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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the Urban District of Clevedon for the year
1954

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you a brief account of the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1954, including a summary of your Sanitary Inspector's report for the same period.

The general health of the people has been surprisingly good in spite of the poor summer we experienced. Another significant observation is the almost complete absence of epidemic disease. In the last quarter of the year we had a somewhat sharp outbreak of influenza which was prolonged into the present year. Children suffered short attacks with few complications, but the older people developed considerable bronchial trouble which gave rise to real anxiety; but though the illness lasted for some weeks and was remarkable for the very obstinate accompanying cough and debility they ultimately weathered the storm wonderfully well.

Diphtheria is again absent from the list but I must repeat the warning of last year to parents to be vigilant in protecting their children by inoculation which has so abundantly justified itself as it is only by maintaining a high level of general immunity in this way that we can hope to control this disease.

The only case of Poliomyelitis which occurred during the year was in a young man who developed the disease on his return home on leave from the Forces.

The average age at death is again fairly high and the new comparability factor gives us a corrected Death Rate which is flatteringly low. While the numbers are relatively small it is worthy of notice that cancer of the lungs claims six victims this year as against four last year.

The local Hospital, the various Clinics, and the ancillary services all contribute to the maintenance of a satisfactory medical service but special mention may be made of the increasing importance of the District Nursing service and the Home Helps in easing the domestic situation where the elderly sick or the mother of a family has perforce to be nursed at home.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the co-operation of my colleagues and the ready help of the staff of the Local Authority, the County Council and the Bristol Health Authority.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

G. Macleod.

17th May 1955

STATISTICS

Area of District 3,464 acres
 Population (mid year estimat) 9,670
 Number of inhabited houses & flats 4,120
 Rateable Value £84,174
 Estimated product of a penny rate £335

Comparability Factors - For births 1.20
 For deaths 0.59

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	54	60	114
Illegitimate	1	2	3
			<u>117</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 of population
 (corrected) 14.5

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	1	3

Still Birth Rate per 1000 live & still births - 25

83.3% of the local births were at Maternity Homes.

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	63	87	150

Death Rate per 1000 of population
 (corrected) - 9.2

Average age at death 73 years

Deaths of infants under one year - 2 females (legitimate)
 Infant mortality figure per 1000 live births
 = 17

Some of the principal causes of death were -

Cancer of lung & bronchus - 6
 Other malignant diseases -21
 Coronary (heart disease) -28
 Vascular disease of nervous system -21
 Heart & other circulatory diseases -37
 Pneumonia & bronchitis - 9
 Influenza - 2
 Pulmonary tuberculosis - 2
 Other notifiable diseases - 0

<u>Notifiable Diseases</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Whooping Cough	5	0	0
Scarlet Fever	3	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	0	0
Pneumonia	5	3	4
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	0
Polio-myelitis	1	1	0
Pulmonary T.Bs	6	0	2
Other T.Bs	3	2	0

<u>Tuberculosis</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Deaths</u>
<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1 - 5					1		
25 - 35	2						
35 - 45			1(M) 1(F)		1		
45 - 55		1				1	
Over 55	2	1				1	
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	

Housing

	Houses erected during year	Houses in course of erection	Conversions to flats	Temporary Dwellings
By Local Authority	18	30	0	0
Private Enterprise	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	40	50	0	0

Total number of houses, including those built during the year, owned by Local Authority - 364.

Total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year - 190.

Number of post-war houses erected from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1954

By Local Authority	By Private enterprise
226	102

Housing Programme for 1955

(20 traditional
65 (39 non-do.
(6 bungalows

Grants made under Housing Act, 1949 - 0
Closing Orders made - 0
Demolition Orders made - 0

Camping Sites.

Sites for which licences have been issued - 8
Caravans 20 feet apart; tents 10 feet apart.
Permanent occupation - 1; seasonal - 7
Permanent residents - 24; seasonal - to capacity.

SANITATION

The main sewer has been extended to Edward Road South at a cost of £500.
House refuse is collected weekly by the local authority and disposed of at a controlled tip. Trade refuse is also collected by the local authority under contract.
Cesspits are emptied twice yearly by the Local Authority free of charge; if required more often this is charged for on a time basis. There are twelve pail closets still in use where there is no water carriage installation.
There is a marine lake swimming pool owned and managed by the Local Authority.
The public water supply, now managed by the Bristol Waterworks Company, is ample in quantity and pure in quality.

FOOD

<u>Milk</u>	Registered Distributors	11
	Registered Dairy Premises	7
	Supplementary licences to Distributors) whose dairy is outside the urban area)	0

Sampling and analyses are regularly carried out by the County Authority and are generally satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

Premises registered for:-
Manufacture and retail 1
Manufacture only 0
Retail only 21

No trouble has been traced to the consumption of ice cream during the year.

Slaughterhouse

During the year part of the slaughterhouse owned by the Local Authority has been re-opened and let to a private slaughterman and some 93 animals have already been slaughtered there. Small portions of a few of these have been condemned.

There are no bacon factories, no horse slaughterhouses, no knackers yards and no premises registered under Sect.14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. No action has been called for under Sect.15 of the same Act.

Public Health Staff

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Medical Officer of Health (part-time)
J. Topham, A.M.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E., M.R.San.I.
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