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*With compliments of C. S. Fryer,
M.O.H.*

URMSTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1903.

BY

G. E. FRYER

(MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH).

URMSTON :

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The Medical Officer's Annual Report.

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 1903.

POPULATION.

The population is estimated at 7,100, being an estimated increase of 100 on the previous year, and being equivalent to 7.1 persons per acre.

Census returns for previous years are as follow :—

1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.
740.	996.	2,244.	4,042.	6,591.

BIRTH RATE.

During the year 168 births were registered : 93 males and 75 females. This is equivalent to a birth-rate of 23.6 per thousand, a fractional increase on the previous year (23.4).

DEATH RATE.

During the same period there were 79 deaths registered from all causes in this district : 54 males and 25 females. These figures give an uncorrected death-rate of 11.1 per thousand, as compared with 11.4 for the previous year. They include 1 death in hospital of a patient brought from another district.

Table IV. gives particulars of the nett mortality; the correction being arrived at by the exclusion of non-residents dying in hospital in this district, and the inclusion of residents dying in public institutions out of the district.

TABLE IV.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to District at subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths in Public Institution 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	
Small-pox								
Measles	1	1						
Scarlet fever	1		1					
Whooping-cough ...								
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup ...	2			2				
Croup								
Fever :								
Typhus								
Enteric	0							
Other continued ...								
Epidemic influenza	2				1	1		
Cholera								
Plague								
Diarrhœa	5	4	1					
Enteritis	3	2				1		1
Puerperal fever ...								
Erysipelas								
Septic diseases ..	1					1		
Phthisis	9			2	3	4		
Other tubercular diseases								
Cancer, malignant disease	2					1	1	
Bronchitis	8	4	1				3	
Pneumonia	10	3	3			3	1	
Pleurisy								
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1	1						
Alcoholism)	1					1		
Cirrhosis of liver)								
Venereal diseases	1	1						
Premature birth ...	5	5						
Diseases and acci- dents of parturition								
Heart diseases ..	6					4	2	
Accidents	1					1		
Suicides	1					1		
All other causes ...	25	4	3	0	2	4	12	2
All causes	85	25	9	4	6	22	19	3

The nett mortality for the year is 85, equivalent to a nett death-rate of 11.9 per thousand, as compared with 12.3 per thousand for the year 1902.

The excess of births over nett deaths was 83, and the proportion of deaths under one year of age was 148 per thousand births.

Of this number (25), 1 was due to measles, 6 to diarrhœa and other digestive disorders, ; 8 to Broncho-pneumonia and other diseases of the respiratory system ; and 5 to prematurity.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1903 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
NAME OF DISTRICT—URMSTON.

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.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond 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 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11.	12	13	
1895	5042	148	29.3	11	74.3	60	11.9			1	59	12	
1896	5250	125	23.8	13	104	48	9.1			2	50	9.5	
1897	5500	139	25.2	20	144	71	12.9			1	72	13.0	
1898	5750	149	25.9	14	93.9	80	13.9			7	86	14.9	
1899	6000	150	25.0	20	133.3	83	13.8			3	86	14.3	
1900	6300	190	30.1	16	84.2	82	13	4	3	8	87	13.8	
1901	6600	140	21.2	28	200	88	13.3	2	2	3	80	13.4	
1902	7000	164	23.4	14	85	80	11.4	3	1	7	86	12.3	
Averages for years 1895-1902.	5930	150.6	25.4	17	112.8	74	12.4			4	76.8	12.9	
1903	7100	168	23.6	25	148	79	11.1	3	1	7	85	11.9	

Total population at all ages 6591
 Number of inhabited houses 1456
 Average Number of persons per house.. 4.5

At Census of 1901

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water.) } .. 902

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.

Three deaths were registered from notifiable infectious diseases, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 1; Diphtheria, 1; Membranous Croup, 1. These figures include 1 case dying in Ladywell Hospital. 5 were due to Diarrhœa and 1 to Measles, making a

total of 9 from the 7 principal zymotic diseases, and being equivalent to a zymotic death-rate of 1.2 per thousand as compared with 2 per thousand for the previous year. Table III. shows the cases of infectious disease notified during the year, the total number being 50. It is classified according to the different diseases and the ages at which they occur.

TABLE III.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1903.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.								
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up.															
Small-pox	1					1										1						7
Diphtheria	9	3	3	1	2											3						
Membranous Croup..	1		1																			
Erysipelas	2			1	1																	
Scarlet Fever	37	6	27	4												17						
Enteric Fever	0																					
Totals	50	0	9	31	6	4										21						

It will be noticed that no cases of Enteric Fever have occurred during the year.

SMALL-POX.

A severe case was detected with the rash fully out, in January, and was promptly removed to Drinkwater Park Hospital, where recovery took place. Every precaution was taken as regards contacts; the other inmates of the house being vaccinated, and quarantined, with the result that no spreading of the disease occurred.

SCARLATINA.

This disease was prevalent during August and September, and 17 cases were removed to hospital during the year, with a mortality of 1.

The families from infected houses and all suspicious cases were isolated as far as possible, but it was not deemed necessary to close any of the schools. I regret to say that great carelessness was shown by parents, in certain cases, as regards isolation. After careful consideration of all the circumstances it was decided not to prosecute, but at my suggestion they were admonished by the Sanitary Committee, with good results.

DIPHThERIA.

Nine cases were reported, and 1 case of Membranous Croup. Of this number, two cases proved fatal.

HOSPITAL ISOLATION.

20 cases of infectious disease were removed to Ladywell Sanatorium during the year, with a mortality of only one case.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS.

The contract with the Public Health Laboratory in connection with the Owens College, for examination in suspected cases of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever, is still in force.

DISINFECTION.

This is effected by means of Formaldehyde gas, set free by "Regenerator," and gives every satisfaction. Bedding is disinfected by super-heated steam at Ladywell.

NIGHTSOIL REMOVAL.

The work is done by the Sanitary Department's men, and team labour is supplied by contract.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This department is under the control of the Urmston and Flixton Joint Drainage Committee. The sewage is treated in covered tanks, and by cinder and land filtration.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

All new shippens are built in accordance with the Council's regulations, giving 800 cubic feet air-space per cow.

The older shippens are much improved as regards ventilation and cleanliness, but are in many instances deficient in air-space.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND BAKE-HOUSES.

These have been inspected, and have given rise to no complaint. An underground bakehouse is now disused.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 3 factories and 47 workshops and workplaces registered under the Factory and Workshop Act (1901). They have been inspected as regards cleanliness, air-space, ventilation, and sanitary conveniences, and were considered satisfactory with the exception of one instance, where the sanitary arrangements were found to be unsuitable and badly placed. These were promptly remedied. Means of escape in case of fire were found sufficient.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water used for drinking purposes is obtained from the Manchester Corporation Works, and is of excellent quality.

MOSS SIDE SEWAGE FARM.

There have been no complaints received from residents; and on inspection the condition of the farm was found to be much improved.

The Eea Brook was, however, found on one inspection to be polluted, but not, apparently, from this source.

Carr's Ditch is less offensive than in former years, and remains free from obstruction. In my opinion, however, the cess-pools discharging into it from the adjoining district require more frequent cleansing.


During the year 35 new houses have been erected, all complying with the Bye-laws.

Thirteen notices have been served and 128 nuisances abated during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. E. FRYER.



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