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Contributors

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Chadderton Urban District Council.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1896

GEORGE TAYLOR,

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

TOWN HALL, CHADDERTON,
MARCH, 1897.

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CHADDERTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Area in statute acres	...	...	...	...	...	3,080
Population (Census) 1891	...	...	...	...	...	22,087
Population (estimated) 1896...	...	...	...	...	...	24,500
Births Registered	{		Males, 373	}	Total .	721
during 1896	{		Females, 348			
Deaths Registered	{		Males, 214	}	Total .	442
	{		Females, 228			
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	29.4
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	18.7
Infantile Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	165
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	2.1

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

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

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1896 442 deaths were registered in Chadderton—214 males and 228 females. Eighteen Chadderton persons died in the Oldham Union Workhouse.

The death rate (corrected) is 18·7 per thousand of the population, roughly estimated at 24,500.

The death rates for the preceding five years were 19·5, 20, 18·7, 19, 19·1.

The number of births registered in the year was—Boys, 373; girls, 348; total, 721. The birth rate equals 29·4 per 1,000 of the population.

The natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths was 262.

Of the 442 deaths, 119 occurred in children under 1 year of age.

The rate of infantile mortality—*i.e.*, the number of deaths at ages under 1 year per 1,000 children born, was 165, which is below the average for the last ten years, which was 179.

The following table gives the causes of deaths at all ages :—

Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	50
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	9
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	29
Other Scrofulous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	12
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	10
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	3
Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	101
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	38
Diseases of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	48
„ Digestive „	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ Urinary „	...	...	...	...	...	7
Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	7
All other diseases and old age	...	...	...	...	...	95
Deaths by violence	...	...	...	...	...	13
Total	...	...	...	...	...	<u>442</u>

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

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Smallpox	6	17	0	3	0
Scarlet Fever	3	11	2	1	11
Diphtheria	3	2	2	6	2
Typhoid Fever	2	2	5	1	0
Measles	8	9	19	6	11
Whooping Cough	15	8	14	12	19
Diarrhoea	12	16	4	13	9
Total	49	65	46	42	52
Zymotic Death Rate	2·2	2·8	1·9	1·7	2·1

NOTE.—One death from smallpox in Cinder Hill Hospital is not included, as it was not of a native of Chadderton.

REPORTS OF INFECTION.

The following table gives the infectious cases reported to the Medical Officer during the last five years:—

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Smallpox	58	171	14	13	2
Scarlet Fever	61	92	61	32	172
Diphtheria	8	5	4	15	21
Typhoid Fever	8	7	25	6	5
Total	135	275	104	66	200

The infectious cases were distributed as follows:—

	North Ward.	Central Ward.	South Ward.
Smallpox	2	...	...
Scarlet Fever	64	42	66
Diphtheria	10	11	...
Typhoid Fever	1	3	1

SCARLET FEVER was prevalent all through the year, but mostly so from May to December. The epidemic began first in South Ward, and spread through Central to North Ward. This disease is carried from child to child, oftenest being caught in school. Sometimes it has evidently been carried from house to house by children from infected houses playing with other children, or by the persons in attendance on the patient paying visits to neighbours' houses. The first of these two causes is not easy to avoid, as it would be unwise to confine the healthy children too much to the house, where they would be exposed to the risk of infection. They should, however, be instructed by the parents not to associate with other children.

The second cause can be avoided by the occupants of an infected house paying attention to the printed instructions supplied to them.

MEASLES was prevalent in the district during the summer months, and whooping cough caused the large number of 19 deaths.

I would impress on the Council the importance of making arrangements with some district possessing a Fever Hospital, by which suitable cases of fever occurring in this district could be removed to Hospital; the decision as to which are suitable cases to be left with the Medical Officer of Health. There are few townships now which have not some arrangement of this kind. It would not be necessary to remove all cases, but where there is a house full of children, removal of the first case might prevent the others from taking it. During 1896 there were 5 houses with 3 cases in each, and 11 with 2 in each. In one instance the disease broke out at a farm house, where there were living three families, with many children. By keeping the three children affected well isolated there were no more cases, but removal to Hospital would have been much better. In most of the cases where two or more had scarlet fever there was an interval of five to seven days between each outbreak, showing that the first case gave rise to the others, which might not have occurred if removal had been effected.

The two cases of smallpox were in Chadderton Fold, and here, as in other cases, prompt removal and re-vaccination of the rest of the family prevented any further spread.

There have been rather more cases of diphtheria in the Stockbrook district than in other parts, and I attribute this to defects of the drainage. The whole of the streets in that neighbourhood should be re-sewered and paved. The same remark applies also to Robinson Street and Fields New Road—at least with regard to paving.

I beg to remind the Council that there is a steam disinfecter at Cinder Hill which should be erected at once in some suitable building, as in case of another outbreak of smallpox we should be compelled again to ask the assistance of Oldham to disinfect clothing, &c. I hope the Council will urge the Joint Hospital Board to proceed without delay to finish the Hospital Buildings.

INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS.—The inspection of workshops now devolves on the District Council. Only one notice of a workshop was received from the Factory Inspector. I visited the place, and found it all right.

A number of visits to dairy farms and slaughter houses were made during the year, and many inspections of old property, &c., were made.

I am,

Yours obediently,

H. ASHTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,

Coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Urban Sanitary District of CHADDERTON, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.			Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital.	
	Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1896.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric or Typhoid.	FEVERS. Pneumoperal.		
Chadderton.....	22,087	24,500	373	348	721	{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards..	...	110	12	...	...	...	2
Cinder Hill Hospital..	...	...	...	...	...	{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
						{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards..	18	...	...	...	...	...	...
						{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards..	2	110	12	...	...	...	...
					Total		18	62	9	5	1		2

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1896, in the Urban Sanitary District of Chadderton,
Classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Localities.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.							Aged under 5 or over 5.	Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.														
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Puerperal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea & Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Influenza.	Phtisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	Total.
Chadderton..	441	119	77	26	17	141	62	{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards.	...	5	1	4	...	10	19	8	...	...	1	45	1	2	195
Cinder Hill Hospital...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards.	...	6	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	2	28	56	37	11	246
		...	...	...	...	...	...		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
		...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.....	442	119	77	26	17	141	62	{ Under 5 ... 5 upwards.	1	5	1	4	...	10	19	8	...	...	1	45	1	2	196
		...	...	...	...	...	...		...	6	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	2	28	56	37	11	246

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the dis- trict among per- sons belonging thereto.	{ 18	...	...	...	11	7	5 upwards.	...	In Oldham Union Workhouse.	
Deaths occurring within the dis- trict among per- sons not belong- ing thereto.	{ 1	...	1	...	...	...	Under 5	...	1	In Cinder Hill Hospital.





