

[Report 1909] / Medical Officer of Health, Sowerby U.D.C.

Contributors

Sowerby (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1909

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SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year ending December 31st, 1909.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Report for the year 1909.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.—The District is situate on the dip-slope of a Millstone-grit formation, the rocks consisting of alternating beds of sandstone and shales which dip roughly from N.W. to S.E. The lie of the strata is of great importance as regards contamination of wells from impurities higher up. The contour of the District is mountainous, and the surface, with the exception of some little agriculture done chiefly for the purpose of improving the sward, is laid out in grass.

A considerable quantity of milk is produced which is principally sold as new milk, the overplus being made into butter.

OCCUPATION.—The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the foundries and factories in the valleys, many of them combining factory work with agricultural pursuits. As a result the physique of the people will compare most favourably with that of the town dwellers in neighbouring districts.

VITAL STATISTICS.—The population of your District, estimated to the middle of 1909, was 3487. This is arrived at by taking twenty from the estimated population for 1908, and in this way allowing for a gradual migration to more populous centres.

BIRTHS.—Males, 19; Females, 24; Total, 43. Birth-rate, 12.3 per thousand per annum, against 13.4 per thousand during 1908, 12.1 during 1907, and 12.6 during 1906. The Birth-rate for England and Wales during 1909 was 25.6. The remarkably low Birth-rate in your District may be partly explained by the fact that so many of the young married couples prefer to make their homes in the neighbouring towns.

DEATHS.—Males, 15; Females, 23; Total, 38. Death-rate, 10.8 per thousand per annum, against 11.1 per thousand during 1908, 13.3 during 1907, and 10.7 during 1906. The Death-rate for England and Wales during 1909 was 14.5.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—Death-rate, 93 per thousand Births registered in your District, against 109 for England and Wales.

Mortality at subjoined Ages and Causes, see Tables.

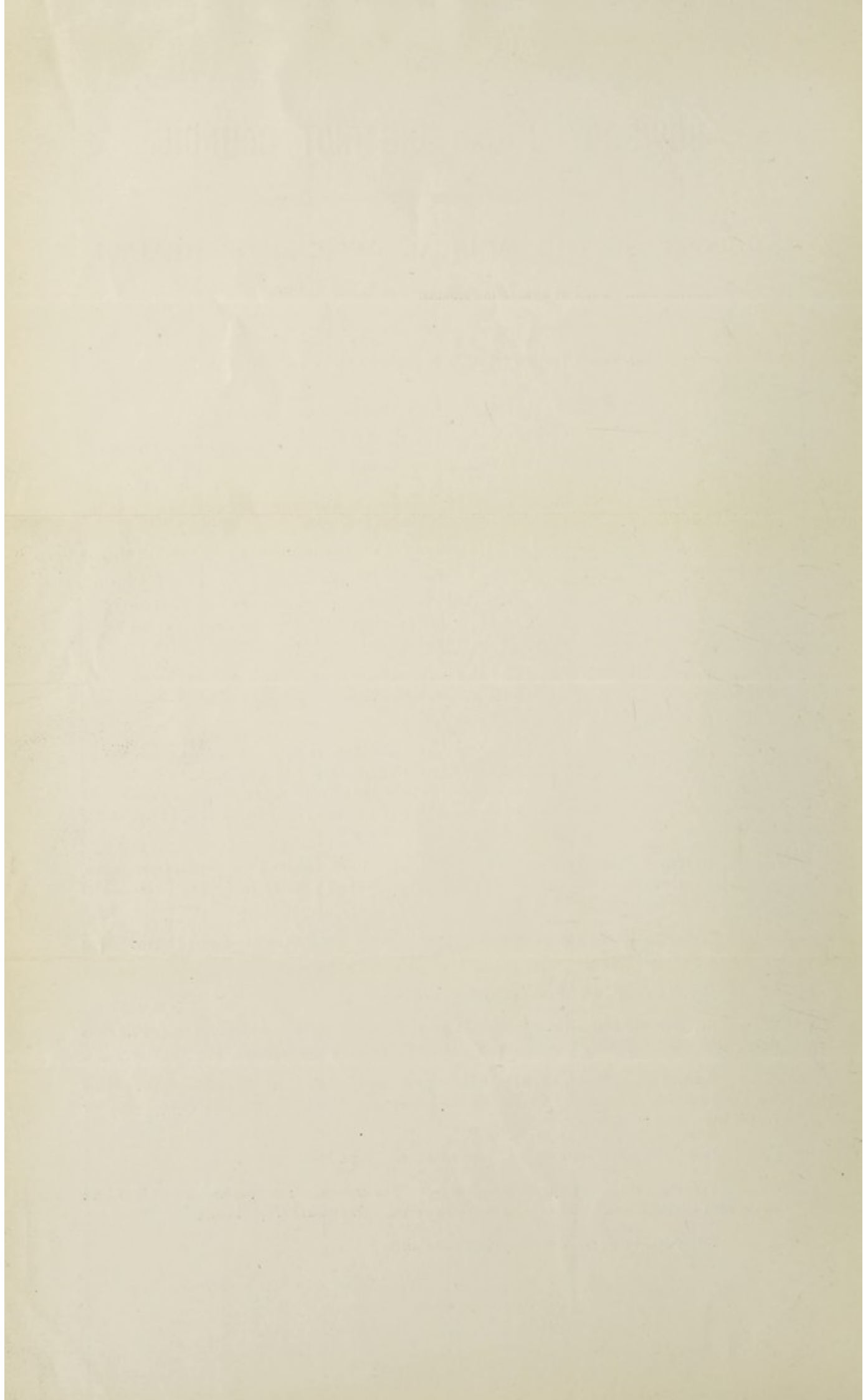
ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—During the year twenty-nine cases have been reported, as against six cases during 1908, ten cases during 1907, two cases during 1906, and seven cases during 1905.

Scarlet Fever.—Twenty cases reported during the year, chiefly in the Mill Bank locality. There was one death from this disease. The last case reported was in September, so the District has been clear for the last quarter of the year.

Diphtheria.—Two cases reported during the year. Type, mild.

Typhoid.—Six cases reported during the year. The cases were not associated, and it is difficult to say what was the source of infection in the various cases. One case of Typhoid died.

Erysipelas.—One case reported during the year.



MISCELLANEOUS.—Dwellings are built of stone and are, as a rule, scrupulously clean. There are no unhealthy areas and no overcrowding. The backyards and streets are mostly paved, especially where the houses are grouped together, as at Sowerby Town, Mill Bank and Triangle. The sink pipes are trapped; practically all disconnected.

SEWAGE.—The new system of sewage is practically completed. Arrangements have been made with neighbouring Districts for disposal of sewage matter.

SCAVENGING.—Done by owners and tenants.

PRIVY MIDDENS.—Covered.

WATER CLOSETS.—Tub and Water Closets in use, mostly the latter.

COWSHEDS.—Most of them I found exceptionally clean, whenever visited, but there are others which might still be improved in that respect. I would again recommend Cow-keepers to pay more attention to the cleanliness of their cows and especially the udder and hind quarters, and to see that the persons who milk the cows wear clean overalls (or "brats") and wash their hands carefully before milking. It is a very unpleasant fact that particles of manure frequently find their way into milk, and where a cow has Tuberculosis, even though the udder be apparently not affected, you may in this way have the Tubercle germs introduced into the milk. Again, a cow ailing with Tuberculosis, if kept in the confined atmosphere of the ordinary cow-shed, may easily contaminate the milk of other healthy cows. A diseased cow may, without showing any trace of disease in the udder, yield milk containing germs of Tubercle. The chief source of infection of milk with Tubercle is the udder, so I must impress on all Cow-keepers the absolute necessity of not using the milk from a cow where there is any evidence of disease in the udder, except as food for pigs, and then only after boiling the milk thoroughly. Report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, 1907.—"There can be no doubt that in a certain number of cases the Tuberculosis occurring in the human subject, and especially in children, is the direct result of the introduction into the human body of the Bacillus of Bovine Tuberculosis; and there also can be no doubt that in the majority at least of these cases the Bacillus is introduced through cows' milk."

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.—One. Floor repaired, now in good order. Visited at time of slaughtering.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES, CANAL BOATS AND OFFENSIVE TRADES.—None in the District.

MILK is of good quality.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—There has been no occasion to examine under this Act.

CARCASES UNFIT FOR FOOD.—Nil.

ENDEMIC DISEASES.—NIL.


BURIAL GROUNDS.—Five.

WATER SUPPLY.—The District has a good and plentiful supply, Sowerby Town being supplied from the reservoir at Sowerby Green, and the outlying parts being dependent on springs, which are numerous and yield well. New pipes, properly jointed, have been laid this year from the head springs supplying the reservoir at Sowerby Green, as there was evidence previously of contamination from surface water during rainy weather.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.—Three Factories and one Workshop giving employment in the District; condition satisfactory.

HOME-WORK.—No lists received.

SCHOOL INSPECTION.—Medical Inspection of the three Schools in the District is now in full working order, and it is to be hoped that parents will see that the suggestions given them about their children by the "School Doctor" are carried out, as otherwise many ailments of the children, which at an early date may be easily remedied, if not attended to promptly may leave a permanent mark.



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Scarlatina has been very prevalent this year in your District, part of a wave of this disease which has been passing over the West Riding. This epidemic will have a marked influence on the health of the children, owing to the association of ear trouble with the disease. At the same time there have been some cases of an anomalous type, with diseases of the ear, amounting practically to an epidemic in the case of one School. Attention was drawn to this condition at the time.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Rainfall during 1909: 41.31 inches.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—No Health Visitors appointed. Pamphlets on Infant feeding are distributed in the District.

MIDWIVES' ACT.—Lying-in cases attended by Registered Midwives.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS' ACT.—Not adopted.

CONCLUSION.—I have been constantly in touch with the various parts of the District, and believe it to be healthy and satisfactory from a sanitary point of view.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN A. ADAMS, B.A., M.B.

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the plane was the
fresh air. It felt like I had been in a cocoon for hours. The
ground below was a mix of green fields and brown earth. The
sun was shining brightly, and the birds were chirping. It was
a beautiful sight. I had never seen anything like this before.

I had heard that the weather was perfect, but I didn't know
it would be so good. The temperature was just what I needed.
I had been told that the food was also excellent. I was
in luck. The chef was a local, and he had a special recipe
for the chicken. It was delicious. I had never tasted anything
like it before.

The service was also top-notch. The waiter was friendly and
helpful. He had a great sense of humor. I had never met
anyone like him before. He was a real gem. I had heard that
the service was good, but I didn't know it would be so
excellent.

I had heard that the food was good, but I didn't know it
would be so delicious. The chef was a local, and he had a
special recipe for the chicken. It was perfect. I had never
tasted anything like it before. The service was also
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JOHN A. ADAMS, B.A., D.D.

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SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and previous Years.

Year.	Populat'n estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-Resdnts regist'd in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Resdnts regist'd in Public Institutions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate*	Under 1 Year of age		At all Ages.					Number	Rate*
				Num'b'r	Rate per 1000 Births Registered	Num'b'r	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	3710	71	19'1	8	112'0	48	12'9				48	12'9
1900	3680	60	18'4	5	73'5	67	15'5				67	15'5
1901	3653	46	12'5	6	130'0	44	12'1			1	45	12'3
1902	3640	64	17'6	2	31'2	38	10'4			1	39	10'6
1903	3617	46	12'7	6	130'0	49	13'3			4	53	14'6
1904	3587	51	14'2	3	58'8	52	14'5			2	54	15'0
1905	3567	45	12'6	2	40'0	36	10'0			1	37	10'3
1906	3547	45	12'6	3	66'6	38	10'7			1	39	10'9
1907	3527	43	12'1	3	69'7	47	13'3			2	49	13'8
1908	3507	47	13'4	3	63'8	39	11'1			1	40	11'4
Averages for Years 1899 - 1908	3603	51	14'5	4	77'5	46	12'3			1	47	12'7
1909	3487	43	12'3	4	93'0	38	10'8			5	43	12'3

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water): 2399. Total population at all ages: 3653 (1901 Census).
 Number of inhabited houses; 922 (at 1901 Census). Average number of persons per house: 3.1 (at 1901 Census).

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District: Nil.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District: Royal Halifax Infirmary, Poor Law Hospital, Halifax, and West Riding Asylums.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District: Nil.
 Is the Union Workhouse within the District: No.

SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.						Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Undr 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	
Small-pox ..							
Cholera ..							
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2		2				
Erysipelas ..	1				1		
Scarlet Fever ..	20	6	14				
Typhus Fever ..							
Enteric Fever ..	6		2	1	3		
Relapsing Fever.							
Continued Fever.							
Puerperal Fever.							
Plague ..							
Totals ..	29	6	18	1	4		Nil

Isolation Hospital: Lower Clough Bank (provided by Sowerby Urban District Council), in Sowerby Urban District.

Total available Beds: Six.

No. of Diseases that can be concurrently treated: One.

TABLE I - 1914-1915
 Summary of the work done during the year 1914-1915

Year	Total number of cases	Total number of deaths	Cases by sex		Deaths by sex	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
1914	100	15	55	45	10	5
1915	120	18	60	60	12	6
1916	110	16	58	52	11	5
1917	130	20	65	65	13	7
1918	140	22	70	70	14	8
1919	150	24	75	75	15	9
1920	160	26	80	80	16	10
1921	170	28	85	85	17	11
1922	180	30	90	90	18	12
1923	190	32	95	95	19	13
1924	200	34	100	100	20	14
1925	210	36	105	105	21	15
1926	220	38	110	110	22	16
1927	230	40	115	115	23	17
1928	240	42	120	120	24	18
1929	250	44	125	125	25	19
1930	260	46	130	130	26	20
1931	270	48	135	135	27	21
1932	280	50	140	140	28	22
1933	290	52	145	145	29	23
1934	300	54	150	150	30	24
1935	310	56	155	155	31	25
1936	320	58	160	160	32	26
1937	330	60	165	165	33	27
1938	340	62	170	170	34	28
1939	350	64	175	175	35	29
1940	360	66	180	180	36	30
1941	370	68	185	185	37	31
1942	380	70	190	190	38	32
1943	390	72	195	195	39	33
1944	400	74	200	200	40	34
1945	410	76	205	205	41	35
1946	420	78	210	210	42	36
1947	430	80	215	215	43	37
1948	440	82	220	220	44	38
1949	450	84	225	225	45	39
1950	460	86	230	230	46	40
1951	470	88	235	235	47	41
1952	480	90	240	240	48	42
1953	490	92	245	245	49	43
1954	500	94	250	250	50	44
1955	510	96	255	255	51	45
1956	520	98	260	260	52	46
1957	530	100	265	265	53	47
1958	540	102	270	270	54	48
1959	550	104	275	275	55	49
1960	560	106	280	280	56	50
1961	570	108	285	285	57	51
1962	580	110	290	290	58	52
1963	590	112	295	295	59	53
1964	600	114	300	300	60	54
1965	610	116	305	305	61	55
1966	620	118	310	310	62	56
1967	630	120	315	315	63	57
1968	640	122	320	320	64	58
1969	650	124	325	325	65	59
1970	660	126	330	330	66	60
1971	670	128	335	335	67	61
1972	680	130	340	340	68	62
1973	690	132	345	345	69	63
1974	700	134	350	350	70	64
1975	710	136	355	355	71	65
1976	720	138	360	360	72	66
1977	730	140	365	365	73	67
1978	740	142	370	370	74	68
1979	750	144	375	375	75	69
1980	760	146	380	380	76	70
1981	770	148	385	385	77	71
1982	780	150	390	390	78	72
1983	790	152	395	395	79	73
1984	800	154	400	400	80	74
1985	810	156	405	405	81	75
1986	820	158	410	410	82	76
1987	830	160	415	415	83	77
1988	840	162	420	420	84	78
1989	850	164	425	425	85	79
1990	860	166	430	430	86	80
1991	870	168	435	435	87	81
1992	880	170	440	440	88	82
1993	890	172	445	445	89	83
1994	900	174	450	450	90	84
1995	910	176	455	455	91	85
1996	920	178	460	460	92	86
1997	930	180	465	465	93	87
1998	940	182	470	470	94	88
1999	950	184	475	475	95	89
2000	960	186	480	480	96	90
2001	970	188	485	485	97	91
2002	980	190	490	490	98	92
2003	990	192	495	495	99	93
2004	1000	194	500	500	100	94

The following table shows the number of cases and deaths from the various causes of disease during the year 1914-1915. The total number of cases is 100, and the total number of deaths is 15. The most common cause of death is pneumonia, which accounts for 5 cases. Other causes of death include influenza, tuberculosis, and heart disease.

TABLE II - 1914-1915
 Summary of the work done during the year 1914-1915

Year	Total number of cases	Total number of deaths	Cases by sex		Deaths by sex	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
1914	100	15	55	45	10	5
1915	120	18	60	60	12	6
1916	110	16	58	52	11	5
1917	130	20	65	65	13	7
1918	140	22	70	70	14	8
1919	150	24	75	75	15	9
1920	160	26	80	80	16	10
1921	170	28	85	85	17	11
1922	180	30	90	90	18	12
1923	190	32	95	95	19	13
1924	200	34	100	100	20	14
1925	210	36	105	105	21	15
1926	220	38	110	110	22	16
1927	230	40	115	115	23	17
1928	240	42	120	120	24	18
1929	250	44	125	125	25	19
1930	260	46	130	130	26	20
1931	270	48	135	135	27	21
1932	280	50	140	140	28	22
1933	290	52	145	145	29	23
1934	300	54	150	150	30	24
1935	310	56	155	155	31	25
1936	320	58	160	160	32	26
1937	330	60	165	165	33	27
1938	340	62	170	170	34	28
1939	350	64	175	175	35	29
1940	360	66	180	180	36	30
1941	370	68	185	185	37	31
1942	380	70	190	190	38	32
1943	390	72	195	195	39	33
1944	400	74	200	200	40	34
1945	410	76	205	205	41	35
1946	420	78	210	210	42	36
1947	430	80	215	215	43	37
1948	440	82	220	220	44	38
1949	450	84	225	225	45	39
1950	460	86	230	230	46	40
1951	470	88	235	235	47	41
1952	480	90	240	240	48	42
1953	490	92	245	245	49	43
1954	500	94	250	250	50	44
1955	510	96	255	255	51	45
1956	520	98	260	260	52	46
1957	530	100	265	265	53	47
1958	540	102	270	270	54	48
1959	550	104	275	275	55	49
1960	560	106	280	280	56	50
1961	570	108	285	285	57	51
1962	580	110	290	290	58	52
1963	590	112	295	295	59	53
1964	600	114	300	300	60	54
1965	610	116	305	305	61	55
1966	620	118	310	310	62	56
1967	630	120	315	315	63	57
1968	640	122	320	320	64	58
1969	650	124	325	325	65	59
1970	660	126	330	330	66	60
1971	670	128	335	335	67	61
1972	680	130	340	340	68	62
1973	690	132	345	345	69	63
1974	700	134	350	350	70	64
1975	710	136	355	355	71	65
1976	720	138	360	360	72	66
1977	730	140	365	365	73	67
1978	740	142	370	370	74	68
1979	750	144	375	375	75	69
1980	760	146	380	380	76	70
1981	770	148	385	385	77	71
1982	780	150	390	390	78	72
1983	790	152	395	395	79	73
1984	800	154	400	400	80	74
1985	810	156	405	405	81	75
1986	820	158	410	410	82	76
1987	830	160	415	415	83	77
1988	840	162	420	420	84	78
1989	850	164	425	425	85	79
1990	860	166	430	430	86	80
1991	870	168	435	435	87	81
1992	880	170	440	440	88	82
1993	890	172	445	445	89	83
1994	900	174	450	450	90	84
1995	910	176	455	455	91	85

SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TABLE IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1909.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to localities, whether occurring in or beyond District	Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-residents in Public Institutions in District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox									
Measles									
Scarlet fever	1		1						
Whooping-cough	1	1							
Diphtheria (includ'g Membran'us croup)									
Croup									
Fever { Typhus									
Enteric	1					1			
Other continued									
Epidemic influenza									
Cholera									
Plague									
Diarrhoea									
Enteritis									
Gastritis									
Puerperal fever									
Erysipelas									
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	3					3			
Other tuberculous diseases									
Cancer, malignant disease	4					3	1		
Bronchitis	9	1	2			3	3		
Pneumonia									
Pleurisy									
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1					1			
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver									
Veneral Diseases									
Premature birth									
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1			
Heart diseases	1						1		
Accidents	1					1			
Suicides									
All other causes	20	2		1		10	7		
All causes	43	4	3	1		23	12	Nil	

SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 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.	Total under 1 Year.
	All Causes																
Certified																	
Small-pox	1				1												1
Chicken-pox																	
Measles																	
Scarlet Fever																	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)																	
Whooping Cough											1						1
Diarrhoea, all forms																	
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis																	
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
Uncertified																	
Premature Birth																	
Congenital Defects	1				1												2
Injury at Birth																	
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation																	
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus																	
Tuberculous Meningitis																	
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tubes Mesenterica																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Erysipelas																	
Syphilis																	
Rickets																	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
Convulsions																	
Bronchitis								1	1								1
Laryngitis																	
Pneumonia																	
Suffocation, overlying																	
Other causes																	
Total	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4

Population (estimated to middle of 1909): 3487.

Births in the Year: Legitimate, 43; Illegitimate, nil.

Deaths in the Year of Legitimate Infants, 4; Illegitimate Infants, nil.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages: 38.

SOWERBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

For the Year ending 31st December, 1909.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to forward you the Report of Nuisance Inspector for the past year.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—Several inspections of the Dairies and Cowsheds have been made during the year, and there is a great improvement—both as to light and ventilation. Two notices have been served on owners to provide more air-space and ventilation, and both notices have been complied with.

WATER SUPPLY.—Seven notices have been served on owners to provide a pure supply of water where found to be polluted. These, in all cases, have been complied with.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—The Factories and Workshops in the District (three) have been found in a satisfactory condition.

BAKEHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERHOUSE.—There are three Bakehouses and one Slaughterhouse in the District. These, on inspection, have been found to be well-lighted, well-ventilated and clean.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—During the year twenty cases of Scarlatina, six cases of Enteric, two cases of Diphtheria, and one case of Erysipelas were reported. The usual precautions were taken and premises disinfected.

NOTICES TO ABATE NUISANCES.—Nine notices have been served on owners to abate nuisances arising from bad drainage, and three to provide additional ashpit and privy accommodation. In all cases the notices have been complied with.

The total number of notices served during the year are 21.

Nine notices to remedy defective drainage.

Three notices to provide ashpit accommodation.

Seven notices to provide a pure water supply.

Two notices to provide air-space and ventilation to Cowsheds.

Total number of nuisances in hand at the close of 1908, four; at close of 1909, none.

Reported during 1909, twenty-one; abated during 1909, twenty-five.

Number of Schools in the District, three.

Number of Burial Grounds in the District, five.

Number of Slaughterhouses in the District, one.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HINCHLIFFE,

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SOWERBY.

Annual Reports

OF
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Inspector of Nuisances

FOR 1909.

Sowerby Bridge :
Wm. Ackroyd, Printer, Chronicle Office.