

[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Alnwick (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

Alnwick (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1944

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHFOR THE YEAR 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Owing to the death of your Medical Officer of Health - Dr. Scott Purves - in November, 1944, I beg to present the annual report for the year. This report is based on the lines of that for 1943 and is therefore in the nature of a brief interim report. The Area of the District remains the same at 93,000 acres. The Estimated Population is 11,330, and this figure is taken as a basis in calculating the birth and death rates.

Vital Statistics.The Birth Rate.

The number of births (corrected for inward and outward transfers) was 221, and of these 121 were males and 100 females. There were five still births. Eighteen of the births were illegitimate.

Birth Rate 1944 - 19.5 per thousand per annum.
 " " 1943 - 13.3 " " " "
 Birth Rate (England & Wales) 1944 - 18.1 per thousand per annum.

The Death Rate.

The number of deaths (corrected for inward and outward transfers) was 135, and of these 66 were males and 69 females.

Death Rate 1944 - 11.9 per thousand per annum.
 " " 1943 - 12.3 " " " "
 Death Rate (England & Wales) 1944 - 11.6 per thousand per annum.

The Infantile Death Rate.

The number of deaths in infants under one year was 11, and of these 7 were males and 4 females. (One illegitimate).

Infantile Death Rate 1944 - 49.8 per thousand births.
 " " " 1943 - 50.6 " " "
 Infantile Death Rate (England & Wales) 1944 - 46 per thousand births.

Causes of Death at all ages.

Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	Heart Disease	27
Whooping Cough	1	Bronchitis & Pneumonia	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	Infantile Diarrhoea	2
Influenza	1	Road Traffic Accidents	4
Cancer	21	Other Causes	70

No deaths were caused by Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles or Puerperal Fever.

Infectious Diseases.

The number of Infectious Diseases notified (excluding Tuberculosis) was 40, made up as follows:-

Diphtheria	7	Chicken-pox	14
Scarlet Fever	3	Whooping Cough	1
Measles	14	Malaria	1

All the cases of Diphtheria were admitted to the Alnwick Fever Hospital. Five of these occurred in December and were the precursors of an epidemic in the Radcliffe District.

Diphtheria Immunisation:- About 90 children under five years and about 10 over five years were immunised during the year.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Thirteen cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified (9 males and 4 females). There were no notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, and no deaths from this disease.

Water Supplies.

1. (a) Quality of Water.

With the exception of Alnmouth, (referred to in Item 4), the quality of water supplied to consumers in the District from R.D.C. owned and operated systems was fairly satisfactory, though in a number of cases, particularly that of the Hauxley and Togston System (referred to in Item 4) springs are known to deteriorate in quality in times of heavy rain.

No complete records are available as to the quality of all Private Supplies in the District.

(b) Quantity of Water.

Apart from temporary interruptions due to burst mains, the only places connected to public systems which were affected by actual shortage to any extent during the year were Dunstan Village, Crafter West Farm and Newburgh (Sea View). In these cases the supply on occasions was intermittent, due to insufficient carrying capacity in existing mains, and/or to interruption of pumping from privately operated plant feeding into one public system.

Notwithstanding the foregoing remarks, certain R.D.C. supplies to a number of places were taxed to capacity during the summer months.

2. Bacteriological Examination of Public Supplies.

All Public Supplies were examined during the year 69 bacteriological samples being taken with the following results:-

28	Very Satisfactory	-	Class I	(Ministry of Health Standard)
3	Satisfactory	-	" II	{ " " " " }
9	Suspicious	-	" III	{ " " " " }
29	Unsatisfactory	-	" IV	{ " " " " }

Of the Class IV Samples, 13 were in respect of Raw Water in the Alnmouth system prior to chlorination, and of the Class I Samples, 8 were in respect of the same water after chlorination.

A further 13 Class IV and 4 Class III Samples were in respect of the Hauxley and Togston System, sampled for the most part during and shortly after heavy rains.

3. No cases of contamination by lead have been reported.

4. In the case of the Alnmouth supply, chlorination has given satisfactory results continuously as shown by bacteriological examination. In the case of the Hauxley and Togston Supply, the Council has agreed to instal a Chlorination Plant and details of the scheme are being prepared for submission to the Ministry of Health.

5. According to the latest figures available, the number of houses in the District is 3801, of which 2,371 are supplied from public water mains.

Of this figure of 2,371 houses, approximately, 1,824 have water laid direct to the houses, and approximately 547 are fed from standpipes.

Sewerage and Scavenging.

There have been no changes in the system of sewerage during the year. Scavenging Schemes are in operation on the Contract System in thirteen parishes. The Refuse Depots controlled by the Council are baited at quarterly intervals by a rat-catcher.

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EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The first part of the experiment was devoted to the study of the effect of the concentration of the reactants on the rate of the reaction. The results are given in Table I. It is seen that the rate of the reaction increases with increasing concentration of the reactants.

TABLE I
Rate of Reaction vs. Concentration of Reactants

TABLE II
Rate of Reaction vs. Temperature

TABLE III
Rate of Reaction vs. Catalyst Concentration

TABLE IV
Rate of Reaction vs. Solvent

TABLE V
Rate of Reaction vs. Pressure

TABLE VI
Rate of Reaction vs. Time

TABLE VII
Rate of Reaction vs. pH

TABLE VIII
Rate of Reaction vs. Light Intensity