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ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR, 1909,

BY

BERNARD STEDMAN,


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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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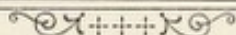
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SELBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition for 1909.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1909.

From the statistics at the end of the report it will be seen that the health of the district has been satisfactory throughout the year.

BIRTHS.

223 births were registered, being the lowest number on record, 216 were legitimate and 7 illegitimate, which ten years ago was over 30 per thousand, has now fallen 23·7, the average rate for the past ten years being 29·0. The birth rate for the smaller towns of England and Wales in 1909 was 24·8.

DEATHS.

123 deaths took place in the Urban District, of which 13 were non-residents dying in public institutions. Two Selby residents died in the West Riding Asylums. This total of 112 deaths of persons belonging to the district gives a death rate of 11·9 per thousand. — This death rate, with the exception of that in 1907 (11·7), is the lowest recorded for ten years, the average death rate for this period being 15·3. The death rate for the smaller towns in the Country in 1909 was 13·9.

The number of deaths recorded from Diarrhœa and Consumption shews a diminution over those in 1908.

Twenty-six deaths took place amongst children under one year of age, 24 being legitimate and 2 illegitimate infants, Premature birth, Congenital defects, and Atrophy, are given as the cause of half the total number. Although both Measles and Whooping Cough were prevalent, no death was recorded from the former, and only two from the latter in children below the age of 12 months. The infantile mortality (rate per thousand births) for the year was 116, the average for the district being 138, and that for England and Wales in 1909 was 109.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Forty-six cases were reported, 20 being Diphtheria, 14 Scarlet Fever, 5 Erysipelas, 1 Typhoid Fever, and 6 cases of Phthisis, which disease is now compulsorily notifiable in paupers attended by the District Medical Officers.

	1909.	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.
Diphtheria	20	30	4	15	7
Scarlet Fever	14	22	2	4	100
Typhoid Fever	1	0	2	4	6
Phthisis	6	2	4	6	0
Cases removed to Hospital	30	29	6	15	5

DIPHTHERIA.

This disease which had been prevalent in the latter part of 1908 continued during the earlier months of the year. The cases appear to have mostly arisen from contact with other cases apart from school. Doubtless some children had the disease in a slight form, which was looked upon merely as sore throat.

Sixteen were treated in hospital, and were kept there until bacteriological examinations shewed the throat to be free from the bacilli. The average period during which patients with Diphtheria are in Isolation hospital has been about five weeks. In exceptional cases it may be nine or ten weeks before the bacteriological examinations fail to detect Diphtheria germs.

The District Council provides antitoxin free of charge for any case in their area.

SCARLET FEVER.

Fourteen notifications from ten houses. They were mostly slight and isolated cases of the disease. Several children in Buller and Kitchener Streets were attacked during the Summer. Eleven were removed to hospital. No deaths were recorded for this disease.

One case of Typhoid Fever occurred, the disease quite possibly being contracted away from Selby.

Of the six cases of Phthisis two were in the Workhouse, one being from another district. All were in an advanced stage of the disease. Two were taken into hospital, but were too bad to derive any material benefit from the treatment. Unfortunately few cases are notified at an early stage when appropriate treatment might check the spread of the malady, indeed the majority of sufferers from Consumption in this district do not appear to get medical advice until the complaint is well advanced. Probably the idea of losing their employment is the explanation.

Owing to an outbreak of measles the infants' department of the Roman Catholic School was closed from December 4th to 27th. The cases appear to have been slight, no death being registered from the disease.

The total number of infectious cases admitted into the Joint Isolation Hospital from the several districts during the year was 72, being more than in any previous year. 27 were Scarlet Fever, 42 Diphtheria, 1 Typhoid Fever, and 2 cases of Phthisis.

MILK SUPPLY.

The sanitary condition of the cowsheds in the town is steadily improving, and greater care is taken by cowkeepers to ensure the provision of clean milk. The number of cows kept is however diminishing and the amount of milk appears to be insufficient to meet the demand, with a result that an increasing quantity of condensed milk is being consumed. If cowkeepers would cool their milk, and deliver to each customer in small cans, one delivery a day should be sufficient. The saving thus effected would more than cover the extra expenditure incurred by the producer in cooling apparatus and cans. In June the Council resolved that in future all milking cows in the district should be inspected twice a year by the Veterinary Surgeon. This was done in December and his report upon the fifty-three cows is as follows:—"The whole of the Cows are a very good lot and all the udders are in a healthy state. There are not more than five old Cows and they are also in good condition."

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

In 1903 I reported upon the unsatisfactory condition of the twelve slaughter houses in the town owing mainly to defective floors which consisted chiefly of Yorkshire flags. The following suggestions for improvement were sent to each owner.

1. That floors should be concreted and sloped to a trapped gully outside the slaughter house.
2. That an impervious lining should be carried up the walls for at least 18 inches all round, and that when portions of the carcass are hung against the wall, the height of this lining should be 6 feet.

At the present time there are thirteen slaughter houses on the register, twelve having concrete floors in good condition. In one instance the gully is inside. All the walls have been lined as suggested. They are kept in very fair condition, and with a few exceptions the refuse has been disposed of in a satisfactory manner. Water supply is laid into each slaughter house. Systematic inspection at the time of slaughtering is not usually made.

STREETS AND HOUSES.

I have previously reported upon the bad state of the back streets in some of the newer parts of the town. After the inspection by the Committee last year, the Chairman and Mr. Gray reported as follows:—"Something should be done to make the 10 feet back roads in the town drier and healthier in the winter time by having a harder and more durable material than ashes put on. In several small towns the back roads are paved with a cheap hard paving stone, such as slag bricks, which in the end does not work out at a bigger cost than ashes, and is much more sanitary and satisfactory."

In back roads, between places like Buller and Kitchener Streets, where there are two rows of box closets, some of which are frequently leaking, the objection to these ash roads is still more obvious. The Council recently requested the owner of these houses to substitute water closets for the boxes, but he appears to be unwilling to do this, no doubt on account of the expense. I am strongly of opinion that the Council should take over these streets under the Private Streets Works Act. In May I reported that two privies were in such a state as to be a nuisance and should be converted into water closets. Notice to this effect was served under the Selby Act, and the work has been carried out.

A block of eleven houses on East Common were in an unsatisfactory condition by reason of defective privies and bad state of the back yards. Water closets have now been provided, and the yard surfaces asphalted.

Last year the Urban Council agreed to supply the Rural Authority with water for any part of the district at ninepence per thousand gallons. The village of Brayton already has the water, and supplies are contemplated for Thorpe and Cawood.

A new sewer was laid for a block of houses on East Common. In Armoury Lane a length of sewer has been put down for the drainage of new houses to be built on the Gowthorpe House estate.

It is satisfactory to notice each year the gradual diminution in the number of privies and box closets, and their conversion into water closets. For all new houses the latter are compulsory. There are still about 140 water closets flushed direct from the main without a cistern. These are constantly getting out of repair, and waste a large amount of water. Their replacement by the modern type is going on fairly rapidly.

There are forty-two workshops and workplaces at present on the register, chiefly dressmaking and millinery establishments. One hundred and fourteen inspections were made during the year. They are, as a rule, kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

Six bakehouses are in use, all above ground.

Two notices were served to lime wash.

Fourteen outworkers are employed in tailoring.

Two notices were served for want of cleanliness in factories, and four for defective or insufficient sanitary conveniences. These requirements have all been carried out.

The Inspector's report gives details of sanitary work carried out during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

BERNARD STEDMAN,

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

Medical Officer of Health.

New W.C.'s built for old property	...	...	...	...	24
Yards repaired and paved	...	...	...	...	7
Notices to get yards cleaned	...	...	..	...	5
Old and defective ashpits removed	...	...	...	...	3
Defective drains cleansed and relaid	...	...	...	...	19
Sinks disconnected (old)	...	...	...	...	2
Disconnecting chambers for drains of old property	...	...	...	...	4
Back roads repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Notices sent to improve cowsheds	...	...	...	...	7
Notices to get cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	3
Pigs removed from vicinity of buildings	...	...	...	...	4
Bad box closets repaired	...	...	...	...	22
Obnoxious manholes closed and ventilaters put up	...	...	...	...	8

NOTES.

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

Cistern W.C.'s	...	...	...	1167
Wash out (flushed from main)	..	..	..	144
Privies	...	...	...	127
Box closets	...	...	...	135
Trough closets	...	...	...	7

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
1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, AND 1909.

—0—

	Amount of Rainfall on												No. of wet days.					
	wetterest day																	
	during Month.																	
Total for Month.	INCHES.												Date of wettest day during Month.					
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1905.	1906.			1907.	1908.	1909.	
January ...	.44	2.96	.63	.92	.30	.17	.55	.23	.24	.08	.17	5th	23rd	6th	11th	8	6	8
February ...	.64	1.75	1.10	1.15	.22	.16	.53	.18	.33	.08	.28	27th	8th	16th	28th	14	15	7
March ...	1.80	.96	1.13	2.79	1.91	.38	.17	.28	.77	.64	.28	24th	9th	25th	6th	15	16	20
April ...	2.19	.64	1.47	2.12	2.06	.33	.13	.29	.48	.65	.14	25th	30th	28th	18th	16	17	15
May ...	.52	1.48	3.04	2.43	1.26	.35	.39	.82	1.14	.60	.1st	19th	31st	7th	25th	20	13	10
June ...	2.83	.53	2.64	.98	2.78	.76	.12	.43	.34	.65	.17	1st	24th	16th	24th	21	8	17
July ...	1.26	.71	2.36	2.02	2.82	.49	.18	.46	.71	.56	.22nd	28th	30th	8th	30th	18	11	18
August ...	3.30	1.93	1.72	1.08	2.79	.60	.45	.89	.52	1.03	.25th	24th	14th	20th	1st	14	11	12
September ...	1.64	.45	.74	1.47	1.36	.47	.19	.30	.35	.35	.1st	13th	4th	17th	27th	7	15	16
October ...	1.56	4.87	5.67	.48	1.82	.31	.74	1.02	.14	.30	14th	18th	31st	27th	3rd	25	8	21
November ...	2.60	2.41	2.25	.82	.11	.54	.35	.56	.23	.03	10th	3rd	26th	22nd	28th	18	11	9
December ...	.26	2.00	2.97	.76	3.01	.16	.45	1.04	.46	.70	.28th	25th	12th	15th	2nd	24	10	21
Total during } Years. }	19.04	20.63	25.72	17.02	20.44											210	141	174

BRUCE MCGREGOR GRAY,
Waterworks Engineer.

TABLE I.
 Vital Statistics of whole District during 1909 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-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.							
1899	7500	288	30.4	53	232	155	20.6	16	11	..	144	19.2
1900	8000	242	30.2	26	107	161	20.0	17	9	1	153	19.1
1901	7786	224	28.7	37	165	125	16.0	10	6	1	120	15.4
1902	8200	237	28.9	29	122	119	14.5	11	7	1	113	13.8
1903	8400	254	30.2	32	126	125	14.8	20	5	1	121	14.4
1904	8600	227	26.4	41	180	139	16.1	18	11	1	129	15.0
1905	8800	236	26.8	36	152	156	18.8	18	9	..	147	16.7
1906	9000	252	28.0	39	155	134	14.9	19	11	3	126	14.0
1907	9200	267	29.0	18	67	113	12.3	13	8	3	108	11.7
1908	9200	234	25.4	28	119	151	16.4	23	17	2	136	14.8
Averages for years 1899-1908	8469	246	29.0	34	138	138	16.3	16	9	1	130	15.3
1909	9400	223	23.7	26	116	123	13.1	20	13	2	112	11.9

* 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 III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1909.

Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	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 incl'ding Membranous Croup }	20	...	1	17	2	...	...	16
Erysipelas	5	...	1	...	...	3	1	
Scarlet Fever	14	...	5	9	...	...	...	11
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Relapsing Fever								
Continued Fever								
Puerperal Fever								
Phthisis	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	2
Totals	46	...	7	26	2	10	1	30

Isolation Hospital—Name and Situation—Selby Joint Isolation for the Selby Urban and Rural Districts, situate in the Urban District.

Total available beds ... 20.

Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated—4.

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1909.
Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.							TOTAL DEATHS 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
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup }	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	4
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteric ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) }	8	...	...	1	3	4	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases }	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease }	5	...	...	...	...	3	2	...
Bronchitis	10	2	1	...	...	2	5	1
Pneumonia	10	2	3	...	1	3	1	1
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs }	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Alcoholism	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Venereal Diseases	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth... ..	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition }	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Heart Diseases	11	1	...	1	...	5	4	2
Accidents	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	46	12	5	2	1	10	16	9
All causes	112	26	11	7	6	34	28	20

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

BERNARD STEDMAN,

January 25th, 1910.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE V.—SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.
 INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.
 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.
All Causes	{ Certified	7	1			8	3	1	2	3		1	4	1	1	1	1	26
	{ Uncertified																	
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken-pox																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria: Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough						1				1							2
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis									1								1
	Gastro-enteritis																	
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	4				4	1											5
	Congenital Defects	2	1			3												3
	Injury at Birth																	
	Want of Breast-milk starvation																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus						1	2	1					1				5
	Tuberculous Men'gitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica												1					1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Other Causes.	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions						1								1	1		3
	Bronchitis												2					2
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia												1	1				2
Suffocation, overlying																		
Other Causes	1				1			1									2	
		7	1			8	3	1	2	3		1	4	1	1	1	1	26

District of Selby Urban. Population (estimated to middle of 1909), 9,400. Births in the year:—legitimate, 216; illegitimate, 7. Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 24; illegitimate infants, 2. Deaths from all causes at all ages, 112.