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Contributors

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Calverley Urban District Council.

THE

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending DEC., 31st, 1908.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the village of Calverley for the year just terminated.

During the first six months of the year there was a good deal of sickness, amongst both the old people and the younger ones in about equal proportions, a good many deaths resulting therefrom, during the latter six months there has been a great amount of sickness, but chiefly amongst the young children. The Diphtheria outbreak occurring in October being responsible for this increase. Whooping Cough has been very prevalent and of a severe form, the schools being closed in consequence thereof.

Population—

The estimated population up to December 31st 1908 is 2787 or 8 more than at December 31st 1907.

Birth Rate—

During the year there have been 52 births registered, 30 Males and 22 Females, which give a birth rate of 18.7 per 1000 for the whole year.

Number of Births and Birth Rate since 1891—

1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903
60	55	54	65	59	46	69	47	55	51	43	47	46
23.7	21.5	20.8	24.8	22.2	17.1	25.4	17.1	21.2	19.1	16.02	17.0	17.3

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
46	54	53	51	52
16.9	19.6	19.3	18.3	18.7

Mortality—

There have been 50 deaths registered during the whole year, 25 Males and 25 Females, of these however 6 were non-residents of the village, so that excluding the 6 who were non-residents of the village, the death rate is 15.7 per 1000 and the average age at death is 43 years, the lowness of the average age is accounted for by the fact that there were 6 deaths of children under 1 year of age.

Death Rates and Number of Deaths since 1891—

1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903
14.2	16.0	13.1	14.1	14.3	13.8	14.0	14.9	10.4	17.6	10.7	8.8	10.6
39	41	44	44	38	37	42	57	38	52	40	33	36

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
13.3	11.1	9.7	12.3	15.7
41	32	27	35	44

Averages Ages at Death since 1902—

1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
50.4 Years.	42.3	47.6	49.1	44.8	55.6	43.3

Ages at Death—

Up to 2 Years	2 to 10	10 to 20	20 to 30	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80
11	3	2	4	6	5	9
		80 to 90	Over 90			
		3	1			

Causes of Death—

Apoplexy	Phthisis	Pneumonia	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Bronchitis	Croup	Senile Decay	Cardiac Disease
2	5	4	3	4	3	2	7	6
Found Drowned	Cancer of Ovary	Premature Birth	Disease of Kidneys	Cancer of Liver	Ex ophthalmic Goitre and Cardiac Disease	Diabetes	Diarrhoea	Tubercular Peritonitis
2	1	2	1	1	1	1	4	1

There were 5 inquests and 1 postmortem held during the year.

Infantile Mortality—

There were 7 cases of Infantile Mortality which give us an Infantile Mortality Rate of 134.6 per 1000 births.

Infantile Mortality Rate since 1902—

1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
63.7	108.6	0	55.5	75.4	58.6	134.6

Zymotic Diseases—

The year just passed has been a very bad one as regards Zymotic Diseases, there being 18 cases of Diphtheria, 1 of Typhoid Fever, 21 of Scarlet Fever, and 4 of Erysipelas. There were 3 deaths from Diphtheria.

I gave you a full report on the outbreak of Diphtheria in November, there has not been another case since Oct. 21st. The children's throats at the Council Schools were swabbed and the swabs examined, out of 13 swabs taken 2 cases showed the Diphtheria bacilli, one where there had been Diphtheria in the family, but the other case had not been in contact with the disease at all, as far as could be ascertained, these two cases were kept under observation and though the germs were present in the throat for over a fortnight, still there was not the slightest sign of the child being poorly and no membrane appeared, showing as I told you, in my special report, that the disease may be carried about by people, who do not show any signs thereof, who have not had the disease and perhaps never develop it themselves, but who are able to transfer it to others.

The last case of Scarlet Fever occurred on December 6th, and the last case of Erysipelas on December 17th. The Council School was closed for 2 weeks on account of Diphtheria and both schools were closed for a week on account of Whooping Cough.

Table of Zymotic Diseases occurring since 1902.

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
SCARLET FEVER	20	7	15	25	21	2	21
TYPHOID	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
ERYSIPELAS	1	3	2	2	4	5	4
DIPHThERIA	5	0	0	2	0	0	18
TOTAL ...	27	10	17	30	25	7	44

Table of Zymotic Diseases admitted to the Calverley Hospital during 1908.

	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Admitted	Discharged	Died
PUDSEY	23	1	1	25	24	1
CALVERLEY	14	0	16	30	26	3
FARSLEY	1	2	0	3	2	1
IDLE	11	0	0	11	10	1
ECCLESHILL	24	0	6	30	25	1
TOTAL ...	73	3	23	99	87	7

Nuisances,—

I have had three reported to me, all of which have been rectified.

Cow Sheds,
Slaughter
Houses, Bake-
Houses, Mills
& Workshops—

I have visited all these from time to time and always found them clean, healthy, well lighted and ventilated and complying with the regulations.

Ashpits & Privies—

The Scavenging Department does its work efficiently and regularly.

Improvements during 1908—

The following works have been carried out during 1908. 28 Houses on the Oaklands Estate have been built, all with baths and water closets, 3 Houses, 2 Shops in Woodhall Rd. also having baths and water closets, 3 Houses altered in Long St. baths and water closets added to them.

A new Post Office and House in Back Lane, containing a bath and water closet.

Rebuilding of Privy and Ashpit at Carr Houses, altering Privies and Ashpits into water closets and dry ashpits in Thornhill St.

Additional Water Closet at the Mechanics Institute.

Surface Water Drain laid in the "Orchard" and Surface Water Grates in Towngate connected thereto instead of to the sewer.

Sewer Ventilation erected in Back Thornhill St., 800 yards of 12 inch outfall sewer laid at Rodley with necessary Manholes.

Road Improvements in Woodhall Rd., West End Rd., Ashphalting Paths in the Park, Victoria St., and Farsley Lane.

Gentlemen, I deeply regret that I have such a poor report to present to you this time, it has been indeed a bad year for Calverley from a Medical Officer's point of view. We have had more deaths this year than usual, the average at death has been less, the Infantile Mortality higher. The birth rate almost as usual and the Zymotic Diseases greatly increased. However we must look forward to a better year and console ourselves with the fact that all is done to prevent disease as far as it is possible.

Gentlemen, I beg to remain,

SHAFTESBURY HOUSE,
CALVERLEY.

Your Obedient Servant,

NORMAN A. A. HUGHES,

Jan., 27th, 09.

Medical Officer of Health.

