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URMSTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1898.

BY

G . E . F R Y E R

(MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH),

C . C . H O O L E Y , C . E .

(SURVEYOR),

AND

W I L L I A M B L A N D

(SANITARY INSPECTOR).

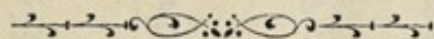
URMSTON

"TELEGRAPH" PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, STATION ROAD,

1899.



The Medical Officer's Annual Report.



COUNCIL OFFICES, URMSTON, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1899.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URMSTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my annual report as to the health of the district for the year 1898.

POPULATION.

The estimated increase in population on the previous year is 600.

The census returns for past years are as follows:—

1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
740	996	2,244	4,042

and the estimate for the year 1898 is 6,800; equivalent to a population of 6·85 persons per acre.

BIRTH RATE.

During the year 149 births were registered:—77 males and 72 females. This is equivalent to a birth-rate of 21·9 per thousand, as compared with 22·4 per thousand for the previous year.

DEATH RATE.

During the same period there were 80 deaths registered from all causes; 46 males and 34 females. These figures give a death rate of 11·7 per thousand. Compared with 11·5 for the year 1897.

The rate under 5 years was 5 per 1,000, and 6·7 per 1,000 for all above that age.

The excess of births over deaths, was 69, and the proportion of deaths under one year of age was 93·9 per 1000 births. Compared with the previous years, infant mortality, and mortality among the aged has been less ; and there have been no deaths between the ages of 15 and 25 years.

AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATH RATES.

Years.	All Causes	Infectious Diseases	Fevers (Typhoid, &c.)	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Lung Diseases (exclusive of phthisis)
1871-1875 ...	16·7	1·9	·6	·6	1·7	2·3
1876-1880 ...	16·2	2·5	·4	·7	1·2	2·5
1881-1885 ...	13·6	1·5	·3	·6	·9	1·7
1886-1890 ...	13·3	·9	·1	·2	·6	3·0
1891-1895 ...	13·8	1·1	·7	·25	1·1	2·8
1895 ...	11·9	1·4	·4	·2	1·4	2·2
1896 ...	8·4	·3	·0	·0	·2	1·7
1897 ...	11·5	1·3	·1	·8	·0	3·0
1898 ...	11·7	2·64	·0	·58	·88	1·6


ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

Of the total number of deaths 18 were due to infectious diseases, as follows :—Scarlet fever, 2 ; diphtheria, 9 ; measles, 5 ; whooping cough, 2. Four were due to diarrhoea, making a total of 22 due to the principal zymotic diseases, equivalent to a zymotic death rate of 3·23 per 1,000. Phthisis was accountable for 6 deaths, and respiratory diseases 11. There were no deaths from enteric fever.

TABLE A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1898, in the Urnston Urban District, classified according to Diseases, and Ages.

MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																							
At all Ages.	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards	Small-pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	FEVERS					Cholera	Erysipelas	Measles	WhoopingCough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	RheumaticFever	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	*	Injuries	All other Diseases.	Total		
							Under 5 years ...	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
							5 upwards....	..	6	5	2	4	..	1	6	9	6	16	34
80	11	20	9	..	19	18		..	6	1	6	9	6	18	46	



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TABLE B.
(INFECTIOUS CASES NOTIFIED.)

Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric.	Total.
2	26	62	13	103

Of the above cases it was found advisable to remove 17 to the Ladywell Sanatorium, viz.:—Scarlet fever, 6 ; diphtheria, 10 ; enteric fever, 1 ; with a mortality of 4 from diphtheria ; all the other cases recovering.

DIPHTHERIA.

During the entire year 62 cases were reported from 55 houses, with a mortality of 9 at Urmston and 4 in hospital.

In the first half of the year 7 cases only were reported, but early in July the disease assumed an epidemic form, affecting almost entirely the scholars of the Infants' Department of the British School. Enquiry revealed the fact that a case of sore throat, which unfortunately proved to be diphtheritic, had been present at the school. It was at first of so slight a nature that it escaped recognition for several days, and was thus undoubtedly the origin of a sudden outbreak. In spite of prompt isolation of these cases it was found necessary to close the school until the epidemic was at an end.

An inspection of the school and outbuildings proved that there was no ground for attaching the outbreak to any structural defects, and the sanitary arrangements were found on inspection to be satisfactory. They were, moreover, again thoroughly overhauled by an independent sanitary engineer, by order of the school managers, and were found to be in good working order. The schools were disinfected and limewashed throughout.

A special report was presented to the Council on July 12, and a supplementary report on October 25. Copies of these reports were forwarded to the Local Government Board and the Lancaster County Council. These reports showed that from July to the end of September 50 cases had been reported, the bulk of which, namely 33, occurred between the 4th and 19th of July. Thirty-five cases in all were reported for July, and most of these referred to the same source. Thirteen cases were reported during August, and these were not confined to any particular locality or school. The epidemic now rapidly subsided, only 2 further cases being reported for the month of September.

With the sanction of your Sanitary Committee arrangements have been made with the Pathological Department of the Owens College for the bacteriological examination of specimens taken from suspected cases of diphtheria and enteric fever. These tests, it is hoped, may render valuable assistance to medical men in the diagnosis of obscure cases of these diseases, occurring in this district.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty-six cases have been reported, as compared with 21 cases for the previous year, and 62 cases for the year 1896.

The disease did not assume an epidemic form, the cases being spread over the entire period, and fairly evenly distributed throughout the district.

ENTERIC FEVER.

During the first half of the year no cases were reported, but in the autumn, following the unusually hot and dry weather, this district, in common with many others in the county, was visited by the disease, 13 cases in all being reported. Of these 8 cases (in 6 houses) occurred in October, and 4 cases (in 3 houses) in November. Though the cases were not of a mild type, there were fortunately no deaths, and at the end of the year the district was entirely free from this disease.

In order to avoid soil contamination, special pails are now supplied for the evacuation of these patients; the contents being thoroughly disinfected and periodically buried.

The ashpits and outhouses are also disinfected with corrosive sublimate, on the disease becoming known.

REMOVAL OF NIGHTSOIL.

This is arranged for, as heretofore, by contract, and is in the same hands as in the previous year. Twenty-eight privy middens have been converted into water closets during the year, and all new property is required to be provided with portable dust-bins.

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This department is under the control of the joint board appointed for that purpose,

Slaughter houses and bakehouses have been inspected and found satisfactory.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Inspections have been made from time to time. As the new bye laws have not yet come into force, the question of structural improvements in some of the shippens is in abeyance.

WATER SUPPLY,

Nearly all the water used in this district for drinking purposes is obtained from the Manchester Corporation Works. During the year 2 samples have been submitted to the County Analyst, who reports that the water is of excellent quality.

Numerous complaints having been made to the Council concerning the foul emanations from the Moss Side Sewage Farm, situated in your district, after inspection, I reported to your Sanitary Committee that in my opinion these complaints were well founded.

The attention of the Moss Side authorities was drawn to the matter, and in September a deputation from your Council visited the Stretford and Moss Side Sewage Farms, and a report embodying their views was drawn up, to the effect that the Moss Side Farm was solely responsible for the nuisance complained of.

Certain alterations were made by the Moss Side authorities, viz., the utilization of land for filtration which prior to the complaints had been under cultivation. They also pointed out that the new pumping station was nearing completion, and that great improvements might be expected as soon as it was possible to bring it into operation.

Carr's ditch has been cleansed and deepened to its normal level throughout its length, in conjunction with the Davyhulme authorities. Its condition is thereby vastly improved but so long as sewage is emptied into it from the Davyhulme side trouble will recur, and I advise that the Davyhulme authorities be urged to prevent its pollution.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. E. FRYER,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Surveyor's Report.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE.

URMSTON,

DECEMBER 31ST, 1898.

TO MESSRS. THE URMSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as follows :—

URMSTON AND FLIXTON DISTRICT DRAINAGE JOINT COMMITTEE.

The following lengths of tributary sewers have been connected to your main trunk sewers :—

In Flixton	...	...	...	113 lineal yards.
In Urmston	...	...	...	282 lineal yards.

Which will be accordingly increased from my last Report, making the total lengths of sewers within the District :—

		Miles.	Flgs.	Yds.
Urmston - Main Trunk Sewers	...	3	2	25
„ Tributary	„	7	0	40
Flixton - Main Trunk Sewers	...	4	7	164
„ Tributary	„	3	0	23
Total	...	18	2	32

Considerable works are now being carried out at the Sewage Farm, as reported last year in accordance with the sanction received from the Local Government Board in May last. but owing to the unseasonable weather the completion will be much delayed.

The usual flushing of sewers has been continued with good results, but I regret to state that a most unfounded and untrue complaint has been forwarded to the Local Government Board as to alleged sewage gas escaping out of your manholes. I think it cannot be too widely known that your Committee has two men, under my direct supervision, who do nothing else but continually flush and cleanse out your sewers and manholes ; and that every flush of water discharged at the increased velocity due to holding up the sewage in the manholes is charged with permanganate of potash—and that three cwts. are used in each year, which is equal to 100,000 gallons of this powerful disinfectant. A diary is kept of every sewer, and in it written the number of times each length is flushed every year.

The main sewers are required to be extended in—

Church Road	} in Flixton.
Lime Avenue	
Carrington Road	
Chassen Road	
Moss Road in Urmston.	

Plans, sections, and estimates to the amount of £1,000 have been prepared, and the Local Government Inquiry will be held on the 4th prox. to inquire into the proposals.

A matter of much importance has lately come before your Committee owing to a person having applied to the Local Government Board to admit surface water into your sewers. This matter also requires to be well understood—that the present system of sewers was not designed to deal with more than half the roof water in times of rain, from properties ; therefore, it is impossible to take that which has been applied for without increasing the capacity of your sewers, which would involve your district in a cost of some thousands of pounds.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Councillor Galloway, Chairman.

The area of the Cemetery is seven statute acres. During the year the Registrar's house has been beautified, and the gas put in at a cost of £16 15s.

Every possible means continues to be taken to make the site attractive by laying out the various sections in flower beds, &c.

The Registrar, Mr. Joseph Cocksey, has supplied me with the following information as to the number of interments during the year :—

1898.			1897.	
Church of England..	36	} as against {	Church of England ...	39
Roman Catholic	6		Roman Catholic	6
Nonconformist	25		Nonconformist	5

as against {

The following table gives the number of interments since the formation of the Cemetery :—

		Church of England.		Roman Catholic.		Nonconformist.
1892	...	1	...	0	...	0
1893	...	3	...	0	...	1
1894	...	12	...	0	...	4
1895	...	20	...	0	...	9
1896	...	26	...	0	...	12
1897	..	39	...	6	...	5
1898	..	36	...	6	...	25
		—		—		—
Total	..	137	...	12	...	56

The general expenditure, including minister's fees, wages of the Registrar, and labour during the year, has been £175 15s. 0d., and the receipts from the sales of grass, graves, construction of foundations, fees for the erection of headstones, the hiring of the bogey, &c., have been £196 13s. 0d., so that the year's return show a balance in your Committee's favour of £20 18s. 0d.

HIGHWAYS, STREETS, AND BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Councillor Seddon, Chairman.

Works of private street improvement are now in the hands of your contractors, Messrs. W. A. Stamp and Sons, in Wycliffe Road, Hereford Grove, Ross Grove, with adjoining back streets; Gloucester Road, Atkinson Street, George Street, with back and side streets; and Chapel Grove; when completed will add 1,585 yards to the length of other roads.

Works of public street improvements are also in the hands of the same contractors for flagging the footpaths to the amount of £1,941 11s. 1d.

The following improvements have been made to the surface of the roads :—

Church Road from Lyme Grove to Pillar Post Office has been re-ballasted with slag, covered with macadam, and steam rolled, at a cost of £88 0s. 0d.

Stretford Road.—The whole of the sett pavement opposite Mr. Royle Higginson's cottages has been taken up and repaved in asphalte joints, at a cost of £11 2s. 4d.

Opposite the Lord Nelson Hotel the sett pavement has been taken up, raised, and re-paved, and the macadam from the end of the sett paving to the granite paving near the church has been raised, covered with macadam, and steam rolled, at a cost of £20 0s. 0d.

In Station Road the whole of the granite paving has been taken up, raised, and repaved with asphalte joints, at a cost of £49 8s. 2d.

Crofts Bank Road has been "lifted," covered with macadam so far as the estimate would permit) and steam rolled, at a cost of £25 0s. 0d.

The maintenance of the Railway Bridge, including the removal of the old setts forming the late cab stand, and its site made good with macadam, has cost £55 0s. 0d. To put the surface in proper and permanent repair it should be paved with setts in asphalte joints. I estimate the work to cost £350 0s. 0d.

Moss Lane, from the junction of Higher Road to Stretford Road, has been entirely reconstructed, from the old boulder pavement to macadam, at a cost of £43 9s. 6d.

Flixton Road, from the entrance to the station to the Flixton boundary has been "lifted," re-ballasted, reformed, covered with macadam, and steam rolled, at a cost of £184 12s. 10d. It should be covered with macadam next year one inch thick, and steam rolled, when with fair treatment it will be a good road for years.

The number of houses built in Urmston in 1887 was 33, the corresponding number in 1898 is 88. The following table gives the number of houses built during the years 1889 to 1898 :—

1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
33	57	73	64	33	52	80	102	135	88

Plans have been approved for the following streets and buildings during the year :—

Streets.	Dwelling-houses.	Other Buildings,
11	83	10

You have under your charge 6 miles, 3 furlongs, 131 yards of roads, comprising 1 mile, 7 furlongs, 44 yards of secondary roads, i.e.—roads for which you receive from the County a grant in aid; and 4 miles, 4 furlongs, 87 yards of other roads, i.e.—roads which are wholly maintained at your own cost, without any assistance from the County Council, which includes the streets that are now being executed under the 150th section of the Public Health Act, 1875, and will become repairable by your Council after October next.

The following table gives the reference number by which the County Council recognises the secondary roads, the amount of grant in aid, the names and lengths of roads, and the names and lengths of the other roads :—

Description.	Cnty Council Reference No.	Grant	Name of Street.	Length.			Length.		
				Miles.	Furlgs.	Yards.	Miles.	Furlgs.	Yards.
Secondary Roads {	43	£12	Crofts Bank Road and Station Road.		3	44			
	44	£60	Church Road and Stretford Road ..	1	4	0	1	7	44
Other Roads			Flixton Road ...		3	110			
"			Newton Road ..			110			
"			Roseneath Road ...		2	44			
"			Railway Road ...		4	99			
"			Back Railway Road ...			50			
"			Gladstone Road ...			198			
"			Back Gladstone Road ...			80			
"			Cavendish Road ...			198			
"			Higher Road ...		4	33			
"			Ciss Lane ...		1	22			
"			Moss Lane ..		3	0			
"			Lyme Grove ..			113			
"			Lily Street ...		1	52			
"			Back Lily Street..			146			
"			Back Flixton Road			52			
"			10 Yards Street ...			53			
"			Side Street from Lily Street to						
"			Roseneath Road			52			
"			Moss Grove ...			156			
"			North Grove ...			86			
"			Cross Street ...			105			
"			Back Moss Grove			120			
"			Back North Grove			83			
"			Beech Avenue ...			133			
"			Milly Street ...			49			
"			William Street ...			48			
"			Back Beech Avenue East ...			53			
"			Back Beech Avenue West ...			80			
"			Back William Street ...			40			
"			Back Milly Street			53			
"			Back Church Road			44			
"			Wycliffe Road ...			200			
"			Hereford Grove ...			120			
"			Ross grove ...			65			
"			Back Streets ...			285			
"			Gloucester Road ...			290			
"			Atkinson Street ...			170			
"			George Street ...			200			
"			Back George Street			150			
"			Side Street ...						
"			Chapel Grove ...			105	4	4	87
Total ...							6	3	131

I again suggest for your consideration that for the next year ending 1900, team labour shall be contracted for by the year at so much per hour, instead of giving to various team owners' in the district a month's work at so much per day. I do not think you get proper value for the money you expend.

In conclusion, I again, as I did last year, draw your attention to the very great increase of the traffic in Crofts Bank, Fixton, Station, and Streitford Roads. Strong representation has been made to the County Council to induce them to increase the grant for maintenance, but up to writing I regret to say you have not obtained it.

The maintenance] last [year from] March, 1896 to 1897, was £367 13s. 3d.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

COSMO C. HOOLEY,

Assoc. Mem. Inst. C.E.,

Mem. San. Inst.

December 31st, 1898.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

COUNCIL OFFICES, URMSTON, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1899.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URMSTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following report on the sanitary work attended to during 1898.

TABLE I.

No. of houses visited and sanitary particulars reported upon	72
No. of notices served for the abatement of nuisances	7
No. of notices by letter in lieu of formal notices	49
No. of verbal notices	17
No. of drains cleansed and replaced	6
No. of drains repaired, trapped, and ventilated	24
No. of slopstone and other waste pipes repaired	3
No. of ashpit defects remedied	2
No. of ashpits provided with doors	2
No. of privies converted into water closets	28
No. of defective inside water closets replaced with sanitary closets	4
No. of other nuisances dealt with	6
Total nuisances abated	75

Two samples of town's water have been submitted to the County Analyst, whose certificate was very satisfactory.

In conjunction with the Davyhulme Council, the work of cleansing Carr's ditch was carried out, the length from Flixton boundary to Moss-road was lowered to its normal level, thus freeing the outlets of all surface drains emptying into the same. This work requires periodical attention to prevent the portion east of Crofts Bank-road from blocking the drains.

The contract for emptying of ashpits and disposal of house refuse was relet to the same contractor as in the previous two years. In the new contract provision was made to empty the ashpits to 43 houses every eight weeks, making the number so dealt with 169. During the year 137 houses have been provided with portable dust-boxes. The total number which require attention every week is now 403. This continued increase will justify the purchase of a suitable covered dust cart, to be used for dry refuse only.

Enquiries have been made from a large number of districts similar to Urmston, with a view to ascertain the cost and other particulars relating to emptying ashpits and house refuse disposal. A copy of the report has been supplied to you, and it will form the basis of calculation when the contract is again before you; as, owing to the very limited competition it is worth consideration whether the Council should continue the contract system or whether it would not be cheaper and more efficient to do the work by men directly employed by the Council.

The ashpit depot has been placed in good condition. The area covered with soil has been let to a tenant as a small garden plot, the rent being fixed at the normal amount of 2s. 6d. per year.

Some progress has been made in the conversion of privies into water closets. Twenty-eight houses have been completed. The closets adopted are all fresh water flushed. No waste water closets have been put in during the year, as they are not entirely satisfactory for a residential district.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

One old licensed slaughter house has been replaced by the erection of a suitable building on a new site. The premises continue to be kept in good condition.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

The new bye laws have been approved by the Council and the Local Government Board, but are not as yet available. Improvements in buildings have been delayed pending these bye laws coming in force. One application for registration as a purveyor of milk has been received. The total number of cowsheds has been reduced by one. The present numbers are:—Cow-keepers, 10; purveyors of milk, 5; total, 15.

GAME LICENSES.

The licenses held during 1897 were all renewed, as follows :—
1 in Station-road ; 2 in Crofts Bank-road.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT, 1889

Table 2 gives the number of houses reported during each month of the year, with each disease.

TABLE II.

Nature of Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	3	1	..	2	5	..	..	4	5	..	22
Diphtheria ...	..	1	1	..	1	2	33	11	2	2	..	2	55
Typhoid ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	5	2	1	10
Erysipelas ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Total..	1	2	4	1	1	4	38	12	3	12	7	3	83

In the majority of cases good home isolation was obtained. Removal to hospital was necessary in six of scarlet fever, ten diphtheria, and one typhoid.

Seventy-nine houses and one school have been disinfected, 66 loads of bedding removed to the Sanatorium, and disinfected in the steam chamber.

In the enteric fever cases portable pails with tight-fitting covers were provided, the contents being disinfected and afterwards buried in earth, and all ashpits to houses where cases arose have been washed with a strong solution of corrosive sublimate.

Disinfectants have been freely used in all infectious cases, and a supply is kept for free distribution for general use.

HACKNEY CARRIAGES.

The number of licenses granted was :—Carriages, 14 ; drivers, 15. The Hackney Coach Sub-Committee examined the various conveyances prior to the licenses being granted.

PUBLIC LIGHTING.

Eleven new lamps have been erected, and six pillars removed to new positions making a total of 189 lamps, of which 162 are ordinary burners, and 27 incandescent.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM BLAND,

Assoc. San. Inst.

1870 to 1875

There are three main sources of information, and six others of less importance, which are of the nature of which the following are the main sources of information, and six others of less importance.

1. The following

2. The following

WILLIAM CLARK

James R. R. R.