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Contributors

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To the Sanitary Committee of the Urban District Council of
Milnrow.

Gentlemen,

In presenting to you my fifth
Annual report I regret to state that it is not so satisfactory
as some of the others have been.

The death rate for 1904 is 19'08 which is considerably
above the average for the last 10 years and the highest we
have had for four years. The chief causes of the increase are
Measles, Whooping Cough, Phthisis, and Lung diseases. On the
other hand it is satisfactory to note that there has not been
a single death from fever during 1904. The death rates from
Zymotic diseases, Phthisis, and diseases of the respiratory
organs and also the infantile death rate are all higher than
last year while the birth rate is lower.

Birth
rate.

During 1904, 181 births were registered 90 being males and
91 females, as against 189 last year.

The birth rate for 1904 was 21'54

: : 1903 was 22'77.

The average for the last 10 years was 21'64.

Death
rate.

During 1904 there were 160 deaths with a death rate of 19'08.

: 1903 : 115 : 13'85.

The average for the last 10 years was 184 deaths with a death
rate of 16'34.

Zymotic
death rate.

There were 50 cases of infectious diseases notified

during the year as against 58 in 1903 and 45 in 1902.

The diseases and the deaths resulting therefrom were as follows

Smallpox 1 case 0 death

Diphtheria 13 cases 4 deaths

Erysipelas 14 : 1 :

Scarlet
fever. 14 : 0 :

Milrow.

Gentlemen,

In presenting to you my fifth Annual report I regret to state that it is not so satisfactory as some of the others have been.

The death rate for 1904 is 19.08 which is considerably above the average for the last 10 years and the highest we have had for four years. The chief causes of the increase are Measles, Whooping Cough, Phthisis, and lung diseases. On the other hand it is satisfactory to note that there has not been a single death from fever during 1904. The death rates from Typhoid diseases, Phthisis, and diseases of the respiratory organs and also the infantile death rate are all higher than last year while the other rate is lower.

Birth rate.

During 1904, 181 births were registered 80 being males and

91 females, as against 188 last year.

The birth rate for 1904 was 21.54

1903 was 22.77.

The average for the last 10 years was 21.64.

Death rate.

During 1904 there were 160 deaths with a death rate of 19.08.

The death rate for 1903 was 19.88.

The average for the last 10 years was 18.4 deaths with a death

rate of 18.44.

While these figures are not particularly high, they are

death rate. There were 80 cases of infectious diseases notified

during the year as against 86 in 1903 and 48 in 1902.

The diseases and the death resulting therefrom were as follows

Smallpox 1 case 0 death

Diphtheria 13 cases 4 deaths

Scarlet fever 14 cases 1 death

Measles 14 cases 0 death

Whooping cough 14 cases 0 death

Enteric
fever. 7 cases 0 deaths.

Puerperal
fever. I case I death.

Measles caused 7 deaths and Whooping Cough 6.

The Zymotic death rate was 2'47 in 1904 and 1'08 in 1903.

The increase being due to the deaths from Measles, Whooping cough, and Diphtheria. It is to be noted that of the 17 deaths due to these diseases 15 were in children under 5 years old and only 2 in those over 5 years. The infant department of one school was closed on account of Measles and it is to be feared that the schools are the great cause of the spread of these diseases. From a hygienic point of view it seems to be a mistake to send children to school so early as is at present the case. It is highly probable that if the minimum age were raised the children would gain in health, physique and stamina and would be quite as good from an educational stand point. I am glad to be able to report that there has been no death in the district from Scarlet fever for 2 years nor one from Enteric fever for 4 years. The case of Smallpox was removed to the Oldham Smallpox hospital and by vaccination and disinfection the outbreak was confined to one house.

Phthisis. Phthisis caused 13 deaths this year and 10 in 1903.

Tubercular diseases other than Phthisis caused 11 deaths.

The Phthisis death rate is 2'82 which is far higher than it ought to be and I must again call the attention of the public to the dangerous habit of spitting in Mills, Workshops, and in public places especially on the part of those suffering from Phthisis.

General diseases. Cancer caused 7 deaths in 1904 and 6 in 1903.

Bronchitis	:	22	:	:	16	:
Pneumonia	:	11	:	:	7	:
Heart disease	:	11	:	:	7	:
Accidents	:	6	:	:	2	:
General diseases		50	:	:	37	:

Enteric
fever.

7 cases 0 deaths.

Paratyphoid
fever.

1 case 1 death.

Malaria caused 7 deaths and Whooping Cough 6.

The typhoid death rate was 2.47 in 1904 and 1.08 in 1905.

The increase being due to the deaths from Malaria, Whooping

cough, and Diphtheria. It is to be noted that of the 14 deaths

due to these diseases 15 were in children under 5 years old

and only 2 in those over 5 years. The infant department of one

school was closed on account of Malaria and it is to be feared

that the schools are the great cause of the spread of these

diseases. From a hygienic point of view it seems to be a mistake

to send children to school so early as is at present the case.

It is highly probable that if the minimum age were raised the

children would gain in health, physique and stamina and would be

quite as good from an educational stand point. I am glad to be

able to report that there has been no death in the district

from Scarlet fever for 2 years nor one from Enteric fever for

4 years. The case of smallpox was removed to the Oldham Asylum

for hospital and by vaccination and disinfection the outbreak

was confined to one house.

Small children are generally breast fed which the doctors

are not often willing to give.

Phthisis. Phthisis caused 15 deaths this year and 10 in 1905.

Tubercular diseases other than Phthisis caused 11 deaths.

The Phthisis death rate is 2.82 which is far higher than it

ought to be and I must again call the attention of the public

to the dangerous habit of spitting in Mills, Workshops, and in

public places especially on the part of those suffering from

Phthisis.

The view of the doctor in this matter, the census population

was 421 in 1901 while the estimated population for 1904 is

General diseases. Cancer caused 7 deaths in 1904 and 2 in 1905.

Bronchitis 18

Pneumonia 11

Heart disease 11

Accidents 6

General diseases 50

The death rate from diseases of the respiratory organs was 3'88 this year and 2'77 in 1903. This increase has been a great factor in raising the death rate this year and may be put down to the severe weather in the early part of the year and the fog at the end.

Infantile

death rate. The number of deaths under one year of age per 1000 births was 172 which was 40 more than last years rate and 31 more than the average for the last ten years. The increase this year is due to a greater number of deaths from Measles, Whooping-Cough, diarrhoea and Lung diseases. This infantile death rate is not only higher than usual but it is far higher than it ought to be or than it would be if children were properly fed. During the seige of Paris and also during the great cotton famine in Lancashire while the general death rate was raised the infantile death rate was much reduced because in each case mothers were forced to give their infant the breast as they could not get cows milk. At the present time the infantile death rate among the Jews in our large towns is much below the general infantile death rate in the same towns, because the Jewish children are generally breast fed whilst the Gentiles are too often bottle fed. It is a great mistake to give young infants starchy food at too early an age as this is the cause of many deaths and much disease, and checks the growth and development of the child. It is to be feared that a serious check of this kind in early life is never completely got over but that the physique and stamina are permanently effected.

Public Works

The area of the District is 5183 acres, the census population was 8241 in 1901 while the estimated population for 1904 is 8400. During the year a few more drains have been connected up to the main sewer. This work is now all but entirely completed and practically the whole of the district is efficiently sewered. The sewers are flushed at regular monthly intervals and the streets are regularly scavenged by the councils men.

The death rate from diseases of the respiratory organs was 8.88 this year and 8.77 in 1908. This increase has been a great factor in raising the death rate this year and may be put down to the severe weather in the early part of the year and the fog at the end.

Infantile death rate.

The number of deaths under one year of age per 1000 births was 178 which was 40 more than last year's rate and 51 more than the average for the last ten years. The increase this year is due to a greater number of deaths from measles, whooping-cough, diarrhoea and lung diseases. This infantile death rate is not only higher than usual but is far higher than is ought to be or than it would be if children were properly fed. During the sale of Paris and also during the great cotton famine in Lancashire while the general death rate was raised the infantile death rate was much reduced because in each case mothers were forced to give their infant the breast as they could not get cow milk. At the present time the infantile death rate among the Jews in our large towns is much below the general infantile death rate in the same towns, because the Jewish children are generally breast fed while the Gentiles are too often bottle fed. It is a great mistake to give young infants starchy food so too early as this is the cause of many deaths and much disease, and checks the growth and development of the child. It is to be feared that a serious check of this kind in early life is never completely got over but that the physique and stamina are permanently affected.

Refuse disposal

The area of the district is 5185 acres, the census population was 8241 in 1901 while the estimated population for 1904 is 8400. During the year a few more drains have been connected up to the main sewer. This work is now all but entirely completed and practically the whole of the district is efficiently served. The sewers are cleaned at regular monthly intervals and the refuse is regularly scavenged by the council's men.

During the past year two large filters have been constructed at the Sewage works. One is completed and the other is being filled with clinker, when both are in working order the effluents from the works which have been fair during the alterations, will it is to be hoped give no cause for complaints.

There are now over 1000 closet pails in use in the populous parts of the district. These are emptied regularly by the councils men and the excreta disposed of to the farmers.

The water supply of the district, which is obtained from the Corporations of Rochdale and Oldham and from springs have been generally satisfactory. Slaughter-houses, tripe boiling places, dairies and cowsheds have been inspected and their cleanliness white-washing &c has been generally satisfactory.

During the year the Inspector has taken 37 Smoke observations and has issued 5 legal notices in cases where the limit of 8 minutes per hour of black smoke has been exceeded.

The construction of the Joint hospital for infectious diseases has been begun.

The paving, flagging and kerbing of several side streets mentioned in previous reports has been finished.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

John Chadwick, M, O, H.

February 23rd/05.

During the past year two large filters have been constructed at the sewage works. One is completed and the other is being filled with clinker, when both are in working order the effluent from the works which have been left during the alterations, will be no longer give no cause for complaint.

There are now over 1000 cesspit pits in use in the populous parts of the district. These are emptied regularly by the council's men and the excreta disposed of to the farmers. The water supply of the district, which is obtained from the Corporation of Rochdale and Oldham and from springs have been generally satisfactory. Slaughter-houses, tripe boiling places, dairies and cowsheds have been inspected and their cleanliness white-washing so has been generally satisfactory.

During the year the Inspector has taken 57 short observations and has issued 5 legal notices in cases where the limit of 8 minutes per hour of black smoke has been exceeded.

The construction of the Joint Hospital for infectious diseases has been begun.

The paving, flagging and kerbing of several side streets mentioned in previous reports has been finished.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
John Chadwick, M. O. B.

February 28/05.

Factories
and
Workshops.

During the past year the Factories and Workshops have been inspected. The fire escapes now seem to be satisfactory.

Seven extra closets have been provided at factories and in another case an old cesspool has been closed and the closets put on the pail system.

Thirty bakehouses have been visited, Formerly there were four underground ones. Two have been abandoned and the other two having been improved certificate have been granted in these cases.

I wish to thank the inspector for the help he has given me during the year.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

John Chadwick, M, O, H.

February 23rd/05.

Factories
and
Workshops.

During the past year the Factories and Workshops have
been inspected. The fire escapes now seem to be satisfactory.

Seven exits closets have been provided at factories and
in another case an old cesspool has been closed and the closets
put on the ball system.

Three new houses have been visited. Formerly there
were four underground ones. Two have been abandoned and the
other two having been improved certificates have been granted
in these cases.

I wish to thank the inspector for the help he has given
me during the year.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

John Chadwick, M. O. H.

February 22nd/06.