[Report 1909] / Medical Officer of Health, Melton Mowbray R.D.C.

Contributors

Melton Mowbray (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1909

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/xcqeenqy

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



THE ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1909

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

Rural District Council of Melton Mowbray.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

The statistics for 1909 show that, in spite of a considerable amount of sickness of a varying character, and the prevalence of infectious diseases, there has not been any increase of mortality.

Table 1. The population estimated to the middle of the year is 16005, and the average population of the past ten years 15752.

The Births were 355, including 175 boys and 180 girls. The birth-rate was 22.17 per 1000 of population, against an average of 21.7 for the previous ten years.

The number of deaths registered as occurring in the District were 186, and caused a death-rate of 11.6 per 1000 of population, against an average death-rate of 13.0 per 1000 for the past ten years. In addition 18 deaths of Residents of your district occurred in the Workhouse, Isolation Hospital, Leicester Infirmary, and the County Lunatic Asylum. These bring the total number of deaths up to 204 and therefore the corrected death-rate is 12.7 per 1000.

A comparison of the deaths occurring at various age-periods is interesting. Thus 27 infants died before attaining the age of one year. The number being equal to 76 per 1000 of children born during the year. This compares very favourably with the numbers for previous years, for in 1899 the death-rate of infants was equal to 122.6 per 1000, and the average for the past ten years is 95 per 1000.

On the other hand 86 persons who died had attained the age of 65 years and over, and a considerable proportion of the latter a much more advanced age. In the active period of life, 25 to 65 years of age, extending over forty years, there were only 58 deaths from all causes.

[2] TABLE II.

YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	<i>b</i> .	c.	d.
1899	14962	383	223	47
1900	14705	393	230 .	31
1901	14865	388	198	31
1902	15065	388	188	36
1903	15141	852	192	38
1904	15279	355	212	42
1905	15426	338	201	30
1906	15546	387	222	41
1907 1908	15695	346 337	210 184	34 27
Average of Years 1899 to 1908.	15752	365	206	35
	The state of the state of	100000000000000000000000000000000000000		BREE BEE
1909	16005	355	186	27

THE CAUSES OF DEATH .- Tables IV and V.

The deaths of the 27 infants under one year were due to the following causes: premature birth 6, congenital defects 1, want of breast-milk (inanition,) 2, atrophy 2, gastro-enteritis 2, meningitis 2, convulsions 3, Bronchitis 2, Laryngitis 1, Pneumonia 2, Influenza 3. Deaths of legitimate infants 24, illegitimate 3.

Age period 1 to 5 years, deaths 9; causes: Diphtheria 1,

Influenza I, Enteritis 2, Bronchitis I, other causes 4.

5 to 15 years, deaths 3; causes: Diphtheria, Influenza, and others.

15 to 25 years, deaths 3; causes: Childbirth, Heart disease,

killed by a train.

25 to 65 years, deaths 58; causes: Influenza 2, Phthisis or Pulmonary Tuberculosis 7, other forms of Tuberculosis 1, Cancer 6, Bronchitis 2, Pneumonia 5, Alcoholism 1, Heart disease 13, kicked by a horse 1, Suicide by drowning 1, all other causes 19.

65 years and over, deaths 86; causes: Influenza 3, Bronchitis 9, Pneumonia 9, Cancer 5, Heart disease 16, Accident 1, Old age and other causes 43.

The total number of deaths from various diseases which should

be specially noted are as follows:-

Diphtheria 5 (treated at home 2, in hospital 3) out of 35 cases notified; Scarlet fever none, Influenza 9, other infectious diseases none. Enteritis 2, Gastritis 2, Consumption of lungs, &c. 9, Cancer 11, Bronchitis 14, Pneumonia 16, Alcoholism 1, Premature birth 6, died in Childbirth 1, Heart disease 30, Accident 3, Suicide 1, all other causes 79.

Inquests, nine deaths. The verdict in each case was as follows: Death due to accident by falling, being kicked by a horse, accidentally knocked down by a train, suicide by drowning, spasm of vocal cords, Heart disease, Syncope, Homorrhage on brain, Heart failure. There was also one other uncertified death-an infant who

died from convulsions.

THE OUTBREAKS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The first half of the year was marked by very few outbreaks of disease, with the exception of the occurrence of Diphtheria at Nether Broughton and Scarlet Fever at Waltham.

THE CASES NOTIFIED ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE. TABLE 3.

		AT AGES.			YEA	RS.		
Disease.	At all	Under	. 1	5	15	25	65 and	Removed to
	ages.	1 year.	to 5	to 15	to 25	to 65	over.	Hospital.
Diphtherea	35	_	9	18	1	7	-	19
Erysipelas	11	_	-	-		. 7	4	_
Scarlet Fever	72	2	12	50	- 7	1		33
Enteric Fever	2	-		-	1	- 1		1
Chicken Pox	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	122	2	23	68	9	16	4	53.
DIPUTU	EDIA	The ar	295 02	Were	dietr	ibuted	ac follo	TITC .

Asfordby, January, February, May, December.	10
Nether Broughton, Jan. to Feb. (10), Oct. to Nov. (7)	17
Rotherby, January.	1
Kirby Bellars, January.	1
Long Clawson, March.	1
Harby, March.	1
Welby, May to July.	2
Holwell, June.	1
Old Dalby, July	1

The most serious attack occurred at Nether Broughton. This consisted of two outbreaks, January to February and October to November. It was difficult to assign a cause. But the outbreak appeared to be associated with the use of tub-closet manure from Nottingham. During the previous year several farmers imported a considerable quantity of such refuse, which was accumulated upon

the land until a convenient time for its distribution. In September of that year one of these farmers had an outbreak of Anthrax among his cattle and pigs. About the same time sore throats were prevalent among his farm servants and others who had been associated with the place. The water supply of one of the farms was temporarily polluted by the above-mentioned refuse, and was thought to be the cause of the illness. In January the throats of some children, in the group of houses connected with these farms, had the appearance of scars upon the tonsils, as though they had recently suffered from Diphtheria. These and other cases were unnotified. It is however significant that the first notified cases where children who had been in the habit of visiting these houses, which consequently were held to be the point of outbreak of the Diphtheria. Later in the year, when the second outbreak occurred, complaints were made to me about the pollution of the Smite, a stream of water running through the valley, which is crossed by the children when going to and from school. appeared to be polluted from similar causes to those mentioned above, and it was urged that the Diphtheria arose in consequence of this pollution and effluvia arising from it.

The occurrence of Diphtheria at Asfordby is usual. Year by year these outbreaks are recorded, and they are attributed to causes which have been discussed in many reports. The last year was no exception to the rule.

The remaining were isolated cases, and fortunately of little fmportance.

SCARLET FEVER .- The 72 cases were distributed as follows :

Asfordby, February, March, July (1 each	h). Ser	tember (5)	Oct (2	I) Nov /	7) 96
Kirby Bellars, October	-/,E			586	3.
Waltham, January to June					9.
Thorpe Arnold, August to December				***	8.
Long Clawson, November to Decembe	r			***	4.
Brentingby cum Wyfordby, October to	Dece	mber			4
Scalford (1), Sysonby (2), Welby (1),	Old D	alby (1).	Twyford	(1)	-
Buckminster (1), Nether Bro	ughton	(1).	j 101d	1-7.	8
	0	1-/)	***	**	U.

The most important outbreak of Scarlet Fever was that at Asfordby, the total for the whole year being 36, of which 18 were treated in the Isolation Hospital. There was only an odd case of Scarlet Fever in this parish now and then up to September; but there were rumours of children having had sore throats, for which they were not medically attended. Up to and including October 19th fourteen cases were notified. On this date Dr. Robinson and I went through the school and picked out of one Department a dozen children who were suspected to have had Scarlet Fever in a mild

form, and were still attending the school, Out of this number four children were sent home as being decidedly infectious. Two other children, afterwards seen by me on the same day were very decidedly infectious and one of these had been sent away from school by the Head Teacher. According to the popular account these children had been allowed to go about the village streets, and it is probable that these and the other unnotified cases had been the means of spreading the disease.

An outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred at Waltham in the early part of the year, there being nine cases, five of which were treated in the Hospital.

The outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Thorpe Arnold began in August, when a girl who had been in service returned home with evidences of Scarlet Fever, and was removed to the Hospital. This however was not done sufficiently early to prevent the infection spreading to other members of her family. It was also alleged that her mother did not exercise reasonable care to prevent the disease spreading to other people. The children were allowed to go to school and into the village. In consequence of this carelessness the disease spread to some other families in the parish, and some children from Melton, who attended the same school, contracted the disease and took it to Melton. It is not clear how the first case arose; it was said to be contracted in Hoby, but no evidence of this was found, and the last notified case in Hoby occurred in 1907.

The remaining cases of Scarlet Fever occurred chiefly in the Autumn in the villages named above.

Measles was prevalent in many villages in the Spring, but, particularly at Frisby, Twyford, and Burrough-on-the-Hill.

Mumps was prevalent at Asfordby in September.

CHICKEN Pox.—A few cases only came to my knowledge, especially at Buckminster.

THE MEANS TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES consisted in the isolation of the infected persons (as far as possible) in their own home or in the Hospital; the disinfection of the infected houses by formalin; the disinfection of clothing; the cleaning of infected rooms; the closing of schools when necessary; the dissemination of leaflets; and general attention to the sanitary conditions of the district.

CASES TREATED IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL IN 1909.

PARISH.		DIPHTHERIA.	SCARLET FEVER.	TYPHOID FEVER.	RECOV-	DIED.	TOTAL.
Asfordby		10	18		27	1	28
Brentingby			1			1	1
Nether Brough	nton	1			1		.1
Dalby-super-V		1			1		1
Frisby				1	1		1
Harby		1			1		1
Holwell		1			1		1
Kirby Bellors		1			1		1
Rotherby		1			1		1
Scalford		; 1			1		1
Sproxton		1				1	1
Sysonby			1		1		1
Thorpe Arnold	1		4		4		4
Twyford .			1		1		1
Waltham		. 5			5		
Welby		1			1		11
Total		19	33	1	50	3 °	58
In the Hospital I	Dec.	31, 3	5				8

Owing to the prevalence of infectious diseases the following schools were closed for the period stated, with the object of checking the spread of infection among the school children.

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

PARISH	DATE	DISEASE MOST PREVALENT.
Waltham	January, let to 11th.	Scarlet Fever.
Frisby	April 3rd to May 10th.	Measles.
Twyford	May 18th to June 23rd.	,,
Burrough-on-the-Hill	July 2nd to 19th.	,,
Thorpe Arnold	. Aug. 30th to Sept. 6th,	
	Nov. 15th, to Dec 31st.	Scarlet Fever.
Asfordby	Sept. 4th to 6th,	Mumps.
	Nov. 2nd to Dec. 6th	Scarlet Fever.

THE SANITARY WORK.

The work of inspection has been carried out as usual. All the villages which have a school were visited by myself, some of them two or three times, besides many of the villages wherein no school is. In consequence of these inspections a number of nuisances were abated, drains laid or repaired, water courses and sewage-tanks cleaned out and various insanitary conditions removed.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT includes:— Premises, and houses inspected 850, nuisances abated 90, pools, ditches, water-courses inspected 70, nuisances abated 50, privies, ash-pits, &c., inspected, 250, nuisances abated 50, drains, drain-traps, &c.,

inspected 130, nuisances abated 30, overcrowded houses, inspected 4, nuisances abated 4, offensive accumulations &c., inspected 25, removed 25.

Slaughter-houses, registered 50; inspected 40 Dairymen and cow-keepers in the district 406, registered 207, premises inspected, 350.

Houses disinfected 79, schools disinfected 2, disinfectant used, Formalin. Lots of clothing disinfected, 79, destroyed 1.

Privy middens, new provided 8, repaired 12, converted to pails 20, converted to W. C's. 1, pail closet provided 1, water closets provided 4, ash-bins provided 5.

Water: samples analysed 4, condemmed 2, wells cleaned 4, public water supply substituted for well, 2, water pipe disconnected from drain, 2.

New drains laid in 1909: Barsby 250 yards, Old Dalby 722 yards, Goadby Marwood 320 yards, Stathern, 270 yards, Harby 40 yards, Nether Broughton 100 yards, Sproxton 120 yards, Scalford 35 yards, Stonesby 30 yards, Somerby 220 yards.

Plans of new building, passed by Council 62.

THE FACTORIBS AND WORKSHOPS ACT:—The total number of registered workshops in your district is 40, including 8 workshops and 32 bakehouses. The number of outworkers is 250, occupied in the mending of lace and finishing of nets. Their 200 tenements formed part of the houses inspected during the year. Five of these houses became infected with various diseases, but the work was stopped until after the patient was recovered and the house disinfected.

Appended is the Meteorological Report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,
WILLIAM TIBBLES,
Medical Officer of Health.

February 1st, 1910, 4, The Ropewalk, Nottingham. 

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1909. By Jo

BAROMETER REDUCED						
Mean of Month.	Highest Inches.	DATE.		Date.	9 a.m.	Max.
JANUARY30.116	30.629	4th	29.262	15th	35.00	36.10
FEBRUARY30.018	30.480	13th	29.385	10th	34.20	43.50
MARCH 29.253	29.804	11th	29.060	7th	37.00	43.30
APRIL29.933	30.450	2nd	29.469	24th	50.30	58.40
MAY30.083	30.355	4th	29.440	26th	57.10	65,80
JUNE 29.895	30.298	18th	29.268	22nd	55.30	62.30
JULY 29.840	30.313	2nd	29.463	26th	60.4°	70.20
AUGUST29.932	30.222	11th	29.376	18th	64.40	72.80
SEPTEMBER 29.989	30.399	15th	29.502	7th	54.50	60.00
OCTOBER 29.868	30.229	9th	29.305	5th	49.90	56.40
NOVEMBER 30.032	30.321	8th	29.197	30th	38.70	45.20
DECEMBER29.639	30.452	15th	28.582	3rd	37.20	42.20

IBBLES, M.R.C.S. Eng., F.R. Met. Soc., Melton Mowbray.

EMPERATURE. ter in Stevenson's Screen.)						Cloud at a.m.		RAINFALL.		
			EXTR	EMES.		n Cloud	Fall in inches.	No of Days on	Greatest fall and date.	
ige.	Mean.	Max.	Date.	Min.	Date.	Mean 9		which rain fell.	Inches.	
10	32.40	480	2nd	90	28th	7.2	1.06	12	0.28 on 7th	
10	35.40	540	4th	170	23rd	7.2	0.64	7	0 25 on 10th	
10	36.20	580	29th	50	5th	7.4	3.73	20	1.11 on 6th.	
00	44.90	690	9th	250	2nd	5.6	1.10	9	0.43 on 19th	
30	53.1°	810	21st	280	19th	5.4	1.27	11	0.35 on 24th	
70	65.40	700	29th	370	13th	8.1	2,59	13	0.65 on 24th	
70	61.80	730	9th	410	2nd	7.8	4.08	16	1.00 on 27th	
90	61.80	850	12th	380	28th	6.2	2.85	10	1.38 on 17th	
20	55.90	660	24th	380	21st	7.2	2.90	18	0.60 on 23rd	
.10	49.80	660	4th	240	31st	7.6	2.87	21	0.45 on 23rd	
.70	38.30	560	4th	240	9th	5.4	0.54	13	0.11 on 29th	
.00	36.20	520	27th	120	21st	7.3	4.74	22	1.07 on 21st	

Total Rainfall in inches, 28.37 on 172 days.

