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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN.

ANNUAL REPORT,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

ALONG WITH THE

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,

FOR THE

Year ended December 31st. 1917.

PRESENTED APRIL, 1918.

TODMORDEN:

J. Bentley & Sons, Printers, Bookbinders, Stationers, etc., York Street

BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN.

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1917.

Area of Borough, 12,770 acres.

Population (1911 Census) 25,404.

Population (estimated 1917)—For Death Rate, 23,862.

For Birth Rate, 26,599.

No. of Inhabited Houses in the area (1917), 6,652.

Health Committee—

Councillor J. Holt, (Chairman) ; HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALD. JACKSON, J.P.), ALD. ORMEROD, J.P., C.C., ALD. T. GREENWOOD AND WADSWORTH ; COUNCILLORS BROOK, BULCOCK, CROSSLEY, GOUCKE, HELLIWELL, STANDING, STANSFIELD, STARKIE, AND J. H. SUTCLIFFE.

Medical Officer of Health—

J. H. BARKER, M.B., Ch.B., Roomfield.

Sanitary Inspector—

FREDK. ROGERS, A.R.S.I., Town Hall.

Health Visitors—

MRS. EDGAR, MRS. GEE.

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



The Librarian

British Medical Association

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Dear Sir

In reply to your request for Copy
of my annual M.O.H. Report. I have
only had three type written copies. one
for H.D.B. D.C.C. & one for myself as I am
provided cannot send you one this year.

Yours truly
J Pollock. M.O.H. T₇

Borough of Todmorden.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Todmorden.*

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the District during the year 1917.

In compliance with the Local Government Board's Circulars of 19th January and 28th December, 1917, this Report is again of an interim character. Much tabular and other interesting matter is withheld in order to economise clerical work, paper, and printing.

The Registrar General estimates the population of the Borough, for the middle of the year, at 26,599 for Birth Rate, and 23,862 for Death Rate. The number of Sugar Cards issued, 21,711, the excess of deaths over births and the absence of any influx of munition workers, would suggest that the figures given are too high.

Generally speaking the Health of the Borough has been good. Respiratory diseases have, as usual, taken a heavy toll, 85 deaths, compared with 67 in 1916.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In the early months of the year Anthrax appeared in connection with the picker-making trade in the Borough. Three special reports on the subject were transmitted to the Local Government Board. Anthrax has now been added to the list of Notifiable Diseases, and an arrangement has been made with the local Picker Makers Society, for the immediate serum treatment of any case which may arise in the future.

During the first three-quarters of the year the incidence of infectious disease was very low, but later we had mild epidemics of Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox. Scarlet Fever occurred sporadically, 24 cases being notified.

MEASLES.

130 Cases were notified, chiefly in December, although isolated cases appeared throughout the year. 106 or 81% were notified by Medical Practitioners, and 24 or 19% by parents. Notification was followed by visitation, with undoubted benefit to many inexperienced mothers. 3 Cases proved fatal, 2 under age 5, 2.3% of the total cases.

The Child-welfare centre has been open on Wednesday afternoons throughout the year, and, although the attendance has been interfered with by bad weather and the prevalence of measles etc., yet much good work has been accomplished. The Medical Officer and the Health Visitor attend all meetings, and suitable short-talks are given. A stock of dried Milk has been obtained through the Food Controller, for the benefit of those babies who cannot be breast-fed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Nett Births registered 252; Males 132, Females 120. 5 males and 5 females illegitimate.

Birth Rate 9.47; for England and Wales 17.8.

The birth rate has been falling steadily since 1878, and in 1915 fell, for the first time, below the death rate.

Nett deaths registered 321: Males 157, females 164. Excess of deaths over births 69.

Death rate 13.4 per 1000; England and Wales 14.4.

Infant Mortality rate 87.3; England and Wales 97. There were 22 deaths under one year, 14 males and 8 females.

Under age 5 there were 38 deaths: proportion to registered births 130.9. Of infants under one year, 22, 10 died from congenital debility and 2 from diarrhoea.

Enteric fever rate, 0.08. Cases 5, deaths 2.

Zymotic death rate, 0.54; number of deaths, 12. In 1916 the rate was 0.34.

Respiratory death rate 3.56. Number of deaths 85. In 1916 the rate was 2.85, per 1,000 living.

Phthisis death rate 0.70. Number of deaths 17. Rate in 1916, 0.76.

45 Died from Organic Heart Disease: rate per 1,000 living, 1.88.

Cancer (Malignant disease), 21 deaths: rate 0.88. Rate in 1916, 1.57.

11 Deaths resulted from violence (excluding suicide).

Suicides 2. Inquests held, 19.

Uncertified death, 1.

Deaths in Public Institutions within the Borough, 56 or 22% of the whole.

Deaths in Public Institutions outside the Borough, 14, or 4.3% of the whole.

Of persons aged 65 and over, 132 died, or 41% of the registered total.

Number of still births notified, 13.

Cases admitted to the Fielden Hospital:—

Scarlet Fever 19 cases, no deaths.

Diphtheria 3 „ „

Enteric Fever 5 „ 2 „

— —
Totals ... 27 „ 2 „

1916, 39 cases, 3 deaths.

Admitted to Sourhall Small Pox Hospital.—None.

The following table of Infectious Diseases shows (1) the number of cases of each disease notified, (2) the number admitted to Hospital, (3) the number of deaths, and (4) the mortality rate per 1,000 living.

| Name of Disease | No. of Cases | No. Removed to Hospital | No. of Deaths | Mortality Rate per 1000 living |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Enteric Fever ... | 5 | 5 | 2 | 0.08 |
| Small Pox ... | — | — | — | — |
| Cholera ... | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | 130 | — | 3 | 0.12 |
| Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ... | 5 | 3 | — | — |
| Erysipilas ... | 7 | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 24 | 19 | — | — |
| Puerperal Fever... .. | 1 | — | — | — |
| Cerebro Spiral Meningitis | — | — | — | — |
| Poliomyelitis ... | — | — | — | — |
| Opthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis, Pulmonary | 45 | 11 | 17 | 0.70 |
| Tuberculosis, other forms | 8 | 2 | 4 | 0.16 |
| Diarrhoea (under age 2) | — | — | 3 | 0.12 |
| Anthrax ... | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0.04 |
| Totals ... | 234 | 46 | 30 | 1.22 |

3 special reports were made to the Local Government Board on the occurrence of Anthrax, in connection with the picker making industry at Todmorden.

TABLE C., 1917.

WATER SUPPLY—

Any developments during 1917?—173 House connected to Corporation Supply.

Any insufficiency, and where?—Yes, Victoria Road, Gledhill Street, Calfhey Terrace, Fir Street, and Cedar Street, Walsden.

Any unsatisfactory quality, and where?—No.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

Any developments during 1917?—No.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of Sewers—

Main Sewer connections in Halifax Road.

(b) Improvement of defective sewers—No.

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells?—No.

Are there any sink wastes still needing disconnection?—

Yes, awaiting connection of house-drains to sewer.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

No. of Privies with open middens—A few at farms.

No. of Pail or Tub Closets—1513.

No. of Privies with covered middens—None.

No. of Water Closets—3,448.

Waste-water Closets—415.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1916—(a) as w.c.'s—

2. (b) other—none.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in

1916—(a) w.c.'s. 2. (b) other—none.

No. of Closets constructed in 1916 for new houses (a)

w.c.'s.—None. (b) other—None.

SCAVENGING.

Any change during 1917?—No.

How is refuse disposed of (a) Destructor—Nearly all ;

(b) Tips—A few loads weekly from extreme ends of Borough ; (c) Farmers—None.

Total Annual cost—£3,100.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—No.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1917—1,029.

Informal Notices served—45 ; Complied with—49.

Statutory Notices served—24 ; Complied with—25.

Including a few from previous year.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1916, 15 ; at close of 1917—10.

Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1917—69 ; abated during 1917—74.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings—None.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS (continued)—

| Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c. | No. in District. | No. on Register. | No. Inspected. | General Conditions? | Legal pr'ceedings if any. |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Common Lodging Houses .. | 5 | 5 | 40 | Fair. | |
| Canal Boats .. | 0 | 0 | 2 | Fair. | |
| Knackers Yards .. | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Offensive Trades— 1 Tripe Boiling 1 Fat Melting] | 2 | | 14 | Fair. | |

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e.g.*, Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc.?—Yes, Dressing of hides for making pickers. Trade of a rag and bone dealer. Fish-frying. Trade of a dealer in blood, hides, skin and butchers' waste.

SCHOOLS—

No. of Visits to Schools—M.O.H. is also S.M.O. and paid a very large number of visits to Schools.

Action taken—School Closure, improved ventilation, exclusion of infected children, improvements in cleanliness of children and of premises.

MILK SUPPLY—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts.—12 ; No. adulterated—2.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination—None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows?—None.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1917?—

No. of Cowkeepers in district—160 ; No. registered—160.

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—79 ; No. who are purveyors only—None ; Total No. Registered—79.

MILK SUPPLY (continued)—

Total No. of Cowsheds—250 ; No. of Inspections in 1917—49 ; General Condition—Fair.

Approximate No. of Milch Cows in District—1,000.

Any insufficiency in Milk Supply ?—No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders—None.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent ?—No.

OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Acts—None ; No. adulterated—None.

No. of seizures of unsound food—None ; Kind and quantity—None ; No. of Prosecutions—None.

No. of Slaughter houses—18 ; No. Registered—18 ; Kind and condition—All private ; Condition—Fair.

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs—None ; (b) Unsound Food—None ; (c) *re* Slaughter Houses—None.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

Any Smoke nuisance, and where ?—Cases met with periodically.

No. of Smoke observations taken—9 ; No. of Cautions—None ; Legal Notices—1 ; Summonses—None.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS—

Any adopted or revised during 1917—None.

Are any other Byelaws needed ?—No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1917 ?—Anthrax, Measles, Whooping Cough.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list ?—Yes, Anthrax.

Any influences threatening the health of the District ?—No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS—

Anthrax, in connection with the picker making industry.

TUBERCULOSIS—*Procedure after notification*—

- Inspection of patient's home and workshop—4.
- Examination of Contacts—None.
- Disinfection—6.
- Distribution of advice leaflets—At each house visited.
- Action *re* spitting—Advice.
- Shelters provided—None.
- Is sputum examined?—Occasionally.
- Tuberculosis Dispensaries.—Any suggestions—That lists of patients treated be supplied to the M.O.H.

BACTERIOLOGY.

- Is County Laboratory utilized?—Yes
- Any suggestions?—That copies of analyses sent to private practitioners be sent to M.O.H. for his information.

INFANT MORTALITY—

- What organised effort to control it?—Rate, 87·3. Municipal Baby Clinic, under M.O.H.
- Any Baby Clinic, Baby's Welcome, or Mother's League? Yes—House to house visiting by Health Visitors.
- Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1916—None.

VITAL STATISTICS—

- Births during 1917—Males 132, Females 120, Total, 252.
- No. illegitimate included in above—10.
- No. of still Births (not included)—13.
- Deaths during 1917—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the District *without any correction*—326, Males 159, Females 167.
- (2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 157, Females 164.
- No. of uncertified deaths (included above)—1.

MORTUARIES—

- What Mortuary accommodation—(a) for accidents—One mortuary with two slabs; (b) for infectious cases other than at Hospital—None.

SANITARY STAFF—

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H. ?—
£100 + £20 as M. O. to the Baby Clinic.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Frederick Rogers.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£190.

Other appointments held—Inspector under Shops Acts.

Salary for such other appointments.—£10.

Any Assistants ?—No.

Is Staff sufficient ?—Reduced on account of war.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1918.

No. of Houses inspected under Sec. 17 of 1909 Act—362.

No. found unfit for habitation—3.

No. of representations made with a view to making Closing Orders—3.

No. of Closing Orders made—3.

No. of Houses with defects remedied without Closing Orders—
19.

No. of Houses made fit after Closing Orders made—2.

General character of defects found—Dampness, defective floors, walls, etc.

OBSTRUCTIVE BUILDINGS—

Any building represented by M.O.H. under Sec. 38 (1) of 1890 Act ?—No.

Any Building represented by Inhabitant Householders under Section 38 (2) ?—No.

RE-CONSTRUCTION SCHEMES—

Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Sec. 39 of 1890 Act ?—No.

UNFIT HOUSES—

Any complaints by Inhabitant Householders under Sec. 31 of 1890 Act?—No.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Sec. 17 (7)?—No.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?—Not at present, large number empty.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?—Cases met with occasionally.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1917—2.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Any working class dwellings erected during 1917 by Sanitary Authority.—Please give number and type :—None.

Are Sanitary Authority contemplating erection of working class dwellings? Please give number and type :—Yes, 80 working-class dwellings to be erected after war.

TOWN PLANNING—

Any scheme prepared during 1917? If so, give details—None.

Any scheme contemplated? If so, for what area?—A scheme is under consideration for erecting 80 Working Class dwellings on the Stile Estate.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910?—Frederick Rogers, Town Hall, Todmorden.

Signed—J. H. BARKER, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

April 26th, 1918.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report,

For 1917.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1917.

INSPECTIONS OF PREMISES—

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| Total | ... | ... | 2385 |
| For nuisances, etc. | ... | ... | 1029 |
| Where infectious disease has occurred | ... | ... | 28 |
| Where phthisis has occurred | ... | ... | 4 |
| Where offensive trades are carried on | ... | ... | 14 |
| Inspections of Workshops | ... | ... | 3 |
| " Factories | ... | ... | 71 |
| " Bakehouses | ... | ... | 28 |
| " Ice Cream Manufactories | ... | ... | 4 |
| " under Shops Act | ... | ... | 264 |
| " of Cowsheds | ... | ... | 49 |
| " Canal Boats | ... | ... | 2 |
| " Common Lodging Houses | ... | ... | 40 |
| " Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | 275 |
| " Water Supplies | ... | ... | 11 |
| " Work in progress | ... | ... | 70 |
| " under the Housing, Town Planning etc., Act, 1909. | ... | ... | 362 |
| " of Schools | ... | ... | 14 |
| Re-inspections as to compliance with notices | ... | ... | 117 |
| No. of houses disinfected after— | | | |
| (1) Infectious disease | ... | ... | 32 |
| (2) Phthisis | ... | ... | 6 |
| No. of Schools or departments disinfected | ... | ... | 3 |
| Smoke test applied to drains | ... | ... | 19 |
| Smoke observations taken | ... | ... | 9 |
| Samples of Milk taken for analysis | ... | ... | 12 |
| Samples of water taken for analysis | ... | ... | 1 |
| No. of complaints investigated | ... | ... | 113 |
| Cases abated under preliminary notice | ... | ... | 61 |
| Cases abated under statutory notice | ... | ... | 34 |

SUMMARY OF WORKS CARRIED OUT IN
COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES, &c., DURING THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1917.

HOUSE DRAINAGE—

| | | |
|--|--------|----|
| Waste pipes disconnected from house drains | ... | 4 |
| Waste pipes trapped | ... .. | 1 |
| House drains repaired, cleansed, etc. | ... .. | 41 |
| New pipe drains provided | ... .. | 5 |

SANITARY CONVENIENCES—

| | | |
|--|--------|----|
| Tub closets converted into water closets | ... .. | 2 |
| New water closets provided... | ... .. | 2 |
| Closets repaired, cleansed, etc. | ... .. | 19 |

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES—

| | | |
|---|--------|---|
| Existing sanitary accommodation in factories im- proved | ... .. | 3 |
| Factories provided with sufficient and suitable closet accommodation | ... .. | 1 |

HOUSES REPAIRED, ETC., UNDER H.T.P. ETC., ACT, 1909.

| | | |
|--|--------|----|
| On the service of informal notices | ... .. | 17 |
| By notice under Section 15 of the Act | ... .. | 2 |
| No. of houses closed as unfit for habitation | | 3 |
| Houses rendered fit for habitation under Sec. 17 | | 2 |

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES—

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------|---|
| Shippon floors relaid... | | 2 |
|--------------------------|--------|---|

MISCELLANEOUS—

| | | |
|--|--------|---|
| No. of galvanised iron dust-bins provided | ... | 3 |
| No. of houses cleansed, limewashed, etc. | ... | 1 |
| No. of accumulations of manure, refuse, etc., removed | ... .. | 6 |
| No. of yards repaired, flagged, asphalted, etc. | ... | 5 |
| No. of removals of animals improperly kept | ... | 3 |
| Pollutions of water supply remedied | ... | 1 |
| No. of new sinks provided | ... .. | 3 |

F. ROGERS, A.R.San.I.,

Sanitary Inspector



