

**[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Chard (Union) R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Chard (England). Rural District Council.

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COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

CHARD RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT.

- OF THE -  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR

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1870

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1872

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HEALTH  
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COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1949.

TO: THE CHARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dr. C. C. Court, the Medical Officer of Health for this District since 1923, was prevented by illness from carrying out the duties after February, 1950, and by his death on 22nd July, 1950, the Council have lost the services of a very able Medical Officer who served the District well for 27 years.

By arrangement with the County Council I have since been acting as Medical Officer of Health for the District.

At the time of Dr. Court's illness the preparation of this Report was not completed, and the Council will realise that in the circumstances it has not been possible to submit a more comprehensive Report.

A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Registrar-General gives the estimated population of the Chard Rural District for the mid-year 1949 as 12,030.

<u>BIRTHS:</u>	Male.	Female.	Total.	<u>Rate per 1,000 population.</u>
<u>Live Births:</u>				
Legitimate ...	88	101	189	
Illegitimate ..	3	5	8	
<u>Total</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>15.3</u>
<u>Still-Births:</u>				
Legitimate ...	1	4	5	
Illegitimate ..	-	-	-	
<u>Total</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0.4</u>
<u>DEATHS:</u>				
<u>All Causes:</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>13.7</u>

Causes of Death:

Influenza ...	1	1	2
Cancer ...	7	13	20
Intercranial Vascular Lesions ...	10	13	23
Diabetes ...	1	-	1
Heart Disease ..	22	32	54
Other diseases of Circulatory System	2	3	5
Respiratory Diseases	8	8	16
Nephritis ...	4	1	5
Other Digestive Disorders ...	1	3	4
Maternal causes	-	1	1
Prematurity ...	-	1	1
Congenital Malformation ...	2	1	3
<u>c/fwd.</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>135</u>

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE

JANUARY 10, 1901

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE  
IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE SENATE  
MAY 15, 1899

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE

Year	Amount	Percentage	Total
1897	1,000,000	100	1,000,000
1898	1,200,000	120	2,200,000
1899	1,500,000	150	3,700,000
1900	1,800,000	180	5,500,000
1901	2,000,000	200	7,500,000
Total	7,500,000	750	7,500,000

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
B/Fwd.	58	77	135
Suicide ...	1	1	2
Road Traffic ...	2	1	3
Other violent causes	5	-	5
All other causes	11	8	19
<u>Total</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>164</u>

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:

Legitimate ...	2	3	5
Illegitimate ...	1	-	1
<u>Total</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

Maternal Mortality: There was 1 case of maternal mortality during the year.

B. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN AREA.

Since the National Health Service Act came into existence many of the services previously run locally have become the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, that is, the County Council. We in Somerset are fortunate in the degree of delegation of authority allowed by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Health Visiting and Maternity Services: These are organised by the County Council and work efficiently in this area.

Home Help Service: The County Home Help Service, so valuable in times of confinement, illness or old age is well established in this area and has worked smoothly when required.

School Medical Service: This service is organised by the County Education Committee.

Dental Service: Somerset like all other Health Authorities have been finding it increasingly difficult to maintain their Dental Services owing to staff resignations since 1948.

Ophthalmic Services: The County service available for children of all ages has been working extremely well. All cases referred from school medical inspection are seen promptly and then regularly as necessary.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47: Application was made to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an order for the removal of an elderly woman, aged 67 years, to hospital. She suffered from a septic skin condition, was unable to look after herself properly and would not allow her relatives to care for her. Her mental condition was a little unstable.

The Court made an Order for her removal to the County Council's hospital at Yeovil (formerly the Public Assistance Institution, now known as "Summerlands Hospital") and her detention therein for three months. It was not necessary to apply for an extension of the period as she settled down well, her health improved and she consented to remain there voluntarily.

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C. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS):

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total number of cases notified.</u>
Scarlet Fever ...	28
Measles ...	105
Whooping Cough ...	6
Pneumonia ...	3
Erysipelas ...	4
Chickenpox ...	20
<u>Total</u>	<u>166</u>

I am pleased to report that the Area was again free from Infantile Paralysis.

TUBERCULOSIS:

	<u>Cases notified.</u>			<u>Deaths.</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Respiratory ...	5	8	13	1	-	1
Non-Respiratory..	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

D.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS: The year will be remembered for the extremely dry summer. Rainfall was considerably below normal.

WATER SUPPLIES: A good deal of difficulty was experienced in maintaining full supplies to Merriott during the late Summer. This difficulty was entirely due to the inadequate capacity of the trunk main to deliver the increased demand during spells of dry weather. A semi-permanent boosting station has now been installed on the trunk main at Stocklinch and this, together with a proposed storage tank which will shortly be constructed at Merriott, should prevent further shortage unless there is an increase in consumption in Parishes to the East of the Stocklinch reservoir.

Temporary shortages were also reported on the Chaffcombe supply on one or two occasions. The springs supplying this village are just sufficient to maintain a full supply, but any substantial wastage or heavy draw-off results in shortage at properties in the higher parts of the village.

All samples taken during the year have been reported by the County Bacteriologist as satisfactory.

Extensions, etc. carried out during the Year:

(i) Duplicate borehole at Pole Rue, Combe St. Nicholas	£ 4,084
(ii) 2" branch main to Barrington Hill, Broadway ...	904
(iii) The installation of anodic protection on mains at Ashill and Broadway ...	150

Future Proposals:

(i) New pumping station and pumping plant at Stowell Mead, Tatworth ...	£ 1,653
(ii) 3" extension to Golden Fleece, Tatworth, and to Bridge and Ammerham, Winshem ...	2,100
(iii) 3" extension to Newtown, Buckland St. Mary ...	1,200



APPENDIX (OTHER DATA SHEETS)

Total number of ...	...	...
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WATER SUPPLIES (CONTINUED):

Future Proposals:

(iv) 3" extension to Moolham Cross, Kingstone ...	£ 264
(v) Branch mains to Clapton and Roundham, West Crewkerne - Schemes in course of preparation	-
(vi) 30,000 gallon capacity storage tank at Eggwood Hill, Merriott ... ..	795

(vii) Regional Scheme development to be carried out in the following priority order:-

- (1) Provision of pumping plant at No. 2 borehole at Pole Rue, Combe St. Nicholas;
- (2) Extensions to Wadeford and Foxden Hill, Chard Parish;
- (3) Reservoir at Pole Rue, Combe St. Nicholas, with gravitation main to Ilminster;
- (4) Reservoirs at Ilminster, Stocklinch and Hinton St. George, and Ilminster - Merriott main.
- (5) Extensions to Buckland St. Mary, Whitestaunton, Wambrook, etc.

Total estimated cost of Regional development scheme = £137,000

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:

134 yards of 6" sewer was laid at Monkhouse Lane, Merriott, in order to reduce risk of flooding at Merriott House.

Future proposals:

- (a) Provision of 6" sewer to Old Orchard and to Two Ash Lane, Forton, and 6" main sewer to irrigation field;
- (b) Schemes to provide sewers and sewage disposal plant at Dowlish Wake, Donyatt and Broadway, now in course of preparation by the Council's Consulting Engineer, Mr. A. J. Allen.

HOUSING:

(1) Permanent Houses erected 1949:

(a) Local Authority:	54
(b) Private Enterprise:	9

(2) Permanent Houses in course of erection at end of 1949:

(a) Local Authority:	40
(b) Private Enterprise:	11

(3) Conversion to Flats or Dwellings:

(a) Local Authority:	-
(b) Private Enterprise:	11

(4) Houses required:

(a) To replace unfit:	111
(b) To abate overcrowding:	} 385
(c) Where conditions are unsatisfactory:	
(d) Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of the year: ...	496
(e) Houses occupied that have been condemned as totally unfit ...	6

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HOUSING (CONTINUED):

- (5) Housing Act, 1949: As the total cost has to be taken out of the Council's Building Licence allocation, it was not possible to make any Improvement grants.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY: All retailers were registered and licences granted.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses in District	...	6
Number of Registered Slaughterhouses in District	...	None now in use.
Number of Slaughterhouses in use where horses are slaughtered for human consumption	...	1
Names of any in use under the Ministry of Food	...	None.

KNACKERS YARDS:

Number registered in District	...	None.
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ICE CREAM:

Number of premises registered for -		
(a) Manufacture	...	Nil.
(b) Sale	...	6

FOOD POISONING: There was no outbreak of Food poisoning during the year.

F. FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH:

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	25	-	-
Factories not included in (1) in which Sect.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	42	-	-
Number in which defects were found:		NIL.		

OUTWORK:

No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110

137 making wearing apparel.  
54 making lace.  
1 Brush making.

Total 192

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,  
A. M. McCALL,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Acting Medical Officer of Health,  
CHARD RURAL DISTRICT.

16, Church Street,  
CREWKERNE;  
September, 1950.

Received of the Treasurer of the State of New York  
the sum of One Hundred Dollars

PAID TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

for the purchase of land for the State of New York

RECEIVED

of the Treasurer of the State of New York  
the sum of One Hundred Dollars  
for the purchase of land for the State of New York

PAID TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

for the purchase of land for the State of New York

RECEIVED

of the Treasurer of the State of New York  
the sum of One Hundred Dollars  
for the purchase of land for the State of New York

PAID TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

for the purchase of land for the State of New York

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the sum of One Hundred Dollars  
for the purchase of land for the State of New York

PAID TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

for the purchase of land for the State of New York

RECEIVED

of the Treasurer of the State of New York  
the sum of One Hundred Dollars  
for the purchase of land for the State of New York

PAID TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

for the purchase of land for the State of New York