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Contributors

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WHITSTABLE,

February 14th, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Whitstable Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have to report that the Births registered within the Urban District during the year 1904 amounted to 189, of which 86 were males and 103 females; the Deaths were 111, of which

| | | | | | | |
|----|------|---------|----|-------|-----|----------|
| 20 | were | under | 1 | year | of | age, |
| 7 | were | upwards | of | 1 | and | under 5, |
| 1 | was | " | 5 | " | 15, | |
| 8 | were | " | 15 | " | 25, | |
| 33 | " | " | 25 | " | 65, | |
| 42 | " | " | 65 | years | of | age, |

of the latter 18 were between 80 and 93 years of age.

There were 2 deaths resulting from Accidents—1 through falling into a well, and 1 through a fall downstairs. 1 from Whooping Cough, 1 from Enteric Fever, 4 from Diarrhoea and Enteritis, 16 from Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases, 8 from Cancer, 6 from Pneumonia and Bronchitis, 14 from Heart Disease and 3 from Premature Births. 6 Persons belonging to the District died in the Blean Union Infirmary, 2 in the Chartham Asylum, and 1 at Hampstead. 11 deaths of non-residents were registered.

The nett Deaths were 109.

The Birth Rate was 25·7.

The Death Rate was 14·8 per 1000.

The Mortality of Infants under 1 year, 95·2.

Four cases of Diptheria, 5 of Erysipelas, 8 of Scarlet Fever, 9 of Enteric and 1 of Continued Fever were reported; 5 Enteric Fever cases being removed to the Isolation Hospital. Four of the Scarlet Fever cases occurred in Children from other districts who brought the infection with them, and in 4 children suffering from Enteric Fever the disease appeared to have originated in the Hop Gardens.


The District is generally flat towards the sea, rising gradually inland and bounded on the land side by elevations: the soil is of clay.

The Houses for the working classes are, with a few exceptions, fairly well built and fit for habitation, the greater number having a considerable amount of open space at the back and are mostly clean and tidy.

The Council exercise supervision over the erection of new houses. There were 53 new houses completed during the past year.

The Council have the full control of the Sewerage and Drainage which is discharged by outfalls into the Sea. The question of the treatment of the Sewage has been under consideration for some time past by the Council, but owing to the strong opposition manifested by a majority of the Ratepayers, no definite action has yet been taken.

The system of excrement disposal is by Water Closets and appears to be satisfactory: the removal of House Refuse is regularly and expeditiously effected by the Council's covered Vans, in which it is conveyed to waste land at a distance from the Town.



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The Water Supply is principally derived from the Whitstable Water Company's Mains into which it is pumped from two Artesian Wells: it is periodically analysed and has been found satisfactory. Some Houses are still supplied from Wells; these are carefully watched in the event of any suspicious illness arising among persons using such Water.

There are no Lodging Houses or Offensive Trades: the Slaughterhouses, Dairies, Cowsheds, Bakehouses, Factories and Workshops are satisfactory. There are no Textile Factories or underground Bakehouses in the District.

The Notification of Diseases Act was adopted by the Council in December 1894 and cases of Infectious Diseases, where the patients can not be isolated and properly nursed in their homes, are removed to the Hospital at Herne.

The Council have a Disinfecting Chamber and Isolation Hospital for Small-Pox cases about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Town, but up to the present the Hospital has not been required.

All Houses where Infectious Diseases have occurred are afterwards disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JNO. W. HAYWARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

