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URMSTON  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1908.

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BY

**G. E. FRYER,**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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# The Medical Officer's Annual Report.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1908.

## POPULATION.

The population is estimated at 8,000, being an estimated increase of 200 on the previous year, and being equivalent to 8 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 162 births were registered ; 84 males and 78 females. This is equivalent to a birth-rate of 20.2 per thousand, as compared with 22 per thousand for the previous year.

The average birth-rate for the previous 10 years was nearly 24, so that the rate for this year is unusually low. It is, in fact, the lowest on record for the district.

## DEATH RATE.

During the same period there were 90 deaths from all causes registered in the District, including one death of a Davyhulme patient in the Cottage Hospital; and 10 deaths of Urmston residents in other Districts, giving a nett mortality of 99 (49 males and 50 females), equivalent to a nett death-rate of 12.37 per thousand, as compared with 12.5 per thousand for the year 1907.

Table IV. gives particulars of the nett mortality ; being arrived at by the inclusion of residents dying in public institutions out of the District.

## SUICIDES.

Three cases of suicide are included in the table.

Two (from drowning), probably took place elsewhere ; the bodies being washed ashore in this district.

The third occurred on the railway. None of these cases were resident in the district, nor connected with it, but as it is necessary to include them in our returns, they swell unduly the apparent net mortality.



TABLE IV.  
CAUSE OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1908.  
NAME OF DISTRICT—URMSTON (URBAN).

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole district at subjoined ages.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	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 ... ..	2			1	1			
Whooping cough ... ..	2		2					
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ... ..								
Croup ... ..								
Fever:								
Typhus ... ..								
Enteric ... ..	2					2		1
Other continued								
Epidemic Influenza	2					1	1	
Cholera ... ..								
Plague ... ..								
Diarrhoea ... ..	4	4						
Enteritis ... ..	1		1					
Puerperal fever ... ..								
Erysipelas ... ..								
Other septic diseases ... ..								
Phthisis ... ..	7					7		
Other tubercular diseases ... ..	2	1				1		
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	8				1	3	4	
Bronchitis ... ..	13					2	11	
Pneumonia ... ..	4	1			1	2		
Pleurisy ... ..								
Other diseases of respiratory organs	2					1	1	
Alcoholism ... ..	1						1	
Cirrhosis of liver ... ..								
Venereal diseases ... ..	1					1		
Premature birth	4	4						
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	2					2		
Heart diseases ... ..	7			1	1	2	3	
Accidents ... ..	1						1	
Suicides ... ..	3					2	1	
Gout ... ..	1						1	
All other causes	29	5	1	1	1	10	11	3
All causes ...	99	15	5	3	5	36	35	4

The excess of births over nett deaths was 63, and the proportion of deaths under 1 year of age was 92·5 per thousand births, as compared with 87 for the previous year.

The rate for the County of Lancaster was 125 per thousand.

Table V. gives a detailed account of the Infantile Mortality during the year; the total number of deaths under 1 year being 15; the same number as in the previous year.

Four of these deaths were due to prematurity, and four to diarrhoea.

## ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Three illegitimate births have been registered in the District during the year.

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR. 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

NAME OF DISTRICT—URMSTON (URBAN).

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Cases—																	
Certified ... ..	4		1		5		3	2	2	1				2			15
Uncertified ... ..																	0
Common Infectious Diseases—																	
Small-pox ... ..																	
Chicken-pox ... ..																	
Measles ... ..																	
Scarlet Fever ... ..																	
Diphtheria: Croup ... ..																	
Whooping Cough ... ..																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																	
Diarrhoea all forms ... ..			1		1		1	1	1								4
Enteritis ... ..																	
Gastritis Gastrointestinal Catarrh ... ..																	
Wasting Diseases—																	
Premature Birth ... ..	3				3												3
Congenital Defects ... ..	1				1												1
Injury at Birth ... ..																	
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation ... ..																	
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... ..							1	1									2
Tuberculous Diseases—																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ..													1				1
Tuberculous Peritonitis																	
Tabes Mesenterica ... ..																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases.																	
Erysipelas ... ..																	
Syphilis ... ..																	
Rickets ... ..														1			1
Meningitis(not Tuberculous)...																	
Convulsions ... ..							1			1							2
Bronchitis ... ..																	
Laryngitis ... ..																	
Pneumonia ... ..									1								1
Suffocation, overlying ... ..																	
Other Causes (Scalds) ... ..																	
	4		1		5		3	2	2	1				2			15



TABLE I.  
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.  
NAME OF DISTRICT—URMSTON (URBAN).

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED 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.	
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.				
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			9	10
1898	5750	149	25.9	14	93.9	80	13.9			7	87	15.1	
1899	6000	150	25.0	20	133.3	83	13.8			3	86	14.3	
1900	6300	190	30.1	16	84.2	82	13.0	4	3	8	87	13.8	
1901	6600	140	21.2	28	200	88	13.3	2	2	3	89	13.4	
1902	7000	164	23.4	14	85	80	11.4	3	1	7	86	12.3	
1903	7100	168	23.6	25	148	79	11.1	3	1	7	85	11.9	
1904	7200	162	22.5	22	135.8	93	12.9	3	1	7	99	13.7	
1905	7500	164	21.8	15	91.4	73	9.7	3	1	6	78	10.4	
1906	7750	190	24.5	31	163	103	13.2	1	0	9	112	14.4	
1897	7800	172	22.0	15	87	90	11.5	5	1	9	98	12.5	
Averages for years 1898-1907.	6900	164.9	23.9	20	121.2	85.1	12.3	3	1.2	6.6	90.7	13.1	
1908	8000	162	20.2	15	92.5	90	11.2	4	1	10	99	12.37	

#### ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.

During the year there were 2 deaths from Scarlatina, and 2 from enteric fever.

In addition there were two from Whooping-cough and 1 from Measles; also 4 from Diarrhoea.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria.

These figures show 11 deaths from the seven principal infectious diseases, and are equivalent to a Zymotic death-rate of 1.37 per thousand.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water.)	992	Total population at all ages ..	6591	At Census of 1901
		Number of inhabited houses ..	1456	
		Average Number of persons per house..	4.5	



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table III. shows the cases of infectious disease notified during the year, the total number being 16, as compared with 50 for the previous year. It is classified according to the different disease and the ages at which they occur, and includes the number of cases treated in hospital.

TABLE III.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1908.  
NAME OF DISTRICT—URMSTON (URBAN).

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						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.													
Small Pox	..																			
Cholera	..																			
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	3				2	1														
Erysipelas	1						1													
Scarlet Fever	10		2	5	2	1														6
Typhus Fever																				1
Enteric Fever	2					2														
Relapsing Fever	..																			
Continued Fever	..																			
Puerperal Fever	..																			
Plague	..																			
*																				
Totals	16		2	5	4	4														7

## ENTERIC FEVER (TYPHOID).

Two cases occurred in December, and, unfortunately, both proved fatal.

There are good grounds for believing that the first was contracted in another district. The second was a contact case, occurring in a relative who assisted in nursing the first before the nature of the disease had manifested itself.



## SCARLATINA.

Ten cases were reported, as compared with 35 for the previous year.

Where good isolation was procurable these were treated at home, with good results, but it was thought necessary, in the interests of the district, to remove 6 cases to Ladywell Sanatorium, where home conditions were undesirable for nursing purposes. The disease was thus kept well within bounds. Two deaths occurred in hospital; one from Septicæmia, which accompanied the disease; the other from a particularly malignant type, the patient also suffering from Diphtheria.

## DIPHTHERIA.

Three cases have been reported. All recovered.

## HOSPITAL ISOLATION.

Seven cases of Infectious Disease were removed to Ladywell Sanatorium, viz.: 6 Scarlatina, and 1 Enteric Fever, with a mortality of 2 Scarlatina and 1 Enteric Fever.

## SCHOOL CLOSURE.

School Closure has not been necessary during the year.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The contract with the Public Health Laboratory in connection with the Owens College, for examinations in suspected cases of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever, is still in force, and examinations of sputum in suspected Tuberculosis are now made in cases occurring in the District.

## DISINFECTION.

This is effected by means of prepared sulphur candles. Bedding is disinfected by super-heated steam at Ladywell.

## NIGHTSOIL REMOVAL.

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

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

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

## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

There have been no changes during the year. On inspection the general condition was found much the same as in the previous year, in many cases the air-space being deficient.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND BAKEHOUSES.

These have been inspected and found satisfactory. No underground bakehouses are now in use.

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are now 4 Factories and 40 Workshops and Workplaces registered under the Factory and Workshop Act (1901). They have been inspected, as usual, as regards cleanliness, air-space, ventilation, and sanitary conveniences.

Seven notices were served to clean and repair, and the defects were remedied promptly.

Means of escape in case of fire were sufficient.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The water used for drinking purposes, from the Manchester Corporation Works, is excellent.

#### MOSS SIDE SEWAGE FARM.

This farm has been taken over and is being used by the Manchester Corporation.

No complaints have been received this year as to smells arising from the Farm.

#### CARR'S DITCH.

This ditch has been cleansed, and is at present in good condition, but Cesspools from the adjoining district still discharge into it.

During the year 45 new houses have been certified fit for habitation.

79 Nuisances have been reported, and 70 abated. 9 are still unabated. 23 Notices have been served.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. E. FRYER,

Medical Officer of Health.



# FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Under the new Factories and Workshops Act (1901) places registered under the Factories and Workshops Act (1901) they have been inspected, as usual, as regards cleanliness, air, space, ventilation, and lighting, and the

factory visitors were asked to clean and repair, and the

factory was visited personally.

Means of escape in case of fire were sufficient.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The water used for drinking purposes from the Manchester

Corporation Works is supplied.

There are two reservoirs, the

This water has been taken over and is being used by the

Manchester Corporation.

The water has been taken over this year as to supply

water from the Lake.

The water is taken from the

lake which has been cleaned, and is at present in

good condition, and the water from the adjoining district will

be taken into it.

During the year the new water has been supplied to the

factory.

To the extent of the water supply, it will be supplied to the

factory, and the water will be supplied to the

factory, and the water will be supplied to the

factory, and the water will be supplied to the

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