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Newcastle-under-Lyme
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1908.



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Newcastle-under-Lyme RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH for the year 1908.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME,

FEBRUARY 9th, 1909.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary condition of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District with Vital Statistics for the year 1908.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered in the district was 164—80 males and 84 females, equal to an annual birth-rate of 23·57 per 1000 of the population.

These births were distributed as follows :—

			Population		Estimated Population to middle of	Increase	
			1901.	1891.	1908.		
Balterley	{	Males	17	253	273	271	18
Betley		Females	15	837	827	889	52
			32				
Chorlton	{	Males	9	387	373	399	12
Maer		Females	6	436	389	450	14
Whitmore				308	318	337	29
			15				
Clayton	{	Males	54	269	304	291	22
Keele		Females	63	1114	1090	1166	52
Madeley				2909	2904	3154	245
			117				
						Increase	444

As there were 75 deaths, the natural increase of the population was 89 persons for the year 1908.

For the year 1907, the increase in the population was 73.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered in the district was 75. This gives the death-rate of 10·78 per 1000 of the population.

From the accompanying table it will be seen that the maximum death-rate (25·06) was at Chorlton, while the lowest (nil) was at Balterley.

In 1907 the highest death-rate (17·03) was at Betley, while the lowest (nil) was at Clayton.

Deaths, according to age :—

Under 1 year	...	16
1 and under 5	...	7
5 „ 15	...	4
15 „ 25	...	3
25 „ 65	...	17
65 and upwards	...	28
		—
Total		75

In 1907 the deaths, according to age, were as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	12
1 and under 5	...	5
5 „ 15	...	2
15 „ 25	...	4
25 „ 65	...	26
65 and upwards	...	26
		—
Total		75

The death-rate for the various parishes bears the following relation to the population :—

	Population Census, 1901.	Estimated Population to middle of 1908.	Number of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 for 1908.	Death-rate per 1000 for 1907.
Balterley ...	253	271	...	...	14·98
Betley ...	837	889	12	13·49	17·03
Chorlton ...	387	399	10	25·06	15·03
Maer ...	436	450	4	8·88	8·93
Whitmore ...	308	337	3	8·91	6·04
Clayton ...	269	291	3	10·31	...
Keele ...	1114	1166	13	11·15	12·95
Madeley ...	2909	3154	30	9·5	9·3
	—	—	—	—	—
Total	6513	6957	75	Av'age 10·79	10·53

Inquests were held in 1908 on five persons, and the following verdicts were given :—

4. Madeley ... (i.) Scalds.
 (ii.) Inflammation of the lungs.
 (iii.) Natural causes, heart disease.
 (iv.) Fracture of skull through accidental fall from railway train.
1. Clayton ... (i.) Hæmorrhage of brain from fracture of skull, from being knocked down by a bicycle through an accident.

There were three inquests held in 1907, and the Coroner's Juries attributed the deaths to the following causes :—

1. Keele ... Convulsions.
2. Madeley ... (i.) Accidentally crushed between wagon and roof in coal pit at Leycett.
 (ii.) Accidental dislocation of neck through being struck by runaway tubs in coal mine at Leycett.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths under one year in 1908 were 16, equal to a mortality of 97·56 per 1000 registered births.

Betley, 3 ; Chorlton, 1 ; Whitmore, 1 ; Keele, 1 ; and Madeley, 10.

In 1907 the deaths numbered 75, the death-rate was 10·89

1906	„	72	„	10·54
1905	„	84	„	12·38
1904	„	82	„	12·20
1903	„	81	„	12·17
1902	„	89	„	13·49
1901	„	99	„	15·16
1900	„	94	„	13·04
1899	„	81	„	11·29
1898	„	78	„	11·01
1897	„	98	„	14·06
1896	„	98	„	14·19
1895	„	88	„	13·38
1894	„	100	„	15·48
1893	„	113	„	17·75
1892	„	111	„	17·79
1891	„	78	„	12·60

These figures are calculated on the estimated population in the middle of each year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT, 1889.

During the year 1908 there have been notified to me 46 infectious cases, compared with 14 cases in the previous year :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	40
Erysipelas	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	2
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1

Erysipelas.—Only one case was reported during the year 1908, in the Parish of Madeley, and this case soon recovered.

Diphtheria.—There were two cases notified—one case in Keele and the other at Silverdale, the house being situated in the Parish of Keele. Both cases recovered.

Puerperal Fever.—One case was reported from that part of Silverdale which is in the Parish of Keele. The patient was extremely ill for a long time, and had several complications, but she eventually recovered. The medical man in attendance on the patient put down the cause to the neglect and filthy habits of the parents, and after visiting the house several times I came to the same conclusion.

Enteric Fever.—There were two cases during the year—one at Blackbrook and the other at Silverdale. The latter case was removed to the North Staffordshire Infirmary where the patient died. In neither of the cases was a cause found, both the drains and the water supply being satisfactory.

Scarlet Fever.—During the year 40 cases were notified, as compared with 9 cases in the previous year. They were distributed as follows :—

Leycett	...	...	1
Maer Heath	...	...	1
Onneley	...	...	2
Balterley	...	...	3
Betley ...	...	...	33

All the houses were visited and disinfectants supplied.

Four cases were removed to Bradwell Sanatorium, as the means of isolation were deemed insufficient—one from Balterley and three from Betley.

Of the 33 cases reported, one case died—a young man aged 33 years. Most of the cases in Betley occurred in or near Brassington

Street, the houses being kept in a very dirty and slovenly way by the occupants. Fresh cases of Scarlet Fever kept occurring from time to time, and it was thought advisable to close the school, which was done. The school-house was now thoroughly whitewashed and disinfected, and the offices outside were done at the same time. As cases kept continually appearing, the school was not re-opened until 28th September. Cases of Scarlet Fever were again notified, and as they were traced to infection from Brassington Street, it was thought advisable to prohibit the children from that quarter from attending school, this was done, and the Scarlet Fever soon almost disappeared, a few cases appearing in houses in which children lived who had had the disease earlier in the year.

During the year 1908, the following Schools were closed :—

Maer,	March 24th,	on account of	Influenza.
Clayton,	April 7th	„ „	Measles.
Betley,	July 13th	„ „	Scarlet Fever.

Cases of Chickenpox occurred in the district during the year, but as the cases were fairly few in number, it was not necessary to close any of the Schools. The most cases occurred at Leycett.

During the year the district has been inspected several times, independently of the Notification of Infectious Diseases.

The Vaccination Act, 1898, continues to work, but parents are now getting exemption certificates, and fewer children were vaccinated in 1908 than in 1907, and in a short time, when the knowledge that it is not legally necessary to have their children vaccinated becomes more widely known, parents with very few exceptions will obtain the necessary certificates.

There was no case of Smallpox in the district during the year.

SANITARY WORK.

In the year 1907, no Sanitary report was available, as the Inspector absconded and apparently kept no record of his work.

This year, 1908, a good deal of Sanitary work has been done, due to the unfailing energy of the new Sanitary Inspector, as will be observed by the appended report. The district now is in a highly satisfactory condition.

There has been one prosecution and conviction obtained for overcrowding during the past year.

21 privies have been abolished and water closets substituted in 9 cases where the water carriage system existed, and pails in 9 cases, with benefit to the inhabitants. 30 dustbins have also been substituted for ashpits.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

The total number of Workshops in the district is 24, distributed as follows :—

Betley ...	...	...	11
Madeley	...	...	7
Keele ...	...	...	3
Whitmore	...	...	2
Maer ...	...	...	1

All these have been periodically visited and inspected and found to be in a sanitary and satisfactory condition.

During the year 1908, one new house has been erected in the district. Many nuisances, such as foul conditions, structural defects, defective traps and overcrowding, were inspected and reported on during the year. Instructions have been given for their abatement, which have been carried out.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. P. MORRIS.

TABLE 1.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT. (For whole district.)

Year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births.		Deaths under one year of age.		Deaths at all ages Total.		Deaths of residents registered beyond district.	Nett Deaths at all ages.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 births registered.	Number.	Rate.*		Number.	Rate.*
1898	7079	175	24.72	24	137.14	78	11.01		78	11.01
1899	7171	170	23.70	16	94.11	81	11.29		81	11.29
1900	7205	186	28.81	15	80.64	92	12.76	2	94	13.04
1901	6530	190	29.09	25	131.57	99	15.16		99	15.16
1902	6594	192	29.11	25	130.20	89	13.49		89	13.49
1903	6661	173	25.97	22	127.16	81	12.16		81	12.16
1904	6721	175	26.03	20	114.28	82	12.20		82	12.20
1905	6784	147	21.67	19	129.25	83	12.24	1	84	12.38
1906	6828	175	25.64	19	108.51	72	10.54		72	10.54
1907	6885	148	21.50	12	81.08	75	10.89		75	10.89

Averages for years 1898—1907.

	6846	173	25.62	20	113.39	83	12.17		83	12.21
1908	6957	164	23.57	16	97.56	75	10.78	1	76	10.92

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 11 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 19,597.

Total population at all ages 6,513. Number of inhabited houses 1335.
Average number of persons per house 4.87. (At Census of 1901.)

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from
the District—North Staffordshire Infirmary.

TABLE 2. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT.

Localities.	1						2						3					
	Balterley and Betley Parishes						Chorlton, Maer and Whitmore Parishes.						Clayton, Keele and Madeley Parishes.					
Year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.		
1898	...	1182	18	9	1	1136	30	15	4	4761	127	54	19					
1899	...	1190	26	11	3	1148	22	10	-	4833	122	60	13					
1900	...	1199	34	13	2	1157	27	10	2	4849	125	71	11					
1901	...	1094	31	15	2	1135	30	16	4	4301	129	68	19					
1902	...	1103	29	15	4	1145	23	16	4	4346	140	58	17					
1903	...	1114	30	10	2	1152	23	10	2	4395	120	61	18					
1904	..	1129	26	7	1	1157	22	13	2	4435	127	62	17					
1905	..	1136	19	13	3	1165	15	9	-	4483	113	62	16					
1906	...	1144	32	15	6	1168	16	12	1	4516	127	45	12					
1907	...	1148	19	19	3	1178	13	12	1	4559	116	44	8					
Averages of years 1898 to 1907.	1144	26	13	3	3	1154	22	12	2	4548	125	58	15					
1908	...	1160	32	12	3	1186	15	17	2	4611	117	46	11					

TABLE 3. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the year 1908.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases Notified in Whole District At Ages—Years								Total cases Notified in each Locality.					No. of cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.	
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	Balterley & Batley	Chorlton	Maer	Whitmore	Clayton	Keele	Madeley	Balterley and Batley
Diphtheria	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Scarlet Fever	40	...	14	19	5	2	...	36	...	1	...	...	...	3	4
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Totals	46	...	14	21	6	4	1	36	...	2	...	...	4	4	4

Isolation Hospital—Bradwell Sanatorium.

TABLE 4. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT.
Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year 1908.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Localities at all Ages.						
	All Ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Balterley & Balterley	Chorton	Maer	Whitmore	Clayton	Keele	Madeley
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease	4	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bronchitis	11	4	2	..	1	..	4	1	1	..	1	..	3	5
Pneumonia	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5
Heart Diseases	11	1	..	1	..	5	4	1	4	1	..	2	1	2
Accidents	4	..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
All other causes	27	..	3	1	2	4	17	5	5	1	2	..	8	6
All causes	75	16	7	4	3	17	28	12	10	4	3	3	13	30

TABLE 5. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Total under																	Total Deaths under One Year.
1		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.		
Diarrhoea, all forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	..	2	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	..	3	..	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Convulsions	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Totals	..	6	1	2	1	10	3	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	16

Births in the year, legitimate .. 164.

Deaths in year, legitimate infants .. 16

Deaths from all causes at all ages .. 75.

Population, estimated to middle of 1908 .. 6957.

TABLE 6.

SUMMARY of SANITARY WORK done in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1908, in the Rural District of Newcastle.

		Number of		Abatement Notices.		Nuisances abated after Notice by	
		Inspections and Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority.
Dwelling-Houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	...	42	28	14	28	13
	Structural Defects	646	12	4	8	4	8
	Overcrowding	...	4	2	2	2	2
	Unfit for Habitation	...	1	...	1	...	...
Lodging Houses		...	...	...	...	...	...
Dairies and Milkshops...		...	...	...	...	...	...
Cowsheds		76	6	...	6	...	6
Bakehouses		6	...	...	...	...	...
Slaughter-houses		7	2	2	...	2	...
Canal Boats		...	...	...	...	...	...
Ashpits and Privies		...	56	8	48	8	44
Deposits of Refuse and Manure		...	4	4	...	4	...
Water Closets		...	...	...	...	...	...
House Drainage	Defective Traps	...	12	12	...	12	...
	No Disconnection	...					
	Other Faults	...	...	...	...	...	...
Water Supply		...	13	...	13	...	13
Pigsties		...	6	4	2	4	2
Animals improperly kept		...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades		...	...	...	...	...	...
Smoke Nuisances		...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances		...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals		735	158	64	94	64	88

Seizures of Unwholesome Food	...	...
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...
" " found Adulterated	...	...
" of Water taken for Analysis	...	...
" " condemned as unfit for use	...	...

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	34
Schools ditto ditto	...	3
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease.		
Convictions ditto ditto	...	...
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things		
Convictions ditto ditto	...	...

Feb. 9th, 1909.

JOSEPH INSKEEP, Inspector of Nuisances.



