

[Report 1905] / Medical Officer of Health, Selby U.D.C.

Contributors

Selby (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1905.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/cupbtrsr>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1905,

BY

BERNARD STEDMAN,

M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Selby :

H. M. SPENCER, PRINTER, BOOKSELLER, ETC.

1906.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3020981x>

SELBY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
UPON THE
Public Health and Sanitary Condition
FOR THE YEAR
1905.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report upon the Public Health and Sanitary Condition of the Selby Urban District for the year 1905.

POPULATION.

The estimated population is 8,800. The number of inhabited houses is 1893, and the average number of persons per house 4·6. 27 new houses have been occupied during the year.

BIRTHS.

236 births have been registered, giving a birth rate of 26·8. This is about one below the average. The birth rate for the smaller towns of England and Wales in 1905 was 26·9; and for the whole country 27·2. These being the lowest ever recorded.

DEATHS.

147 deaths have occurred; the death rate being 16.7. This is about the average for this district, but is somewhat higher than that of last year, owing to a larger number of deaths among old people. For the smaller towns of England and Wales the death rate was 14.4.

36 deaths occurred in children under 1 year of age, which gives an infantile mortality (rate per thousand births registered) of 152. This is much higher than it should be, as neither measles nor whooping cough have been prevalent.

Table V. (which is introduced for the first time), shews the cause of death amongst infants, and it will be seen that more than half the total number come under the heading of "Wasting Diseases." Many women belonging to the town work in the fields or factories and their babies are reared upon artificial foods instead of the nourishment nature has provided for them.

From Zymotic disease 15 deaths have taken place, giving a rate of 1.7 per thousand. Seven of these deaths were the result of Scarlet Fever, which has been prevalent most of the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

120 cases have been reported, of which 100 was Scarlet Fever, 7 Diphtheria, 6 Typhoid Fever, and 7 Erysipelas. There have been no epidemics of Measles or Whooping Cough during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

As stated above 100 cases have been notified, the complaint being prevalent in town from the beginning of the year until the middle of November.

Attendance at school does not appear to have spread the disease so much as intercourse between the children at other times, and therefore it has not seemed advisable to recommend their closure. 7 were children who had not commenced attending school; 37 of the cases were due to insufficient isolation in the houses, 5 patients being women who caught it from nursing their children.

Had the hospital been completed many of these cases might have been prevented by prompt removal of the first case.

DIPHTHERIA.

7 cases were reported. As a result of bacteriological examination by the County Council, the diagnosis was confirmed in 2 cases, and in 3 the diphtheria bacilli were not found. 2 were not examined bacteriologically.

As this examination is made free of charge, and all the necessary outfits provided by the County Council, I hope in future a specimen will at once be sent from every suspected case.

Antitoxin is provided by the Urban Council free of charge.

TYPHOID FEVER.

6 cases have been reported, but in one the diagnosis was doubtful. One patient probably contracted the complaint through eating infected mussels, but in none of the others could the origin be traced.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Selby Urban and Rural Joint Isolation Hospital was ready for the reception of patients in November. It consists of an administrative, two ward blocks, and a laundry block. The administrative block contains kitchen, scullery, store room, 2 nurses' sitting rooms, doctor's room, and 7 bedrooms. The Isolation block consists of two wards, each to hold 2 beds, and a nurse's kitchen.

In the pavilion block are two wards to hold six and four beds respectively; and 2 private wards, each with a single bed; there is also a nurse's kitchen.

The laundry block, in addition to the wash-house, contains an ambulance shed, disinfector, engine house, coal house, and mortuary. The water supply is from a bore hole 130 feet deep into the red sandstone. It is pumped by an oil engine into tanks over the engine house. There is also a soft water tank to supply the wash-house.

The sewage is treated in a septic tank, and from the effluent chamber pumped by a wind engine on to the adjoining land.

A telephone has been laid from the Hospital to Selby.

Ten cases have already been admitted, 5 being from the Urban and 5 from the Rural District, all being Scarlet Fever.

WATER SUPPLY.

The bore hole at Brayton was tested in the early part of the year. After three weeks pumping it was found that the supply was so abundant that the Council decided it was unnecessary to construct wells and adits as originally proposed. Another bore hole has been made a short distance from the first. This is necessary in order that the pumps may be in duplicate.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

This is carried out by the Council's own staff of workmen. The box and pail closets are emptied at least once a week, and privies and ashpits as a rule at not longer intervals than a month.

The number of privies in the town is steadily diminishing. In 1902 the number given in the Inspector's Report was 225. At present there are 200, but of these at least 50 are in the outlying houses, where the water supply and drainage are not sufficient for water-closets.

There are still 252 water-closets flushed direct from the main. These might prove a serious danger by causing contamination of the water supply. The flush of water is generally poor, thus predisposing to blockage, and the valves on the supply pipe are old and often defective. During the last three years more than a hundred of these closets have been provided with flushing cisterns.

The sanitary dust bins are not always a success in some of the poorer class of houses, as the tenants occasionally empty the contents on to the ground and use the bin as a washtub.

COWSHEDS.

There are 17 registered cowkeepers. Two new sheds have been built during the year to replace defective ones, and several others have been improved by the provision of more light and ventilation. The cowsheds in the town are now in very fair condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 5 registered common lodging houses, but they are seldom used as such, except at harvest time, during the rest of the year the lodgers are more or less permanent. They have been regularly inspected, and found in satisfactory condition.

WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

These have been visited, and are in a clean and satisfactory condition, the light and ventilation being sufficient for the needs of the workers, most of whom are employed in dressmaking.

The three bakehouses on the register are all above ground and in good condition.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

BERNARD STEDMAN, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health

Galvanized boxes substituted for wooden boxes in box closets					17
Milk samples taken and tested	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	9
Defective privies and ashpits rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
New W.C.'s built for old property	...	...	...	...	10
Yards repaired and paved	...	...	...	...	12
Notices to get yards cleaned	...	...	...	...	9
Notices to remove wood erection from back yards				...	4
Old and defective ashpits removed	...	...	...	...	3
Defective drains cleansed and relaid	...	...	...	...	32
Sinks disconnected (old)	...	...	...	...	4
Disconnecting chambers for drains of old property				...	9
Back roads repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Notices sent to improve cowsheds	...	...	...	...	5
Notices to get cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	4
Pigs removed from vicinity of buildings	...	...	...	...	4

NOTES.

We are gradually getting rid of the old fashioned and unsatisfactory W.C.'s

The numbers of closets of various kinds in Selby are as follows, viz. :

Cistern W.C.'s	...	...	...	987
Wash out (flushed from main)	...	...	...	252
Privies	...	...	...	199
Box closets	...	...	...	150
Trough closets	...	...	...	6

BRUCE MCGREGOR GRAY,

A.M.I.C.E., M.R. San. I.,

Surveyor and Inspector.

I GIVE BELOW PARTICULARS OF RAINFALL AT WATERWORKS, SELBY, DURING THE YEARS 1903, 1904, and 1905.

	Total for Month.			Amount of Rainfall on wettest day during Month.			Date of wettest day during Month.		
	INCHES.			INCHES.					
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
JANUARY ...	1.12	1.38	.44	.32	.38	.17	5th	7th	17th
FEBRUARY ...	1.02	2.67	.64	.27	1.07	.16	21st	3rd	28th
MARCH ...	2.09	1.61	1.80	.70	.46	.38	17th	7th	28th
APRIL ...	1.22	1.61	2.19	.23	.36	.33	27th	14th	14th
MAY ...	3.18	2.41	.52	.77	.56	.35	9th	27th	1st
JUNE ...	1.54	.59	2.83	.79	.29	.76	13th	26th	17th
JULY ...	2.47	1.49	1.26	.67	.73	.49	11th	23rd	22nd
AUGUST ...	2.08	3.00	3.30	.48	.67	.60	20th	22nd	25th
SEPTEMBER ...	3.11	1.06	1.64	1.11	.53	.47	10th	30th	1st
OCTOBER ...	6.89	.48	1.56	1.27	.16	.31	8th	9th	14th
NOVEMBER ...	.89	1.56	2.60	.31	.49	.54	2nd	7th	10th
DECEMBER ...	1.01	1.44	.26	.32	.38	.16	8th	9th	28th
TOTAL DURING YEARS	26.62	19.30	19.04	INCHES.					

BRUCE MCGREGOR GRAY,

Waterworks Engineer.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1905 and previous years. Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

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 District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		
		Number.	Rate.*	At all ages.		Number.				Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*
				Under 1 year of age.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.							
1895	6200	206	32.2	43	189	124	20.0	7	...	117	19.0	
1896	6250	188	29.0	34	180	117	18.4	3	...	114	18.0	
1897	6300	188	30.0	26	138	113	17.9	4	...	109	17.3	
1898	6500	192	29.3	27	159	125	18.7	5	2	122	18.3	
1899	7500	228	30.4	53	232	155	20.6	11	...	144	19.2	
1900	8000	242	30.2	26	107	161	20.0	9	1	153	19.1	
1901	7786	224	28.7	37	165	125	16.0	6	1	120	15.4	
1902	8200	237	28.9	29	122	119	14.5	7	1	113	13.8	
1903	8400	254	30.2	32	126	125	14.8	5	1	121	14.4	
1904	8600	227	26.4	41	180	139	16.1	11	1	129	15.0	
Averages for years 1895-1904	7373	218	29.6	35	160	130	17.6	7	1	124	16.8	
1905	8800	236	26.8	36	152	156	18.8	9	...	147	16.7	

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres }
(exclusive of area } 3,713.
covered by water.)

Total population at all ages } 7786
Number of inhabited houses } 1686 } At Census of 1901.
Average number of persons per house } 4.6

TABLE II.

There are no recognised Divisions in the town of Selby, therefore Table II. is not given.

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1905.
SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							No. of CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.
	At all Ages.	AT AGES—YEARS.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up- wards	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria	7		6	1				
Membranous Croup								
Erysipelas	7		1	1	5			
Scarlet Fever	100	2	30	58	4	6	5	
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever	6		1	1	4			
Relapsing Fever								
Continued Fever								
Puerperal Fever								
Plague								
Totals	120	2	30	66	7	15	5	

Isolation Hospital at Selby (Joint Isolation Hospital for Selby
Urban and Rural Districts.)

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.
Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.							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 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	7	2	2	2	...	1	...	1
Whooping-cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup } ...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteric ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other continued ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	6	3	...	2	...	1	...	...
Enteritis	3	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Puerperal Fever... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Septic Diseases	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Phthisis	11	...	2	...	3	5	1	1
Other Tubercular Diseases } ...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease } ...	11	...	...	...	...	5	6	2
Bronchitis	7	2	2	...	...	2	1	...
Pneumonia	8	2	1	...	...	4	1	3
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs } ...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth... ..	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition } ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Heart Diseases	8	...	...	...	...	3	5	1
Accidents	3	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
All other causes	60	15	5	1	...	10	29	7
All causes	147	36	13	7	5	37	49	18

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., III., and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

BERNARD STEDMAN, *Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE V.—SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.
 INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.
 Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks & Months under One Year of Age

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.
		12	1	1	1	15	2	6	1	2	...	1	1	3	2	2	1	36
All Causes	Certified ...	12	1	1	1	15	2	6	1	2	...	1	1	3	2	2	1	36
	Uncertified	
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diphtheria: Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Premature Birth ...	7	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Congenital Defects ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Injury at Birth ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Diseases.	Want of Breast-milk Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	4	1	1	...	6	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
	Tuberculous Men'gitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Causes	Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
	Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
	Suffocation, overlaying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
		12	1	1	1	15	2	6	1	2	...	1	1	3	2	2	1	36

District (or sub-division) of Selby Urban.
 Population (estimated to the middle of 1905), 8,800.
 Births in the year:—legitimate, 226; illegitimate, 10.



