

[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Beaminster R.D.C.

Contributors

Beaminster (Dorset, England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1940

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December 1941.

ANNUAL REPORTTO THE MEMBERS OF THE BEAMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report in abbreviated form on the health of the District for 1940. May I take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. C.C. Rundle, for his most valuable help, the other Council Officers for their co-operation and all Members of the Council for their courtesy.

I am,
Yours Obediently,

ADAM ARMIT,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector	...	...	C.C. Rundle, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Clerk to the Medical Officer	...	...	Miss J. Shillaker.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	58,693
Registrar-General's estimate of						
(a) resident population, mid-1940	...	...	...	...	...	7,939
(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	...	...	...	...	...	7,939
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1940) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	2,459
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£30,762
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£ 135

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	M etc.		B.R.		
	M	F	M	F	
<u>Live Births.</u>					
Total	53	67	49	65	} Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1940.....14.36
Legitimate	51	65	47	63	
Illegitimate	2	2	2	2	
<u>Still Births.</u>					
Total	2	3			} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.....42
Legitimate	2	3			
Illegitimate	-	-			
<u>Deaths.</u>					
Total	85	52			} Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.....14.33

137

Comparability Factor.... 0.83

Notes
handwritten
20.6.42

<u>Deaths from Special Causes.</u>			Total	M	F
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	...	...	21	13	8
" " Measles (all ages)...	...	...	-	-	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)...	...	...	-	-	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			-	-	-

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List).

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	Nil
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes..	Nil	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	M	F
Total	4	4
Legitimate	3	4
Illegitimate	1	-

No. of Deaths	8
Death Rate All Infants per 1,000 live births ...	66.66
" " Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	60.35
" " Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	250

Comparison Tables.

	England & Wales.	Beaminster.
Live Birth Rate ...	14.6	14.36
Still Birth Rate ...	0.55	42
Death Rate ...	14.3	14.3
Infantile Death Rate. ...	55	67

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The new County Laboratory has been of very great service during the year, and I am grateful to the Bacteriologist and his Staff for their assistance to me. Ambulance facilities are adequate.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

No. of Parishes with piped water supplies...	...12 wholly & 4 partly.
No. of Parishes without piped water supplies	...10
No. of samples analysed	...52

The Beaminster Water Supply is analysed every month. No supply is chlorinated in the Area.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

No. of Informal Notices...	... 114	No. complied with...	... 104
No. of Statutory Notices..	... 5	No. complied with...	... 5
No. of Inspections	... 1406		

HOUSING.

No. of dwelling-houses Inspected.	86	No. of Inspections..	... 105
No. of Inspections under Housing Consol. Regs. ...	71	No. of Inspections..	... 79
No. of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation ...	1	No. not reasonably fit ...	70
No. rendered fit after Informal Action by L.A. ...	5	No. of Notices ...	0
No. of demolition orders..	0	No. demolished ...	1
No. of new houses erected.	4	No. erected by L.A., ...	4
No. owned by L.A. ...	86	Approximate No. of working class houses in the District	1600

7 houses were made fit as a result of undertakings by the owners under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

No. of Persons on Register.....441	No. of Dairies on Register...441
No. of Inspections.....249	No. of Inspections of Milk Shops..... 2
No. of Notices served..... 67	No. complied with..... 56

There are no Pasteurising Plants in the District.

Meat Supply.

Carcases inspected after slaughter.
Cattle 13, Calves 19, Sheep 25, Pigs 56.

Percentage of the number inspected infected with Tuberculosis.
Cattle 15.39, Calves nil, Sheep nil, Pigs 3.57.

The whole of the slaughtering of animals for West Dorset is centred at Skilling Slaughter House in the Parish of Symondsburys, and a Veterinary Surgeon is employed to inspect the meat at this Slaughter House.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There were 65 cases of Infectious Diseases notified. Scarlet Fever 4, Diphtheria 3, Puerperal Pyrexia 2, Pneumonia 8, Erysipelas 4, Whooping Cough 12, Measles 16, Cerebro-Spinal Fever 5, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 8, Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2.

From the Schools were notified, German Measles 161, Chicken Pox 16, Mumps 3, Influenza 29, Impetigo 19, Ringworm 11 and colds 6.

The Council agreed to provide artificial immunisation against Diphtheria and a commencement was made in December, when 93 School Children and 13 Pre-school Children were given their first injection of 0.1 c.c. Alum Precipitated Toxoid (Borroughs and Wellcome).

No Measles serum was used during the year. Existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci are present in the County Laboratory.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1940.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	4	4	-
Diphtheria	3	2	1
Enteric Fever(including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	2	-	-
Pneumonia	8	-	1
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	12	-	-
Measles	16	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	5	4	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was necessary under the Public Health(Prevention of Tuberculosis)Regul-tions, 1925, or Section 172 of the P.H.A., 1936.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
35	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	4	2	-	2	2	-	-

The notification of Tuberculosis in the Area is satisfactory. The four patients who died from this disease were on the Tuberculosis Register.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

9 Inspections were made of Factories and Workshops. 3 Written Notices were served to remedy defects. These Notices were complied with.