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**Contributors**

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REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH,  
CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT, for the year 1940.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Following is a very brief report for the year 1940: -

Public Health Staff.

G. Macleod, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.	M.O.H. (part-time)
I. J. Leach, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., F.I.A.S.	Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.
Alan S. Chubb, A.I.A.S.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Shop Inspector.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 3292 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of population: 9088

Number of inhabited houses: 2637

Rateable Value : £ 74,699

Sum represented by a penny rate: £ .299.19.10

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	44	37	81
Illegitimate	-	1	1

Rate per thousand of the population = 9.

Still Births.

Total  
1

Rate per thousand of total births = 12.

Deaths.

Male 63 Female 89 Total 152

Death Rate per thousand 11.2

Average age at death 71 years

Area comparability factor .67

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	3	1	4
Infant Mortality Rate: =			38.8

From figures compiled locally, two further deaths of infants of one year have been recorded - one from measles, the other from broncho-pneumonia, following severe scalding.

Deaths under one year divided as follows: -

Under one week:	1	1 - 4 weeks:	2
1 - 6 months	-	6 - 12 mths.	3

Total under one year = 6

<u>Deaths from Cancer.</u>	1
Measles	1
Whooping Cough	-
Diarrhoea	1 (under 2 yrs.)
Puerperal Sepsis	-
Influenza	4

Survey of the Year.

Rose measles was widespread among adults and adolescents and children during the first quarter of the year, when whooping cough was prevalent in mild form amongst the child population. The arrival of a fresh consignment of evacuees in September led to the onset of an epidemic of true measles, which, fortunately, proved mild in type, but it spread very rapidly through the child population and attacked several unprotected adults, some of them over sixty years of age. Whooping cough shouldered concurrently and increased in frequency as measles declined, and it is still with us. Neither disease gave rise to anxiety, though family life was somewhat disturbed by their presence in homes which were already strained to capacity by the presence of the additional population.

The Maternity Unit continues to administer to the needs of expectant mothers from less favourably situated areas, and a successful campaign for the inoculation of the child population against diphtheria has been staged by the County Education Authority at the schools, and at the Infant Welfare Clinic for younger children, whilst many others have been inoculated under private arrangements. Figures are not yet available, but it is believed that a very satisfactory response has been obtained. These figures are being compiled by the County Council.

There has been considerable fluctuation of population from various causes, and the Registrar-General's figure is probably an approximate mean for the year, but the figure at the present time exceeds 13,000.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1940.

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	12	6	nil
Diphtheria	2	2	nil
Measles	246	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	1	nil
Pneumonia	14	nil	4
Whooping Cough	31	nil	nil
Erysipelas	3	nil	nil



Figures compiled locally for the calendar year record 249 cases of measles, thirty-three cases of whooping cough and only one diphtheria.

#### Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified during the year: -

Three females, whose respective ages were 30, 31 and 60:  
Four males, whose ages were 25, 33, 34 and 60.

One case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis - a female, aged 52, - has been notified.

Three deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis have occurred during the year, two females, aged 60 and 65, and one male, aged 61.

Your obedient Servant,

G. MACLEOD

Clevedon,

25/9/41.

Herewith are extracts from your Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1940: -

#### Rivers and Streams.

The portions for which the Council are responsible have been attended to at the appointed times, and no complaints have been received. It is observed that a considerable quantity of rubbish, waste from gardens, old tins, etc., is constantly thrown into the rivers and streams and not only fouls the water, by decomposition, but adds appreciably to the time and cost of clearing.

#### House Refuse Collection.

Owing to the increase in the population by the influx of official and unofficial evacuees, there has been an increase in the number of collections to be made by the house refuse men, but the refuse bulk has not greatly increased, owing to the salvaging of waste paper, etc. It is noticeable that a considerable quantity of waste paper still appears in the house refuse bins each week.

It is appreciated that a portion of this may possibly have been dirty before depositing, but probably a considerable quantity of this could be saved by a little careful consideration. In any case, I suggest that the householders be asked "especially during the winter months" to avoid using clean paper as far as possible for lighting fires, and if necessary, to use only dirty paper, which otherwise goes in the house refuse bins. There are, now, many products on the market for the purpose of lighting fires.

### Salvage.

A scheme has been started for the salvage of paper, rags, metals, etc., for use in the making of war weapons. It is hoped that every householder will share in the desire to save everything which will be of use for this purpose and hand over to the collectors. Bones and tins may be saved and will be collected. It is hoped that the bones will be boiled or slightly baked, and the tins will be cleaned before depositing for collection.

### Kitchen Swill.

A scheme is under consideration for the collection of all kitchen waste which will be of value for pig food. When this is in operation, it is hoped that householders will assist by putting into the receptacle to be provided by the Council all waste foodstuffs, but avoid putting into it anything which is likely to harm the pigs.

### Schools.

Sanitary conveniences have been periodically inspected. Additional conveniences have been built and others reconstructed in one school. Preparation for reconstruction has been arranged in another school.

### Rats.

Effective measures were taken under the direction of the War Agricultural Committee of the County Council in connection with the national monthly drive, and the reports indicate that the Drive proved a success and should be regularly repeated.

### Water Supply.

Four samples of water have been taken at the pumping station and sent for analysis. All were satisfactory.

### Milk and Dairies.

Samples of milk have been taken for analysis from twelve herds at the farms, six from accredited herds and four from pasteurised milk producer. The results are as follows: -

T. B. Herds - one unsatisfactory, eleven negative (cow destroyed);

Accredited Herds - one not quite satisfactory, now satisfactory; one satisfactory;

Pasteurized Milk - one not altogether satisfactory (technical error), three satisfactory.

Dairies have been periodically inspected and notifications made where necessary.

No adequate water supply has been installed in Fry's Farm, County Council small holding, Strode Road, Clevedon.



A schedule has been taken of all herds owned by the producers of milk for this year and particulars of conveniences for dealing with milk.

One new dairy has been registered.

Register of Producers.

Retailers (only)	10
Producer-Retailers	19
Producers (only)	31
Accredited Milk Purveyors	2
T. T. Purveyors	1

Meat.

Cattle are now slaughtered at Weston and carcasses are brought to the Clevedon Abattoir for distribution to the butchers. The meat has been generally good. Three cases of unsound meat have been inspected, certificates issued and allowances made to the local butchers. At the request of the Food Officer, three portions of rationed supplies at grocers' premises have been inspected and certificates issued for immediate sale to avoid decomposition.

Disinfection and Fumigation, etc.

Disinfection has been carried out in twenty cases, fumigation in thirteen cases, disinfestation in four cases.

The bathing boxes at the Marine Lake, the Public Sanitary Conveniences, have been regularly disinfected. At the request of the Evacuation Officer, some premises "requisitioned for Evacuation purposes" have been visited and reports made on the conditions.

Sewers, etc.

The sewers have been periodically inspected, the low level sewer and sumps dragged and cleared of obstruction and the gullies periodically cleaned out.

Gas Examination.

Twenty-four tests have been made for purity, calorific value and water pressure, and copies of the reports sent to the Board of Trade, the Clevedon & Yatton Gas Company and the Clerk of the Council.

The results were as follows: -

Purity	No visible signs of sulphuretted hydrogen within the prescribed time.
Water Pressure	Not below the prescribed minimum pressure on any day.
Calorific Value	No daily result was below the prescribed percentage (6% below 460 B.T.U.'s. In one quarter, the average result was below the declared calorific value allowed for Clevedon by the B.O.T.).

### Housing.

<u>Inspection for Defects:</u>	36
No. dealt with by owners in consequence of informal action	32
No. dealt with in consequence of formal action under P. H. Act.	4
No. of closing orders	nil

New fencing has been obtained and fixed to several Council houses, and various necessary repairs have been carried out.

### Nuisances.

Thirty cases of reported nuisances have been successfully dealt with.

### Factories and Workshops.

The quarterly returns have been forwarded to His Majesty's Inspector of Factories, and matters dealt with when reported by him.

### Petroleum and Carbide Act.

Inspections have been made under the above and the returns made to the Ministry.

### A. R. P. Posts, Depots, etc.

These have been periodically inspected and notification made when found necessary.

INON J. LEACH.

Sanitary Inspector.