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Contributors

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TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1908.

28TH ANNUAL REPORT.

Population Census, 1891	...	...	...	...	5145
" " 1901	...	...	...	...	5337
Inhabited Houses, 1891	...	...	...	...	1056
" " 1901	...	...	...	...	1176
Area in Statute Acres	...	...	...	...	1220
Tettenhall Local Board Constituted	...	...	...	...	1883
Adoption of Bye-Laws	...	...	...	...	1887
" " Notification Act	...	...	...	...	1889
Sewerage Works commenced 1890, finished	...	...	...	...	1892
Isolation Hospital Provided	...	...	...	...	1891
Public Scavenging Inaugurated, May	...	...	...	...	1897
Conversion of Sewerage Treatment	...	...	...	...	1900
Joint Small Pox Hospital Provided	...	...	...	...	1903

TABLES.

- I. & II. Table of Births, Deaths, and Infant Mortality, from 1898 to 1908.
- III. Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during 1908.
- IV. Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1908.
- V. A Comparative Table of Epidemics, from 1883 to 1908.
- VI. Scarlet Fever.
- VII. Summary of Sanitary Work.

CENSUS OFFICE,
MILLBANK,
LONDON, S.W.,
12TH NOV., 1901.

County Borough, Municipal } **Tettenhall (U.D.)**
Borough or Urban District }

Civil Parishes and Wards.	HOUSES.				POPULATION.		
	In- habited	Uninhabited		Building	Persons	Males	Females
		In Occupa- tion	Not in Occupa- tion				
Tettenhall (U.D.) Civil Parish, Tettenhall.	1176	5	48		5337	2481	2856

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT For 1908.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Tettenhall Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

During the year 1908 there have been 127 Births and 64 Deaths. 17 Deaths took place under one year.

The Birth Rate is 23; the Death Rate 11·6; and Infantile Mortality 133·8.

All these Rates are above the average.

No death took place from any of the Notifiable Diseases but there was one death from Epidemic Influenza, and one from Diarrhœa.

Three persons died from Phthisis, aged 6, 33, and 60 respectively, the last being the father of a man who had died of consumption a few years previously in the same house. There was one death from Tubercular Meningitis, and one from tubercle of the abdominal glands.

Cancer of the breast, liver, pancreas and large intestine respectively was the cause of four deaths.

Two deaths occurred from the accidents of child-birth: a baby from pressure of the head after a prolonged and difficult labour, and a woman from Pulmonary Embolus. This woman was delivered of twins suffering from congenital Syphilis, to which reference is made later.

No fewer than 25 people over 60 died during the year—7 over 60, 11 over 70, and 7 over 80.

Infantile Mortality is unusually high. The average for 10 years is 111 deaths under one year per 1,000 registered births. The Infantile Death Rate has been as high as 164 in 1898, and as low as 51·7 in 1905.

17 deaths are accounted for as follows :—

Premature Births, 4.	Marasmus, 2.
Injury at Birth, 1.	Syphilis, 3.
Spinabifida, 1.	Convulsions, 5.
Malnutrition accelerated by Measles, 1.	

In dealing with small figures a few units one way or another makes a vast difference to averages.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

There were 28 Notifications as compared with 76 last year. They include Scarlet Fever, 19 ; Diphtheria, 3 ; Erysipelas, 5 ; Typhoid, 1.

Scarlet Fever. It will be seen on reference to Table V. that there are fewer cases of Scarlet Fever in 1908 than in any year since 1901. In 1906 and 1907 116 persons were attacked, and the diminished number this year is probably due to there being less available material for the disease to lay hold of.

19 cases occurred in 14 houses : 6 were treated at home and 13 in Hospital. Three children were treated at home because there were no other children, one because the case was only detected in the third week when the house was hopelessly infected, and two children of the same family were isolated with a nurse in an empty house belonging to the father of the children.

There were two Infecting and two Return Cases. (See 1907 Report, p. 6).

On 12th June Dr. Bullen reported a Return Case from Maneroft Road. It was found that the sister of the child was discharged from the West Bromwich Hospital on 4th June and on 12th June was desquamating and had a slight discharge from the nose. Both cases were sent to Hospital.

In the other instance a girl aged 13 was sent to our Isolation Hospital and discharged on 24th October. On 6th November a brother, aged 7, contracted Scarlet Fever. As it was found on examination that there was a nasal discharge in the previous case both children were warded in Hospital.

Diphtheria. Two cases were treated at home and one removed to the Wolverhampton General Hospital.

The first case, in July, was in the Wergs Road, and apparently no Swab was taken.

The second, reported on September 3rd, was also treated at home, and repeated examinations made of the secretions of the throat which were free from the Diphtheria bacillus on 5th October. Both water and drainage were bad at this house. These defects are now remedied. Tap water is laid on, the drainage reconstructed, and W.C's substituted for Middens.

The third case was a man who took out milk. He was admitted into the General Hospital on 7th September, and no bacilli were found after September 10th. No case of Diphtheria occurred on his milk round.

A case of **Typhoid** was reported on 26th December, but on removal to the General Hospital proved to be Pneumonia.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

The disposal of excrement and house refuse continue to occupy the attention of the Council.

There is at present a dual system of excrement disposal by water carriage and cartage, and at the present rate it will take 28 years before the middens are converted into Water Closets.

The progress of conversion has not been so satisfactory this year as last. Whereas in 1907, 44 middens were converted into Water Closets, in 1908 there were only 24, and we have yet 655 middens to abolish.

The Council know the difficulty with owners who let cottages at low rentals to the very poor. A rent of three shillings a week leaves no margin for structural alterations and, rather than incur the expense, owners will close the property with the result that the home is broken up and the tenants gravitate to the Workhouse or the slums of towns. Often the landlord is as poor as the tenant, for possession of cottage property does not imply affluence, and the pittance from rent is all he depends on, and unless a serious nuisance exists pressure is not applied.

Beyond this, many people in Tettenhall have a prejudice in favour of the middens to which they have been accustomed all their lives and it is difficult to wean them from it.

This partly explains the slowness of conversion of middens to water closets and hampers the sub-committee which has worked so hard for the past two years.

The cleansing of middens and the removal of house refuse is a severe tax on the present team department. There are now 60 ash-bins in the district and the Surveyor thinks there will be double the number next year. These ash-bins are a marked improvement on the old ash-pits (which are too large by custom and too small by bye-law) and are emptied more regularly. We have also a settle tip in Henwood lane for dry refuse instead of relying on temporary arrangements with friendly farmers.

A clean sweep has been made of some very dilapidated property at Compton and an improvement effected, but there are still many houses structurally decayed and sanitarily defective. They are occupied by the very poor and during these bad times are apt to be overcrowded by men out of work seeking shelter with relations. The overcrowding is easily dealt with when discovered and the old houses gradually disappearing as they fall under the ban of the Council.

Two cases of dilapidated middens in Manor Road which I reported in November have been re-built since the close of the year, the Council doing the work in one instance.

MILK.

Fortunately Tettenhall is supplied with an abundance of good milk. The cows are well fed and in good condition and the milk gives such satisfaction to customers that they rarely feel inclined to boil or sterilize it.

Heat may alter the taste of milk or deprive it of some subtle quality which pertains to water from the spring and fresh vegetables or milk straight from the cow, but it is stated by those most competent to know that tubercule enters the body by the mouth. Consumption is not hereditary or caused by inhaling the bacillus but by swallowing it.

As Milk is a necessity of life and one of the commonest vehicles by which tubercle is conveyed it is an obvious precaution to destroy the micro-organism. This can be done by boiling, or heating at a Temperature of 160° F. for half-an-hour, at the time of using.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

April 25th, 1909.

W. H. T. WINTER.

TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

**REPORT by SURVEYOR to M.O.H.
Of Sanitary Inspections during the Year 1908.**

Inspections number (as to Nuisances) 645. Formal Notices, 13. Informal Notices, 226. Nuisances abated, 188.

Communications to Sewer, 16, making a total of 1241.

Waterworks Water has been laid on to 36 houses. The water mains have been extended for a distance of 1,116 yards. These mains are 2", 3", and 4" in size and have been laid on the Upper Green, Redhouse Road, Waterworks Road, and Wergs Road—this is one thousand yards laid more than last year.

Plans were submitted and approved for 16 houses—these have been built or are in course of erection. Plans for alterations and additions have been submitted and approved in 17 instances.

Private Street Works' Act. In last year's Report attention was drawn to the insanitary state of Nursery Walk. I then stated the street was opened up many years ago but so far nothing had been done to take this road over and make it a public street. The matter has been under the consideration of the Council on several occasions. It has been suggested that the owners themselves should put this road in a satisfactory state of repair and to maintain in future, the owners were written to and an approximate cost sent to them but a difference of opinion arose as to whether the Council were prepared to take it over. It has now been decided that a plan and apportionment should be made by me with a view to the Council taking over the road. The matter may be difficult to deal with but I do not think it impossible to surmount same.

The willows on the Sewage Farm have been cut and are again to be sold to the Wolverhampton Society for the Blind. There are this year between 500 and 600 bundles off about $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of ground planted.

Conversion of Privies. This Special Committee has carried out its work with the addition of Councillor Bullen but the progress of conversion has not been so rapid as last year. To shew the position it would be advisable for me again to give you a detailed census.

No of Houses (Dec. 31st, 1908)			No. of Houses (Dec. 31st, 1907)		
		1306			1293
„	Ashpits	363	„	Ashpits	342
„	Middens	655	„	Middens	674
„	Earth Closets	18	„	Earth Closets	18

24 Houses have had their privies converted into W.C's, viz. :—4 W.C's and 20 W.W.C's.—Last year there were 44.

There are still a large number of privies to convert, and, to do this, at the present rate it will take 28 years. Nevertheless the work carried out by the Committee, from a sanitary point of view, cannot be over-estimated. An example of most insanitary outbuildings were those at Compton near the Fountain; the property belonged to 3 different owners and there was much difficulty in arranging ways and means of dealing with this matter, but those Members of the Committee who saw the state of these premises were unanimous in declaring that they could not believe there were such unsatisfactory buildings in a suburban district like Tettenhall. The state of this property is very different now—two houses were gutted and rebuilt, two new houses were built and very considerable alterations have been carried out, besides this, some very dilapidated and insanitary pigstyes were done away with. The site of this property instead of being degrading ought now to elevate the status of life in this locality.

It would be well for you to again draw the attention of the Council to the question of house refuse removal—there are now about 60 ash-bins in the District (next year I anticipate quite double that number) and these require very frequent attention, but while there are still so many privies in the district, it is impossible (except at great cost) to adopt even a weekly collection, apparently the solution of the difficulty is to urge forward the conversion of privies into W.C's but the present number of bins is causing a great tax upon my present staff of men and horses making it very difficult to deal with this matter. While the conversion of privies may be more to deal with at the Sewage Farm yet it means less to deal with here, this may appear to be contradictory to my last sentence, but the necessity for more team labour is accounted for by a much more frequent handling, and a prospective increase of houses in the near future.

Nightsoil and House Refuse Removal. This year 2,005 loads of nightsoil and house refuse have been removed from 380 ash-pits and 570 privies affecting 1,120 houses.

Compton Pools and Mill. The land here is still being used for the deposit of dry house refuse.

Infectious Disease. While there has not been the quantity of cases of Infectious Disease, special attention has been given to the disinfection not only in the matter of fumigation but also in the spraying of rooms, the owners have also conceded to having the rooms stripped and re-papered.

Cowsheds and Milkshops. These have been inspected as usual and several notices as to limewashing were issued. In an instance where a case of Infectious Disease occurred samples of pump water and of the milk were taken and submitted to analysis—the water was found to be impure but the milk was proved to be all right.

Inspection of Houses. Although it has not been necessary to inspect every house in the district as was the case last year, many houses have been visited, with the result that one house has been closed as unfit for human habitation, two other houses have been gutted and re-constructed, and two houses have been entirely rebuilt.

Factories and Workshops. There are 2 Factories and 46 Workshops in the District including 7 Bakehouses. Inspections have been made and the usual notices issued. There have been 6 addresses of Outworkers sent to me by the Inspector of Wolverhampton.

Finchfield Drainage. The Council were asked by the Seisdon Rural District Council to undertake the drainage of a small area of their District at Finchfield. Plans and Specifications were prepared by me and this work is now in hand. The length of sewer is 1,220 yards and starts in Broad Lane, Bradmore, and extends down Castlecroft Road to Number 93 Manhole on our Sewer in Oak Hill. The size of pipe is 9" and good gradients are obtained throughout.

Enlarged Plan of District. This matter was mentioned in your 1905 Report. As Surveyor of this District, I then pointed out to you it would be impossible to put all information you suggested on to the 25" Ordnance Sheet which is the largest plan published for this area. This matter came again before the Council during the year on account of certain drains being exposed, and of which there were no records. Messrs. Stanford & Co., Ordnance Sheet Publishers, were approached as to the cost of making an enlargement to a scale of 41.66—the matter stands in abeyance for the present.

It would be necessary to shew on such plan all new houses erected during a considerable number of years, the Sewers, Drain connections, surface drains, and much other useful information in order to make the plan complete. No one can doubt the utility of such a plan but to put on the above information must of necessity extend over a long period of time.

Development of Land in Waterworks Road and Redhouse Road. The construction of a new Reservoir by the Wolverhampton Corporation brought about the development of land in above roads, and several streets are now being made by Mr. Holloway the Contractor, this also necessitated the raising and widening of Waterworks Road and the extension of the sewer in this road. The first proposal was to raise Waterworks Road for a considerable longer distance than has now been decided upon, with the intention of running the sewer to near Redhouse Road and obtaining a fair gradient, but on account of this scheme throwing some land on the South side of the road into a hollow it had to be abandoned, and practically only half of the scheme was undertaken. In order to reach the full extent of this estate it has been found necessary to lay the sewer in Waterworks Road and also in one of the streets at a gradient of 1 in 600, the only other method being was to carry a pipe round Long Lake to Wightwick, this would have been a somewhat expensive scheme but have had the advantage of making it possible to drain the whole of Wergs District—when the sewers in this District were first laid it apparently was not contemplated that such developments might take place otherwise better provision would have been made.

The possible number of houses to be built on this estate would be about 200, and it is hoped that a better class of residential property will be built. The building of this property

will of course increase the amount of house refuse to be dealt with—this is a further argument for the Committee, dealing with privy middens, to urge forward the conversion, because when this property is erected the Council will be compelled to adopt set periods for removal of house refuse throughout the district.

Six samples of water have been taken and five condemned—tap water has been laid on in all cases.

School Notices were served in 25 instances, viz. :—
Parents and Schools.

H. McCARTER,
Surveyor and Inspector.

TABLES I. & II.

TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and Previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each year	BIRTHS		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL	
		Number	Rate*	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	Rate*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1898	5584	140	25	23	164.2	79	14.1
1899	5655	138	24.4	11	79.7	62	10.9
1900	5720	134	23.4	18	134.3	68	11.6
1901	5337	110	20.6	10	90.9	59	11
1902	5357	144	26.6	17	118	67	12.3
1903	5377	124	23	17	136.2	64	11.8
1904	5395	110	20.3	11	100	56	10.5
1905	5422	116	21.3	6	51.7	54	9.9
1906	5441	113	20.7	13	115	73	13.4
1907	5477	122	22.2	13	106.6	53	9.6
Averages for years 1898-1907	5476	125.1	22.8	13.9	111.1	63.5	11.5
1908	5516	127	23	17	133.8	64	11.6

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).

1220

Total population at all ages .. 5337
 Number of inhabited houses .. 1176
 Average Number of persons per house 4.5

At Census of 1901

TABLE III.

TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT						
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- wards
Diphtheria	3		1	1	1		
Erysipelas	5		1			4	
Scarlet Fever	19		5	14			
Measles	4		3	1			
Totals	31		10	16	1	4	

TABLE IV.

TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District
	All ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Epidemic influenza ...	1						1	
Diarrhœa ...	1		1					
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	3			1		2		
Other tubercular diseases ...	2		1	1				
Cancer, malignant disease ...	4					3	1	
Bronchitis ...	6	2	2				2	
Pneumonia ...	7		2			3	2	
Venereal diseases ...	3	3						
Premature birth ...	2	2						
Diseases and accidents of parturition ...	2	1				1		
Heart diseases ...	5					2	3	
All other causes ..	28	9		1		6	12	
All causes ...	64	17	6	3		17	21	

A COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES, from 1883—1908.

Year	Small-pox.		Scarlet Fever. SEE TABLE VI.		Diphtheria.		Typhoid.		Puerperal Fever.		Measles.		Epidemic Influenza.	
	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths	No. of Cases	Deaths
1883	7	1	5		1		1				XX	2		
1884			6				1				5			
1885					1	1	1				115	5		
1886					1		8	3			34	5		
1887			1	1			1							
1888			2											
1889*														
1890			16	1			3				49	3	XX	
1891			17				3	1	1		86	1	XX	
1892			14			2	6		1		X	1	XX	
1893			29		6		6		1		3		X	
1894	1		46		1		2	1	1		40	3		
1895			24	3	12	5	2		1	1				3
1896			50	1	60	15	2		1				X	1
1897			9	2	40	4	1							
1898			11		6		1							
1899			5	2	1		3				230	8	X	
1900			14		1		3	2			34		XX	1
1901			11	1	5	1	4		1		10		XX	1
1902			57	1	28		3			1	66		X	
1903			37	1	13						2			
1904			43		1	1					155	5		
1905			23		2						7			
1906			53	1	3									
1907			63	1	8	1			1		6		X	2
1908			19		7				1		68		X	4
TOTALS	8	1	555	15	200	29	49	7	7	4	914	33		13

NOTE—A few cases X. Prevalent XX. Very Prevalent XXX.
*Adoption of Infectious Diseases' Notification Act.

TABLE VI.

SCARLET FEVER.

Year	Rent of Hos- pital	Charges for Board and Treatment in Hospital	No. of Days charged at 1/6 2/6		No. of Patients in Hospital	Deaths in Hos- pital	Patients not treated in Hospital	No. of Deaths in Patients not treated in Hospital
1892	£40	£16 2 6	215	—	4	—	10	—
1893	£40	£54 10 6	512	129	13	—	16	—
1894	£40	£61 17 6	728	33	17	2	29	1
1895	£40	£34 14 0	431	19	9	—	15	1
1896	£40	£151 12 6	975	629	32	2	18	—
1897	£40	£18 13 6	249	—	4	—	5	—
1898	£40	£8 9 6	113	—	4	2	7	—
1899	£40	£6 7 6	85	—	1	—	4	—
1900	£40	£27 15 0	370	—	8	—	6	—
1901	£40	£10 13 0	142	—	4	1	7	—
1902	£40	£182 6 0	862	940	39	1	18	—
1903	£40	£66 7 6	795	54	19	1	18	—
1904	£40	£139 17 6	680	711	30	1	12	—
1905	£40	£120 7 6	—	912	19	—	4	—
1906	£40	£136 13 0	—	1020	25	1	27	—
1907	£40	£319 3 0	—	2426	49	—	14	1
1908	£40	£69 15 0*	—	525	15	—	—	—

* THIS INCLUDES £5 2s. 6d. FOR REMOVAL OF CASES.

TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT.

TABLE VII.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK done in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1908, in the Urban District of Tettenhall.

		NUMBER OF		ABATEMENT NOTICES.		NUISANCES ABATED AFTER NOTICE BY	
		Inspections and Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority.	Inspector	Authority
Dwelling houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	4	2	2		2	
	Structural Defects	40	20	20		19	
	Overcrowding	4	1	1		1	
	Dairies and Milkshops ..	34					
	Cowsheds	44	5	5		5	
	Bakehouses	28	16	16		16	
	Slaughter-houses	20	10	10		10	
	Ashpits and Privies	182	60	53	7	17	7
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	20	7	7		7	
	Water Closets	48	27	27		27	
House Drainage—	Defective Traps	53	21	20	1	19	1
	Water Supply	20	5	1	4	1	4
	Pigsties	25	4	3	1	3	1
	Animals improperly kept	3	1	1		1	
	Other Nuisances	120	60	60		47	
TOTALS		645	239	226	13	175	13

Food and Drugs Act	{	Samples taken for Analysis (Milk)	1
		Samples of Water taken for Analysis	6
		„ „ condemned as unfit for use	5

Precautions against Infectious Disease.			
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	25		
Rooms Stripped, Cleansed, and Repapered	10		

NOTE.—When an Inspection or Notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.

Date, 24th February, 1909.

Signed, H. McCARTER.
Inspector of Nuisances.

WOLVERHAMPTON :
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