

Contributors

Wellingborough (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1909

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/vwuc5cdr>

License and attribution

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

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. 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.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

WELLINGBOROUGH,

for the year 1909.

WELLINGBOROUGH :
GEORGE DOUGLAS, PRINTER,
15 SALEM LANE.



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

<https://archive.org/details/b30243257>

Annual Report

for the year 1909.

*The Chairman and Councillors of the Wellingborough Urban
District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to forward you my Report for the year 1909, to the Urban Sanitary District Council of Wellingborough.

The number of inhabited houses in 1909 was 4,723, and 29 new houses were erected and occupied during the year. If we allow $4\frac{1}{2}$ persons to each house (as it was at the Census in 1901), this gives us a population of 21,253, but as there were 200 unoccupied houses in June last, I have based the average rate on the same population as last year, viz : 21,000.

The registered number of Births was 432 in 1909, viz : Boys 209, Girls, 223. Of this number, 21 were illegitimate, giving a birth rate of 20·5, an increase on last year, and there were more girls born than boys.

The registered number of Deaths during the year was 237 at all ages, giving a death rate of 11·2. There were 29 deaths of non-residents, and these deducted from the above gives a death rate of 9·9. Three deaths of residents were reported as occurring beyond the district, and these being added, makes a death rate of 10·0. There were 42 deaths in the Work-house Infirmary and 6 in the Cottage Hospital, but none in the Isolation Infectious Hospital. Of these deaths, 34 were in children under one year of age, and 97 were in persons over 65 years of age, 7 were accidents and 2 suicides, leaving 97 deaths which might be attributable to the conditions prevailing in the town, and one death occurred in the Notifiable Infectious Diseases cases. There was a decided decrease in the deaths of children under one year of age, viz : 34. Of these 10 deaths were from premature birth. The death rate of children under one year per 1,000 births registered was 78·7, the lowest (with one exception) during the last 20 years (see Table V.). Details of the cause of Death and the ages at which they occurred will be found in Table IV. The greatest number of deaths occurred in the months of February and May, and the fewest in the months of July and August. There was one death from Whooping Cough in December. It was very prevalent in the Spring.

The number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year was 171. Of these 21 were Erysipelas. There was only one fatal case in the month of November, viz: Diphtheria. There were 143 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, the greater number being in the early part of the year. The epidemic began during the last three months of the year 1908 and continued through 1909. During January there were 31 cases notified, in February 38, March 25, April 9, and May 9. Then a smaller number each month to the end of the year, as in December only one was notified. 61 cases were moved to the Isolation Hospital during the year, and all when possible. Those not moveable were properly isolated and treated at home successfully. Disinfection and purification of rooms, bedding and clothes, was carefully carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. As the epidemic was very prevalent in every district the chief cause was importation, then school infection and contagion. The cases were not confined to one locality or school, but distributed. 98 cases occurred in children from 5 to 15 years of age, 27 in children from 1 to 5 years of age, 17 in persons 15 to 25 years of age, and one was over 25 and under 65 years of age. School children have been reported on to the Sanitary Authority by the School Attendance Medical Officer from the County Council, at Northampton, and these cases have been examined and seen by myself, and, when necessary, referred to their own Club Medical men for treatment.

There were three cases of Typhoid Fever or Enteric notified, all were imported, isolated, and treated successfully at home.

There were 18 deaths from Phthisis (one less than last year), the greatest number being in persons from 25 to 65 years of age, and one over 65 years. Ten cases of Phthisis were notified, viz: 8 in the Workhouse Infirmary and 2 paupers in Urban Union District, the other cases were visited, disinfectants supplied, and advice given to prevent infection and aid the patient. The houses were also disinfected.

The number of deaths from Bronchitis was about the same as last year, viz: 18, chiefly in persons over 70 years of age.

There were five deaths from Measles, four under 5 years of age and one under 15. One death occurred in August and two in November from complications. The posting of notices throughout the town had, I believe, a beneficial effect as a caution and advice as to treatment of cases.

The number of deaths from Pneumonia in 1909 was 14, and in 1908, 13.

There were 18 deaths from Cancer, an increase on last year's return. Eleven were in persons over 65 years of age and seven in persons between 25 and 65 years of age.

There was a slight decrease on last year of Heart Disease, chiefly in persons between 25 and 65 years of age.

There were twenty-five deaths registered of Senile Decay, and several more were in non-residents.

The Drainage and Sewerage of the town continues in good and satisfactory order. The latter is pumped up from a low level below the town to the high level 2 or 3 miles distant to the Irrigation Farm, from which the purified effluent runs into the river Nene.

The Isolation Hospital has been very beneficial for the isolation and treatment of Scarlet Fever cases during the epidemic. The increased number of beds has been useful, and the nursing staff increased helped very much as long as was necessary.

The epidemic declined during the last months of the year. At the Isolation Hospital, for the convalescent patients, chiefly children, the Urban Council have made a lawn close to the Hospital for exercise and play.

The Smallpox Hospital is a mile from the town, in an isolated position, and is kept ready for use and commodious with a permanent resident caretaker, but there has not been a case for a long period.

The town water supply is plentiful and continues sound and pure. The softening and filtering process is very beneficial. The water is procured from the limestone and ironstone wells about 2 or 3 miles from the town.

The disinfection of houses and schools has been regularly and thoroughly carried out during the epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Measles, also of Mumps.

The Slaughter Houses have been regularly and carefully inspected, and any defects found, want of limewashing and cleansing, &c., have been properly remedied.

The inspection of meat in the district is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, who possesses the Special Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, in meat inspection.

There are twenty-four Slaughter Houses in the district, and these are visited regularly at times of slaughtering.

No tuberculous meat has been found during the foregoing inspection.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been regularly inspected, and all defects found have been remedied. Proper milk cans with lids have been ordered for purity and cleanliness.

The Lodging Houses have been frequently inspected and found satisfactory after improvements ordered, and all are registered.

I have also with the Sanitary Inspector inspected all uninhabitable old houses, and when not habitable have recommended them to be removed after proper information given to the Urban Council.

The house refuse is always carefully and periodically collected and removed from every district and carted to a suitable yard for destruction and incineration.

From regular and systematic inspections of the Urban District all defects found as regards drainage, filth accumulations, animals, pigs, &c., kept to be a nuisance, have been reported on and remedied.

Overcrowding has been abated in several instances in dwelling-houses, proper water supplies have been ordered, and defective closets to houses have been remedied.

The offensive trades have been carefully inspected and found to be kept satisfactorily.

There has been 2qrs. 21lbs. of meat and 5lbs. of fruit destroyed, the same being unfit for human food.

The Notification of Births Act has been adopted, and now, after instructions again given to the public, it has been better attended to. A Lady Health Visitor does not reside in the town, nor in the district now, but I believe it is advantageous to have one, for I have always found that her services have been valued by some mothers in the working class.

The requirements of the Factories and Workshops Act of 1901 have been attended to and enforced. Notices have been served and improvements, &c., have been carried out. There were 187 Inspections of Factories and Workshops made, Laundries and Workplaces, and 80 infringements found, including 14 instances of failure to affix Abstract of Factory and Workshops Act which has been forwarded to H.M. Inspector of Factories, the other infringements have been remedied by the various owners. There were 225 outworkers on the register, 17 of which have been forwarded to other Councils; 113 inspections of out-worker's premises have been made and all found in a satisfactory condition.

Bakehouses have been inspected and 20 infringements found, 18 want of limewashing, 1 ceiling insanitary, 1 failure to affix Abstract of Factory and Workshop Act, all of which have been remedied by the owners. There were 2 underground bakehouses. The workshops have been cleaned and limewashed and overcrowding abated, sanitary accommodation provided or improved.

The improvements by widening the streets in the centre of the town, the new Post Office and shops are a great benefit to the public.

In my monthly reports to the Sanitary Committee of the Urban District Council I have been able to give a satisfactory report of the health and good sanitary condition of the Urban District all the year. I beg to thank Mr. Hall, the Sanitary Inspector, for his great help in all matters.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

WM. WAKE CLARK, M.D., M.R.C.S., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Urban District Council, Wellingborough.

Table I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 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
1899	17,740	458	25.8	73	155.02	265	14.3	33	13		243	12.1
1900	18,074	489	27	58	116.50	256	14.1	36	6		230	12.3
1901	18,412	529	28.7	59	111.5	236	12.8	32	5		216	11.1
1902	19,400	438	22.5	56	127.8	221	11.4	42	19		213	10.7
1903	19,872	511	25.7	50	97.8	232	11.6	54	25		225	11.1
1904	20,180	482	23.8	61	127.8	250	12.3	32	18		207	10.1
1905	20,480	461	22.5	54	117.1	225	10.9	44	12		226	10.8
1906	20,780	437	21.0	48	109.8	238	11.4	41	12		205	9.8
1907	20,810	387	18.5	29	74.9	217	10.4	55	30		228	10.8
1908	21,000	414	19.7	43	103.8	258	12.2					
Averages for years 1899-1908	196,748	4606	23.5	531	114.1	2398	12.1					
1909	21,000	432	20.5	34	78.7	237	11.2	48	29	3	211	10.0

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

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

3005.

Total Population at all ages—18,412.

Number of inhabited houses—4,694.

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.
Is the Union Workhouse within the District? YES.		

Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1909 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.				
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.				
1899	17,740	458	265	73																								
1900	18,074	489	256	58																								
1901	18,412	529	236	59																								
1902	19,400	438	221	56																								
1903	19,872	511	232	50																								
1904	20,180	482	250	61																								
1905	20,480	461	225	54																								
1906	20,780	437	238	48																								
1907	20,810	387	217	29																								
1908	21,000	414	258	43																								
Averages of Years 1899 to 1908	196,748	4606	2398	531																								
1909	21,000	432	237	34																								

Table III. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

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	8	
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards																
Small-pox																							Total cases removed to Hospital.
Cholera																							
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) }	4	1	3																				
Erysipelas	21	1	1		13	6																	
Scarlet fever	143	27	98	17	1																		
Typhus fever																							
Enteric fever	3		2		1																		
Relapsing fever.....																							
Continued fever																							
Puerperal fever																							
Plague																							
Totals - - -	171	1	28	104	17	15	6																

Isolation Hospital, Urban District, Wellingborough.
 Total available beds 23 Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, one.

Table IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1909.

(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															
Measles	5	2	2	1											
Scarlet fever															
Whooping-cough	1		1												
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	1			1											
Croup															
Fever { Typhus															
Enteric															
Other continued															
Epidemic influenza ...															
Cholera															
Plague															
Diarrhœa (See notes on next page)	1	1													
Enteritis do.	4	4													
Gastritis do.															
Puerperal fever do.															
Erysipelas															
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	18				5	12	1								5
Other tuberculous diseases	2			2											
Cancer, malignant di- sease (See notes on next page)	18					7	11								5
Bronchitis	17	1				4	12								3
Pneumonia	14	2	4			3	5								2
Pleurisy															
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs															
Alcoholism															
Cirrhosis of liver }															
Venereal diseases															
Premature birth	10	10													
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2					2									
Heart diseases	21			2		15	4								3
Accidents	7	1	1		1	1	3								1
Suicides	2					2									
Debility	4	4													
Want of breast milk ...	4	4													
Meningitis	4		3		1										2
Senile decay	25						25								11
All other causes	51	5	4	3	1	21	17								16
All causes	211	34	15	9	8	67	78								48

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, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera (other than Asiatic or epidemic), and Cholera Nostras.
- Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- Deaths from Enteritis, Muco-Enteritis, Gastro-Enteritis, and Gastritis (see under the heading Diarrhœal Diseases in Table V.) in Tables IV. and V. should be placed immediately below, but separately from, those enumerated under the heading Diarrhœa as defined by enumeration above. This is particularly important for deaths under one year of age, as many of the deaths in infancy returned as due to Enteritis are really caused by Epidemic Diarrhœa. In the course of years, by the adoption of this recommendation, it will be practicable to ascertain the probable amount of transfer between these different headings.
- (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, Scirrhous, 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., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1910.

Table V. Infantile Mortality during the year 1909.
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 (including Membranous Croop)																	
	Whooping Cough																	
ii. Diarrheal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms										1							1
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis								2					1		1		4
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	8		1		9	1											10
	Congenital Defects	2				2	1											3
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Injury at Birth																	
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation		1		1	2	1		1									4
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	1	1	1	4												4
	Tuberculous Meningitis... (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica							1										1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
v. Other Causes.	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions																	
	Bronchitis																	
	Laryngitis											1						1
	Pneumonia										2							2
	Suffocation, overlying ...	1				1												1
	Other causes											1						1
		12	2	2	2	18	4	1	1	2	3	3		1		1		34

Births in the year { legitimate 405.
illegitimate 27.

Population estimated to middle
of 1909—21,000.

Deaths from all Causes at all ages—237.

For notes on this Table see page 12.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, 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.)	76	6	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	111	9	
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.)			
Total	187	15	

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	18	18		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding	1	1		
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances	7	7		
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	2	2	
	unsuitable or defective	37	36	
	not separate for sexes	1	1	
<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)	19	19		
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report.)				
Total	85	84		

* 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.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.													OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.		
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.						Addresses of Outworkers.		Notices served on Occupiers as to sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Inspections of Outworkers' premises.	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.		Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.	Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.										
	Lists	Con-tractors.	Work-men.	Lists						Con-tractors.	Work-men.							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)						
Wearing Apparel—	40		220				6	17				113						
(1) making, &c.																		
(2) cleaning & washing																		
Lace, lace curtains & nets																		
Artificial flowers																		
Nets, other than wire nets																		
Tents																		
Sacks																		
Furniture & upholstery																		
Fur pulling																		
Feather sorting.....																		
Umbrellas, &c.																		
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.																		
Paper bags and boxes...																		
Basket making																		
Brush making																		
Racquet and tennis balls	2		5															
Stuffed toys																		
File making																		
Electro-plate																		
Cables and chains																		
Anchors and grapnels ...																		
Cart gear																		
Locks, latches & keys																		
Pea Picking																		
Total	42		225				6	17				113						

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.	180	
	Register being Revised.	
	Total number of workshops on Register	

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) ...	15
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)	7
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	2

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

January, 1910.

Medical Officer of Health.