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Contributors

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Town Council

of the

Foraugh of Hembroke

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1959.



BOROUGH OF PEMBROKE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR

1959.

To His Worship the Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Pembroke.

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Mathias and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1959.

During the year 1959, I am pleased to report that in many ways there was evidence of an improvement in the health of the community. The infant deaths were less, giving a mortality rate of 19.68 which compares favourably with that for the county and for England and Wales and also with the figure of 34.9 published ten years ago in 1949.

There were no epidemics of infectious diseases. Fourteen cases of scarlet fever were notified but all these cases were relatively mild ones and no complications occurred.

There were five cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified and no deaths occurred and although this compares favourably with the sixteen cases notified and the four deaths reported in 1949, it is to be hoped that this disease will soon cease to occur altogether.

Of the twenty-six deaths due to malignant disease, it is disturbing to find that ten of these were due to cancer of the lung, particularly as the majority of these patients were known to be heavy smokers. Research work is going on to see what can be done to prevent cancer of the lung but in the meantime it is difficult to know the most efficient way of getting the public's co-operation in reducing the incidence and amount of cigarette smoking.

Housing

This still remains a problem. The building of houses and flats is continuing but unfortunately, the demolition of the very old and insanitary houses is not proceeding as quickly as

Again, I would like to emphasise how important a part the Public Health Inspector plays in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living. Much work has been done to implement the recommendations made under the Food and Hygiene Regulations and conditions have improved.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council and its officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation and to include in this my thanks to my clerk, Hiss V.K.Pickard, for all her help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

District Medical Officer.

The Guildhall, Tenby. Tel: Tenby 2589.

it should.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 1959

....,12,800.....

	Pem.Boro'	Pem.Boro'	County of Pembroke	
Live Births Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	254 19.84	270 20.89	16.9	16.5
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	5.12	3,33		
Still Births Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	13 48.68	11 39.14	26.82	20.7
Total Live and Still Births	267	281		
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live	5	8		
births) - total - legitimate - illegitimate	19.68 20.74 nil	29.62 30.65 nil	21.21 22.09 nil	22.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate(deaths under 4 weeks)(per 1,000 live births)	15.74	18.51	16.84	15.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate(deaths under 1 week)(per 1,000 live births)	15.74	-	nites, hum	
Perinatal Mortality Rate(deaths under 1 wee and still births com- bined (per 1,000 live and still births).	63.67	-	-	-

Infant Mortality

There were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age, 4 of which were under four weeks old. The infant mortality rate was 19.68 per 1,000 live births, thus showing a decrease on the figure for 1958, which was 29.62. This figure is lower than that for the County of Pembroke and for England and Wales.

Of the deaths of infants under one year old, 2 were due to prematurity, 1 to intra-cranial haemorrhage at 14 hours, and 1 to asphyxia caused by inhalation of vomitus at 4½ months.

Maternal Deaths Maternal Mortality Rate(per 1,000 live and still births)	1 3.74	nil nil	0.60	0.38
Deaths Death Rate(per 1,000 pop.)	176 13.75	162 12.53	11.64	11.6

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Causes of death.	Male	Female
TOTAL (All causes)	89	87
Respiratory Tuberculosis Tuberculosis, other,	2	here -
Syphilitic disease	1	_
Other infectious and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus,	10	-
Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	3 3 4
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	16
Coronary disease, angina,		11
Hypertension with heart disease	19 26 66 1 6	3
Other heart disease	6	14
Other circulatory disease	6	14
Influenza	6	4 2 2 1
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	6	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2 1 2	1
Nephritis and nephrosis Hyperplasia of prostate	2	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion,	-	1
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All other accidents	-	5
Homicide and operations of war	1	1

Deaths

The total number of deaths from all causes was 176, and the general death rate was 13.75 per 1,000 of the population, a little higher than the rate for 1958, which was 12.53. Heart disease again accounted for the highest number of deaths from any one cause, this number being 55 out of the total of 176 deaths.

Of the deaths from malignant disease, which numbered 26, 10 were due to cancer of the lung and all occurred in males. Approximately 55.11% of the total number of deaths occurred in persons aged over 70 years, and of these, 24.43% occurred in persons aged over 80 years.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	14
Pneumonia	16
Respiratory Tuberculosis	5
Erysipelas	5
Measles	7
Whooning Cough	1

TUBERCULOSIS

There were two deaths from respiratory tuberculosis during the year and five new cases were notified. Two of these were admitted to hospital and two old cases were also admitted to hospital. One case of respiratory tuberculosis and one case of tuberculosis other than respiratory were transferred from other areas.

	Conses of death.

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PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination

B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the Borough. Clinic sessions are held at the Market Hall Clinic and the schools are also visited. During 1959, 9 contacts and 134 school leavers (i.e. pupils aged 13 years and over) were vaccinated. The Chest Physician, Dr.Llewelyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

Mass Radiography . The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service visited Pembroke and Pembroke Dock during the month of December this year.

Pembroke Dock	Grand Total	Male	Female
Total No.examined		158	257
No.found to be abnormal		4	8
No.requiring further observation		1	2
Other abnormalities of the chest		3	6
Pembroke			
Total No.examined		117	96
No.found to be abnormal		7	7
No.requiring further observation		3	3
Other abnormalities of the chest		4	4

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES. PART III.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

This service is undertaken by the County Council.
Ante-natal supervision is provided by the District Nurse/Midwives and by the patient's own doctor. A maternity outfit is provided by the County Council for all home confinements.

There is a child welfare centre at Pembroke Dock

and at Monkton, staffed by a Medical Officer and the Health Visitor and District Nurse/Midwives.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

There are three District Nurse/Midwives in the Borough. The Midwifery Service is provided by the County Council through the agency of the County Nursing Association, which is supervised by the County Nursing Officer under the direction of the County Medical Officer.

Health Visiting Service

There is one whole time Health Visitor and School Nurse in the Borough, working under the supervision of the County Nursing Officer.

Home Mursing

There are three nurses in the Borough and a relief nurse, employed by the County Council for combined Home Nursing and Midwifery duties.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination Records were received this year of 149 primary and 38 secondary vaccinations.

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Immunisation

Records were received of 174 immunisations against diphtheria and 125 re-inforcing injections, and also of 155 immunisations against whooping cough.

Both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are carried out at the clinics and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council on receipt by your Medical Officer of the record cards.

VACCINATION AGANIST POLIO-MYELITIS

During the year permission was granted by the Ministry of Health for the age limit to be raised to 26 years, so that the age group is now from 6 months to 26 years. This work has continued both at the clinics and in the schools and it has meant much additional work for the County Health Department.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This is the responsibility of the County Council, which has seven ambulances in the County and an arrangement for the provision of cars for "sitting cases".

During 1959, the Pembroke Dock ambulance dealt with 2,394 patients, 578 stretcher cases and 1,816 sitting cases. It travelled 36,072 miles, an average of 15.06 miles per case, in 830 journeys.

This vehicle carries the majority of the routine outpatient cases and transfers between hospitals in the south of the County.

DOMESTIC HEALTH SERVICE

The Home Help Organiser employed by the County Council is responsible for the day to day administration of the service. The service endeavours to provide domestic assistance in households where such help is needed on account of sickness and old age. This service helps to reduce the need for hospital beds and for Part III accommodation.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

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