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Contributors

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THE
Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE
Rural District of Saint Faiths,

Together with the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.



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ST. FAITHS UNION.

POPULATION : 12,828.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

BIRTHS.

There were 310 Births in the Union during the year ending December 31st, 1904. This is equivalent to a Birth rate of 24·1 per 1000 of estimated population, as compared with 25·1 in the previous year, and with a Birth rate of 26·8 for rural England and Wales during the year 1904. With the exception of the year 1901, the Birth rate in the Union last year was the lowest recorded during the past ten years.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the district during the year was 235, giving a gross Death rate of 18·3 per 1000. 42 of these deaths, however, occurred in non-residents in the City Asylum at Hellesdon; and, by deducting these, the nett Death rate is 15·0 per 1000, as compared with 13·3 in the previous year. The Death rate from all causes in rural England and Wales during the year 1904 was 15·3 per 1000.

The infant mortality, *i.e.*, the annual Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1000 Births, was 136·1, as compared with 81·0 for the year 1903. It is unsatisfactory to have to record such a high death rate amongst infants, especially as during last summer there was no marked epidemic of diarrhoea.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND & WALES, 1904.

	Annual Rates per 1000 Living.		Infant Mortality—Annual Death Rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	
St. Faiths Union ...	24·1	15·0	136
England and Wales ...	27·9	16·2	146
Rural England and Wales	26·8	15·3	125
76 great towns	29·1	17·2	160
142 smaller towns ...	27·5	15·6	154

There were 20 deaths due to Zymotic Diseases as compared with 10 in the year 1904. These included 11 from Measles, 4 from Whooping Cough, 2 from Diphtheria, and 3 from Influenza. 28 Deaths occurred from some form of Tuberculosis, and of these 16 from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of which latter number 5 occurred amongst the inmates of the City Asylum. 10 deaths were due to Cancer; 9 were ascribed to Premature Birth; and 3 were accidental in cause.

There were 7 deaths not certified by a medical man, and in 5 cases a Coroner's inquest was held.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES IN THE WHOLE DISTRICT
PER 1000 ESTIMATED INHABITANTS.

Under 1 year	...	...	...	3.2
1 year to 5 years	...	...	...	1.4
5 " " 15 "	...	...	...	0.7
15 " " 25 "	...	..	...	0.8
25 " " 65 "	...	...	...	4.5
65 " and upwards	...	...	...	7.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR TO 1000 BIRTHS.

	1904.	Average for past 10 years.
Whole District ...	136.1	126.6

In the Parish of Sprowston there were 11 deaths in infants under 1 year with a registration of 71 births.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES Notified and Deaths.

During the year there were 39 cases of Infectious Diseases notified under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, as compared with 53 in the year 1903. Nearly half, or 19, of these were cases of Diphtheria, most of which occurred in the parish of Wroxham during the month of April and May. It is satisfactory to have to record that no case of Diphtheria occurred in Sprowston during the year, and but one case of Typhoid Fever in this parish. In the following table are seen the number and nature of the cases of Zymotic Diseases that occurred during the year :—

	Notified.	Deaths.
*Scarlet Fever	5	—
*Diphtheria	19	2
*Enteric Fever	7	—
*Erysipelas	5	1
*Puerperal Fever	3	1
Epidemic Influenza	—	3
Measles	—	11
Whooping Cough	—	4
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	3

* Notifiable Diseases.

39

25

There were 16 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phthisis), of which 5 occurred in the City Asylum, and there were 12 deaths from other forms of tuberculous disease.

DEATH RATE FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
PER 1000 INHABITANTS.

Whole District (excluding City Asylum) 0·8
" " " " " 0·2 in 1903.

There were 12 deaths from Cancer which gives a Death rate from this disease of 0·9 per 1000 of population, as against 1·0 in the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA :—19 cases.

15 of these occurred in the parish of Wroxham, where an outbreak occurred at the latter end of April. No direct source of infection could be discovered, though a large overflowing cesspool was found within a short distance of the house where the first case occurred. This was at once emptied and cleansed. I closed the school immediately, but in spite of this and every other possible precaution it was some five weeks before the epidemic came to an end. It is more than probable that the infection had been lying dormant in the village, and had been awakened into activity by some seasonal influence.

1 at Rackheath. The infection here was contracted at Lowestoft ; but the occurrence of this case brought to my notice an insanitary privy on the premises which has since been converted to the pan system.

1 at Old Catton in a child aged 4 years. The child was removed to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital where Tracheotomy had to be performed.

About 3 weeks previous to the occurrence of this case another member of the household contracted Typhoid Fever and although there was nothing to complain of in the sanitation of the house itself, yet immediately opposite, and in close proximity, was found an unventilated cesspool which received drainage from a large private residence. The pumping, which took place here every day, caused a bad smell to enter the surrounding cottages. A vent-shaft has now been fixed to the cesspool, and an overflow drain is being laid so as to carry the sewage about 160 yards from the drinking well.

1 at Ringland. In this case the medical man in attendance (Dr. Griffith Williams) gave all the other members of the household a preventive dose of Antitoxin, and the disease did not spread. Adjoining the house where this case occurred was a large yard containing much manure, and used for the keeping of pigs. A notice from the Council has been served on the occupier to discontinue the keeping of swine here.

1 at Catton Grove Villas. Here the source of infection could not be determined.

SCARLET FEVER :—5 cases.

3 of these occurred in the Heath Farm Cottages, St. Faith's, and, considering the number of cases that occurred in this village in 1903, it is not surprising that one or two more should have cropped up again this year.

1 at Hellesdon, which was forthwith removed to the City of Norwich Isolation Hospital.

1 at Swannington.

TYPHOID FEVER :—7 cases.

1 at Spixworth. Though no gross insanitary condition was found here, an alteration of the privy floor was suggested.

1 in Mile Cross Lane, Old Catton. The drains in this house were in a bad state. They have now been properly trapped and the cesspool ventilated.

2 at Upper Hellesdon. A vent-shaft has been added here to a previously unventilated dead well.

1 at Old Catton. [Vide report on the case of Diphtheria occurring in this house].

1 at Rackheath. The 3 privies belonging to the cottages where this case occurred have been converted to the pan system.

1 at Sprowston. This occurred in a house adjoining a Laundry carried on by Mrs. Hubbard. The privy accommodation was found to be inadequate for the 6 cottages and the Laundry hands that they had to provide for. The 2 Privies were condemned as insanitary, and 3 new ones ordered to be built; these are nearly completed.

EPIDEMIC INFLUENZA :—

3 deaths were attributed to this disease, all in old people.

WHOOPING COUGH :—

During the summer months this disease was prevalent in some of the villages, notably in Horsford, Drayton, and Great Witchingham.

MEASLES:—

In the parishes near Norwich this disease was very prevalent in the early months of the year, and in several instances I had to close the schools on this account. 11 deaths were registered, all under 15 years of age.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS:—

3 infants under one year died from these causes.

**LIST OF SCHOOLS CLOSED IN THE ST. FAITH'S UNION
DURING THE YEAR 1904.**

Name of School.	Period Closed.	In consequence of
St. Faith's	Jan. 11th to Jan. 25th	Measles.
Sproleston (Infant)	Mar. 17th to Apr. 7th	"
" (Mixed)	" 19th to " 10th	"
Hellesdon	" 21st to " 4th	"
"	Apr. 9th to " 16th	"
Horstead	" 20th to May 4th	"
Wroxham	May 2nd to Jun. 6th	Diphtheria.
Horsford	July 11th to Aug. 4th	Whooping Cough.
Drayton	" 15th to July 29th	"
Great Witchingham	Aug. 29th to Sep. 12th	"

In every case where I advised the closing of a school I forthwith notified the fact to the Local Government Board.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1904.

Extracts from notes and observations made by Mr. Arthur W. Preston, F. R. Met. Soc., at Brundall, near Norwich.

Barometer (reduced to sea level and 32 deg. Fah.), from 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. readings:—

Highest (January 22nd)	...	30.69 ins.
Lowest (February 9th)	...	28.61 ins.
Mean ... ..	...	29.962 ins.
Temperature—Maximum (August 4th)	... ..	Deg. 87.6
Minimum—		
In Screen (Dec. 22nd)	... ..	21.0
On grass (Dec. 22nd)	... ..	17.3
Mean daily maximum	... ..	56.5
Mean daily minimum	... ..	42.1
Mean temperature of year	... ..	49.3
Mean daily range	... ..	14.4
Mean dry bulb (9 a.m.)	... ..	50.0
Mean wet bulb (9 a.m.)	... ..	47.4
Mean dew point (9 a.m.)	... ..	44.9
Mean relative humidity (9 a.m.)	... ..	83 p.c.
No. of nights with frost—In screen	... ..	55
On grass	... ..	106

	Inches.
Rainfall—Total fall	21·50
Below average by	4·68
Greatest fall in one day (July 25) ...	·60
No. of days on which rain or snow fell	180
No. of days on which snow fell ...	13

Wind—Prevailing direction, W. and N.W. Gales on 21 days.

The dreary, damp weather which had characterised the last six months of 1903, continued till the end of February, the last-named month having been the wettest of the year. With March a new state of things set in, and a fine, growing spring, gave place to a magnificent summer and a warm pleasant autumn. A fine show of fruit blossom in the spring had but little bad weather to check it, with the result that both summer and autumn fruits were prolific and well matured. The mean temperature of each of the months except June, September, and November was up to or above the average, and there was a deficiency of rainfall in each of the months from April to November inclusive, resulting in a falling off of the year's rainfall to as much as 4·68 ins. below the mean. A marked feature was the absence of any very heavy falls of rain on any one day, the highest noted (·60 ins. on July 25th) having been the lowest year's maximum recorded here since these observations began, but this fact applies only locally, for as above stated, over two and a half inches of rain occurred at Keswick, Norfolk, in a single thunderstorm on July 27th, the fringe only of which extended to Brundall. Wheat-cutting commenced about August 3rd, and harvest was concluded before the close of the month. The abnormal fogs of December were an unpleasant feature at the conclusion of the year.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Month.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.			
	Max. deg.	Min. deg.	Mean daily range. deg.	Mean deg.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	Greatest fall on 1 day. ins.
Jan. ...	55·0	23·2	9·6	38·3	1·51	20	·26
Feb. ...	55·0	26·2	9·1	38·9	3·17	24	·38
Mar. ...	60·0	24·2	13·0	40·8	1·93	19	·50
Apr. ...	68·6	32·8	16·4	49·3	·86	11	·37
May ...	75·2	34·8	16·1	53·2	1·80	13	·45
June ...	75·6	39·8	16·4	56·6	·68	9	·25
July ...	86·8	46·2	19·9	64·4	1·85	9	·60
Aug. ...	87·6	42·0	17·9	61·3	2·17	13	·59
Sept. ...	72·0	38·0	16·2	56·2	1·78	11	·50
Oct. ...	66·2	29·4	13·9	51·1	1·20	13	·24
Nov. ...	59·0	23·0	12·0	42·2	2·00	15	·52
Dec. ...	56·0	21·0	11·6	39·4	2·55	23	·47
Year ...	87·6	21·0	14·4	49·3	21·50	180	·60

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Year.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.			
	Max. deg.	Min. deg.	Mean daily range deg.	Mean deg.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	Greatest fall on 1 day. ins.
1895	81·0	4·0	14·9	48·4	24·91	193	1·18
1896	85·0	24·2	14·1	49·3	23·28	190	·89
1897	85·0	21·2	14·3	49·4	22·07	192	·92
1898	89·0	22·4	14·0	50·5	23·33	166	1·80
1899	87·0	13·0	15·0	49·8	23·94	174	1·14
1900	87·2	18·4	14·2	49·6	26·99	222	1·23
1901	83·5	9·2	14·6	48·8	21·06	175	1·60
1902	83·4	14·0	13·5	48·4	22·30	192	·80
1903	86·0	24·8	13·4	49·5	29·44	208	2·28
1904	87·6	21·0	14·4	49·3	21·50	180	·60

Statistics kindly supplied by Mr. T. Cozens-Hardy, from observations taken at Oak Lodge, Sprowston, 1904.

Month.	Total Depth.	Greatest fall in 24 hrs.		No. of Days on which ·01 or more fell.
		Depth.	Date.	
January	... 1.33	... ·28	... 31st	... 17
February	... 2.76	... ·35	... 9th	... 24
March	... 1.78	... ·52	... 28th	... 18
April	... ·75	... ·32	... 22nd	... 11
May	... 1.59	... ·45	... 31st	.. 14
June	... ·72	... ·26	... 14th	... 9
July	... 1.68	... ·65	... 25th	... 8
August	... 2.40	... ·76	... 31st	... 14
September	2.04	... ·52	... 23rd	... 13
October	... 1.20	... ·26	... 1st	... 12
November	1.56	... ·30	... 26th	... 15
December	2.16	... ·36	... 6th	... 21
Total	<u>19.97</u>			<u>176</u>

Mr. Cozens-Hardy adds :—" A very dry year : February was the only month in which I recorded rain much above the average."

BAKE OFFICES :—

These have all been inspected during the year and whitewashed according to the requirements of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

COW SHEDS :—

In the Parish of Sprowston I discovered a very small badly-drained and ill-ventilated cow shed, in which two cows were kept for the purpose of milking. At my suggestion the County

Council Inspector took a sample of this milk, which was found to contain under $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of butter-fat. The owner of the cows was summoned and a fine inflicted. The shed was condemned and has since been demolished.

Drayton (Bradshaw, owner). This shed was found to be in a bad state, without drain or cesspool. It has since been lime-washed out and drains laid to a cesspool properly ventilated.

Horsford (Bacon, owner). The drain here was found to be in direct communication with the cow shed and dead well. It has been cut off, trapped, and the cesspool properly ventilated.

During the year 4 public-houses in the District, viz., 2 in St. Faith's, 1 in Sprowston, and 1 in Great Witchingham, were found to have defective drainage and urinal accommodation. A new system of drainage has been laid to each, and the urinals renewed or put in order as the case required.

PRIVIES :—

During the year, 286 have been emptied and cleaned by order of the Inspector of Nuisances, and 30 have been converted to the pan system, which I am more and more convinced is that most suitable for Rural Districts.

WATER SUPPLY :—

During the year there has been a fair supply of drinking water in the District. Very few wells are now used in the parishes of Sprowston and Catton, the supply in these two parishes being chiefly from the City of Norwich Water Works Company.

I cannot conclude this Report without acknowledging my thanks to the medical men practising in the District, for the assistance I have received from them ; and for your Inspector of Nuisances, whose report I append, I have none but the highest praise for the able and conscientious manner in which he carries out his duties.

SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

37, St. Giles' Street, Norwich,

February 9th, 1905.

February 4th, 1905.

SIR,

St. Faith's R. D. C.

The following Nuisances were dealt with during the year 1904 :—

Drains cleaned out	...	...	...	69
New drains laid	..	...	...	12
Dead wells and cesspools emptied		...	...	80
Privies emptied and cleansed	...	...	...	286
„ repaired	..	...	...	28
„ converted to pans	...	...	...	30
„ new built	...	...	...	18
Heaps of manure removed	...	...	...	39
Pig styes cleansed	...	...	..	28
„ removed	...	...	..	4
Dangerous chimneys repaired	...	...	...	6
Filthy houses cleansed	...	...	...	5
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	15
Schools	„	...	...	3
Houses unfit for habitation	...	...	...	2
„ overcrowded dealt with	...	...	...	4
Slaughter houses cleansed	...	...	...	3
„ „ removed	...	...	...	1

DRINKING WATER :—

New wells sunk	...	...	...	6
Wells condemned	...	...	..	2
„ cleaned out	...	...	...	20
Pumps repaired	...	...	...	14
			—	675

NEW HOUSES BUILT :—

Wroxham	...	...	...	6
Felthorpe	...	...	...	1
Hellesdon	...	...	...	2
Catton	...	...	...	2
Sprowston	...	...	..	6
Drayton	...	...	...	2
			—	19

The Special Sanitary Committee met at the following places and made inspections :—

Sprowston ... April 21st, Keeping pigs so as to be a nuisance.

„ ... November 16th „ „ „

Local inquiry held at the School, Sprowston, by Col. Hepper, November 17th :—The drainage of building sites.

I am, Sir,

Your obediently,

THOS. FOX,

DR. S. H. LONG.

Inspector of Nuisances.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1894	12·268	316	25·4	43	130·2	152	12·5	...	...	152	12·5
1895	12·380	383	30·9	42	109·7	178	14·1	...	...	178	14·1
1896	12·553	333	25·9	59	179·3	200	15·5	...	...	200	15·5
1897	12·616	364	28·3	48	131·8	178	13·7	...	...	178	13·7
1898	12·876	344	26·4	43	125·0	178	13·7	...	...	179	13·9
1899	13·067	331	24·9	36	108·7	154	11·8	...	...	154	11·8
1900	13·219	358	28·6	51	142·0	186	14·0	...	...	186	14·0
1901	12·559	298	23·8	33	110·7	178	14·2	47	37	141	11·2
1902	12·647	305	24·9	45	147·5	217	17·1	53	40	177	13·9
1903	12·753	321	25·1	26	81·0	213	16·7	57	43	170	13·3
Averages for years 1894-1903	12·693	335	26·2	42	126·6	183	14·3	52	40	171	13·4
1904	12·828	310	24·1	42	136·1	235	18·3	51	42	193	15·0

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 12 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) ... 48,304.
 Total Population at all ages ... 12,559 ... At Census of 1901.
 Number of inhabited houses ... 2,798
 Average number of persons per house ... 4·5

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Whole District.	Sprowston Sub-District.
		1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Diphtheria ...	19	4	9	3	3	3	19	...
Erysipelas ...	5	1	1	1	1	1	4	1
Scarlet Fever ...	5	1	4	...	...	...	5	...
Enteric Fever ...	7	1	1	1	4	3	6	1
Puerperal Fever ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	3	...
Totals ...	39	7	15	5	11	1	37	2

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1904.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all Ages).			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the 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.	Whole District.	Sprayston Sub-District.	Work-house.	
Measles	11	3	6	2	...	..	...	5	6	...	...
Whooping-cough	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...
Diphtheria	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Enteritis	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis	16	...	...	3	4	9	...	9	2	...	5
Other Tubercular Diseases	12	4	5	1	1	1	...	8	4	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	...	...	...	...	6	...	8	1	...	1
Bronchitis	14	3	2	...	...	3	...	9	5	...	...
Pneumonia	6	1	1	...	...	2	...	5	...	...	1
Premature Birth	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	...	...
Diseases & acci. of parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Heart Diseases	30	...	1	1	2	8	...	25	3	...	2
Accidents	3	...	1	...	1	1	...	2	1	...	...
Diabetes	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...
Senile Decay	47	...	...	...	...	3	...	28	5	...	14
Nervous Diseases	24	...	...	...	1	13	...	7	...	...	17
All other causes	35	15	1	1	1	9	...	23	3	2	9
All causes	235	42	18	9	10	59	97	146	38	9	51