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SEGHILL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(Dr. JAMES MILLER., M.B.)

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

(Mr. Wm. H. COULTHARD),


For the Year 1913.

MORPETH :

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1914.





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Seghill Urban District Council.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT OF SEGHELL.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to forward my Third Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1913.

Population.—The population, according to the Census of 1911, is 2,049.

Births.—The births registered in the district during 1913, numbered 45, giving a birth-rate of 21.9 per 1,000 per annum. This shows a slight increase comparing with last year. (See Table I.)

Deaths.—Twenty-one deaths have been registered during the year, and there are six transferable deaths inward, making the real number of deaths for Seghill 27, which gives a mortality of 13.1 per 1,000 per annum. This shows a decrease of 4.4 comparing with the death-rate of last year.

Infant Mortality.—The number of deaths occurring in infants under one year was 5, equal to a death-rate at this age-period of 111.1 per 1,000 births. The same number of infant deaths occurred in 1910, which was the lowest record in my predecessor's time.

The total number of deaths under 5 years was 7, which gives a death-rate at this age-period of 3.4 per 1,000 of the population.

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases (Notifiable and Non-Notifiable).—One death occurred from the above group, viz., a case of Acute Pulmonary Tuberculosis. (No one died from any Non-notifiable Disease during the year.) This shows a zymotic death-rate of .48 per 1,000, according to population.

This death from Phthisis was very sudden. As soon as she complained, I had her sputum tested, and found it was full of Tubercle Bacilli. The case was so rapid that there was no time to give her a chance to benefit by fresh-air treatment.

Deaths from Diseases of the Respiratory Organs (excluding Phthisis).—Six deaths were caused by diseases of this class, viz., pneumonia 5 and bronchitis 1, which gives a respiratory death-rate of 2.9 per 1,000 of the population, being a slight increase compared with the rate for last year.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—Six cases were notified during the year, viz.: Scarlet fever, 3; erysipelas, 2; and pulmonary tuberculosis, 1. The cases of scarlet fever were promptly removed to Scaffold Hill Isolation Hospital, and there was no further spread of the disease during the year. The cases of erysipelas were very severe. They were isolated at home, and both recovered. The case of pulmonary tuberculosis has been mentioned under the head of Zymotic Deaths. The Sanitary Inspector has seen that those houses have been thoroughly fumigated.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—A slight epidemic of measles occurred at the beginning of the year. An epidemic of influenza took place during the middle of the year, which chiefly affected adults; and chickenpox was pretty bad towards the end of the year, but never reached that extent to interfere materially with the attendance at the infant school.

The following table gives for Seghill District the population, births, birth-rate, and the various mortality rates, cases of infectious diseases notified, and the attack-rate of the latter per 1,000 of the population:—

Population	Births.		Deaths.		Infant Deaths.		Zymotic Deaths.		Infectious Cases Notified.	
	No.	Rate per 1000	No.	Rate per 1000	No.	Rate per 1000 Births.	No.	Rate per 1000 Population.	No.	Attack-rate 1000 of Population.
2049	45	21.9	27	13.1	5	111.1	1	.48	6	2.9

Roads and Footpaths.—The roads and footpaths have been kept on the whole in a very good condition during all the year. The Road Surveyor has laid down a few hundred yards of kerbstone along footpaths through the village during the year. Tar macadam is not used.

Housing, Town Planning, &c.—No new houses have been built during the year, but four houses at Corving Shops, near Seghill Station have been re-built, the rooms of which are now large and well ventilated, and larger families now occupy these houses. The Sanitary Inspector has inspected 50 houses during the year, and has had no recourse to any closing orders.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910.

Tabular Statement as required by Article V.

Sanitary District	No. of Dwelling-houses Inspected	No. of Dwelling-houses which on Inspection considered unfit for Human Habitation	No. of Representations made to Local Authority with a view to Closing Orders being made	Closing Orders		No. of Dwelling-houses in which Defects Remedied without Closing Orders being made	No. of Dwelling-houses put in Fit State for Human Habitation after Closing Orders made	General Character of Defects Found
				No. of Orders made	No. of Houses vacated at end of each year in consequence			
Seghill	50	None	None	None	None	4	None	Ventilation not correct but improving.

Water Supply.—The supply has been good, continuous, and copious during all the months of the year.

Scavenging and Sewage.—Scavenging: The Ash Closets throughout the district continue to be regularly cleaned out, weekly or fortnightly, according to the amount of refuse. The matter collected therefrom is the same as last year, either sent to farmers for manurial purposes or tipped at a considerable distance from dwellings.

Sewage: The bacteria filter-beds have been working more satisfactorily than during the previous year, the effluents often being almost perfect.

The sewerage system of the district is, generally speaking, in excellent condition, and meets all requirements; but as yet it has not been extended to those small hamlets—the Old Mill and West Farm. Occasionally a drain becomes choked, but the Sanitary Inspector is soon on the spot, and has the defect remedied.

Slaughter-houses.—There is still only one slaughter-house in the village. I paid 10 visits during the year, and on each occasion found everything satisfactory. It is not registered or licensed.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—There are three on the register in the district. Twenty-six dairy cows are kept at Mare's Close, 18 at dairy near Seghill Station, and 5 at High West Farm, 49 in all; but owing to a change of tenancy, the last-named dairy was closed at May term. The Sanitary Inspector has paid 20 visits during the year, and found things generally satisfactory. The milk is disposed to inhabitants of the village and neighbouring districts. The byres or cowsheds are whitewashed twice a year.

In summing up, it is very satisfactory to note that the birth-rate is higher and the death-rate and infantile mortality lower than the previous year. The general sanitary condition of the district continues normal.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JAMES MILLER, M.B.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Seghill, 9th March, 1914.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.		Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
	2	3	Un-corrected		Nett.		Numb'r	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	8	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.
			Numb'r	Rate.	Numb'r	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	
1			4	5	6	7			9	10	11	12	13
1908	2220	56	56	25.2	32	14.4				12	214.2	34	15.3
1909	2220	63	63	28.3	27	12.1				9	142.8	28	12.6
1910	2230	59	59	26.4	24	10.3				5	84.7	24	10.3
1911	2049	52	52	25.3	24	11.7		1		11	211.5	25	12.2
1912	2049	42	42	20.4	33	16.1		3		7	166.6	36	17.5
1913	2049	45	45	21.9	21	10.2		6		5	111.1	27	13.1

Area of District in acres
(land and inland
water). } 1,425.

Total population at all ages—2049.
Number of inhabited houses—over 400.
Average number of persons per house—5.

}
At Census
of 1911.

TABLE II.
Causes of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913.

Notifiable Diseases.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.						Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	
Small-pox							
Cholera, Plague							
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup							
Erysipelas				2			
Scarlet Fever	1	2					3
Typhus Fever							
Enteric Fever							
Relapsing Fever)							
Continued Fever)							
Puerperal Fever							
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis							
Poliomyelitis				1			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...							
Total		1	2		3		3

Isolation Hospital—Scaffold Hill Joint Hospital, Earsdon, Northumberland.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1912.

Causes of Death. 1	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institu- tions in the District. 11
	2 All ages.	3 Under 1 year.	4 1 and under 2	5 2 and under 5.	6 5 and under 15.	7 15 and under 25.	8 25 and under 45.	9 45 and under 65.	10 65 and upwards.		
All Causes { Certified ... Uncertified ...											
Enteric Fever ...											
Small Pox ...											
Measles ...											
Scarlet Fever ...											
Whooping Cough ...											
Diphtheria and Croup ...											
Influenza ...											
Erysipelas ...											
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	1						1				
Tuberculous Meningitis ...											
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...											
Cancer, malignant disease ...	3						1	1	1		
Rheumatic Fever ...											
Meningitis ...											
Organic Heart Disease ...	3							1	2		
Bronchitis ...	1								1		
Pneumonia (all other forms) ...	5		2				2	1			
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...											
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...											
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...											
Cirrhosis of Liver ...											
Alcoholism ...											
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...											
Puerperal Fever ...											
Other Accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition } Congenital Debility and Malfor- mation, including Premature Birth } Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide Suicides ...	5	5									
Other Defined Diseases ...	9					2	3	2	2		
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...											
	27	5	2			2	7	5	6		

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1913,

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
FACTORIES ... (Including Factory Laundries) WORKSHOPS ... (Including Workshop Laundries) WORKPLACES ... (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	None	None	None
Total ..			

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions 5
	Found. 2	Remedied. 3	Referred to H. M. Inspector. 4	
	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total				

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.		
	Lists received from Employers Sending once in the year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.	
Contractors.		Workmen.	
	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total			

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
None	
Total number of workshops on Register	

