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Contributors

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Urban Sanitary District of Chadderton.

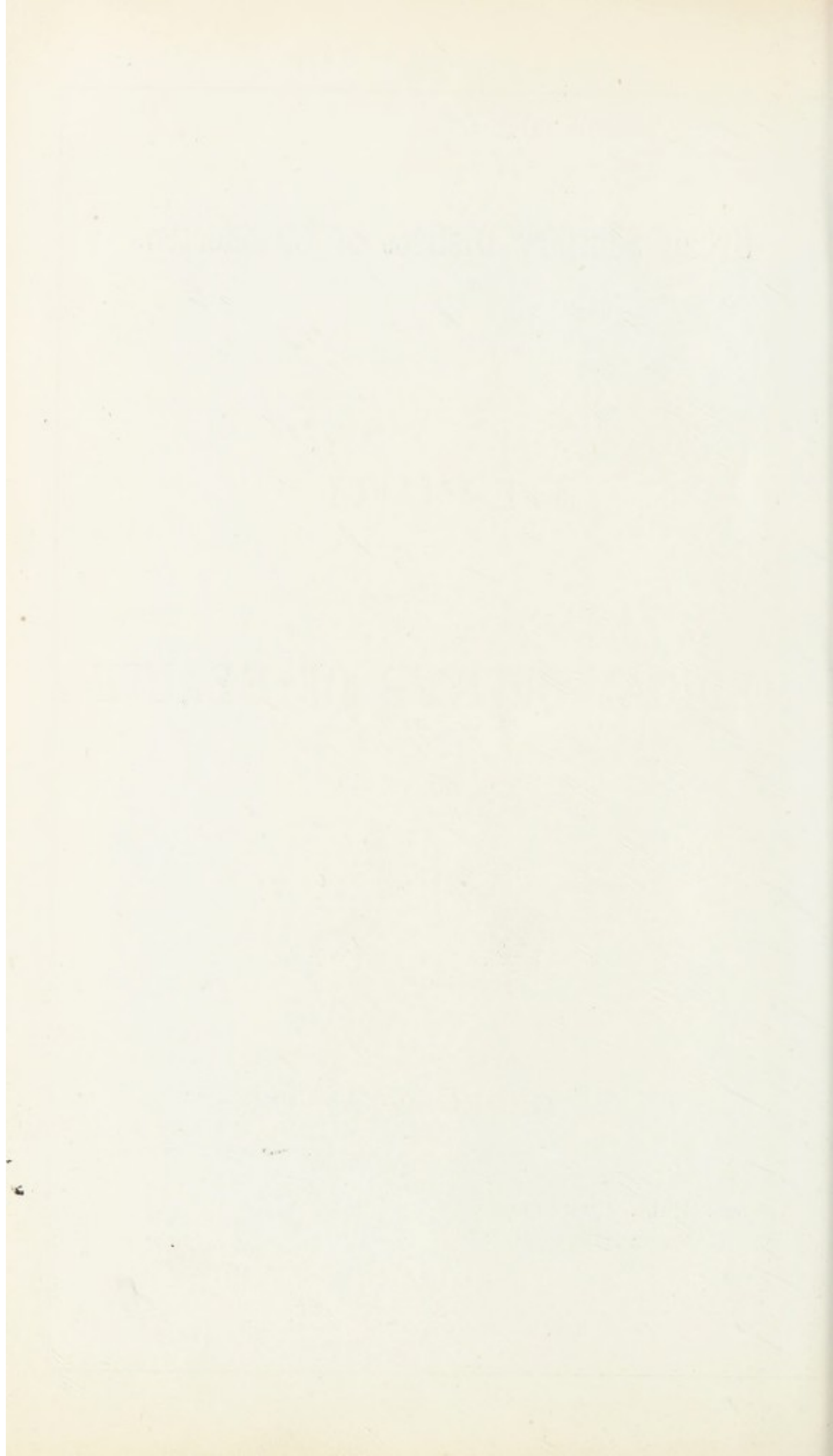
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

—❧— 1894 —❧—

GEORGE TAYLOR,

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

TOWN HALL, CHADDERTON,
MARCH, 1895.



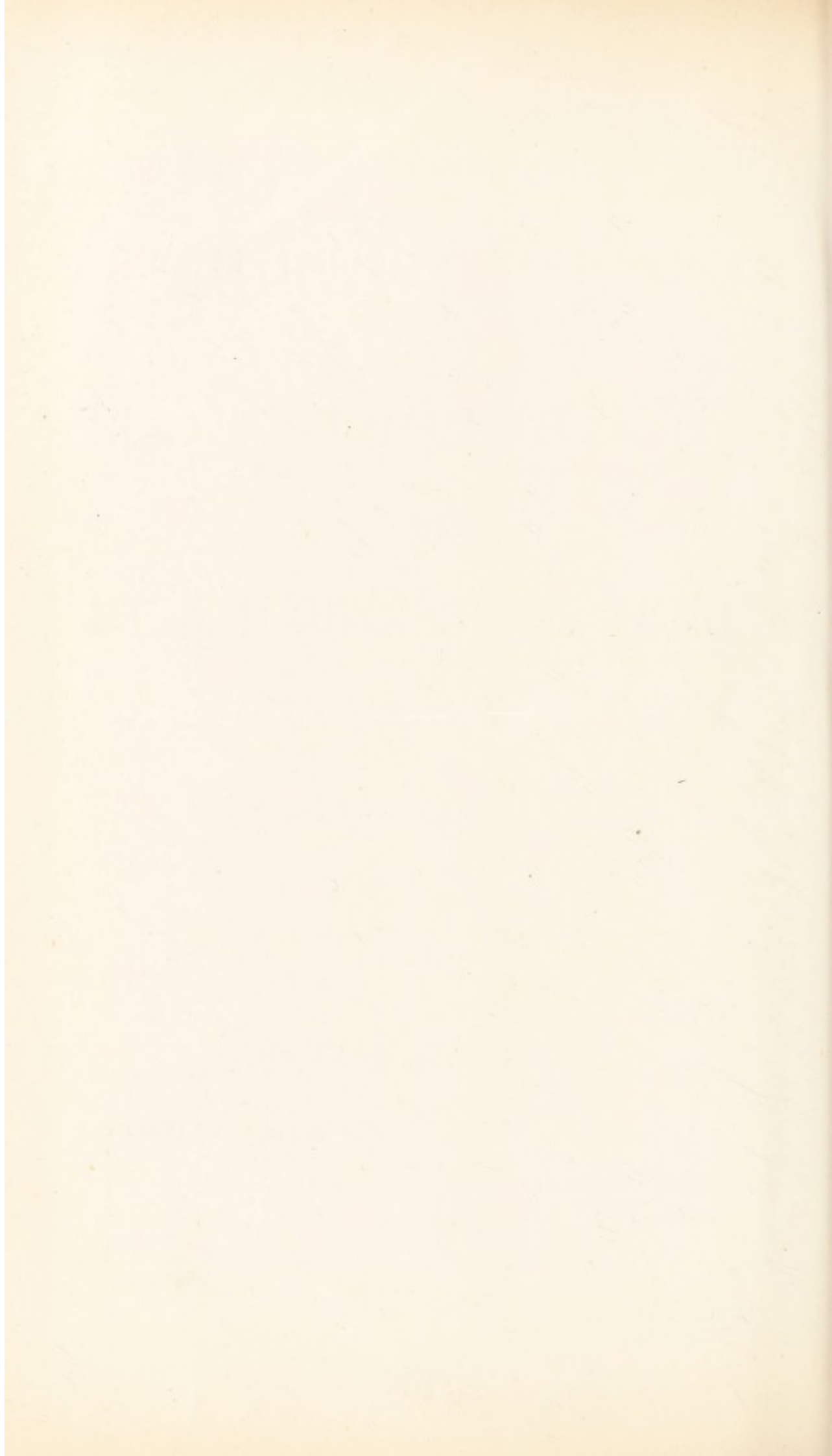
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MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Chadderton Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,—

During the year 1894, 432 deaths were registered in Chadderton, including 12 which occurred in the Cinder Hill Hospital of persons from other Townships. Fifteen persons belonging to Chadderton died in the Workhouse.

The corrected death rate is therefore 18·5 per 1,000 of a population estimated at 23,500.

The death rates for the preceding five years were:—18, 19·5, 20, 18·7, and 19.

Of the 432 deaths, 233 were males, 199 females.

The births during the year 1894 numbered 639, being less by 45 than during any of the preceding 11 years.

The birth rates for the preceding five years were respectively:—31·6, 30·3, 33, 31, and 29, as against 27·2 for 1894, showing a remarkably steady decrease during the last four years.

The birth rate for England and Wales is about 30·8.

The natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths was 219.

Of the 420 deaths,

105 occurred in infants under 1 year of age.

87 at ages over 1 year and under 5 years.

22 " 5 " " 15 "

20 " 15 " " 25 "

135 " 25 " " 65 "

51 at age of 65 and upwards.

The oldest person dying in the district was aged 91 years.

The *infantile mortality*—i.e., the number of deaths at ages below 1 year per 1,000 children born—was lower than usual, being 164, against an average of 180 for the last 10 years.

The deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases were as follows for the last five years:—

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Smallpox	0	0	6	17	0
Scarlet Fever	2	13	3	11	2
Diphtheria	0	4	3	2	2
Typhoid Fever... ..	2	4	2	2	5
Measles	12	14	8	9	19
Whooping Cough	10	5	15	8	14
Diarrhœa	10	7	12	16	4
Total... ..	36	47	49	65	46
Zymotic Death Rate ...	2·6	2·5	2·2	2·8	1·9

Twelve deaths from smallpox, in Cinder Hill Hospital, are not included in the foregoing table, as none of them were of natives of Chadderton.

The deaths from the most usual diseases, except zymotics, were as follows for the last five years:—

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Phthisis	34	28	35	29	40
Other Respiratory Diseases, (Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy)	123	90	128	87	90
Heart Disease	22	24	31	36	25

Influenza caused three deaths directly, but probably more than that indirectly.

Cancer was responsible for 12 deaths, and 20 persons died from injuries, including 11 cases of suicide—an unusually large number for Chadderton.

Cases of infectious diseases reported to Medical Officer:—

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Smallpox	1	0	58	171	14
Scarlet Fever	31	64	61	92	61
Diphtheria	3	7	8	5	4
Typhoid	4	7	8	7	25

No cases of smallpox have been reported since the middle of May, 1894.

Of the 61 cases of scarlet fever 33 were in Central, 20 in North, and 8 in South Ward.

Typhoid Fever has been unusually prevalent in the District in 1894. There were 25 cases of this disease (16 Central, 6 North, and 3 South Ward). Ten of the cases occurred in two

houses in Newton Street, Cowhill, and as the disease seemed likely to spread further the last 4 cases were removed to West-hulme Hospital, after which there was no further outbreak. The houses where Typhoid occurred were all visited and found to be free from any grave sanitary defects.

It is possible that the disturbance of old drains by the sewerage operations going on in Chadderton last year may to some extent account for the presence of so much typhoid.

A rather extensive epidemic of measles occurred in Chadderton in the months of August, September, and October, and it was found necessary to close the Board Schools at Middleton Junction and Mills Hill for several weeks.

The present method of dealing with infectious diseases in Chadderton is as follows:—Smallpox cases are removed to the New Hospital at Cinder Hill, which is reserved exclusively for that disease. Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid cases are treated at their own homes by isolation. The excreta of typhoid patients are collected separately, mixed with a disinfectant, and buried in the earth in cans.

A better method of disposal would be to burn them in a Destructor.

The Cinder Hill Hospital is now under the control of a Joint Board, formed by delegates from Chadderton, Royton, and Crompton.

It is now a question whether the Joint Board should provide us with accommodation for the other infectious diseases than Smallpox by building a new Hospital at a distance from Cinder Hill, or arrange terms with Oldham for the reception of such cases.

Owing to the action of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee, tanks are about to be erected at Slacks Valley for the treatment of sewage by the International System of Purification.

Public Baths were opened in Chadderton in December last.

The removal of nightsoil by night instead of by day would be an improvement which would give general satisfaction.

The dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops, which number 64, have been regularly visited by the Inspector, and the slaughter-houses, of which there are 12, have also been attended to, and are in good condition.

1,136 houses have been inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances, and 182 notices served to abate nuisances.

The house accommodation is, on the whole, good, and trapping and disconnection of slop drains are general. There are still a few back-to-back houses in the district.

In conclusion, I need do no more than refer to the great loss the Local Board sustained last June in the death of their late Medical Officer, Dr. Thomas Patterson, whose work in connection with all matters relating to the public health was of such a very determined and thorough character.

AREA AND POPULATION :—


Area in acres	3,082
Population, 1891	22,087

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

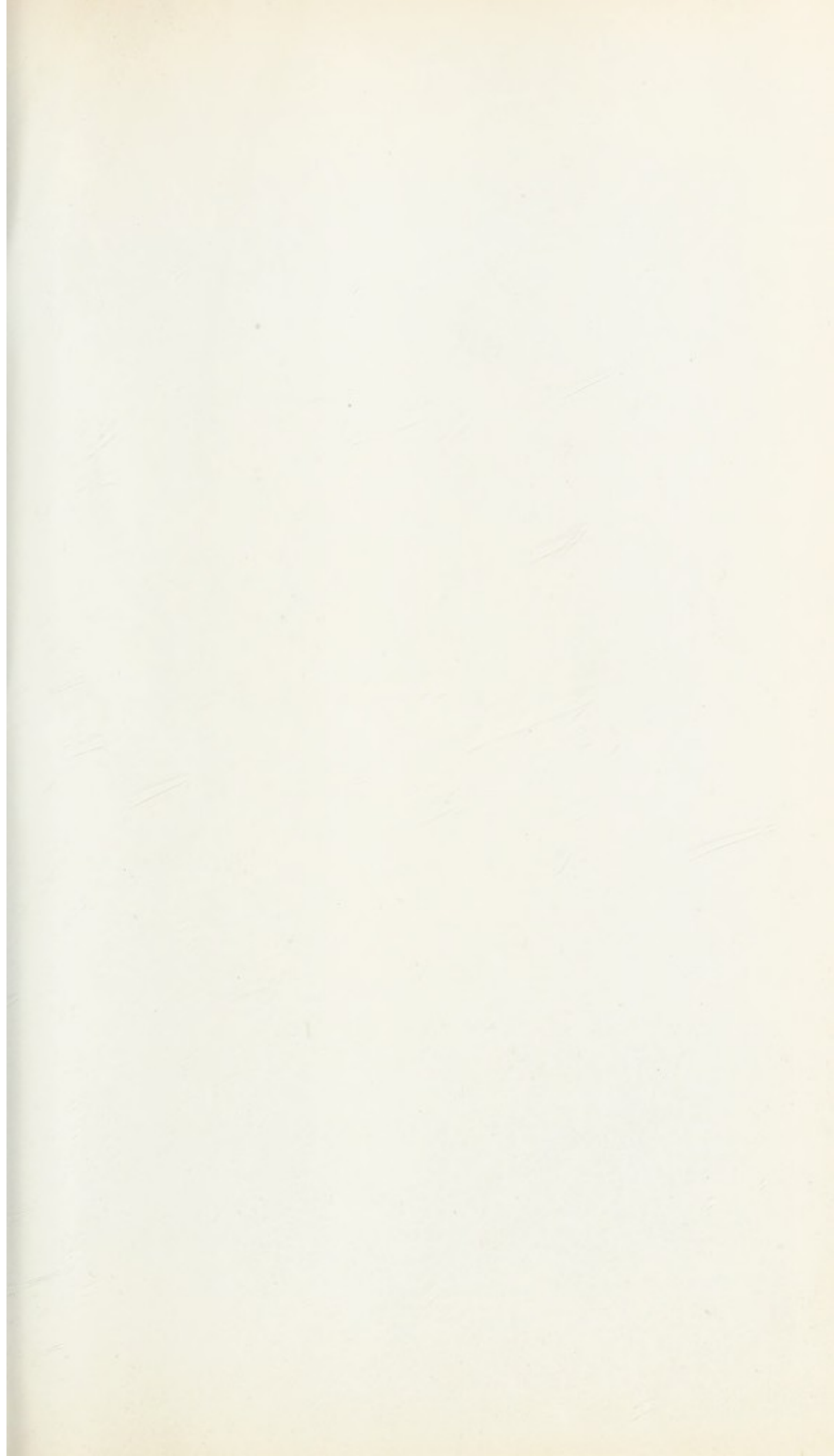
H. ASHTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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