was taken, this was found to be unfit for domestic purposes, and a new supply ordered to be provided.

Flushing.

The sewers have been flushed by the Humber water on 25 occasions. It was some time ago estimated that 367 tons of water was used on each occasion. The sewers on the higher level where it is impossible to be reached by the Humber water, are flushed once a week in summer and fortnightly in winter.

Night Soil and Refuse collection.

During the year the Night Soil collection received the best attention of the collector. The collection of House Refuse was not so satisfactory, and I had on two or three occasions to complain to the Council, however new collectors have been appointed, and their duties will be more rigorously enforced.

Other Matters.

There are continually other small matters coming to the notice of the department, which do not come under any of the foregoing headings, but nevertheless secure the necessary and prompt attention. Dealing more particularly with matters on which the Local Government Board require information.

Physical Features and General Character of District.

Hessle may be described as the Western Residential Suburb of Hull, extending from East to West about two and a half miles at the broadest part, and about one and a half miles from South to North. Bounded on the South by the Humber, on the West by Ferriby and Swanland, on the North by Anlaby, and on the East by the Western Boundary of Hull, having an area of 2,111 acres, one third of this area is residential, and two thirds agricultural. The village of Hessle is about four miles from the

centre of the city of Hull, and a mile and a quarter from the city's western boundary. The population is estimated at 5,182. Its western extremity rests on a spur of the Yorkshire Wolds, which comes down to the Humber. The land to the East and North is alluvial clay, and entirely agricultural.

Chief Occupations of Inhabitants.

The occupation of the inhabitants is various, many being engaged in the city in commerce. There are two chalk quarries and whiting industries, two shipbuilding and engineering yards. The above quarries and ship yards employ about 100 hands. 6 brickyards also employ several hands, especially in the summer, the bulk of the inhabitants are however engaged in agriculture and gardening, also bricklayers, joiners and other ordinary small trading concerns.

House Accommodation.

The housing of the working classes is fairly satisfactory, but in the near future I have some suggestions to offer to the Council with a view to improvement, but the tendency seems to be that as superior houses for the working class are built, many of the cottages formerly occupied are now being made into lock-up shops.

During the last ten years hundreds of good houses have been built, ranging from £15 to £70 rental and these readily find tenants.

Water Supply.

The private water supply by pump is gradually being superseded by the supply of water from the Hull Corporation mains; all new houses are supplied from this source, which is derived from the chalk strata in the districts adjoining Hessle.

Milk Supply.

All milk consumed here is produced in Hessle. There are 21 cowkeepers, with about 160 cows. The sampling for analysis has been in the hands of the County Council. The result of analysis seems to have been fairly satisfactory as regards adulteration by water. This may be so and the milk still be below the standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture. The Council have appointed the Sanitary Inspector as Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act and I am anxious in the future to have a quantitative analysis.

Other Foods.

The only unsound food here is occasionally brought by hawkers from the adjoining city. This is well looked after and when found orders have been given for its destruction. This applies to fruit chiefly.

Most of the meat exposed for sale comes from the market at Hull, and is usually of the finest quality, but every attention is given to this matter.

The sanitary condition of slaughter-houses has been satisfactory except on very rare occasions I have had to interfere on account of want of cleanliness, irregular removal of manure and offal.

Drainage.

The drainage of the district has been greatly improved by the number of sewer ventilators erected during the past 3 years, and I propose that some others be erected during the current year. The sewers are constantly being flushed from the Humber and on the higher level with a solution of creosol, and this is being liberally supplied to the public in ever increasing quantities for putting down sinks, gullies, private drains and water closets, all tending to keep our sewers and private drains as wholesome as possible. The outfall of our main sewer discharges into the Humber about a mile from the village.

Sanitary conditions of Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools has improved year by year for the last ten years, and I may now say that I believe them to be equal to any in the County in this respect. The sanitary conveniences are quite up-to-date, the drainage is perfect. The inspection as to the healthy condition of the children is in the hands of a gentleman appointed by the East Riding County Council.

Night Soil disposal.

The night soil is collected by the Council and is usually disposed of to the farmers in the district and ploughed in, and when not immediately required for this purpose is placed in heaps a good distance from the village and from any highway.

Lodging Houses.

There are no lodging houses at Hessle,

House Refuse.

House refuse the same as night soil is collected by the Council weekly.

Methods regarding Infectious Disease.

This subject is fully explained in a former part of this report.

Tuberculosis.

No system for the compulsory notification of Tuberculosis, except in the case of paupers, is in operation. The application of the Council having been refused the action of the authority does not extend beyond advising precautionary measures, especially with regard to sputum and disinfection of premises.

Bovine Tuberculosis.

No case of Bovine Tuberculosis, Anthrax, Glanders, nor other diseases of animals communicable to man has to my knowledge occurred within the district, any such would receive prompt attention.

Nuisances Abatement.

It has not been necessary to take proceedings to obtain abatement of nuisances. I find the public ever ready to accede to any suggestion I may bring forward for the benefit of the health of the inhabitants and the sanitary condition of the district

JAMES MOLINEUX, M.D.

*Medical Officer of Health to the
Hessle Urban District Council.*

