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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1919,

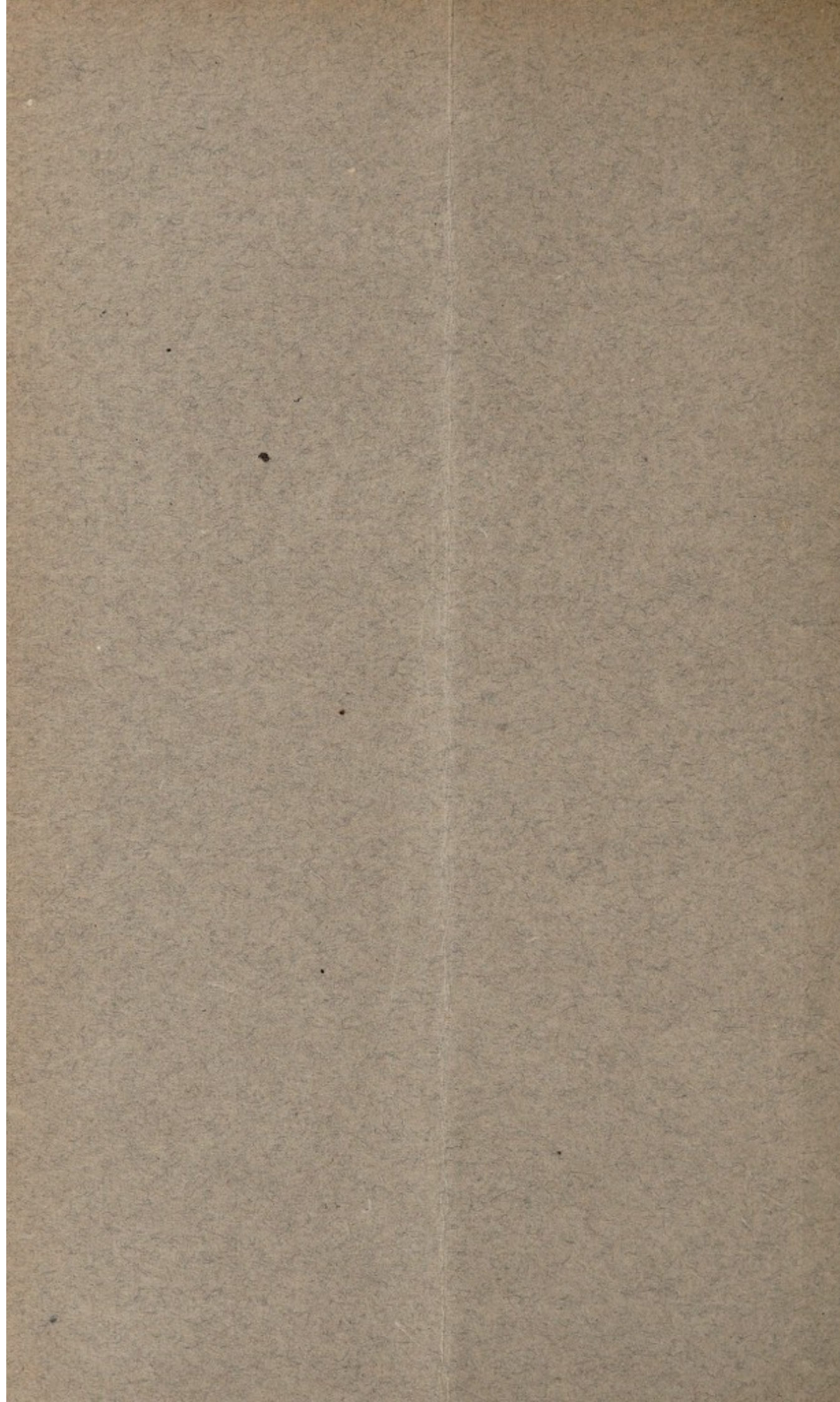
BY

T. C. GARRETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

WORKSOP:

E. J. CLARK, PRINTER, 9, RYTON STREET.



Report for the Year 1919.

To the Urban District Council of Worksop.

Gentlemen,

*I have the honour to present to you my
Report on the Sanitary Work and Health of the
District for the year 1919.*

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. C. Garrett,

Medical Officer of Health.



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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1919.



The area of Worksop Urban District is 17,930 acres. Besides the Town, it includes the villages of Shireoaks, Gateford, Hardwick and Scofton. Shireoaks is a mining village, and the others purely agricultural.

The physical features of the district consist of a low line of Sand-hills, running from North to South. East of the hills the ground is undulating, and dips gently to the East. On the West side the country is flat. The River Ryton flows from West to East through a gap in the hills, to join the Idle. The Town lies in the shallow valley of the river.

The greater part of the district is on the Sandstone out-crop, where the soil is poor and dry. In the area West of the Sand the Permian Marls come to the surface, and further West at Shireoaks and Steetley the Magnesian Limestone out-crops.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are closely connected with the geology of the district. The Coal Measures have been worked at Shireoaks since 1859, and more recently a shaft has been sunk East of the Town at Manton. Altogether Coal Mining gives employment for over 3,500 men.

The Magnesian Limestone is extensively worked at Steetley and Shireoaks. The Marls are largely used for brick making, while above this, the Sandstone has for many years been quarried for building and moulding sand.

At the present time Glass Works are being built to utilize the local sand for glass bottle making. The older industries are:—Heavy Timber Trade, Wood Turning, Malting and Brewing, and Flour Mills.

Water Supply.—The town supply is from a deep well in the Bunter beds. The water is pumped into tanks and flows directly into the mains, without filtration. The supply is abundant, regular, and of good quality. Total hardness is 13.4. Permanent hardness 5.8.

At Shireoaks village 65 houses and the School are supplied from an artesian well. The water, which is slightly ferruginous, is obtained by a boring through the Lime-stone into the Red Grit Rock, which is here of great thickness, and forms the upper portion of the Coal Measures.

Hardwick and Scofton villages are both supplied from deep wells, with a service of pipes to the houses.

Sewerage System.—No extensions of sewers have been made during the year.

The sewage is collected in tanks, and pumped to the farm, where it is disposed of by broad irrigation. The whole of the farm—400 acres—is on the Sandstone out-crop; the surface light and sandy, and absorption is rapid. There is no visible effluent.

There are still over 1800 midden privies in the town. Many of these are old, too large, in bad repair, and difficult to approach, through narrow passages in back yards. Very few conversions have been made in the last five years.

Since 1909 the Scavenging has been done by the Council, but judged by results the present system is far from successful, and the whole of the work wants re-organizing. There ought to be more systematic inspection of the town, and removal of the material at regular intervals. The contents of midden privies is disposed of to farmers in the neighbourhood for manure. Dry ashes, trade refuse, &c., are tipped in a dis-used quarry near the town.

Population.—The population at the census 1911 was 20,387. The estimated population for the year 1919, as supplied by the Registrar General, was, from the estimation of the death rate 21,843, and for the birth rate 22,754.

The former excludes all non-civilian males, whether serving at home or abroad. The birth rate population consists of the death rate on civilian population, plus all non-civilians enlisted from this country, whether serving at home or abroad.

Births.—The total number of births during the year was 519—281 males and 238 females—an increase of 46 on the previous year. The birth rate was 22·8 per 1,000 of the population.

There were 19 illegitimate births, as compared with 31 in 1918.

The annual rates and number of births since 1914 were:—

1914	31·3	649
1915	29·5	619
1916	25·1	552
1917	23·1	526
1918	20·6	473

The birth rate for England and Wales for 1919 was 18·3

„ 96 great Towns...	...	...	19
„ 148 smaller Towns	...	...	18·3

Deaths.—After deducting the deaths of 31 non-residents who died in the district, and adding those of 16 residents, the net number was 261—128 males and 133 females. The death rate was 11·9 per 1,000.

The death rate for England and Wales was 13·8

„ 96 great Towns	...	13·8
„ 148 smaller Towns	...	12·6

Of the total deaths for the year

245 or 93·9 per cent. were certified.

5 or 1·9 „ „ „ uncertified.

11 or 4·2 „ „ „ inquests.

Deaths in Public Institutions in the district numbered:

	33 residents
	25 non-residents
Total	58

Of these 16 died in the Victoria Hospital, and 42 in the Workhouse Infirmary.

Table I gives the cause of death and the numbers at different ages

TABLE I.

Deaths registered during the Calendar Year 1919, classified by age and cause.

WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
All Causes	{	Certified ...	Uncertified ...	...		38 2	4 1	9	11	13	50	51 2	80
Measles ...					1			1					
Scarlet Fever ...					1				1				
Influenza ...					8			1	1	1	2	1	2
Erysipelas ...					1						1		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...					17				2	1	10	3	1
Tuberculosis Meningitis ...					1		1						
Other Tuberculosis Diseases...					5			1	2	2			
Cancer ...					19					1	12	5	1
Rheumatic Fever ...					1				1				
Meningitis ...					2	2							
Heart Disease ...					30	2					3	12	13
Bronchitis ...					42	2	1			1	1	7	30
Pneumonia ...					11	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs					2							1	1
Diarrhœa ...					3	3							
Cirrhosis of Liver ...					1						1		
Nephritis ...					7			1			1	4	1
Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition					3						3		
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth...					24	24							
Violent Deaths...					10					3	2	2	3
Suicide ...					1							1	
Other Defined Diseases					71	6	2	4	3	3	9	16	28
Totals ...					261	40	5	9	11	13	50	53	80

There were only 3 deaths from Zymotic Disease, giving a death rate of .13 per 1,000. Deaths from all forms of Tuberculous Disease numbered 23—a death rate of 1.1 per 1,000. There were only 3 deaths from Diarrhœa, and 8 from Influenza in the year.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths in infants under one year was 40, and the death rate per 1,000 births 70. The average rate for the last 5 years was 87. There were 3 deaths among illegitimate infants, giving a death rate of 103 per 1,000 illegitimate births.

The death rate in infants in 1919 was:—

In England and Wales	89.
96 great Towns ...	93.
148 smaller Towns	90.

Table II gives the cause of death and the numbers at different ages up to one year.

The deaths from Diarrhœa and Respiratory Diseases were much below the average, and there were only two deaths from Tuberculosis. Altogether 28, or 70 per cent., of these deaths came under the heading of Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Atrophy, &c.

Infant Welfare.—After contracting influenza and pneumonia in 1918, the Health Visitor, Nurse Rawcroft, was unable to resume duty. Nurse Pennington was appointed, and took up the work in April, which she has re-organized and carried on very successfully during the year.

A Welfare Centre was opened in Potter Street in May by Her Grace the Duchess of Portland.

The building belongs to the Council, and is under the management of a Committee, composed of Members of the Council, Four Ladies, and the Medical Officer of Health.

A Caretaker resides on the premises, and the work is in charge of the Health Visitor, assisted by voluntary lady helpers.

The Centre is open each Monday and Wednesday, from 2 to 4 p.m., for mothers and infants; for medical consultations on Wednesdays, from 3 to 4 p.m.; and on one afternoon each month for consultations for expectant mothers.

Since the opening of the Centre in June the average weekly attendance of infants was 25, and the total attendance 728.

TABLE II.

WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

1919. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes {	Certified	6	6	4	4	20	11	2	4	1	38
	Uncertified	2				2					2
Tuberculosis Meningitis											
Convulsions							1		1	1	2
Bronchitis							1	1			2
Pneumonia							1				2
Diarrhoea					1	1					1
Enteritis											1
Syphilis					1	1			2		2
Congenital Malformations			1			1					1
Premature Birth		3	4		1	10	4				5
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus		5	1	1	1	8	1				11
Other Causes				1		1	4				12
Totals		8	6	4	4	22	11	2	4	1	40

Nett Births in the year { legitimate, 490.
 illegitimate, 29.

Nett Deaths in the year { legitimate infants, 37.
 illegitimate infants, 3.

Health Visitor's Work.—

Children on books at end of 1918—	Under one year	289
	Over one year	330
New cases added during 1919 ...	...	469
	Total	1088

Visits paid to infants under one year—	(a) First visits...	550
	(b) Special visits	173
	(c) Re-visits	1025
Visits paid to children 1 to 5 years	1012
	Total	2760

Visits to expectant mothers	39
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Of the children under one year visited

73·7	per cent.	were	Breast fed.
13·3	"	"	Breast and hand fed.
13·	"	"	Hand fed.

Notification of Births. —	Live Births notified	500
	Still Births	20
	Not notified	29
		549

Notified by Mid-wives	...	470
Notified by Medical Men		50

Notifiable Disease.—The following cases were notified during the year :—

Scarlet Fever	...	17
Diphtheria	...	26
Erysipelas	...	12
Measles	...	13
Tuberculosis	...	26
Ophthalmia	...	2
Pneumonia	...	6
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	1
Malaria	...	8
Total	...	111

13 cases of Scarlet Fever and 22 of Diphtheria were removed to hospital. After removal of cases, the rooms are disinfected by the Inspector, and the bedding removed to the hospital, where clothing can be disinfected by steam. Disinfection is carried out in the same way after deaths from Tuberculosis.

The case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever was removed to hospital, but died on the fifth day. Special precautions were taken in disinfecting the rooms, clothing and bedding, and the contacts were kept under observation. No further case developed, and no suspicious cases were known to have occurred in the neighbourhood. A special report was sent to the Ministry of Health on the case, and the circumstances under which it occurred.

Of the 26 cases of Tuberculosis notified 19 received Institutional treatment, viz.: 13 in Ransom Sanatorium, 4 in Kilton Hill, 1 in Victoria Hospital, and 1 in Sheffield Royal Hospital. There were 5 deaths from Tuberculosis which were not notified.

Housing.—I have made a survey of the housing needs of the district, with the assistance of Mr. S. M. Smith, Inspector on the staff of the District Housing Commissioner, Nottingham.

The result of the survey is embodied in the Form of Survey of Housing Needs which the Ministry of Health required the Council to prepare as a complete scheme to meet the housing requirements of the district, and to improve the standard of the houses already existing. The main points of the estimate are as follows:—

Working-class houses required during the next three years to—

(a) Meet the unsatisfied demand, taking account of growth of population, and over-crowding	...	...	400
(b) Re-place other dwellings which are unfit for human habitation, and cannot be made fit	...	...	165
(c) Re-place obstructive or other buildings which ought to be abolished	...	...	10
(d) Re-place other houses which, although not at present unfit for habitation, fall below a reasonable standard	...		73
			<hr/> 648

Beside these, there are 145 houses which are seriously defective, but can be made habitable.

I have defined two districts in the town which may have to be dealt with as unhealthy areas, under Part I and II of the Act, where the most satisfactory method of dealing with these houses and streets, and the sanitary defects in the area, is an improvement scheme which will take into consideration the needs of the whole locality.

I have, again, received no statement from the Inspector of Nuisances of his work during the year, and I am therefore unable to give any detailed report of the routine sanitary work of the district, such as work done under

The Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations.

Inspection of Slaughter-houses and Bake-houses, and
Offensive Trades.

Inspection of Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

Workshops and Factories, and Out-workers.

Conversion of Midden Privies, and

Nuisances dealt with.



