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ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

WILLENHALL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

BY


JOHN T. HARTILL,

L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S., Eng., J.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FEBRUARY 13th, 1897.





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Medical Officer's Annual Report,

1896.

Calculated on an estimated population of 18,301 at Midsummer, the birth rate was 35·4, and the death rate 17·1 per thousand per year. The death rate from preventable causes was 1·3 per thousand. The death rate from all causes in the ten preceding years was 20·6, and from Zymotic Diseases 3·3 per thousand. The deaths among children under a year old were 184·8 per thousand births registered. The deaths in the Union House from the District were 13. Whilst the birth rate was 5·7 above that of England and Wales for the same period, the death rate was just the same as that of England and Wales, included in which there would be not only the great manufacturing centres, but also the agricultural districts and sea-side health resorts. Between 1871 and 1896 the death rate was only once lower, namely, in 1882; whilst though I have not by me the yearly death rates previous to 1871, I have them for groups of years, and do not doubt that, with the exception of 1882, the rate was the lowest since the Council was constituted. The Zymotic death rate was only once lower in the last thirteen years, namely, in 1888. The mortality amongst infants under a year old was 36·8 per thousand registered births above that of England and Wales as a whole.

Sickness from general causes was much below the average; Whooping Cough and Mumps were prevalent, whilst there was more Typhoid Fever than in recent years. The mildness of the first few months of the year favoured the very young and the very old, whilst the coolness of August and September probably materially accounted for the relatively small number of deaths from infantile Diarrhœa, and the heavy rains of August, September and the autumn months would favour the incubation of Enteric germs. Trade was remarkably good, and all who would work could get work to do, if not broken down by infirmity or vicious habits.

The certified cases of infectious disease were Scarlet Fever 34, Typhoid Fever 22, Erysipelas 14, Diphtheria 6, and Puerperal Fever 2; whilst there came to my knowledge also Whooping Cough 191, Diarrhœa 29, Measles 86, Mumps 202, Chicken Pox 56, and Influenza 1. Of these 26 died, Whooping Cough and Diarrhœa being the most fatal.

Scarlet Fever was mild in type, and considering the number of times it was introduced from towns adjacent, it is fortunate the cases were not more numerous.

With regard to the cases of Typhoid Fever, the Council will find in an appendix hereto a summary of the conditions found at the residences of the twenty-two persons certified as suffering from the disease, together with two cases certified on the same premises or connected therewith in 1897, and the history of six other cases not notified in 1896, four of which I now know were Typhoid Fever, and two of which I shall assume in this Report to have been Typhoid Fever. As a result of this investigation I think I can safely say that twelve of the cases were sporadic, which had no ascertainable connection with any pre-existing case in the town, and from which no other case was contracted; that in some instances, the cause was ascertained and removed; and that if by Typhoid Fever is meant a continued fever, remittent in type, with morning falls and evening exacerbations of temperature, usually associated with a rose-coloured lenticular eruption on the skin and accompanied by Diarrhœa, with an average duration of febrile disturbance of about twenty-three days and the need for rest in bed for at least another week—the precise history of all cases in Willenhall hitherto—then, that some of these cases were not true Typhoid Fever. With regard to the Russell Street and Doctor's Piece cases—six in number, five appear to have been contracted from the first case. Three of these cases lay upon the same bed, which, after the first case, was taken to the disinfecting apparatus; but when the other cases broke out, as the Council know I distrust the provisions made for disinfection, I advised the bed to be burnt. The cause of the Bray Street cases—four in number, was clearly traced and removed; whilst the evidence is clear enough for practical purposes to assume that the origin of seven of the Froyssell Street cases was a case not notified as Typhoid Fever, which, however, beyond all doubt, manifested many of the symptoms of Typhoid Fever. A careful perusal of

the appendix cannot fail to convince the Council how valuable an Isolation Hospital would have been in some of the cases, notably, in first cases in any given locality and in cases in the households of small retail shop-keepers and milk vendors.

I should also like to direct attention to another possible cause of some of these cases. The main water-supply to the town, which used to come along the Bilston Road, now comes from Wolverhampton, through Moseley Village, Portobello, and Wolverhampton Street. The pipes out of which the mains were made were deposited, before they were put in the trenches, along the public gutters, which *en route* contained the filth of an unsewered locality. Though I do not doubt the mains were well flushed before being used I can conceive the possibility of a contaminated water-supply arising in this way, and therefore ask the Council to protest against a practice so filthy by urging the Water Authorities to deposit pipes in future on raised supports, or any rate not in the street channels.

All the cases of Diphtheria were in separate houses, and with two exceptions in separate localities. With regard to these two cases, in a Report made in April I think I established with a fair degree of certainty that the first of them was contracted from fowl suffering from Roup, a disease always associated with a membranous exudation characteristic of Diphtheria.

One of the cases of Puerperal Fever was nursed under good sanitary conditions and surroundings; whilst the other—a fatal case—was that of a woman who lived in a humble dwelling house, and who was attended at her confinement by an untrained midwife. I wrote to the midwife advising her not to attend or visit any lying-in-woman for a period of two months, and after giving instructions as to disinfecting her own person and clothing told her that if she disregarded the caution she might find herself in the position of defendant in a criminal prosecution. I have no doubt the caution was heeded.

Mumps, Chicken Pox, and Measles seriously interfered with School work, but the cases were not numerous in which serious discomfort was experienced, and it was not considered necessary to suggest the closure of any School.

In every case of infectious disease, printed instructions were given as to their management, and in many cases advice was given personally also.

Fifty-four Nuisances or alleged Nuisances were reported at my Surgery or ascertained by me. Of these, seven were found not to be Nuisances within the meaning of the Public Health Acts and most of the other forty-seven have been abated, whilst of those not abated, Formal Notices for abatement have in several instances been issued. Can the Council do anything to prohibit the habitual use as an Urinal of a place in the passage leading from Temple Bar to Cemetery Road? Can they not, by force, if necessary, remove the ugly and dangerous step, of no possible use now to any person, on the footpath in Stafford Street, and take the consequences of their action?

The house-to-house inspection by your Sanitary Inspector, which commenced in 1895 on lines indicated by me, was finished in 1896. From this it appears there were 3,460 houses, equal to an average of about $5\frac{1}{4}$ occupants to each house; and 8,372 bedrooms, equal to an average of rather more than two persons to each bedroom. The lodger population was 449, but there were no common lodging houses. There were 1,117 privy cess-pits, 168 privies connected with open ashpits, 250 privies connected with covered ashpits, 500 water-tight ashpits, 521 open ashpits, and 314 pigs in pigsties. A summary of the Inspector's work is given in Table C appended hereto. A perusal of this Table will convince the Council that much useful and necessary work has been done, though much still requires doing.

At the end of the year 1,201 Houses, many Factories and Schools, and all the Slaughterhouses were connected with the new sewers. Of these, 401 Houses, 1 Slaughterhouse, and about 6 Factories were connected in 1896. To secure this result there were 20 prosecutions. I wish owners of property would recognize how needful it is to have their house-drains connected with the sewers on approved plans, and be more willing to save the Council the necessity of compulsion.

By the terms of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, any Workshop is overcrowded which, during ordinary work-time, does not contain at least 250 cubic feet of air for each person at work therein. It is the duty of the occupier to get the measurement at his own cost, and to affix

a notice indicating the cubic feet of space in each shop or room and the number of persons who may be employed therein. About 210 Workshops, out of a total of about 340, were inspected; and I induced the Council to permit the Inspector on this occasion to indicate free of cost on the proper Form (46) the number which may be employed in each room. The measurement of every shop was given by your Inspector, and I am pleased to say no case of overcrowding was discovered. No wearing apparel may now legally be made, cleaned, or repaired in any dwelling house or building occupied therewith, whilst any inmate is suffering from Scarlet Fever or Small Pox. In several instances where such an event might happen, the special attention of the occupier was directed to the section of the Act by me. Every Medical Practitioner is bound to notify the Chief Inspector of Factories of cases of lead, phosphorus, or arsenical poisoning, or of anthrax. One case of lead colic was notified by me. Forty-six notices to Limewash Workshops were given; 33 of which were complied with, and in 13 instances an extension of time was allowed. Twelve Nuisances in or near Workshops were discovered; seven of these have been abated, and four relating to the provision of separate sanitary conveniences for the different sexes, or to the absence of any sanitary convenience, were referred to the Surveyor for consideration.

There is scarcely a house in the District, fit for habitation, which is not tenanted. From inquiries made I believe not less than 250 persons come to work each day in the town from Bilston, Darlaston, Walsall, and Short Heath. Would these people do this if there were suitable houses in sufficient number in the Township? Will those who are able make a note of this and try to provide suitable houses in sufficient numbers, say houses worth a rental of about 5/- a week, and a few others, say worth a rental of about £16 to £18 a year?

Prosperous trade led to the employment of a larger number than usual of Young Persons and Children, especially by Ironfounders. About 10 per cent. of all examined by the Certifying Surgeon were unqualified to work either through deficiency in health or education. As it is well known that many who are rejected as unfit to work in Factories find employment in Workshops where the work is equally hard, but a Medical examination not compulsory, I am of opinion that those who work in Workshops should also be examined by the Certifying Surgeon. The

Right Hon. the late Home Secretary raised the standard of proficiency in education, as from September, 1894, from the fourth to the fifth, whilst the standard of previous due attendance in lieu thereof (250 attendances in each of five years) for practical purposes remained as before. If the object of the first change was really to raise the standard of education by keeping children at school longer, and by so doing increasing the average age for beginning work, it seems to me to have completely failed in Willenhall. If it ever is to succeed, the number of attendances constituting the standard of previous due attendance must be considerably increased—a point that is well worth considering in view of a general tendency to irregular attendance at school.

From Table D appended hereto the Council will observe that I signed 725 certificates, involving the exclusion from school for defined periods of 1,142 healthy children, in consequence of contagious diseases. The organization for ascertaining these cases continues to work well. The weak points in it are: firstly, that many of the healthy children excluded subsequently fall ill without it becoming known; and secondly, during the holidays the desired information is only to a limited extent forthcoming.

Happily, there has been no need to use the Small Pox Hospital; but it is absolutely necessary that the building should be kept in a state of good repair, the wards ventilated, the water closets in good order, and the linen and mattresses well aired, so as to be in fit condition for the reception of patients at an hour's notice.

Further Conferences have taken place between delegates of the County Council and representatives of about eight Sanitary Districts, at which I was present, to consider the possible grouping together of those Districts and the possibility of building Isolation Hospitals in duplicate for their use, that is for the treatment of Small Pox and general contagious diseases such as Scarlet Fever in separate institutions. The general idea was that suitable sites might be found at or near Bentley, but consideration of the matter was deferred to enable the County Council to provide further particulars, especially on the point of probable cost.

The site of the proposed new Cemetery having been definitely settled and the drainage-plan approved, a loan for its purchase has been sanctioned and arranged, and the purchase will be completed forthwith. I consider the site an excellent one for the purpose.

The possibility of more effectually flushing the sewers, which cause some annoyance for a few weeks in the summer, is being considered by the Town Surveyor, and the improvement of the effluent from the sewage farm is also under consideration. In connection with this subject the Council may remember I have advised that the opinion of an expert be taken as to the need for the chemical precipitation of solids in the sewage tanks, and as to the best means of separating the solids so that the filter beds be not destroyed.

In addition to the proposed new Bye-laws prepared by me in 1895, others have been prepared on the mode in which communications shall be made between the drains of premises already erected and the public sewers; and secondly, relating to streets and buildings, particularly new streets and buildings. The whole of these Bye-laws have been considered to some extent by the Council, who I understand are waiting for further Bye-laws to be prepared by the Town Surveyor on the construction of buildings. May I suggest the desirability of getting those already agreed upon by the Council sanctioned by the Local Government Board without delay, unless the others are likely to be ready soon?

A special Report was made on the condition of several properties in Brick-kiln Street and New Street, in which I said: "Nothing short of an improvement scheme for the re-arrangement and re-construction of the houses and the abolition of the Courts can make this part of the District thoroughly satisfactory." "There are numerous other Courts near to those described, only a little better than they are." The Council hesitate to close any but the most dilapidated and insanitary houses because there are not enough houses for the inhabitants, and they cannot see their way, financially, to undertake a general improvement scheme. Plans have been presented designed to make matters a little better; but property owners in this part must clearly understand that if they fail to do their duty in putting and keeping their properties in repair and good sanitary order, their houses are likely to be condemned before long as unfit for habitation. Would it not be wisdom on their part to raise the rent and make matters better?

A special Report was made on the condition of the streets. A steam roller has been bought and a loan obtained for improving the footpaths.

A house at Rose Hill was condemned as unfit for habitation. It was closed by the owner without Formal Notice by the Council.

Some years ago I endeavoured to persuade Manufacturers that the use of gas engines instead of steam power would be advantageous and economical in the Willenhall trades, and that the use of them would to a large extent solve the smoke-nuisance difficulty. There can be no doubt that hitherto the conclusions arrived at were correct; but, now that Manufacturers have satisfied themselves of the superiority of gas power to steam power, some of them have taken on the grounds of economy to make a crude form of coal-gas themselves, whilst others are contemplating the same. There can be no doubt a number of gasometers dotted over the town will prove a nuisance likely to drive some of the more prosperous portion of the population away. It therefore becomes a question whether the Council ought not to take powers, by a new Bye-law, either to prevent the erection of gasometers altogether, or to prevent their erection without the sanction of the Council.

A suitable Mortuary in the new Cemetery, to which infected bodies might be removed awaiting burial, is very desirable; and a Washington Lyons or Reck's Steam-power Disinfecter is most necessary.

By far the greatest nuisance in the town, however, is that which arises from the 1,117 cess-pits and 521 open ashpits—insanitary arrangements which have been deplored ever since a Medical Officer of Health was appointed. In recent years waste water closets have been put in in considerable numbers, and when managed by prudent people have been a great improvement on the cess-pit system. Experience, however, shows how frequently they are blocked up by rags, flannel, bricks, coal, hats, oyster shells, dolls, and hammers. The onus of keeping them in order when once put in is thrust upon the tenant. Obstructions are easily removable when first they occur, but if neglected, the tippers get disarranged and a dangerous nuisance ensues. There is no reasonable probability of wash-down water closets being put in on a large scale in Willenhall, because breakages from frost are frequent and the Corporation charge of 10/- a house, or £1,730 a year, if the system were universal, is prohibitive. It therefore follows that if the water carriage system is to be encouraged, it can only be by an increased use of waste water closets of

Duckett's and Day's types. Whilst desiring to encourage the abolition of the cess-pit system in favour of water closets, I think tenants are being duped by those who profess to remove obstructions, and therefore advise the Council to issue handbills where waste water closets are in use calling attention to the fact that it has been decided that tenants are responsible for keeping them in order, and, if the Council should approve my suggestion, announcing that a servant of the Council—who should be a competent man—will remove obstructions at a fixed prepaid charge, provided notice be given to the Sanitary Inspector at once. Unless the Council are willing to make some such rule, I shall hesitate to advise any more waste water closets.

The firing of chimneys, especially on Sundays, continues to cause a great nuisance. Can't the Council induce the Police to take more active measures to stop the nuisance?

The following streets have, I believe, not yet been taken to by the Council, because they have not been properly made, kerbed, and channelled:—Primrose Street, Stone Street, Bennett Street, Chapel Street, a Street by Portobello Board Schools, Thompson Street, Forge Street, part of Clothier Street, part of Victoria Street, and Gipsy Lane. In some of these streets houses have been erected many years. Unmade streets favour the lodgment of nuisances. I hope the Council will be able to get them put in such order this year that they may be taken over as town property.

As the number of children born in the District annually exceeds 650, and only 276 were successfully Vaccinated last year, after making allowance for deaths of infants, it follows that the statutory duty of the Guardians to enforce Vaccination is being neglected, and further, that parents are evading a plain duty.

It is difficult to understand such apathy after the terrible lesson of suffering from Small Pox experienced in 1894, and the cost which I don't in the least degree doubt exceeded £10,000. Speaking as a practical man, with an experience of both Small Pox and Vaccination that only falls to the lot of a few, there is nothing of which I am more convinced than that efficient Vaccination diminishes the liability to be attacked by Small Pox; that it modifies the disease and renders it less

fatal ; and that when by lapse of years its protective power has diminished Re-vaccination restores the protection. Can the Council do anything to get parents to have their children Vaccinated, without resort to compulsion ?

During the last century the average yearly mortality from Small Pox per million living was over 2,000. There was a rapid fall in the number of deaths in every country as soon as Vaccination became common. The mortality in England in the 22 years from 1873 to 1894 was 53 per million living, while for the 10 years 1885 to 1894 it was 26—the law enforcing Vaccination dates from 1871. In Prussia, where Vaccination and Re-vaccination are compulsory, the deaths have fallen to 7 per million. In Sweden the fall has been from 2,035 to 155. In Austria, where Vaccination is permissive but not compulsory, the annual number of deaths per million living between 1847 and 1882 was 580. In Belgium, where Vaccination is permissive but not compulsory, between 1875 and 1884 the annual number per million was 441. And in Italy the mean-rate before it became compulsory was 440 in its chief towns, since compulsory, 1890 to 1894, it was 100, or for all Italy 110.*

The Royal Commission on Vaccination, after an exhaustive inquiry extending over seven years, issued their Report in 1896. Here are some extracts from it :—“The State ought to continue to promote the Vaccination of the people.” They are not prepared to recommend that the State should cease to require Vaccination and trust entirely to a voluntary adoption of the practice. “It is better for the child and better for the community that it should be Vaccinated than that it should remain Unvaccinated.” “A parent can have no inherent right to prevent or neglect its Vaccination.” “We are quite alive to the protective value of general Re-vaccination.” “It should be in every way encouraged.” “We think steps should be taken to impress on parents the importance of having their children Re-vaccinated not later than at the age of 12 years.” Whilst apparently of opinion that the ultimate end which the State should hold in view, the Vaccination of the greatest possible number, they think the present law does not secure this end. They desire to “secure that Vaccination should be as widespread as possible” and to stimulate “belief in the efficacy of Vaccination.” “In our opinion the State is bound to see that a supply of calf lymph is within the reach of every Vaccinator.”

* Authority—Jenner Centenary Number of British Medical Journal.

The French War Minister in 1889 wrote to the President of the French Republic :—"I could not forget that in the year 1870-71, while the German Army with a million of Vaccinated men, lost only 459 from Small Pox, the less numerous French Army lost 23,400—a loss which would have been saved to France by the careful carrying out of obligatory Re-vaccination. Does not this represent quite an Army in itself?"

Let me now invite the Council and all my fellow-townsmen to read the story of the Gloucester Epidemic of Small Pox in 1896, as told by Dr. Bond, a copy of which I send herewith and another copy of which I will send to the Free Library. Dr. Bond shows how in the hour of peril, 36,000 were Vaccinated in a period of eight months, and how Gloucester from being one of the worst Vaccinated towns in the country became one of the best Vaccinated, at a cost to subdue the Epidemic of at least £150,000. He says :—"Probably no record exists of so rapid, so extensive, and so momentous a conversion on any matter not directly connected with a question of religious belief." And in his comparison of the Epidemics of Small Pox at Gloucester in 1896 (2,035 cases, deaths 426) and at Willenhall in 1894 (842 cases, deaths 47) he asks what was the cause of a fatality at Gloucester of 21·3 per cent., whilst at Willenhall it was only 5·6? And he replies : "Obviously the great preponderance—at Willenhall—of 'Vaccinated' cases, amongst whom the fatality was only 2·3 per cent." "Viewed in regard to the proportion of the total population affected, these two Epidemics were nearly equally severe ; but when severity is estimated by *fatality*, the Gloucester Epidemic was four times as severe as that of Willenhall." "The explanation of the mildness of the Willenhall Epidemic, therefore, so far as the Vaccinated are alone concerned, may confidently be referred to the prevalence of effective Vaccination in the District up to about 10 or 12 years before the outbreak." "It enables us to estimate the risk which such a population as that of Willenhall runs of incurring a much greater disaster than it actually did, by an explosive outburst such as occurred at Gloucester, and against which there is absolutely no protection except the enforcement of infant Vaccination ; since, even the provision of Hospital accommodation on a scale which few Local Authorities would have the courage to institute or maintain, would of itself be useless without the co-operation of a rigid and universal system of compulsory Isolation, which even the opponents of Vaccination have not ventured to advocate as an alternative to it."

In conclusion, I would express the hope that in any changes which the Government may decide to introduce in the laws relating to Vaccination, they will either keep the carrying out of the law under direct Imperial control, or at any rate will make it impossible for small electorates to be swayed by noisy agitators in opposition to the Imperial Will, whatever that Will may be.

The usual Tables required by the Local Government Board and County Council, the substance of which is sent herewith, will be forwarded in due course by

Yours obediently,

JOHN T. HARTILL,

M. O. H.

Willenhall,

February 13th, 1897.



TABLE A.

Shewing the Deaths classified according to Diseases and Ages, &c.

At all Ages.	Under One Year.	One and under Five.	Five and under 15.	Fifteen and under 25.	Twenty-five and under 65.	Sixty-five and upwards.
314	120	35	7	2	102	48

DEATHS.

			Under Five.	Over Five.
From Measles	...	...	1	...
„ Whooping Cough	...	...	9	...
„ Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	...
„ Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	3
„ Diarrhœa and Dysentery	...	...	9	...
„ Diphtheria	...	...	...	1
„ Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	1
„ Influenza	...	...	...	1
„ Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	1
„ Diseases of Heart	...	...	1	9
„ Consumption	...	...	3	16
„ Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia	...	...	35	44
„ Injuries	...	...	2	6
„ Small Pox; Typhus, Continued, and Relapsing Fevers; Cholera, Erysipelas, Membranous Croup, and Ague	...	...	0	0
„ All other Diseases	...	...	93	78
TOTAL			154	160

Deaths { Males 160 } Total 314, equal to a Death Rate of 17·1
 { Females 154 } per 1,000.

Births { Males 340 } Total 649, equal to a Birth Rate of 35·4
 { Females 309 } per 1,000.

Population Census 1891 ... 16,852.
 „ Midsummer 1896 ... 18,301.

Deaths in Union House, Wolverhampton, from the District 13.

Area in Acres ... 1,249.

TABLE B.

Shewing New Cases of Infectious Diseases and Deaths therefrom, &c.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	New Cases.		Deaths.		Infected Houses.
	Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.	
Scarlet Fever ..	10	24	1	...	24
Typhoid Fever ..	2	20	...	3	18
Erysipelas ..	...	14	...	...	13
Diphtheria ..	1	5	...	1	6
Puerperal Fever ..	...	2	...	1	2

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	New Cases.		Deaths.		Infected Houses.
	Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.	
Whooping Cough .	125	66	9	...	143
Diarrhœa ...	16	13	9	...	27
Mumps ...	27	175	...	...	176
Chicken Pox ..	25	31	...	...	46
Measles ..	28	58	1	...	70
Influenza ...	...	1	...	1	1
Ringworm ..	...	9	...	...	9

The Notification Act became compulsory
February 13th, 1893.

Death Rate from preventable causes, including
Diarrhœa, but not Influenza, 1·3 per 1,000.

TABLE D.

Shewing Certificates to Elementary School Authorities advising exclusion of Scholars from Infected Houses for specified periods; including those granted in the previous School Year, the effect of which had not expired at the commencement of the School Year ended November 30th, 1896.

				Certificates of Infected Children.	Healthy Absentees.
Board Schools, Little London	...	...	...	129	211
" " Portobello	...	...	...	203	380
" " Central	...	...	...	120	150
" " Walsall Road	...	...	...	67	118
St. Giles' National Schools	...	...	...	46	83
St. Anne's	"	"	...	8	8
Wesleyan Methodist	"	...	...	104	133
Primitive	"	"	...	31	36
St. Mary's Catholic	"	...	...	17	23
			TOTAL	725	1142

APPENDIX.

Cases.	Locality.	REMARKS.
1 & 2	Chapel Street	Cause, nuisance from cess-pits $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards from house. Cess-pits replaced by water closets and drainage to sewer to satisfaction of Surveyor.
3	Gomer Street	Special reports made on this and adjacent properties. Cause, nuisance from cess-pits near to houses. Properties between Gomer Street and Wolverhampton Street all now connected with sewers, and privies replaced, where necessary, by water closets to satisfaction of Surveyor.
4	Russell Street	Cause not certain; wet open ashpit and privy cess-pit at rear of premises, but some distance away. Mother served with Formal Notice to prevent her waiting upon customers in a retail shop whilst acting as Nurse to her sick child.
5	Russell Street	Same house as No. 4, six months later. No doubt contracted from No. 4. Removed to General Hospital in December, 1896, but not notified until 1897.
6	Russell Street	Same house as No. 4, but did not commence until January, 1897. Included herewith for convenience. Removed to General Hospital.
7	Russell Street	Had communication and business transactions with No. 4. Cess-pit and open ashpit close to house. Ashpit now covered, and a contaminated cistern near to house cleansed and repaired.
8	Russell Street	Had communication and business transactions with No. 4. Remarks on No. 7 apply to No. 8.
9	Doctor's Piece	Playmate of Nos. 4, 5, and 6. No nuisance on premises.
10	New Railway Street	No nuisance on premises, cause not ascertained.
11	Court in Bloxwich Road	Nuisance from cess-pit and open ashpit. Ashpits now covered, and cess-pits in process of being replaced by water closets to satisfaction of Surveyor.
12	John Street	Formal Notice had been served before case broke out to abate nuisance from defective drainage, ashpits, and privies. Connections now made with sewers to satisfaction of Surveyor.

Cases.	Locality.	REMARKS.
13, 14 & 15	Bray Street	Cause, stinking water in cellars. Tap water stand-post fixed near to privy wall. Sock escaped from privy and ashpit and was washed into cellar by water either from defective pipe, which had been remedied at date of visit, or from defects between bricks of pavement near to tap. There is still water in this cellar, but not offensive water; believed to be due to leakage from soft-water cistern. Milk sold retail. Advice given to suspend sale. Advice not heeded, and prosecution threatened unless advice was acted upon. This had the desired effect. No actual prosecution was advised because the misery and prostration of household were intense.
16	Bray Street	Had milk from premises No. 13 case. Mother of No. 16 assisted in nursing No. 13 and in putting her into coffin. Nuisance from privy cess-pit. Notice of abatement served.
17	Cross Street, Spring Bank	Probable cause, nuisance from privy cess-pit. Nuisance abated.
18	St. Ann's Road	Child walking about in about one week, and all right in a fortnight. No nuisance.
19	Chapel Green	Cause not ascertained. No back door to house.
20	Ann Street	Cause not ascertained. Nuisance from dis-used cistern near containing all sorts of rubbish. Cistern abolished.
21 & 22	Court in Froysell Street	On investigation, mother and child down with it in November. In week ending October 17th, next door neighbour died. Death registered as due to Gastric Catarrh and Syncope. Four of her children, all unwell, were taken to the Union House two days later, and each of these had Typhoid in the House. There was intercourse between the two households, and the son of No. 21 was ill with Diarrhœa early in November. This was not notified as Typhoid Fever. It is probable all the eight cases were Typhoid Fever, but it is not possible to trace the origin of the first case. A small nuisance near was discovered and notice for abatement given.
23	Cannon Street	Cause not ascertained. Open ashpit and privy cess-pit considerable distance from premises.
24	Lower Lich- field Street	Cause not ascertained. Water in cellar. Notice served for abatement.

