[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Harrow-on-the-Hill UDC 1894].

Contributors

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1894.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

JOHN FLETCHER LITTLE,

M.B. CANTAB, M.R.C.P. LOND.,

Medical Officer of Health for Harrow.

HARROW:

Printed by F. W. PROVOST, High Street.

1895.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area, 1,000 Statute Acres.

Population (Census 1891), 5,725; Estimated Population, 1894, 7,118.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1894.

32, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W., February 23rd, 1895.

To the Chairman of the Harrow Urban District Council.
SIR,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

The estimated population to the middle of the year 1894 is 7,118.

During the year there were registered 70 deaths and 161 births, which gives a death-rate of 9.8 per 1,000, and a birth-rate of 22.6 per 1,000.

The age distribution of deaths is as follows:-

 There were at the rate of 124 deaths under 1 year of age to 1,000 births, or 1 to 8.

Zymotic diseases caused 2 deaths, or at the rate of '28 per 1,000. Diphtheria 1 death, Whooping Cough 1 death, Diarrhœa 7 deaths, Rheumatic Fever 3 deaths, Phthisis 4 deaths.

There were 12 cases of Scarlet Fever certified during the year, 3 cases of Diphtheria, 1 case of Membranous Croup, 2 cases of Typhoid Fever, and 4 cases of Erysipelas.

LOW DEATH-RATE.

The low death-rate, and the comparative freedom of the district from Zymotic diseases, are causes for satisfaction, and afford encouragement for further sanitary reforms.

NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, AND INFLUENZA.

The fact that these diseases are not notified to me as they are to many Medical Officers of Health, places me at a disadvantage in watching over the health of the town. My information with regard to them has to be gained in an unofficial manner, and any attempt to deal with them by preventive methods is quite impossible. I therefore recommend that the Council should place them on the list of notifiable diseases.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

This much-needed Hospital has now been completed and opened for the reception of patients. It should prove a great boon to the town, being one of the most effectual means of preventing the spread of infectious diseases. There is now one case of Scarlet Fever, and one of Typhoid Fever in the Hospital. Neither of these could be dealt with in the patient's own home.

TYPHOID EXCRETA.

As the sewage of the district passes over the Sewage Farms, I have advised that all excreta, &c., from Typhoid cases should be buried after disinfection, and when the householder is unable or unwilling to secure this the Sanitary Inspector has arranged that the excreta should be removed daily.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

As these places are the resort of tramps, by whom Small-pox has been most frequently brought into the district, it is of the utmost importance that they should be licensed by your Council in order that they may be regularly inspected.

DAIRY FARMS.

Milk is so often the medium through which infectious diseases, such as Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Tuberculosis, &c., are spread, that it is of the first importance that everything connected with its production and distribution should be above suspicion. It is therefore very desirable for the Council to take the necessary steps to render it obligatory on the proprietors of all these places in the district to secure a license. During my recent half-yearly inspection two dairy farms just within the limits of this district were discovered, and from the reports I have made you will have seen that their sanitary condition leaves much to be desired.

DRINKING WATER CISTERNS.

The necessity for the frequent inspection and cleansing of all drinking water cisterns should be impressed on all householders. A periodical cleansing on the four quarter-days, or on the first day of each month, would prevent them getting into the insanitary condition in which I have too often found them. Chronic ill-health is often traceable to this cause. All drinking water should be drawn direct from the supply pipe as it enters the house from the main.

DANGEROUS FILTERS.

From the recent investigations as to the action of filters in preventing the passage of the germs of disease, it is evident that few filters are reliable. Some of them seem, after a little use, to make water more dangerous than if it had not passed through them. It is vitally important that none but the most approved patterns should be employed, and that they should be kept absolutely clean.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS.

These Reports are appended, and have been carefully kept under the supervision of Mr. Charles, the Sanitary Inspector.

I wish to thank Mr. Charles for the continuous and able assistance he has rendered me during the past year.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. FLETCHER LITTLE, M.B., M.R.C.P.,
Medical Officer of Health for Harrow.



TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1894, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

ESTIMATED POPULATION 7118.

		Mortality from all causes, at s	n all cau	ses, at su	bjoined	ages.			Mortali	ty fron	n subj	oined cs under	uses, d	istingu ears of	ishing Deaths of Age.	aths of
Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statisties; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	At all ages.	At all Under ages. year.	and under 5.	5 and under 15.	25 and under .65.	65 and up- wards.		Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Distribes & Dysentery.	Elever.	Phthisis. Bronchitis, Preumonia	& Pleurisy. Heart Disease.	.seirnial	All other Diseases.	Total.
Harrow	99	20	4	70	21	16	Under 5 5 upwds.	Н	П	1-	00	8 8	1	14	23	24 42
Cottage Hospital	4				ಣ	1	5 upwds.					-	1		22	4
Totals	7.0	20	4	5	24	17	Under 5 5 upwds	1	1	7	ගෙ	8 7	67	14	7 25	24 46

(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for	Treatment in Isolation Hospital. Scarlatina.	2*						
ocality.	Erysipelas.	03 03						
n each L	Enteric or	2						
ickness i	Membran- ous Croup.	1						
ases of S	Diphtheria	60						
New C	Scarlatina.	6						
	Under 5 5 upwds.							
p	191							
Population at all Ages.	Esti- mated to middle of 1894.	7118						
Popula all A	Census 1891.	5725						
Names of Localities adopted for the all Ages. Purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. Urban Sanitary District of Harrow 5725 7118								

^{*} One to Harrow Isolation Hospital; one to Mary Wardell Home, Stanmore.

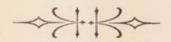
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT HARROW DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1894.

Month.	Hygro	meter.		Tempe	erature.			Rai	Wind.		
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Max.	Min.	Earth.		Total Depth	Fa 24 l	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		Prevailing Wind.
					lft.	4ft.		100 1100	Date.	which '01 or more fell.	
January. Means Highest Lowest	36·64 50 14	32·29 49 13	42·22 52 23	31·22 43 12	41·13 42 37	43·92 45 43	2.43	0.30	14th	23	s.w.
February. Means Highest Lowest	39·1 52 26	38·5 50 25	46·8 55 37	34·1 47 22	40·9 43 37	44·2 45 44	1.80	0.53	17th	16	w. .:
March. Means Highest Lowest	43·19 56 30	40·3 50 29	52·7 64 48	34·5 44 26	42·3 45 40	43·6 45 43	1.78	0.76	14th	10	w. ::
APRIL. Means Highest Lowest	46·8 59 41	47·6 56 41	58·7 71 51	42·6 50 35	48·15 50 46	46·6 48 45	1.45	0·47 	24th	12	N.E. ::
May. Means Highest Lowest	47·7 62 44	43·5 58 40	57·9 69 52	40·9 55 31	43·2 54 50	49·3 50 48	2.03	0.75	29th	14	N.E.
Junb. Means Highest Lowest	56 2 69 46	48·3 60 47	39·4 81 55	49·0 60 43	48·0 64 52	50·8 54 50	1.94	0.44	3rd	13	N.W. .:
July. Means Highest Lowest	62·2 70 54	62·8 64 52	70·3 81 61	44·0 60 47	35·3 64 60	35·3 58 55	2.75	o.73 	10th	i7 	s.w.
August. Means Highest Lowest	55 8 64 55	56·5 63 51	69·1 76 61	54·4 58 43	60·5 63 59	58·0 58 58	4.43	1.01	11th	20	N.W. ::

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METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS (continued).

Month.	Hygro	meter.		Tempe	rature.		Rainfall.				Wind.
	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	Ea	rth.	Total	Grea Fal 24 he		No. of days on	Prevailing
	Bulb.	Bulb.	max.		1ft.	4ft.	Depth	Depth	Date.	which 01 or more fell.	Wind.
September. Means Highest Lowest	53·8 59 48	114·8 58 45	60·9 69 55	47·3 54 38	56·8 60 54	56·7 58 54	1.08	0.30	7th	io 	N.E.
OCTOBER. Means Highest Lowest	50·80 59 40	48·4 58 38	49·87 61 48	41·77 53 33	53·3 55 48	51·19 56 53	3.84	1.20	30th	i7	N.E
November. Means Highest Lowest	45·2 57 35	83·8 56 35	53·06 63 42	40 2 54 31	94·7 53 43	53·26 53 50	3.74	0.96	12th	i8 	s.w. ::
DECEMBER. Means Highest Lowest	39·96 50 30	35·1 48 29	46·3 51 35	35·4 48 27	42·9 45 40	47·7 49 47	2:21	0.84	14th	i9 	N.W.



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