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Part

SWADLINCOTE DISTRICT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1897.



.....
R. LEE, PRINTER, &c., SWADLINCOTE.



SWADLINCOTE
DISTRICT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT,
For 1897.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In presenting my annual report for the year ended December 31st, 1897, I might first mention that I have estimated the population of the District up to the middle of last year at 14,950.

The total number of deaths was 224, viz., 121 males, and 103 females, giving a death rate for the year of 14-98, per 1,000.

Death rate for 1893, 17-57	} per 1000
" " 1894, 15-63	
" " 1895, 13-08	
" " 1896, 13-47	

The deaths registered from zymotic diseases were 21, giving a death rate from this cause at 1-40 per 1,000. In the deaths from zymotic causes, I have included Diarrhoea, Whooping Cough, and Influenza, none of which diseases are scheduled under the notification of diseases act. The death rate from zymotic causes in

1893 was 2-21	} per 1000
1894 was 2-81	
1895 was 1-52	
1896 was 1-02	

The total number of births registered were 566, viz, 290 males and 276 females, the birth rate for the year was 37-85 per 1,000, as

compared with 1893, 37-14	} per 1,000
" 1894, 41-97	
" 1895, 42-03	
" 1896, 39-79	

This equals a net increase during the year of 169 males, and 173 females, a higher birth rate, and increased death rate for males, reversing the return of the previous year in which the female birth and death rate was higher than the male.

DEATH RATE FOR SWADLINCOTE DISTRICT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL AS
REQUIRED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894,

Name of Disease.		Under 5 years.		Over 5 years.	
Small Pox	...	0	...	0	...
Scarlatina	...	0	...	0	...
Diphtheria	...	0	...	0	...
Membranous Croup	...	0	...	0	...
Fevers.	{ Typhus...	0	...	0	...
	{ Enteric or Typhoid	0	...	3	...
	{ Continued	0	...	0	...
	{ Relapsing	0	...	0	...
	{ Puerperal	0	...	0	...
Cholera	...	0	...	0	...
Erysipelas	...	1	...	0	...
Measles	...	0	...	0	...
Whooping Cough	...	10	...	0	...
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	...	6	...	1	...
Rheumatic Fever...	...	0	...	1	...
Ague	...	0	...	0	...
Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and	{ Pneumonia	29	...	10	...
Heart disease					
Phthisis	...	1	...	10	...
Infl enza	...	0	...	1	...
Injuries	...	1	...	1	...
All other diseases	..	43	...	48	...
		111		113	

Total deaths from all causes and at all ages 224

On referring to Table A, accompanying this, we find the summary of deaths at subjoined ages to be, children under one year 93; one year and under five 18; five years and under fifteen 5; persons aged fifteen and under twenty-five 9; twenty-five and under sixty-five 57; sixty-five years and upwards, 42.

The mortality under one year equals a death rate of 164.31 per 1,000 of births registered as compared with that for

1893,	180-65	} per 1,000
1894,	134-22	
1895,	132-18	
1896,	123-28	

The death rate from sixty-five years and upwards was 2.80 per 1,000 as compared with

1893,	3.85	} per 1,000
1894,	2.04	
1895,	3.46	
1895,	3.54	

The second part of my report on the Table marked B deals with new cases of infectious sickness. From this table it will be seen that 87 cases were reported to me during the year under the notification of diseases act. A few cases of measles, and a large number of cases of whooping cough, and many cases of influenza; the two former happening in the earlier, and the latter in the later part of the year.

I might here mention that the Council have adopted the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act; also the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Small Pox

No case of this disease occurred during the year. I regret to say that Vaccination throughout the district is a 'quantite negligeeble.' In consequence I look forward with dire apprehension to the havoc the disease will cause when introduced into our midst; and in this connection might remark, that whatever legislation may be enacted as the result of the report of the Royal Commission, I would hope that one of the results may be that the working of the acts might be transferred from the Boards of Guardians, to that of the District Councils.

Scarlet Fever.

Only thirty one cases were reported to me during the year, showing a marked diminution from the number in the two preceeding years. The cases that occurred were of a mild type as usually happens toward the end of an epidemic. No death was reported from this cause.

Typhoid Fever In all thirty cases with three deaths occurred during the year. The number of cases was considerably in excess of that of the former year. The only assignable cause in most of the cases was the condition of the drains, and in two instances it was certainly due to water used for drinking purposes, from a polluted source.

Erysipelas

Twenty three cases, with one death, were reported during the twelve months.

Membranous
Croup

From this disease the district was immune during the year.

Diphtheria

Two cases were reported during the twelve months, in one the patient contracted the disease outside the district, in the other instance no cause could reasonably be assigned for its occurrence. In both cases the disease had a favourable termination. I might here remind the Council, and through them the different Medical Men in the district, of the thoughtful means adopted by the County Medical Officer of health, of supplying to the different Medical Officers of health throughout the county, the appliances for forwarding the secretions from the throats of doubtful cases for biological examination.

Measles and
Whooping
Cough

In the case of the former of these complaints, there was almost a total immunity. The epidemic of whooping cough ushered in at the end of the previous year, continued with marked severity, and ten deaths were registered from this cause.

Bronchitis and
Pneumonia

Thirty-nine deaths were registered from this cause.

Diarrhoea and
Dysentery

Seven deaths occurred. Six of these deaths were in infants under one year.

Water Supply

Up to the last month of the year, the quality and quantity of the water supplied to the district was lacking. As you will remember, I had several analyses made, the last however was so unfavourable, that notices were issued throughout the district, strongly advising the necessity of its being boiled and filtered. I am glad to say, that through the efforts of the Council, a supply was obtained from the new Milton Works sooner than was anticipated, which supply has now taken the place entirely of that which was before, certainly not beyond suspicion. For softness, purity, quality, and freedom from contamination, I think the Council may reasonably congratulate themselves that this question, which I look upon as the most important from a health point of view, is at last an accomplished fact.

Disinfecting
Chamber and
Disinfecting

I am sorry that the Council up to the present have not seen their way to provide the former, or carry out the latter, in the manner suggested in my last yearly report. I would again urge upon the Council the necessity of giving these questions their earliest consideration.

**Infectious
Diseases
Hospital**

I am sorry that the District is still without a properly equipped Hospital, but hope the new combination of districts as suggested by the County Council, may meet the approval of the different authorities mentioned in the suggested combination and that a central site, with a suitable building will be the outcome of the combined scheme.

Sewerage

I am glad to be able to congratulate the Council on the completion of the new Sewerage scheme, which I trust will conduce to the further health of the district.

Overcrowding

Two cases were reported, and in both instances the nuisance was abated.

Scavenging

I am glad to say that this has been done in a more satisfactory manner than formerly, since the council have seen fit to take the matter almost entirely under their own control.

Inspection

I have made several periodic and systematic inspections of the district. I have also periodically visited the cowsheds, dairies, and slaughter houses. and by monthly reports and otherwise, informed you as to the health of the district.

No case of diseased meat or fish was offered for sale; no occasion arose to take proceedings under the Adulteration of Foods Act, or in the matter of offensive trades, bakehouses and workshops.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN HAMILTON. M.D.



TABLE A

DEATHS during the year 1897 in the Swadlincote District Urban District Council, classified according to Diseases Ages and Localities.

AGES AT WHICH DEATHS OCCURRED.

Under 1 year...	...	...	93
1 and under 5 years	...	...	18
5 " 15 " ...	...	...	5
15 " 25 " ...	...	...	9
25 " 65 " ...	...	...	57
65 years and upwards	...	...	42
			<hr/> 224

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Under 5 years	5 years & upwards
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	0	3
Erysipelas... ...	1	0
Whooping Cough ...	10	0
Diarrhoea and Dysentery...	6	1
Rheumatic Fever... ...	0	1
Phthisis 	1	10
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy }	29	10
Heart Disease... ...	0	29
Injuries... ...	1	1
All other Diseases.....	63	58
		<hr/>
		111 113
		<hr/>
		224

TABLE B
POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of New Cases of INFECTIOUS Sickness
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health
during the year 1897, in the Swadlincote District Urban
District Council, classified according to Diseases, Ages and
Localities.

POPULATION.

Census 1891... ..	...13,889
Estimated to middle of 1897...	...14,950

BIRTHS.

Births registered during year...	... 566
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INFECTIOUS SICKNESS.

		Under 5 years.	5 years & upwards
Scarlatina... 8	... 23
Diphtheria... 0	... 2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever...	...	... 2	... 28
Puerperal Fever...	...	... 0	... 1
Erysipelas...	...	... 3	... 20
		13	74

TABLE C
**Summary of SANITARY WORK done in the Inspector of Nuisances
 Department during the year 1897, in the Urban Sanitary
 District of Swadlincote.**

		Inspections and observations made.	Informal Notices served by Inspector	Legal Notices by authority	Nuisances abated after Notice.
Foul Conditions...	...	28	18	10	28
Structural defects...	...	10	8	2	10
Overcrowding...	...	2	2	0	2
Cow Sheds...	...	15	15	0	15
Slaughter-houses...	...	4	2	2	4
Ashpits and Privies.....		98	71	27	98
Deposits of Refuse & Manure	10	...	8	2	10
Water-Closets..	...	18	10	8	18
Defective Traps...	...	19	19	0	19
Water Supply...	...	20	20	0	8
Pigsties...	...	4	4	0	4
Smoke Nuisances...	...	2	2	0	0
		230	179	51	216

Samples of Water taken for Analysis... 6
 „ condemned as unfit for use...3
 12 Lots of Bedding Stoved.
 37 Houses Disinfected.