

[Report 1909] / Medical Officer of Health, Walton-on-the-Naze U.D.C.

Contributors

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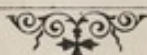
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Walton-on-Naze

Urban District Council.



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S OFFICE,
42, THE PARADE,
WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE, ESSEX.

February 15th, 1910.

To the Walton-on-the-Naze Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report for the year 1909 for your consideration.

Your district consists of a single parish, with an area of 2,051 acres, exclusive of that portion which is covered by water and of the foreshore. At the 1891 census the population was 1,586, and at the 1901 census it was 2,014, giving an average annual increase of 42.8.

The estimated population to the middle of 1909 is then 2,367.

On reference to the tables at the end of this report it will be noted that the estimated population to the middle of 1908 was 2,173.

This shows an apparent abnormal increase for the year of 194.

I do not, however, agree with the figures for the estimated population for the last 8 years, but have given them as estimated by your last Medical Officer.

The different methods adopted in arriving at the figures for the estimated population account for the apparent abnormal increase mentioned.

Births.—The total births for the year number 50, giving a birth-rate of 21.12 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which may be considered satisfactory when it is remembered that the corrected birth-rate for the Urban Districts of the County of Essex was, for the year 1908, 21.95.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted in this district.

Deaths.—The death-rate, 9.71 per 1,000 of the estimated population, is even more satisfactory when compared with the death-rate for the Urban Districts of the County for the year 1908, which was 10.25. The zymotic death-rate is nil.

The total number of deaths belonging to the district which occurred during the year is 27, 4 of which occurred in institutions outside the district, and 6 were of prematurely born infants.

The infantile death-rate, that is, the rate under 1 year of age, per 1,000 infants born is 160, and the number of deaths under 1 year of age is 8, but, as previously mentioned, 6 of these were of prematurely born infants, and one was from defect at birth. Excluding these, then, only one infant died during the year.

This speaks very well for the mothers of Walton-on-the-Naze.

Of the remaining deaths, 6 took place between the ages of 25 and 65, and 12 at 65 and upwards, of which 6 were at over 70, 3 were at over 80, and 2 were at over 90. The greatest age attained was 101 years.

Infectious Sickness.—During the past year there have been only 4 cases notified, all being scarlet fever and occurring in the same house.

Certain much-needed improvements have been made in the mode of dealing with infectious cases.

In the first place I visit every case myself at the earliest possible moment after receiving the notification, making such enquiries as I consider necessary, and instructing the occupants of the house in the mode of securing the best possible isolation and of preventing the spread of infection. I further visit the house at least once a fortnight, and more often if I deem it advisable to ensure that my instructions are carried out.

In the second place, the disinfectants are now distributed in proper poison bottles with a label printed with instructions in the method of using on each bottle, and not as formerly, in any kind of bottle without any printed instructions.

In the third place, all bedding and such other articles as I consider advisable are now, after treatment by fumigation with formalin, packed in specially provided packing and sent away for sterilization by moist heat.

And lastly, I now superintend the fumigation of all infected premises and do not leave it to the Sanitary Inspector as heretofore.

The Physical Features and General Characteristics of the District.—The district is compact, and situate at the eastern boundary of the County of Essex; that portion known as the Naze is peninsular in form. The soil is mostly a heavy clay.

House Accommodation.—The more recently built dwellings for the working class are larger and better than are those generally occupied by this class, but this is occasioned by the occupiers letting lodgings to visitors in the season. These latter number probably between 3,000 and 4,000 each year.

The erection of new houses is controlled by bye-laws, compliance with which is superintended by the Surveyor.

Sewerage and Drainage.—The method in use is that of sewers, with which the house drains, efficiently trapped, are connected, leading to a septic tank from which the sewage is discharged out to sea on the ebb tide.

This is a method entirely suitable to the district, and it works well.

Complaint was made on one occasion only during the year, and then the nuisance was due to the fall of the tide being insufficient to carry the sewage far enough out to sea. The sewers are frequently and thoroughly flushed.

Excremental Disposal.—This is entirely by water carriage and is satisfactory.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.—This is done by contract, and is satisfactorily carried out. The portable iron dustbin is mostly in vogue. These are emptied daily, or as requirement demands.

Methods of Control of Tuberculosis.—No system of notification of pulmonary tuberculosis is in force in the district, except the compulsory notification of poor cases by District Medical Officers. No such notification has been received during the year. There are no institutions in the district for the receipt and treatment of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Water Supply.—The supply is entirely from the Tending Hundred Water Company. It is of good quality and is sufficient. The County Medical Officer has recently said of it: “The water is of extreme bacteriological and chemical purity.”

The Milk Supply.—Convinced as I am of the extreme importance of securing a good supply of pure milk obtained and sold under the best sanitary conditions, I have devoted a considerable amount of time to the inspection of dairies, cowsheds and milkshops in the district, and have succeeded in getting several small but important defects remedied. One cowshed I found to be in a very bad condition. Rather than make the required improvements the occupier decided to retire from the occupation of cowkeeper. One new dairy and milkshop was opened during the year.

Other Foods.—There are no special arrangements for the inspection of meat in the district. There are two slaughterhouses, which are inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself from time to time. They are not specially visited at times of slaughtering, and there is no inspector with a special certificate in meat inspection.

Schools.—The old school in High Street is still in use, but I am happy to say has been condemned and a new school is, I believe, to be shortly erected. The old school is neither large enough nor sufficiently ventilated for the number of children attending. The school in Saville Street is quite satisfactory.

I have made arrangements for the schools and all papers, books, etc., in use to be fumigated with formalin whenever any infectious disease is prevalent in the district. The medical inspection of the children is under the County Council.

Subjoined is a copy of the return for the year made by the Inspector of Nuisances :—

1. Complaints received	14
2. Nuisances detected without complaint	54
3. Nuisances abated	65
4. Notices served	18
5. Summonses taken out	0
6. Convictions	0
7. Cottages inspected	113
8. Lodging-houses inspected	92
9. Slaughter-houses inspected	2
10. Bakehouses inspected	5
11. Dairies and milkshops inspected	4

12.	Cowsheds inspected	3
13.	Workshops inspected	5
14.	Factories	5
15.	Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875	0
16.	Houses disinfected	2
17.	Overcrowding abated	0
18.	Houses placed in habitable repair	0
19.	Houses closed	0
20.	Houses erected or re-built for which water "certificates" were applied	6
21.	"Certificates" granted	6
22.	"Certificates" deferred	0
23.	Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded	0
24.	Wells cleansed or repaired	0
25.	Wells closed	1
26.	Houses connected with sewers	16
27.	Houses connected with water mains	16
28.	Earth, pail, or improved privies con- structed or existing privies altered	10
29.	Privies and w.c.'s repaired; w.c.'s sup- plied with water	10
30.	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered	2
31.	Animals improperly kept removed	0
32.	Samples of water taken for analysis	0
33.	Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	0
34.	Seizures of unsound meat, etc.	0

I have the honour to be,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. BROCKWELL.

TABLE 1.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and previous years in the WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE URBAN DISTRICT.

Year	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths registered in the District			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District		
		Number	* Rate	Under one year of Age		At all Ages				Number	* Rate	
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number						* Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	12	13	
1899	1666	46	27.61	11	289.00	31	18.60	3	1	29	18.00	
1900	1670	32	19.16	5	156.25	30	17.96	2	0	28	16.16	
1901	2015	38	18.85	6	157.89	31	15.38	1	3	33	16.37	
1902	2029	52	25.62	5	96.15	21	10.34	2	0	19	9.36	
1903	2061	54	26.20	3	55.55	23	11.15	2	4	25	12.13	
1904	2089	43	20.88	2	46.51	22	10.33	3	0	19	9.09	
1905	2115	48	20.69	2	40.16	25	11.82	4	2	23	10.87	
1906	2146	50	23.29	6	120.00	30	13.97	6	4	28	13.04	
1907	2152	32	14.86	4	125.00	24	11.15	2	1	23	10.22	
1908	2173	52	23.93	4	76.92	23	10.58	0	1	24	11.04	
Averages for years 1899-1908	2011.6	44.7	22.22	4.8	107.38	26	12.92	2.5	1.6	25.1	12.47	
1909	2367	50	21.12	8	160	23	9.71	0	4	27	11.40	

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

NOTE—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses, and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this table.

Area of District in acres }
 (exclusive of area } 2,051.
 covered by water)

Total population at all ages ... 2,014 }
 Number of Inhabited houses ... 443 }
 Average number of persons per house ... 4.54 } At Census of 1901.

1. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District :—Cloughton Convalescent Home, Earlswood Home, Poplar Hospital Convalescent Home.

2. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District :—Union Workhouse, Tending.
 Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—No.

TABLE 3.

Cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1909, in the WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE,
URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.						Total Cases notified in each Locality.	Number of cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.	Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65				65 and upwards
Scarlet Fever ...	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	...

Isolation Hospital—*Name and Situation* } None.

TABLE 4.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1909, in the WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE URBAN DISTRICT.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Deaths in, or belonging to whole District, at Subjoined ages.</i>							<i>Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all ages).</i>	<i>Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.</i>
	<i>All Ages.</i>	<i>Under one Year.</i>	<i>1 and under 5.</i>	<i>5 and under 15.</i>	<i>15 and under 25.</i>	<i>25 and under 65.</i>	<i>65 and upwards.</i>		
Phthisis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Cancer	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Bronchitis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of liver)	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Premature birth	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Heart Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Accidents	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other causes	13	1	...	...	...	3	9	13	...
All causes	27	8	1	...	...	6	12	27	...

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories	5	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops	6	"	"
Workplaces	11	"	"
Total	22	...	...

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes				
NIL.				
<i>Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)				
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss 97 to 100)				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this report)				
Total				

4.—Registered Workshops.

<i>Workshops on the Register at end of the year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
WORKSHOPS	6
WORKPLACES	6
FACTORIES... ..	5
BAKEHOUSES	5
Total number of workshops on Register	22

5.—Other Matters.

CLASS.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	NIL.
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	
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) {	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	

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