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Contributors

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Mottram Urban District Council.

— ANNUAL REPORT —

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1897.



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MOTTRAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1897.

*To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Mottram
Urban District Council.*

Mottram,

January 29th, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report of the health and sanitary condition of your district for the past year, together with the usual statistics of sickness and mortality on Tables A and B supplied by the Local Government Board.

Population—Census, 1891.....	3,270
„ Estimated to middle of 1897...	3,404
Area in Acres	1,084
Birth Rate per 1,000 living	26·4
Death Rate per 1,000 living.....	17·6
Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000 living	0·8
Death Rate of Children under 1 year per 1,000 Registered Births.....	122·2

During the past year 90 births have been registered (51 males and 39 females), as against 83 births, and a birth-rate of 25·3 in the year 1896.

The following table shows the number of births, and the birth-rate, for the past five years :—

Year.	No. of Births	Rate per 1,000.	Population.
1893	112	34·2	3270
1894	72	22	3270
1895	99	30·2	3270
1896	83	25·3	3270
1897	90	26·4	3404

DEATH-RATE.—The number of deaths at all ages, and from all causes, during the year, was 60 (33 males and 27 females), equivalent to a death-rate of 18.3 per 1,000, as compared with 74 deaths, and a death-rate of 22.6 per 1,000 last year.

Of the total number of deaths registered, 11 occurred to children under 1 year, 5 between 1 and 5, 3 between 5 and 15, 2 between 15 and 25, 23 between 25 and 65, and 16 above 65 years.

The following table shows the number of deaths, and the death-rate, since 1893 :—

Year.	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality under 1 Year.	Rate per 1,000	Population.
1893	77	23·5	30	9·1	3270
1894	49	18·0	17	5·1	3270
1895	50	15·2	12	3·6	3270
1896	74	12·6	22	6·7	3270
1897	60	17·6	11	3·3	3404

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—Eighteen cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, viz. :—Scarlet fever, 9 ; typhoid fever, 8 ; and diphtheria, 1.

SCARLET FEVER.—The first case occurred on Broadbottom Road, in February last, but the disease did not spread. It re-appeared in June, and was brought into the village by a child ~~that~~ ^{who} came from Glossop, on a visit to some friends in Church Brow. This child had evidently been allowed to go out too soon, as it was in the stage of desquamation when it arrived here, and very soon transmitted the disease to two other children, in separate families, on the New Road, with whom it had been playing. These in turn infected other children, all residing in the same locality, and all attending the same school. The two remaining cases occurred in September and November, in the Broadbottom portion of the district, and were both contracted at Hyde, where the disease was prevalent at the time.

TYPHOID FEVER.—The two first cases occurred in Old Street, in April. These persons contracted the disease by constantly visiting their sister-in-law on the opposite side of the street, who began with Typhoid in the latter part of December, but was not convalescent, owing to a relapse, until March. These cases were followed by a third one in Mill Street, in June, and four others in New Street, in August and September. The majority of the cases were of a mild character, and, with two exceptions, all recovered. One case only occurred in the Mottram portion of the district, but no sanitary defects were discovered on the premises. This person is employed at Broadbottom, and probably contracted the disease when visiting her brother's house, who was suffering from Typhoid Fever. I investigated the cases as they were notified, and found they were supplied with milk by several vendors, and only in one instance did the same person supply any two of the houses where the disease existed. I also tested several samples of town's water, from which all were supplied, and found them pure. There was no suspicion of its having been caused by sanitary defects, as the premises were in a fairly good sanitary condition, but as most of these persons used the same set of closets where the Typhoid excreta was thrown, I think it is most probable that this was the source from which the disease was spread.

DIPHThERIA.—One case of this disease was notified, but the cause could not be ascertained.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply continues abundant, and good.

MILK SUPPLY.—There are no milk shops, the milk being supplied from the outlying farms.

LODGING HOUSES. — There is only one common lodging house, which is always clean, and in good order.

VARIOUS TRADES.—The district is free from noxious trades.

REFUSE REMOVAL.—In December, 1895, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Local Government Board (Dr. Fletcher), in company with myself and the Sanitary Inspector, made a sanitary inspection of the district with respect to the necessity of improved scavenging of the district. In June, 1897, he re-inspected the whole district, and on the following day attended a meeting of the District Council, and as he found no improvement in the scavenging had taken place since his previous visit in 1895, he felt that he should be obliged to report unfavourably of the state of the District, to the Local Government Board, and advise them to issue a compulsory order under Section 42, Public Health Act, 1875, requiring the District Council to undertake, or contract, for the emptying of closets and ashpits, and charge the cost thereof in the General District Rate. This order was issued in September last, and came into force in the District on October 1st, and the work is now being carried out more satisfactorily. Subsequent to this inquiry, it was considered that the existing arrangement for systematic inspection was unsatisfactory, and it was decided to employ a Sanitary Inspector, who could give his whole time to this duty, and to the sewage works. Since his appointment, a few months ago, a detailed house to house survey has been ordered by the Council, and is now being carried out by the Inspector, and followed by notices where sanitary defects have been discovered.

SEWERING.—During the year the house connections to the main sewer have been completed, and the system working well, the effluent being of a very satisfactory character.

INSPECTIONS.—Periodical inspections have been made of the District, including the inspection of dairies, cow-sheds, slaughter-houses, lodging-houses, and sewage works, and where insanitary conditions have been found, the owners have been required to remove them.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. S. BURNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.