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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT OF PEMBROKE .

ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1938 .

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PEMBROKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL .

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH .

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ended 31st.December,1938. As my predecessor (Dr.G.Wacher) held office up to the time of his removal from the area late in December,1938, the contents of the report relate almost exclusively to the circumstances of his time.

GENERAL STATISTICS .

Area (statute acres).			49,321.
Population (estimate of resident)			5,042.
Persons per acre.			0.10.
Number of inhabited houses.			1,585.
Rateable Value (operative).			€ 12,517.
Penny Rate Product (Product of Rate	s and Procepts	Rules)	€ 57.298.

General Character and Social Conditions of Area.

The Rural District is bounded on the north by the Harbour of Milford Haven and on the south by the Bristol Channel, and consists of thinly wooded agricultural lands undulating from Angle Bay in the west to the outskirts of Saundersfoot in the east. Agriculture constitutes the chief industry: a limited number of people find their source of livelihood in fishing. The language in common use is English.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Descript	Malo.	Fomale.	Rates per thousand.			
Live Births.	(Legitimate. (Illegitimate. (Total.	36 36	51 6 57	Birth Rate.	18-44	
Still Births.	(Logitimato.	1 -	=	Rete (all births).	10-63	
Deaths.	(Total).	32	24	Doath Rate.	11.10	
Deaths of inf- ents under one year of age.) All logitimate	2	2	Rate (all livebirths) Rate (logit. ditto.)	43·01 45·97	

Causes of Death in the District.

Causes of	Death.	Males.	Females.
Influenza.			1
Tuberculosis of respirat	ory system.	 1	2
Other Tuberculosis.		 -	-
Cancer.		 1	6
Diabetes.		 1	-
Cerebral He morrhage, &c		 1 2	2
Heart Disease.		 8	2 5
Aneurysm.		 1	-
Other circulatory diseas	95	 4	1
Bronchitis.		 2	1
Pneumonia (all forms).		 3	-
Other respiratory diseas		 1	-
Peptic ulcer.		 1	-
Acute and Chronic Nephri	tis	 1	1
Puerperal sepsis.		 -	-
Congenital debility; Pre		 -	2
Senility.		 1	-
Suicide.		 -	-
Other Violence.		 2	-
Other defined diseases.		 3	3
	All causes .	 32	24

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

One (part-time) Medical Officer of Health. M.R.C.S.(Eng.); L.R.C.P.(Lond.).
One (whole-time) Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor. M.R.S.I.
A moisty of the salaries of these officers is borne by Exchequer grant.

There were no developments or changes in the local conditions reported upon in previous years as relating to services of the following character.-- (a) Laboratory facilities, (b) Ambulance facilities, (c) Professional nursing in the home, (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics (including clinics used solely for diagnosis or consultation), (e) Hospitals, (f) Midwives, and (g) Maternity Homes.

Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Year witnessed the virtual completion of the State-aided water supply schomes undertaken by the Council at an appreciable capital cost.

The new supplies, gravitating through approximately eighteen miles of water mains, provide urban-type water facilities for a considerable number of people within a large area, and the mains have been connected to many properties, including agricultural lands. Considerable benefits will accrue from the schemes. Apart from the villages that are served by supplies piped from covered wells situate /

locally, the remainder of the rural district continues to derive supplies from springs and deep wells, all of which are protected against pollution and are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The yield of the water supplies of the area is adequate for present requirements and the water is of good quality - all semples submitted for analysis were reported to be satisfactory. No cases of pollution were recorded.

The supplies are subjected to a regular inspection, and wells are cleaned out, new pumps are fitted, and pumps and taps are repaired when and where required.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The area possesses no public system of drainage, sowerage and sewage disposal. Septic tanks, cosspits, etc. provide for the disposal of effluent from domestic drains, and are maintained in a sanitary state. Present conditions of the district appear to be satisfactorily met in this way.

Rivers and Streams. No cases of pollution were recorded during the Year under review.

Closet Accommodation .

The privy still affords the main accommodation, but is being gradually displaced by the earth closet or sanitary pail. Privies lie well away from the dwellings they serve and generally are kept in a satisfactory state. Water closets, of which there are now about 505, are drained into septic tanks or cosspits.

Public Cleansing .

The arrangements for cesspool cleensing, etc. have undergone no change and do not appear to call for special comment.

The disposal of combustible refuse presents little difficulty in an area in which large gardens are the general rule; but time, bottles and similar articles have hitherto, in our area as elsewhere, presented a problem. The Council appear to have solved this problem by providing the villages with suitable refuse bins for the reception of incombustible articles and by arranging for the removal and disposal of the contents of the bins in an orderly and sanitary manner. This service is giving satisfactory results.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections, chiefly concerned with water supplies, infectious diseases and nuisances, totalled 191. 22 informal notices were issued and complied with. No action under statutory powers was necessary.

Smoke Abstement. There are no factories in the ares and it is therefore unlikely that nuisances from smoke will occur.

Swimming Baths and Pools (Public and Private).

No swimming baths and pools are available in the district for the use of the public.

Shops. No action was called for, under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, in relation to ventilation and temperature of shops, and to sanitary conveniences.

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Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No cases of bei bug infestation were reported or otherwise came under notice.

Schools.

The schools in the area continue to be maintained in a satisfactory condition. Water for drinking purposes is obtained from the local public supply.

Housing Statistics .

1.	Inspection of dwelling-houses during the Year:	
	(1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects	
	(under Public Health or Housing Acts)	115
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose (2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above)	124
	which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolid-	
	ated Regulations, 1925	48
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	65
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or	0)
	injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	2
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under	-
	the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reason-	
	ably fit for human habitation	29
2.	Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices:-	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of	
	informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	25
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:	
	(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act,1936:	
	(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were ser-	
	ved requiring repairs	2
	(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service	
	of formal notices By owners	2
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	(1) No.of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were ser-	
	ved requiring defects to be remedied	2
	(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after	0
	service of formal notices By owners	2
	(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders	2
	(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition	-
	Orders.	2
	(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	-
	No action necessary.	
4.	Housing Act, 1936 Over crowding:	
	(a)(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the Year.	51
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	52
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	204
	(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the Year.	2
	(c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the Year.	12
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	38
	(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again	
	become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps	
	for the abatament of overcrowding	Nil
	(e) Any other particulars	Nil
	Inspection and Supervision of Food.	

Milk Supply.

Number	of	milksellers registered.	 	128
Number	of	inspections.	 	229

Milk Supply (continued).

Number of informal notices calling for improvements. Result: All notices have been or are being complied with.		25
Number of samples submitted for analysis		12
Result: The samples were reported to be satisfactory.		222
Number of farms and dairies registered		329
Number of inspections of registered premises.		278
Number of requests for improvements		23
Number of new sheds orected		5
The improvements called for were carried out, and a satisf	actory stand-	
ard of cleanliness is being maintained.		

Meat, etc.

Premises and also wehicles conveying meat were inspected from time to time and were generally found to be up to the standard of cleanliness required. The Meat Regulations have functioned smoothly. There are no public slaughterhouses in the area. Private slaughterhouses are invariably well drained and possess good supplies of water. Animals slaughtered in the area are few in number, as cattle are usually sent to public slaughterhouses in neighbouring urban areas. In many cases slaughtering may be said to be occasional in character. Sixty-five inspections were made during the Year.

Particulars.	Cattle exc.Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number inspected.	15	-	10	78	21
All diseases except Tubercu- losis. Whole carcases condemned.	_	_		_	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.			<u> -</u>	2	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber-culosis.	_	_		2.56	-
Tuberculosis only.	-	-	1 -	1 - 1	-

Bakehouses, Factories, Workshops, etc.

Inspections, twenty in number, of the six bakehouses in the area revealed a satisfactory state of cleanliness. Workshops, etc. were inspected from time to time and where required defects were attended to without recourse to legal action. A report herein has been sent to the appropriate Authorities.

Prevalence of, and control over, infectious and other diseases.

Cases of infectious disease reported during the Year totalled eighteen, as indicated in the subjoined table. This is a singularly low number and reveals a most satisfactory public health state. Where diphtheria occurs anti-toxin is promptly used; and in these and other cases measures of prevention are taken with the least possible delay. The disinfection and fumigation of premises is carried out under supervision by the Council's officers. The examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is undertaken by the County Medical Officer of Health. No vaccinations were performed in the course of the work

expelies of sales as and other altered paster of the area of a landor, or

of the Medical Officer of Health. Diseases in schools, if and when they occur, are dealt with at once. No verminous cases were reported during the Year. No action was called for under Section 66 of the Public Health Act,1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act,1936. The system of notification functions smoothly. There were no non-notified tuberculosis deaths and there were no cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify. No occasion arose for action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations,1925 - relating to persons suffacing from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act,1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act,1936 - relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

Other than Tuberculosis.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hosp.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	8	7	-
Diphtheria.	1	1	-
Pneumonia.	8	6	3
Erysipeles.	1	1	-

Tuberculosis.

	1	New	Cases .				Deaths.	
Age Periods.	Respiratory. Non-respiratory.		iratory.	Respiratory.!		Non-respiratory		
Periods.	M.	F.	M. !	F.	M.	1 F.	м. !	F.
15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
25	1	3	-	1	1	1	-	-
35	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	1	4	1	3	1	2	-	-

(Signed)

Dorothy M. Rees .

Interim Medical Officer of Health.

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