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BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1920,

BY

WALTER GARMAN, M.D., EDIN.,

Medical Officer of Health.


TO WHICH IS APPENDED

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Printed by Order of the Town Council.

WEDNESBURY :

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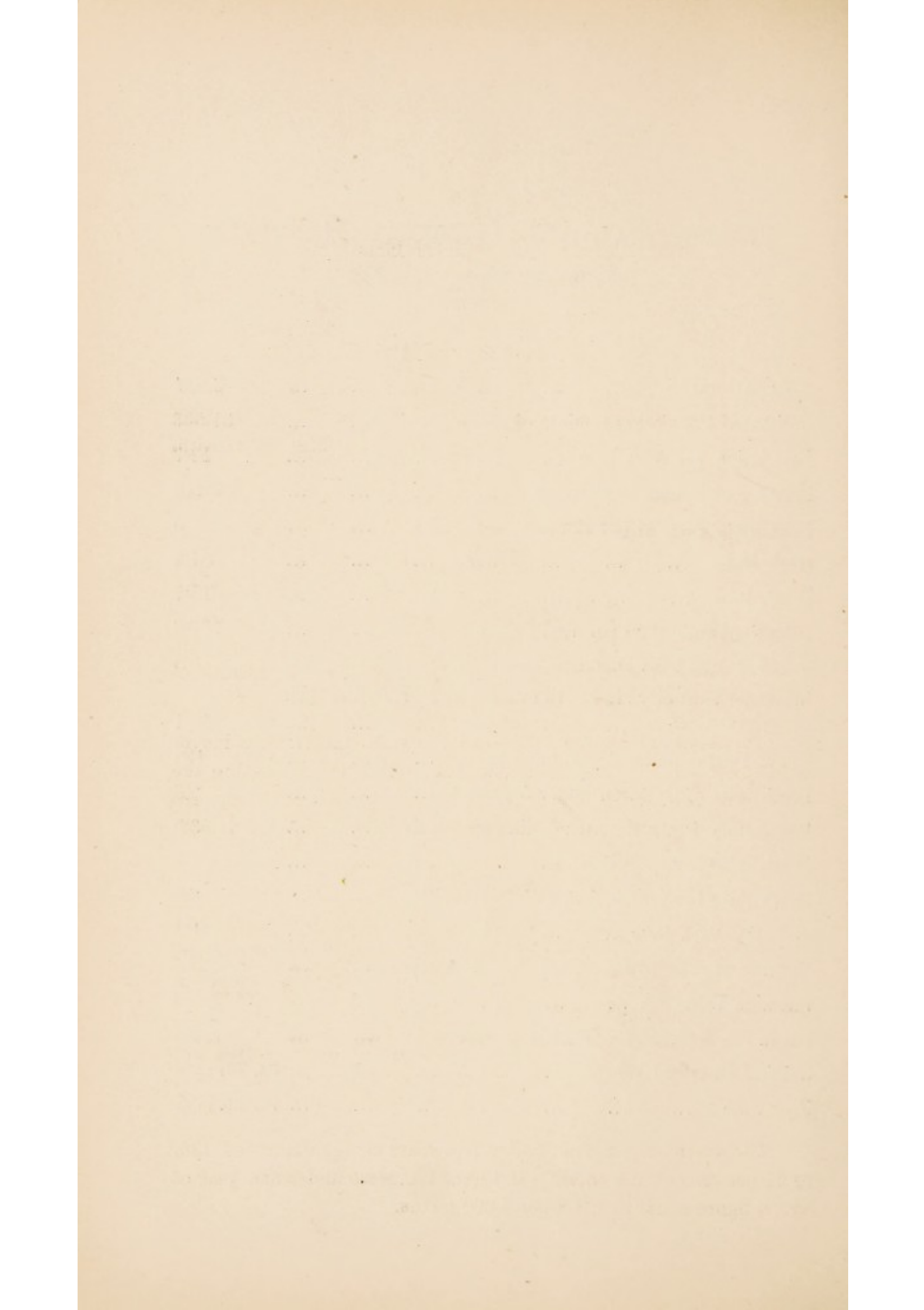


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STATISTICAL AND GENERAL SANITARY MEMORANDA, 1920.

Area in acres	2,287
Estimated Population (middle of year)	31,537
Population per Acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	13·7
Number of Houses in Borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,114
Number of Persons per House	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	31·1
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	13·7
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	101·8
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Infantile Mortality from Diarrhoea and Enteritis per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	10·1
No. of Deaths under 5 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Death Rate of Children under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	·43
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding Phthisis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·0
Death Rate from Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·0
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	·53
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·3
Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified	...	...	...	...	...	...	285
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£115,856
1d. in the £ yields for General Purposes	...	...	...	...	...	...	£396
General District Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6s. 0d. in £
Poor Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	9s. 8d. in £



BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

REPORT

Upon the HEALTH OF WEDNESBURY, for the Year 1920,
by WALTER GARMAN, M.D., Edin., Medical Officer of Health.

*TO THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE
WEDNESBURY TOWN COUNCIL.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting a Report upon the Health of Wednesbury for the year 1920.

The Registrar General has decided that the necessity no longer exists for modifying the estimated population for calculating the birth and death rates respectively. Both rates, accordingly, are based upon the same figure, viz., an estimated population of 31,537.

1.—Vital Statistics.

The births registered during 1920 numbered 982 (males 511 females 471), which represents a birth-rate of 31·1 per 1,000 of the population. The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths was 548.

The deaths from all causes numbered 434, in which are included 78 occurring in Public Institutions outside the town. These figures give a death-rate of 13·7 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths of children under five years of age numbered 136, or 31 per cent of the total. Of these, 100 were under one year of age, a figure equal to 101·8 per 1,000 births.

The following table furnishes an analysis of mortality under five years of age:—

TABLE I.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Premature birth	21	12	10	16	12
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	17	36	53	41	36
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	2	19	2	5	17
Whooping Cough	9	15	5	2	1
Diarrhœa	28	9	8	7	11
Diphtheria	3	1	1	1	2
Other Causes	57	54	96	42	56
	137	146	176	114	136
Percentage of Total Deaths ...	28·5	35	30·2	26·6	31

The next table gives the deaths due to Zymotic Disease for the past five years. The number for 1920 was 42, which represents a death-rate of 1·3 per 1,000.

TABLE II.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Erysipelas	—	2	—	2	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	1	1
Enteric Fever	1	1	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	2	20	2	5	21
Diphtheria	5	1	1	1	6
Diarrhœa	28	9	8	7	11
Whooping Cough	9	15	6	3	1
	46	48	18	19	42
Death-rate per 1,000	1·6	1·6	0·6	0·6	1·3

Following is a table showing the Vaccination performed during the year ended June 30th, 1920 :—

TABLE III.

Births Registered	...	...	...	...	...	947
Successfully Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	174
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dead Unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	45
Medical Postponements	...	...	...	...	...	2
Certificates sent in of Conscientious Objection	...	...	...	...	...	718
Removals known	...	...	...	...	...	4
Removals Unknown	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unaccounted for	...	...	...	...	...	1

The Inquests held by the Coroner numbered 23. They were as follows :—

Natural Causes	...	...	...	...	12
Accidents	...	...	...	...	9
Suicides	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					23

These include seven Inquests held upon Wednesbury residents dying outside the town.

TABLE IV.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING
1920 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

DISTRICT OF WEDNESBURY.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected number.	Nett.				Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate	Number	Rate			Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1914	28910		929	32·1	429	14·8		68	129	136	497	17·1
1915	28414		780	27·4	392	16·5	1	79	89	114	471	16·5
1916	27776		787	26	395	17·2	8	85	79	101	480	17·2
1917	29760		707	21·3	321	14·2	5	94	67	94	415	14·2
1918	28639		788	20·5	504	17·5	1	77	82	104	581	20·3
1919	30329		724	22·9	338	11·1	5	98	73	100	427	14·7
1920	31537		982	31·1	356	11·2	2	78	100	101·8	434	13·7

TABLE V.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1920.

DISTRICT OF WEDNESBURY.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified.						
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65
Enteric Fever	1						1
Puerperal Fever	3				1	2	
Scarlet Fever	61		14	44	3		
Ophthalmia	15	15					
Erysipelas	29	1	1	4	2	8	13
Diphtheria	12	2	2	6	1	1	
Malaria	10				1	9	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	49		2	11	11	19	6
Other Tubercular Diseases	17	4	5	4	3		1
Pneumonia	84	4	13	11	17	19	20
Dysentery	2		1			1	
Encephalitis Lethargica	1						1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1				1		
Totals	285	26	38	80	40	59	42

Isolation Hospital.—Wednesbury Isolation Hospital, Dangerfield Lane.

Total Available Beds.—Twenty-two.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated.—One.

TABLE VI.

CAUSES OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1920.

DISTRICT OF WEDNESBURY.

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	233	201
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	11	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...		1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...		1
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	9	6
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	17	15
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	7	4
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	10	13
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	6	4
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	12	15
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	29	18
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	31	13
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...		1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...		3
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	15	11
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	61	60
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...
SUB-ENTRIES (included in above figures) :—							
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Total Deaths of Children under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	55	45
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	511	471
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	503	456
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	8	15
Population (for Births and Deaths)	...	...	...	...	...	31537	

TABLE VII. BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.
 INFANT MORTALITY, 1920. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
ALL CAUSES {	Certified ...	22	3	7	1	33	12	13	22	20	100
	Uncertified ...										
Measles ...	...								2	5	7
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...						2	1	1		1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...							1			3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...								1		1
Meningitis (not tuberculous)	...		1			1	1	1		1	4
Convulsions ...	...	1				1	1	1		1	4
Bronchitis ...	...			1		1	4	3	3	2	13
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...					1		2	5	5	12
Diarrhoea ...	...										3
Enteritis ...	...			1		2	2	1	1	3	7
Syphilis ...	...						1		1		4
Congenital Malformations	...					12					1
Premature Birth ...	...	10	2			10		1			12
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	4		5	1	10	1	1	2		13
Other Causes ...	...	4				4	1	1	5	4	15
TOTALS		22	3	7	1	33	12	13	22	20	100

TABLE VIII.

For comparison, the statistics with regard to Wednesbury and England and Wales are given in the following table:—

	Rate per 1000 of the population.		Rate per 1000 Births.
	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales	25·4	12·4	80
96 Great Towns, including London, population exceeding 50,000	26·2	12·5	85
148 Smaller Towns, population 20,000—50,000	24·9	11·3	80
London	26·5	12·4	75
Wednesbury, popula'n 31,537	31·1	13·7	101·8

A careful examination of the foregoing figures will enable you to judge of the health of the town during the year. Taken as a whole the statistics are not unfavourable; although it must be admitted that they compare somewhat unfavourably with those given in Table viii., and applying to the rest of the country. It must, however, be borne in mind that we are dealing with a densely populated industrial centre, a fact which would be expected to militate somewhat against a very low death-rate. The town possesses two assets of high value—the one is an unlimited supply of excellent water; the other, an almost ideal situation topographically, by reason of which the drainage of the town presents no difficulty.

Infant mortality is a matter which has been kept prominently before us during recent years, with a view to its reduction; and our efforts have not been in vain, as the following figures show, and extending over the past 15 years.

Death-rate of infants under 1 year of age, per 1,000 births :—

Year	Rate	Year	Rate	Year	Rate
1906 ...	152.7	1911 ...	151.5	1916 ...	101
1907 ...	138.4	1912 ...	111.1	1917 ...	94
1908 ...	143.1	1913 ...	152	1918 ...	104
1909 ...	143.1	1914 ...	136	1919 ...	100
1910 ...	99.8	1915 ...	114	1920 ...	101.8

This improvement has been the outcome of definite efforts, and apparently commenced soon after the Infant Welfare Centre was developed, with which are associated Health Visitors who visit the children in their homes. They thus not only encourage the mothers to send their children to the Centre, but also take note of the home surroundings, and by their presence from time to time probably exercise a real, even though imponderable, influence upon the conduct of the home and the treatment of the children. Unfortunately the work of the Centre is rendered to some extent nugatory by the fact that the mothers who might derive the greatest benefit from attendance at the Centre are just those who manifest the greatest indifference and reluctance to make use of its assistance. Seeing that the registered births during 1920 numbered 982, and that only 176 infants under one year of age were on the register at the Welfare Centre, it will be evident that a very large number never came under its influence. Still that influence is undoubtedly valuable, and is indirect as well as direct. The encouraging feature of the lessened mortality shewn in the foregoing figures is, that it has been maintained for the past six years; and it would appear more than a coincidence that it dates from the time when the Infant Welfare Centre was established. We are all aware that much still remains to be accomplished. While the death-rate of infants under one year of age for England and Wales during 1920 was 80 per 1000 births, that for Wednesbury was 101.8. This disparity may well be accidental—as that for the previous year was distinctly less. Nevertheless an effort must be made to attract a much larger number of mothers to come with their infants to the Centre. The systematic supervision thus rendered possible should certainly lead to a definite lowering of Infant mortality.

Something over 6 per 1,000 of the general death-rate was due to the 21 deaths from measles which resulted from the epidemic which ran its course during the second, third and fourth quarters of the year. The outbreak never assumed very formidable proportions, but it extended over a considerable period.

In a district such as ours very little can be done to control the disease, as, practically speaking, adequate nursing has hitherto proved unavailable.

Tuberculosis has played the usual part in swelling the death-rate. The deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 32 (males 17, females 15), and those from other forms of the disease 17 (males 8, females 9), which means that tuberculosis was responsible on the whole for something over 1·5 of the total death-rate. This represents a disastrous state of things, especially from the point of view that the disease levies its chief toll upon children and young adults. Great as the difficulties admittedly are in coping with the scourge, it constitutes a reproach to civilisation. Fortunately, recent years have shewn a downward tendency in the death-rate from tuberculosis throughout the United Kingdom, and there is reason to hope that the improvement will prove progressive.

The figures relating to Diphtheria are regrettable. Of the 12 cases notified—a small number relatively to the population—five proved fatal. Probably some of these would have recovered if the cases had come under treatment at the onset, and had they been freely treated with Antidiphtheric Serum. It would appear that throat conditions in young children are frequently overlooked in the early stages; and, in addition to this, it is only recently that the specific Antitoxin has been systematically employed by the profession.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the one fatal case of Enteric Fever was the only case notified during the year. This is eloquent testimony to the excellence of our water supply.

General Sanitary Work.

Now that conditions are gradually becoming more normal, it is highly desirable that the general sanitation of the town should

receive more systematic attention than has been possible during the past seven years, when the position created by the War brought things practically to a standstill.

Many nuisances exist at the present time which need abatement; and particularly I would emphasise the desirability of pressing forward with the work of connecting a large number of premises with the deep sewers, so that privies and middens may be done away with. This would undoubtedly be a great step forward, and with it one must combine the reduction of overcrowding, which may be regarded as the most pressing evil at the present time. While it is not possible to give the number of small houses occupied by more than one family, it is certainly considerable; and so long as this relative or absolute overcrowding continues, any effort to raise the general standard of health in the town is impossible. The occurrence of 66 deaths from tubercular disease during the year, and the fact that 46 fresh cases of tuberculosis were notified and went to swell the large number of cases already existing, points to a serious state of things, particularly when it is realised that many cases must be added which are as yet undetected.

It is imperatively necessary that these two problems should be kept in the forefront of the Council's health policy, for I am convinced that any real progress in the sanitation of the town depends upon their solution.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

WALTER GARMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To the Mayor and Members of the Wednesbury Town Council.

Gentlemen,

Introduction.

I beg to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report, as Sanitary Inspector for the Borough of Wednesbury, viz., for the year ended 31st December, 1920.

The general sanitary work has again been retarded by the high price of building materials and labour, and the large amount of labour which is usually engaged on general work, being employed on new houses, has prevented many sanitary improvements from being carried out, particularly with regard to privies and ashpits.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

Miscellaneous Inspections.

Over 3,000 visits and inspections have been made, including house to house inspections and investigation of complaints, and 1,500 re-inspections were made during the time work was in progress. A large number of defects were discovered and measures taken, as far as possible, to remedy the defects.

Notices Served.

Two hundred and eighty-two preliminary or intimation notices have been served. A large number of letters were also sent to owners and occupiers, requesting them to carry out certain sanitary improvements. One hundred and twenty-seven statutory notices were served by order of the Council. Particulars of the notices are set out in Table III. Many interviews have, in addition, taken place at the offices or on the properties with owners, agents or builders.

Proceedings.

In eight cases you authorised proceedings to be taken before the magistrates for the inforcement of the abatement of the nuisances. It was only necessary to take out the summons in four cases, particulars of which are set out in Table V.

Drain Testing.

Thirty tests were made of the drains and sanitary fittings of 15 premises, comprising fifty-three dwelling houses.

Privies and Water Closets.

During the year 97 privies and 46 middens were abolished, and replaced with 106 water closets and portable receptacles for house refuse as follows:—67 privies converted into water closets, 4 additional water closets, 21 privies re-built and converted into water closets, and 14 additional water closets were provided in connection with factories and workshops.

Table I. gives the number of sanitary conveniences in the Borough, and particulars of the work of abolishing the privies and ash-pits, and the substitution of water closets and portable galvanised iron dust bins.

Table I.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

18

Year	No. of Houses in the Borough	Closet Accommodation					Ashpit Accommodation				Conversion of Privies into Water Closets					Total	
		No. of Privies			No. of Water Closets		No. of Privy Middens	No. of Dry Ashpits	No. of Dust Bins	Total No. of Receptacles for Storage of Ashes	No. of Houses dealt with	Conversion of Privies into W.C.s.	Closets re-built into W.C.s.	Additional Water Closets Provided	W.C.s. provided in connection with Factories and Workshops		
		Fixed Receptacles	Movable Receptacles	Total	Fresh Water Closets	Waste Water Closets											Total Number of Closets
1911	5777	3229	20	3249	1500	300	5049	1500	350	1000	2850	272	162	36	2	9	209
1912	5812	3057	20	3077	1759	296	5132	1407	350	1582	3339	235	149	20	13	44	226
1913	5867	2780	20	2800	2038	292	5130	1262	350	1700	3312	362	228	36	2	8	274
1914	5900	2616	20	2636	2249	285	5170	1170	350	1991	3491	212	139	21	11	7	178
1915	5919	2466	20	2486	2437	285	5208	1098	350	2129	3577	190	131	12	4	17	164
1916	5895	2380	20	2400	2567	285	5252	1066	350	2189	3605	96	60	13	2	57	132
1917	5919	2363	20	2383	2614	285	5282	1058	350	2225	3633	20	12	1	—	34	47
1918	6108	2338	20	2358	2648	285	5291	1045	350	2225	3620	25	19	7	—	8	34
1919	6108	2292	20	2312	2738	285	5335	1017	350	2255	3622	53	45	2	1	42	90
1920	6114	2195	20	2215	2850	285	5350	971	350	2500	3821	113	67	21	4	14	106
Av'age												157	101	17	4	24	146

Yards and Sanitary Conveniences Used in Common.

Many occupiers pay little attention to the yards, approaches to, and the walls, floors, seats and fittings of the sanitary conveniences, and every opportunity has been taken of impressing upon the tenants their responsibility of keeping their premises in a sanitary state.

Infectious Disease.

The cases of infectious disease notified were visited and re-visited from time to time during the progress of the disease. Printed and verbal instructions were given for preventing the spread of the disease, and the necessary disinfection was carried out at the termination of the disease.

Housing of the Working Classes.

Having regard to the overcrowded state of many of the houses, the high price of materials and the large amount of labour engaged on the new houses made it very difficult to carry out this work.

The following is a summary of action taken :—

<i>1. General.</i>					
(a)	Estimated Population	...	...	...	31537
(b)	General Death Rate	...	...	...	13·7
(c)	Death Rate from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1·55
(d)	Infantile Mortality...	...	...	...	101·8
(e)	No. of dwelling houses (all classes)	...	...	...	6114
(f)	Estimate No. of houses occupied by Working Class	...	...	...	5077
(g)	No. of new houses erected	...	...	...	6
(h)	No. of persons per house	...	..	...	5
<i>2. Inspection.</i>					
(a)	No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	66
	Public Health Act	...	...	...	17
	Housing Act	...	...	...	49
(b)	No. unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	32
(c)	No. not reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	38
<i>3. Public Health Acts.</i>					
(a)	No. rendered fit by informal action	...	...	...	5
(b)	No. of houses in respect of which Statutory Notices were served	...	...	...	44
(c)	No. of houses in which defects were remedied—				
	(1) By Owner	...	...	...	10
	(2) By Council	...	...	...	4
<i>4. Housing Act, 1919 (Sec. 28).</i>					
(a)	No. of houses in respect of which notices were served	...	...	...	2
(b)	No. of houses in which defects were remedied—				
	(1) By Owner	...	...	...	—
	(2) By Council	...	...	...	—

5. <i>Housing Act, 1909, (Secs. 17 & 18).</i>					
(a)	No. of houses represented as unfit for habitation				9
(b)	" " " for demolition	...	...	...	6
(c)	" " in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	9
(d)	" " in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	...	...	...	—
(e)	" " in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	2
(f)	" " thoroughly repaired	...	...	...	10
(g)	" " closed	...	...	...	3
(h)	" " demolished	...	...	...	6
(i)	" " under repair	...	...	...	25
(j)	" " under consideration pending lapse of notice	...	...	...	50
6. <i>Housing Act, 1890 (Parts 1 & 2). Unhealthy Areas.</i>					
(a)	No. of areas reported	...	...	...	5
(b)	" houses affected	...	...	...	400
(c)	" schemes submitted	...	...	...	4
(d)	" of existing houses affected	...	...	...	17
<p>The Ministry of Health were informed in December that owing to the shortage of houses it was not prudent to undertake further measures of re-construction or clearance of unhealthy areas and the Council suggested that their powers and duties in this respect should be suspended for the present.</p>					
7. <i>Housing Schemes.</i>					
<p>Three of the Schemes for the provision of 371 houses are well in hand, and six of the houses are occupied. When all the houses are provided it may be possible to evolve some method whereby there may be a gradual improvement in the class of house occupied by all sections of the community and, finally, the demolition of the most insanitary of the back to back houses and houses in courts.</p>					

Slaughter-houses and Food Supplies.

There are now 12 slaughter-houses on the register, four of which are subject to annual licence. The Slaughter-houses have been periodically visited. The Vendors in several cases voluntarily

destroyed food when their attention was called to its unwholesome condition.

Periodical visits have been made to butchers', fish, game and poultry, and green-grocers' shops. The food exposed for sale was, with few exceptions, of fair quality.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

There are now eight registered cow-keepers, and 60 other persons are registered as purveyors of milk. Two applications were made for persons to be registered as purveyors of milk which were granted. Repairs and alterations were carried out at their premises to make them suitable for dairies or milk shops.

The cowsheds and milk shops were periodically visited and every effort made to see that the regulations are adhered to.

Water Supply.

Every effort has again been made to induce owners to abolish the common stand-pipe in the yards and to provide taps in the houses or washhouses.

The water main at the Delves has been extended a distance of about 670 yards, providing a proper and adequate supply of water to a part of this district.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 116 workshops, including 21 bakehouses, on the register. A detailed list of the trades carried on in the workshops is set out in Table VI.

Factories.—During the year five notices were received from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories. In all cases the necessary work has either been done or is in hand.

Workshops.—These have been periodically visited and the regulations respecting cleanliness, ventilation, etc., have been carried out.

Homework.—When lists have been received containing the names and addresses of homeworkers, the premises were inspected and found in order.

Bakehouses.---These have been visited from time to time and were generally found in fair order.

Table VI. gives a summary of the work carried out during the year in connection with factories, workshops, laundries, workplaces and homework.

Table II. gives particulars of the nuisances occurring in factories and workshops and the sanitary improvements effected.

Table II.

**SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT TO
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

Defects.		Sanitary Improvements effected.
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient ...	Five W.C.'s provided
	Unsuitable or defective ...	Eleven W.C.'s provided
	Not separate for sexes ...	Separate approaches provided
	Urinals ...	

Cleansing and Removal of House Refuse.

The public urinals and sanitary conveniences were inspected at various times, and every effort has been made to keep them clean and in good order.

The work of removal of house refuse has for the past year been carried out by direct labour, the refuse being disposed of by means of tips.

Sixty-six dust bins have been substituted for privy middens or dry ashpits, and 50 additional dust bins have been provided. There are now 2,500 portable dust bins, an increase of 245 during the year.

Although the number of dust bins is rapidly increasing, there is no corresponding diminution in the number of applications for the emptying of privies and ashpits, which shows that these receptacles are being emptied more often than hitherto, and the refuse not allowed to accumulate to any large extent.

The most sanitary and economical receptacle for house refuse is a portable galvanised iron dust bin, and in order to hasten its universal

adoption, and for the convenience of the public, the Town Council have arranged to supply the standard dust bin as cheaply as possible.

It is difficult to induce traders to remove their refuse frequently, and it is hoped that for the general cleanliness and healthfulness of the town traders will cease storing or burning refuse in their yards. Where there are only small quantities of refuse, it was removed with the house refuse, and the traders charged with the approximate cost of removing the trade refuse.

Ambulance.

Thirty-seven persons, 26 suffering from illness and 11 from accidents, were removed in the Horse Ambulance. The total amount received for the hire of the Ambulance was £14 10s. 6d.

Markets.

The Markets have been held regularly and inspected during market hours. The stallholders have been requested to provide receptacles, and to put all the refuse therein, and to keep the same under the stalls during market hours. Proceedings will be taken against those making default. It is hoped that this will reduce to the minimum the nuisance arising from the refuse blowing about.

Allotments and Insect Pests Act.

The gardens and allotments were periodically visited, and literature respecting Insect Pests, Wart Disease and Black Scab of Potatoes, Gooseberry Mildew and Fertilisers, &c., was distributed.

Over 27 acres of land was cultivated as allotments, under the direct supervision of the Council. The total amount of rent received in respect of the allotments was £94 9s. 0d.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

HERBERT TOPPING, ASSOC. ROYAL SAN. INST.,

Sanitary Inspector,

Certificated Meat and Food Inspector.

Table III.

House to House and Miscellaneous Inspections, and houses concerning which complaints have been received	...	3100
Re-inspections	... ..	1500
Visits to Slaughter-houses	... ..	219
„ Shops, Butchers	... ..	163
„ Shops, Fish, Game, and Poultry	... ..	67
„ Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	... ..	53
„ Common Lodging Houses	... ..	43
„ Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	... ..	112
Cases of Infectious Disease visited and reported upon	...	282
Total number of Visits and Inspections made		5539
Number of preliminary notices served	... ..	282
„ statutory notices served	... ..	127
Number of letters written to Owners <i>re</i> nuisances	...	322
Notices served under Houses of Working Classes Acts and Amending Acts	... ..	15
Reports sent to Surveyor <i>re</i> dangerous buildings, etc.	...	8
„ Water Co. <i>re</i> waste of water	... ..	10
Number of houses disinfected	... ..	67
Number of ashpits reported for emptying?	... ..	1952
„ privies, cisterns and ashpits emptied	... ..	2762
„ dust bins emptied	... ..	100000
„ gallons of liquid disinfectant given away	...	176
„ tons of disinfectant powder given away	...	2

Table IV.

NOTICES SERVED AND NUMBER OF HOUSES IN
CONNECTION WITH NOTICES.

	Preliminary Notices.		Statutory Notices.	
	Notices served.	Houses in connection with Notices.	Notices served.	Houses in connection with Notices.
Filthy and dilapidated houses ...	63	183	32	128
Filthy and dilapidated outbuildings ...	40	47	3	19
Defective paving and surface channels ...	2	5	—	—
Defective eaves and downspouting ...	1	1	—	—
Insufficient drainage ...	2	3	1	2
Foul, untrapped, or defective drainage ...	1	2	2	8
Choked drainage and water closets ...	52	175	1	5
Insufficient closet accommodation ...	5	6	—	—
Insufficient accommodation for the storage of ashes, etc. ...	31	113	25	79
Foul, wet, open, and dilapidated privy middens ...	44	122	17	61
Defective water closet connections ...	13	32	2	21
Fouling of sanitary conveniences used in common ...	1	10	21	21
Overcrowded houses or rooms ...	2	2	1	1
Animals improperly kept ...	3	4	2	2
Offensive accumulations ...	1	1	1	1
Water in cellars ...	5	21	—	—
Houses unfit for habitation ...	2	9	5	30
Demolition of houses ...	—	—	1	3
Polluted wells ...	—	—	3	5
Dangerous wells or cisterns ...	1	5	—	—
Insufficient water supply ...	6	15	1	7
Dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops not kept in accordance with regulations ...	1	1	3	3
Bakehouses not kept in conformity with Act ...	—	—	—	—
Factories and workshops do. ...	6	—	6	6
Common lodging houses do. ...	—	—	—	—
Slaughter-houses ...	—	—	1	—
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	282	757	128	402

Table V.
RESULT OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Situation of Premises.	Nature of Complaint.	Act under which Proceedings taken.	Result.
45½, 46, 47, 48, and house rear Ethelfleda Terrace.	Houses not in a reasonable state of repair (General Defects).	Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 94.	Order for work to be done within six months and costs.
8-20, Hope Terrace.	Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.
67, Wood Green	Failing to cease to inhabit dwelling house after Closing Order.	Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, Sec. 18.	Order made to cease to inhabit within two months and costs.
15-20, Hope Terrace.	For permitting houses to be occupied contrary to Closing Orders.	Ditto.	Owner fined 20s. and costs.

Table VI.
BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1920, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Numbers of		Prosecutions.
	Inspections	Written Notices.	
Factories	97	5	
Workshops			
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises	5		
Total	102	5	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	1	1		
Want of ventilation	1			
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient	5	2		
Unsuitability or defective	5	5		
Not separate for sexes	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Workshops not provided with satisfactory means of escape in case of fire... ..				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses				
Other Offences (excluding offences relating to outwork) see Table 5 (3)				
Total	13	9		

Table VI.—*Continued.*

3.—HOMEWORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.							Inspection of Outworkers' Premises.	Instances	Outwork in Unwholesome Premises Sec. 18.
	Lists received from employers.			Addresses of Outworkers.						
	Twice in the year.			Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.	Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.				
	Lists.	Contractors.	Outworkers. Workmen.							
Wearing Apparel— (1) Making, etc. ...	2	—	3	—	1	—	3	—		
Totals ...	2	—	3	—	1	—	3	—		

Table VI. — *Continued.*

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.				5.—OTHER MATTERS.	
Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.			Number	Class.	Number
Bakers ...	...	...	21	Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	—
Bags ...	...	...	1	Failure to affix abstracts of the Factory and Workshop Act ...	
Boots and Shoes ...	...	...	13	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (sec. 5)	
Breezes ...	...	...	3		
Blacksmiths and Coachsmiths	...	...	6	Notified by H.M. Inspector	5
Brushmaker ...	...	...	1	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	2
Carpenters and Joiners ...	...	...	3		
Cabinet Makers ...	...	...	3		
Clothiers and Tailors ...	...	...	7		
Cycles ...	...	...	2		
Coopers ...	...	...	2		
Dressmakers ...	...	...	8		
Electric Fittings ...	...	...	1		
Files ...	...	...	5		
Grease and Oil ...	...	...	1		
Galvanising ...	...	...	1		
Gun Locks ...	...	...	6		
Holloware ...	...	...	1		
Laundry ...	...	...	1		
Millinery ...	...	...	7		
Maltster ...	...	...	1		
Mason ...	...	...	1		
Marine Store Dealer ...	...	...	2		
Nut Makers ...	...	...	4		
Organ Builders ...	...	...	1		
Printer ...	...	...	1		
Packing Case Maker ...	...	...	1		
Plumbers and Painters ...	...	...	2		
Saddlery ...	...	...	1		
Stamper and Socket Filer ...	...	...	1		
Stocking Knitting ...	...	...	2		
Sugar Boiler ...	...	...	1		
Toys ...	...	...	1		
Wheelwrights ...	...	...	4		
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	...	...	116		

1st January, 1920.

(Signed),

W. C. Garman, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

