

[Report 1903] / Medical Officer of Health, Wisbech U.D.C. / Borough.

Contributors

Wisbech (England). Urban District Council.

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Wishesh.

Feb. 24. 1904

Dear Sir: Herewith enclosed I
have sent you reports - ~~you~~
sent by me to the Wishesh
Council.

Sincerely yours
W. G. Brown



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the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough:—

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Gentlemen.—The annual report for the town of Wisbech, which I again have the honour of submitting to you, for the past year, ending December 31st, 1903, is I am glad to be able to report of an exceedingly satisfactory character. We have again enjoyed an exceptional immunity from diseases of an infectious and contagious nature. The number of cases that have been reported to me have been few in number and generally of a very mild type. Last year we did not have a death recorded, due to any of the zymotic diseases, this year we have only 4, showing the enormous value in the careful distribution of disinfectants and the isolation which is now so universally adopted here.

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The town during the past year, as in former years, has been kept in a very healthy and cleanly condition, whilst the sanitary requirements generally have been well looked after and carefully carried out; the cases of infectious illnesses, viz. four of diphtheria, four of erysipelas, twenty of scarlet fever and three of typhoid fever, have each received immediate attention; so preventing the spread of these diseases, and relieving me of great anxiety. Dealing with these, the only cases that call for special mention are those of diphtheria, the first case being imported into the district, the others probably arising from this case, and the cases of typhoid fever, these breaking out in an isolated house, and being brought about by the pollution of the drinking water which was stored in a cistern.

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I am glad to be able again to state, that the system of sewerage gives satisfaction, both the larger and smaller drains continuing to work well. There have been exceedingly few complaints of nuisance arising from these, and the erection of the new ventilators appear to be of considerable value. Associated with this the supply of Marham water has been everything that can be desired. Fortunately, the subsidence of the large main drain on the Lynn-road has not caused any serious obstruction to the system, and I trust this will now be speedily remedied again.

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During the year I have frequently visited the various parts of the town, public buildings, &c., which continue to be well kept and carefully looked after, the condition of the lower quarters of the town showing decided improvement, and these places kept free from much serious illness.

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The number of births during the year were 224, compared with 217 in the previous year; of these 120 were males, 104 females, giving a birth rate of 22.6 per 1,000.

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Taking all things into consideration, the very healthy condition of the town and district can again, probably be judged of, from the number of deaths registered during the year. There were 142 only in the town, 9 in the Hospital, 33 in the Workhouse, giving the low death rate of 14.3 per 1,000, this comparing very favourably with last year's death rate, which was the lowest I believe on record; and out of this number 36 were infant children, giving an infantile death rate of 3.6 per 1,000.

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The deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs were from pneumonia 2, bronchitis 16, and phthisis 4, whilst heart affections caused 5, and cancerous diseases no less than 18 deaths.

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Herewith I beg to hand you very full tabular statements of births, sickness, mortality, &c., for this period, together with a comparative record of previous years.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Very faithfully yours,
HARRY GROOM, M.D.
Medical Officer of Health.

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The report of the health of the Port was as follows:—

Sirs.—The annual report, which I have the honour to present to you for the year ending December 31st 1903, is again, as it was last year, a most satisfactory one, and I must congratulate you on the healthy condition of the Port.

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During the year 6 steamships and 5 coasting vessels visited the port, two of the latter on two different occasions, but no sailing vessels arrived. The visits made by your Inspector and myself proved satisfactory, as I found the forecastles and offices in good order.

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There have been no cases of an infectious or contagious nature. I have visited your Hospital on several occasions and found it in a satisfactory condition for the reception of patients should occasion demand it.

In compliance with the order of the Local Government Board, I have made weekly returns of the existence of any infectious disease in this district, and I have in return received a list of notifications of infectious diseases throughout England and Wales. I beg to forward you a list of vessels and the ports from which they arrived. I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,
J. G. B. COLEMAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. MEHEW: That is most satisfactory.

PETROLEUM LICENCE.
An application from Mr. F. R. Pearson for a licence to keep petroleum on his premises was granted.

NELSON'S PEN

The Members and Friends will

PUBLIC TEA &

In the PUBLIC HALL,

THURSDAY, FEBR

Tea on the Tables &

Doors open for Concert at 7.30. Ch

REV. J. H. BRO

Tickets for Tea and Concert, 1s.

ABSTRACT OF THE
FRANCIS HARDY

In the Parish of WISBECH ST. MAR

For the Year ending Co

RECEIPTS.

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February 13th, 1904.
(316)

BUSINESS ANNO

EDWIN B.

Is Daily receiving Cl

NEW SPRIN

And invites an early

NEW COSTUME

JACKETS, COAT

SKIRTS AND

LACES, RIBBONS, FA

GLOVES, HOSIERY, and