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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE


URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

WELLINGBOROUGH,

for the year 1906.

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Annual Report

for the year 1906.

*The Chairman of the Wellingborough Urban District Council,
Wellingborough.*

Sir,

I beg to forward you my report for the year 1906.

The Population has slightly increased, but the Birth-rate has decreased here as is the case all over the country.

The number of inhabited houses in 1906 was 4618, as against 4551 in January, 1905, an increase of 67 houses, this gives a Population of 20,780 calculating 4·5 persons per house.

The number of Births was 437, last year it was 461, being a decrease of 24 and giving a Birth-rate of 21·02. This is the lowest on record for Wellingborough.

The number of Deaths is a little larger, being 238, as against 225 last year, an increase of 13. This gives a Death-rate of 11·4, but there were 12 deaths of non-residents and when these are deducted it gives a Death-rate of 10·8. This is decidedly a low rate and is satisfactory, of these deaths 73 were of people over 65 years of age, and the number of deaths of children under 1 year was only 48, the lowest number yet recorded, and giving a death-rate of 109·8 per 1000 births registered. Fifteen were Premature Births, this is exactly the same as last year, and there were 9 other deaths in Infants under 1 month, of which full details will be found in Table V.

The deaths from Phthisis and Pneumonia were more than last year, while those from Bronchitis were fewer.

The deaths from Cancer shew a marked increase, details as to the ages will be found in Table IV.

There were five deaths from Enteric Fever, occurring in the months of September and October; there were two deaths from Scarlet Fever, one in February and one in September; there were eight from Measles, three in November and five in December; there were two deaths from Whooping Cough, both in the month of August.

There were 162 cases of Infectious diseases notified, viz.:—Scarlet Fever 108, Enteric 25, Diphtheria 7, Erysipelas 20, and Puerperal Fever 2; of the 108 cases of Scarlet Fever, 33 were notified in July, 18 in August, and 14 in October, the rest being spread throughout the year.

Scarlet Fever has been prevalent in all parts of the country, and I think that we may congratulate ourselves there were not more cases, and only two deaths, which gives a very small percentage. Nineteen cases were imported, and of six the cause was unknown, and the rest were generally from direct Infection during the epidemic in the months of July, August, September and October. During the epidemic the Sanitary Inspector was very attentive and efficient. He visited every house continually to carry out the proper isolation and disinfection, and to remove cases to the Isolation Hospital when possible. In November there was an epidemic of Measles, which was of short duration and a mild type. But there were eight deaths in children from complications. The Infant Schools were closed before the Christmas Holidays. The Sanitary Inspector had circulars printed with instructions to parents for the proper treatment and nursing of the Measles patients, which I found was very useful and a successful plan. Both the epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Measles declined nearly completely about the end of the year.

There were 25 cases of Enteric or Typhoid Fever notified. One in January, a boy living with his parents in a healthy house, and no cause could be traced for the illness. One in March, but the cause of the illness could not be found out, as the house had been repaired, drains well attended to, and the water supply good. One in April, a school boy, but nothing could be found to account for the illness. One in May, a woman who nursed the former case, her nephew and hers was only a slight illness. Three in July were not serious cases. Three in August, two were mild cases, one a more serious case, a boy who bathed in a brook of contaminated water. There were 12 cases in September, two were nursed in the Workhouse, one of which was fatal, 3 cases arose from insanitary surroundings, and one from direct infection. Six cases in a yard in Gold Street were poisoned by drinking impure water from a well. The houses have been cleared out, and the well closed, and the town water laid on. One in October, no apparent cause. One in November, it was a serious case and probably caused by eating impure shell fish. One in December, caused by defective drainage. The five fatal cases from Typhoid Fever were in the months of September and October.

There were seven cases of Diphtheria notified, one in February, one in April, two in July, and three in November. The February and April cases were children, and not serious, and soon recovered. The July cases were not serious. The November cases arose from a lad who was supposed to have become infected by a foul drain away from home, and then infected two other members of the family in the same house, they all recovered.

There were two cases of Puerperal Fever notified, one was in January and the other in May. They were investigated and reported on.

There was a marked decrease in the number of notifications of Erysipelas. There were no deaths.

There was a case of Anthrax, which occurred in the month of July and ended fatally in the Cottage Hospital. It arose in the Brush Factory, from, I believe, infected and poisonous foreign Bristles.

The Public Water supply is derived from Wells in the Northampton Sand Formation, and is wholesome and free from pollution, though very hard and containing Lime, Iron and Magnesia. The question of the approved water softening has received careful consideration and a series of experiments have been carried out by the Surveyor. It is now intended to make several alterations and additions to the plant at Bushfields Wells, and increase the number of filters. When this work is completed the results should be very satisfactory.

The Slaughter houses have been visited regularly and the condition has been found satisfactory. The requirements have been carried out and sanitary improvements made where necessary. The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops have all been carefully inspected and found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

On three occasions at the Slaughter houses what was considered by myself and the Inspector unfit for food was siezed and destroyed and twice at the Market-day Stalls fish was condemned and seized.

There are Twenty Dairies in the District, Sixteen Cowsheds, Twenty-six Milk shops, they are all Registered, there are Regulations and Bye Laws. The Inspections were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

There is not a veterinary Surgeon appointed, but one is necessary as regards Cows being examined for Bovine Tuberculosis.

The drainage of the town connected with houses has been much improved, and necessary alterations carried out. The main sewers are in good order. The Sewage is treated by Broad Irrigation at the Sewage Farm in a satisfactory manner.

The requirements of the Factories and Workshops Act of 1901 have been duly enforced, and where notices have been served for improvements they have been properly and efficiently carried out.

There were 470 Inspections of Factories, Workshops and Laundries also of Workplaces, and 56 written notices. The defects found were 47, remedies 47, viz.:—30 want of cleanliness, 2 want of ventilation, 8 insufficient sanitary accomodation, 3 defective ditto, and 4 not separate for sexes.

Homework : lists received from employers twice in the year. Wearing apparel 10, outworkers 200, Brush making 2, outworkers 10. Number of addresses of outworkers received from other Councils 3; those ditto forwarded to other Councils 35. Number of inspections of outworkers' premises 150. Outwork in unwholesome premises 4; notices served 4.

Registered Workshops 169.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories 4. Reports of action taken and sent to H.M. Inspector 6.

Underground Bakehouses : certificates granted 2.

House refuse is collected weekly and destroyed by Incineration. I should strongly recommend that steps be taken for the periodic removal of the refuse from the backs of houses or premises, and that proper covered receptacles be provided by all householders to facilitate this work. The present arrangements are very objectionable and insanitary.

From regular and systematic inspections of the Urban District any defects as regards drainage, refuse accumulations, keeping animals, pigs and fowls to be a nuisance have been reported on. I still have strongly to condemn the keeping of pigs in the town too near dwellings, which is done improperly. Four old houses have been condemned as unfit for habitation, one has been pulled down as unsafe.

There were five cases of overcrowding, notices were served and the nuisance remedied. The lodging houses have been visited and kept in proper state, one was closed as insanitary.

Important improvements are in progress in the centre of the town, very old houses are being removed to build new shops and widen the streets. One block is becoming a nuisance quite in the centre of the chief thoroughfare and ought to be speedily removed for the public safety.

The Isolation Hospital for Zymotic Diseases is in good order and sufficiently large for the Urban District requirements. During the year 42 cases received treatment. There was one case of Diphtheria and 41 of Scarlet Fever, viz.:—3 in January, 1 in February, 1 in March, 3 in May, 2 in June, 12 in July, 4 in August, 4 in September, 6 in October, 3 in November, and 3 in December. There were no deaths. The Small Pox Hospital is situated a mile from the town and quite isolated, it is in good order and always ready for use.

Disinfection has been carried out thoroughly and efficiently by the Sanitary Inspector, and a good supply of Disinfectants given to all houses where necessary.

I am very glad to be able again to give such a favourable report (which I consider it is) as regards the health of the District, the low death rate, and the small Infantile Mortality.

I wish to thank Mr. Madge, the Sanitary Inspector, for his very efficient services through the year, and for the careful and excellent way he has carried out the duties of his office.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

WM. WAKE CLARK, M.D., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District of
Wellingborough.

Table I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions 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
1896	16,738	488	29	59	120.9	230	13.40					
1897	17,072	494	34.7	64	129.59	243	14.23					
1898	17,406	502	28.8	68	135.45	219	12.38					
1899	17,740	458	25.8	73	155.02	205	14.37					
1900	18,074	489	27	58	116.50	256	14.16	33	13		243	12.1
1901	18,412	529	28.7	59	111.5	236	12.8	36	6		230	12.5
1902	19,400	438	22.57	56	127.8	221	11.4	32	5		216	11.1
1903	19,872	511	25.7	50	97.8	232	11.68	42	19		213	10.7
1904	20,180	482	23.8	61	127.3	250	12.3	54	25		225	11.14
1905	20,480	461	22.5	54	117.1	225	10.9	32	18		207	10.1
Averages for years 1896-1905	185,374	4852	26.2	602	123.7	2377	12.8					
1906	20,780	437	21.02	48	109.8	238	11.4	44	12		226	10.8

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

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area
covered by water).

3905.

Total Population at all ages—18,412.

Number of inhabited houses—4,618.

Average number of persons per house—4.5.

At Census of 1901.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
UNION WORKHOUSE		
Is the Union Workhouse within the District? YES.		

Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1906 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	1.				2.				3.				4.				5.				6.				7.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year.
1806	16,738	488	230	59																								
1807	17,072	494	243	64																								
1808	17,406	502	219	68																								
1809	17,740	458	205	73																								
1900	18,074	489	256	58																								
1901	18,412	529	236	59																								
1902	19,400	438	216	56																								
1903	19,872	511	213	50																								
1904	20,180	482	225	61																								
1905	20,480	461	207	54																								
Averages of Years 1806 to 1905	185,374	4852	2310	602																								
1906	20,780	437	226	48																								

Table III. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY							
	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 upwards
Small-pox																					
Cholera																					
Diphtheria	7	1	3	2	1																
Membranous croup ...																					
Erysipelas	20			2	12	6															
Scarlet fever	108	20	68	14	6																
Typhus fever																					
Enteric fever	25	2	6	3	13	1															
Relapsing fever.....																					
Continued fever																					
Puerperal fever	2			1	1																
Plague																					
Totals - - -	162	23	77	22	33	7															

Isolation Hospital, Wellingborough Urban.

Table IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

(See notes on next page.)

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, 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.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Small-pox	8	2	5	1											
Measles	2		1			1									
Scarlet fever.....	2		2												
Whooping-cough															
Diphtheria and membranous croup															
Croup															
Fever { Typhus	5		1	1		3									2
Enteric.....															
Other continued															
Epidemic influenza ...	1					1									
Cholera															
Plague															
Diarrhœa (See notes on next page)	2	2													
Enteritis do.	5	3	1			1									
Puerperal fever do.															
Erysipelas															
Other septic diseases ..															
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	17		1	2	2	12									2
Other tubercular diseases	1			1											
Cancer, malignant disease (See notes on next page)	25			1	1	17	6								4
Bronchitis	10	3	1			3	3								4
Pneumonia	22	4	8	1		3	6								2
Pleurisy															
Other diseases of Respiratory organs															
Alcoholism }	2					1	1								
Cirrhosis of liver }															
Venereal diseases															
Premature birth	15	15													
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2				1	1									1
Heart diseases.....	13				1	5	7								4
Accidents	2					1	1								2
Suicides	5					4	1								
Senile decay.....	15						15								7
Meningitis	4	2	2												
Debility	10	9	1												
Convulsions	3	3													
Want of Breast Milk ...	2	2													1
Anthrax	1					1									1
All other causes	52	2	1	1	2	18	28								14
All causes	226	47	24	8	7	72	68								44

Notes to Tables IV. and V.

- (a) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in column 9-15, to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.
- (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.
- (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
- (d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- (e) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Cholearic diarrhœa, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.
- In addition, and as regards deaths of children *under one year of age*, under the heading "Diarrhœa" in column 3 (Table IV.) are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhœal diseases" in Table V.
- Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV., are to be included only deaths *over one year of age* registered as due to Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- (f) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus: Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Scirrhus, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumour, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer. Under "Puerperal fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri- and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.
- (g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Naval hæmorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.
- (h) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.
- (i) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.
- (j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

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

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Feb. 7th, 1907.

Table V. Infantile Mortality during the year 1906.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND 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																	
	Uncertified																	
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox																	
	Chicken-pox																	
	Measles															1	1	2
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria: Croop																	
	Whooping Cough																	
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms											1		1				2
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis									2							1	3
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	15				15												15
	Congenital Defects																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Injury at Birth																	
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation				1	1	1											2
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	6				6	1	2										9
	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
v. Other Causes.	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)									1				1				2
	Convulsions						2									1		3
	Bronchitis							1						1		1		3
	Laryngitis																	
v. Other Causes.	Pneumonia	1				1						1	1				1	4
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other causes	1				1				1								2
		21	2		1	24	4	3		4		2	1	3		1	5	47

DISTRICT OF WELLINGBOROUGH.

Births in the year { legitimate 415.
illegitimate 22.Population estimated to middle
of 1906—20,780.

Deaths from all Causes at all ages—226.

Non-residents—12. = 238.

For notes on this Table see page 12.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries.)	100	20	
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries.)	350	30	
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.)	20	6	
Total ...	470	56	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	30	30		
Want of ventilation	2	2		
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	8	8	
	unsuitable or defective	3	3	
	not separate for sexes	4	4	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake- house (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report.)				
Total	47	47		

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.							Number of in- spections of Out- workers' premises (10)	OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.			
	Lists received from Employers			Numbers of Ad- dresses of Out- workers received from other Councils. (6)	Numbers of Ad- dresses of Out- workers forward- ed to other Councils. (7)	Prosecutions.			Instances (11)	Notices served. (12)	Prosecutions. (13)	Instances (14)	Orders made (S. 110). (15)	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110). (16)	
	Once in the year.					Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists. (8)	Failing to send lists. (9)								
	Twice in the year.	Out-workers. (3)	Lists. (4)	Out-workers. (5)											
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
Wearing Apparel— (1) making, &c. (2) cleaning and washing } Lace, lace curtains and nets Furniture and Upholstery ... Fur pulling Umbrellas Paper Bags and Boxes Brush making Stuffed Toys File making Electro Plate Cables and Chains Anchors and Grapnels..... Cart Gear Locks, Latches and Keys ...	10	200			3	35			150	4	4				
Total	12	210			3	35			150	4	4				

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		Number.
(1)		(2)
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.		169
	Total number of workshops on Register	169

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
(1)	(2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory & Workshop Act (s. 133) ...	4
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	{ Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.
Other	6
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	2

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

February 7th, 1907.

Medical Officer of Health.