

[Report 1897] / Medical Officer of Health, Padiham U.D.C.

Contributors

Padiham (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1897

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To the Clerk of the Paddington Lane
Urban District Council

Sir I have the honour of presenting to you the
annual report with regard to the health in this
district during the past year 1897.

I am very pleased to be able to state that it is a
favourable one. The general death rate being low, as
also is the Zymotic Death rate

There have been 352 Births as compared with 356
during the previous year. This gives a birth rate of
25.69 per thousand. Of these births. 190 were males
162 were females. There have been 196 deaths as
compared with 244 in the previous year. Males 99
Females 97. This gives a death rate of 14.30 as
compared with 17.9 during 1896.

The more important causes of the deaths were as
follows.

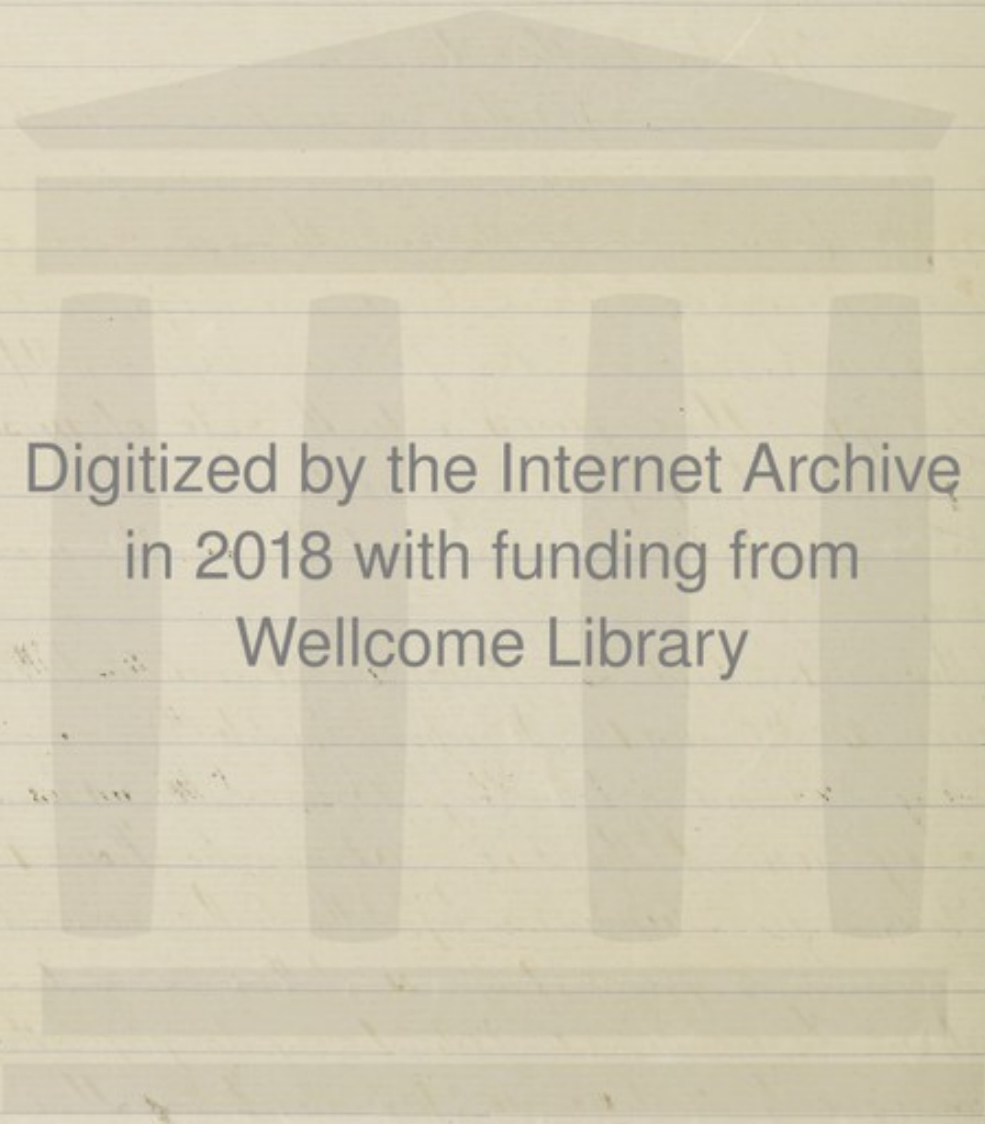
Diphtheria 1. Typhoid Fever 2 Puerperal Fever 11
Diarrhoea 2. Measles 1. Whooping Cough 6.

Respiratory Diseases including Bronchitis Pneumonia
& Pleurisy. 44. Phthisis 12. Rheumatic Fever 1.

Heart Disease 18. Injuries 3. 69 of the deaths occurred in
children under 5 years of age 21 of these being due to
Respiratory Diseases, a fact I very largely attribute to
the nursing-out system so prevalent in this District.
A system which is very pernicious.

The Zymotic Death rate is .51 per Thousand as
compared with 1.53 during 1896. This shows a
considerable improvement and is no doubt due to the
extensive alterations recently made with regard to the
sewerage scheme. 45 cases of infectious Disease have
been reported during the year.

Scarletina 11 Diphtheria 5 Typhoid 9



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Continued Fever 1 Erysipelas 11 Purpurial Fever 5.
These cases have been visited and as complete Isolation
as possible has been insisted upon Igal has been
extensively used but I wish again to suggest the
preparation of Corrosive Sublimate in preference, as recently
recommended by the Local Government Board. As it is
both more efficacious and more cleanly.

We cannot accomplish all that the Notification Act intends
even with the Corrosive Sublimate and I beg to suggest
that a Suitable apparatus be obtained at as early a date
as possible for the thorough disinfection of beds. wearing
apparel etc. as we cannot expect to have the success we
ought to have with cases of Infectious Disease until
we possess such an apparatus. No Special report has
been necessary from the Medical Officer during the
year. 38 notices have been served on account of
nuisances all of which were remedied. No legal
proceedings being required.

House accommodation is, on the whole good. Water
supply is good and abundant. Scavenging is
Satisfactorily carried out. The Sewage Scheme is working
well.

I am Sir.

Yours Obediently.
Walter Smithies.

February. 1898.

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely from the reverse side.]