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BOROUGH OF CONGLETON.

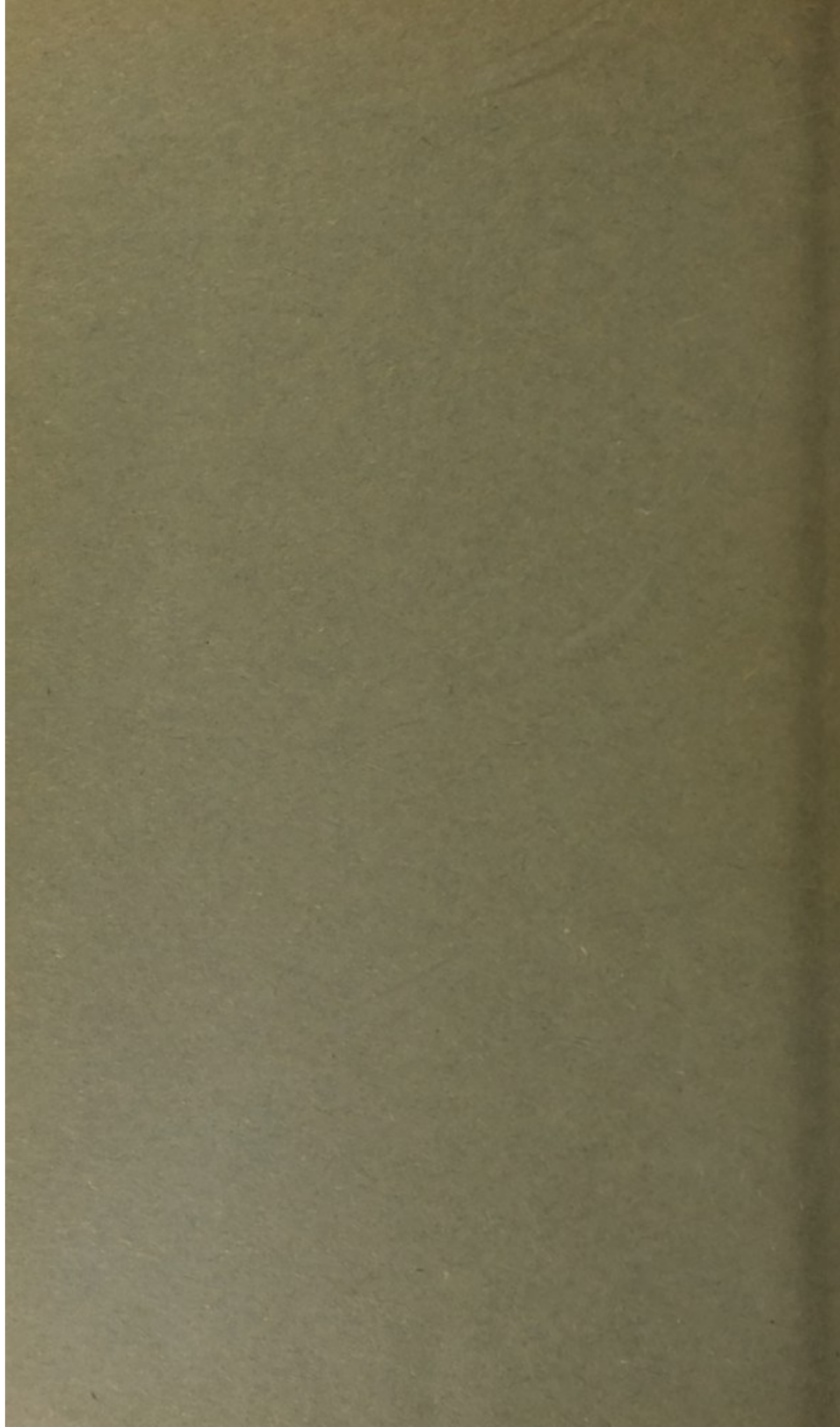
INTERIM REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1942.



BOROUGH OF CONGLETON.
URBAN DISTRICT OF SANDBACH.
RURAL DISTRICT OF CONGLETON.
RURAL DISTRICT OF MACCLESFIELD.


With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer of Health.

11 West Street,
Congleton.

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BOROUGH OF CONGLETON.

INTERIM REPORT

ON THE

**Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough**

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1942.

Medical Officer of Health—John Cleminson, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector—W. J. Eversett, Cert. R.S.I., etc.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—H. Street, Cert. R.S.I.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Congleton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for the year 1942 is still issued in the curtailed form as laid down by the Ministry of Health.

The health of your district during the past year has been satisfactory, and there are no particular items which call for special comment.

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the kindly help which I have received from the Council and the members of your staff during the past year.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The customary notes on social conditions are not requested by the Ministry of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Estimated population ... 14,620

			Total.	Male.	Female.
Live births	{	Legitimate ...	256	130	126
		Illegitimate ...	21	9	12
Still births	...	...	11	4	7

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid. 1942, - 18.9

This compares with a rate of 15.8 per 1,000 of the population in England and Wales.

Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, - 38.2

Infantile Mortality.

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:—

				Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	...	10	7	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	3	1	2

This gives an infantile mortality rate of 45.1 per 1,000 live births.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 39.0

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 142.9

				Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths	...	...	...	153	79	74

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population - 10.5

The following table shews the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year :—

Cause	Total	Male	Female
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	1	1	0
Scarlet fever ...	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	8	4	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0
Syphilitic diseases ...	0	0	0
Influenza ...	5	3	2
Measles ...	0	0	0
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	0	0	0
Acute influenzal encephalitis ...	0	0	0
Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph (M) uterus (F) ...	0	0	0
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	5	5	0
Cancer of breast ...	1	0	1
Cancer of all other sites ...	17	8	9
Diabetes ...	2	0	2
Intracranial vascular lesions ...	13	10	3
Heart disease ...	39	18	21
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	0	0	0
Bronchitis ...	12	6	6
Pneumonia ...	8	4	4
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1	0
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	1	1	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	0	0	0
Appendicitis ...	1	0	1
Other digestive diseases ...	4	0	4
Nephritis ...	7	2	5
Premature birth ...	4	2	2
Congenital malformation, birth inj., infant dis. ...	5	3	2
Suicide ...	1	1	0
Road traffic accidents ...	1	1	0
Other violent causes ...	2	1	1
All other causes ...	15	8	7
Totals ...	153	79	74

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :—

		No. of Deaths
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0
Other Maternal causes	...	0
		—
Total	...	0
		—

The Maternal Mortality is Nil per 1,000 live and still births.

The comparative figure for England and Wales is 2.01 per 1,000
live and still births.

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment, and there does not appear to be any occupation having a prejudicial effect on health.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

No change took place in these services during the past year. The facilities at present available appear to be adequate.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.—There have been no new sources of public water supply during the period under review. The Hug Bridge Augmentation Scheme has developed to the extent of preliminary borings and the sinking of an 8 inch borehole to a depth of 210 feet. Certain working difficulties have been met with, and the Council's Consultants (Messrs.

G. H. Hill & Sons) have from time to time reported upon the present position, details of which will be submitted to the Ministry of Health to obtain the necessary sanction for future operations.

Increased daily demands on the existing supplies by Industrial, Military and other war causes are constantly having to be met, and it is extremely difficult to meet such needs in dry periods.

In times of drought, curtailment of supplies is inevitable, and on occasions the daily demand and excessive consumption exceeds the yield to such an extent as to cause the Service Reservoirs to empty during the night.

The water from Forge and College Grounds is chlorinated, and the Buglawton Borehole Supply is treated for correcting plumbo-solvency action of the raw water by the addition of Soda Ash.

Twelve samples of water taken from the Town's supply in various parts of the Borough were forwarded to the County Analysts (Messrs. Melling & Ardern, Manchester) for examination, and the results indicated show the water to be sound and wholesome bacteriological quality.

There have been no main extensions carried out during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The scheme to deal with the drainage and sewage disposal of West Heath and Astbury Village in the Congleton Rural area is still in abeyance owing to present war conditions. Similarly, there has not been the necessity to carry out any sewer extensions owing to lack of building throughout the year.

The Sewage Disposal Works is operating to capacity, and although increased daily flows are continually experienced, due to increased loads from industrial sources such as the Milk Dairies and other factories operating under War conditions, plus Military needs, the Works are maintained and operated in as efficient a manner as possible.

Samples of the 'Final Effluent' at the Works have been taken periodically for analysis by the County Authorities and the results have always proved to be satisfactory.

Public Cleansing.—There has been no deviation from the existing practice in the method of Public Cleansing, Collection and Disposal of House Refuse. Even under War-time conditions a weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained to meet the wishes of the Council.

Trade refuse is collected and disposed of by the Local Authority by arrangement, and under Government War Measures all Butchers' Offals and Diseased Meat is collected and disposed of outside this area under the instructions and supervision of the Ministry of Food.

In the Buglawton outlying area, the closet pails and refuse is collected weekly and deposited on the tip in the country area.

During the year 2,474 tons of Refuse was collected and disposed of at the Refuse Tip, which is a marked decrease of approximately 11% on last year's figures.

The local Salvage Scheme is in constant active operation in accordance with instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry

of Supply. The total of salvage materials collected and disposed of during the year is as follows:—

		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Waste Paper	...	148	13	3
Rags	...	5	1	1
Trimmings and Sacking	...	3	19	0
Kitchen Waste	...	58	16	1
Bones	...	4	18	0
Iron	...	13	8	0
Bottles and Jars	...	5	10	0
Alluminium, Copper, Brass, etc.	...		9	1
Crushed Tins and Light Iron	...	50	3	0
Rubber	...	6	3	2
		297	2	0

A gross value of £1,288 5s. 2d.

The destruction of rats on the Refuse Tip is constantly dealt with by the Corporation's Rat-catcher, with special attention at breeding periods to keep the Tip as free as possible of these pests. During the period under review 1,153 rats were destroyed and burned.

Closet Accommodation:—

Number of conversions from pails to W.C. during 1942	...	5
Number of conversions from slop closets to pail closets during 1942	... ..	0
Number of pail closets in built-up areas	... ..	221

Sanitary Inspection.—6 statutory notices were served by the Sanitary Inspector and complied with during the year. 367 informal notices were served, of which 349 were complied with.

SECTION D.

Housing.

The customary table of activities under the Housing Acts is omitted.

Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year			81
Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	81
Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	529

The housing position in Congleton still continues to be acute, since the demand for accommodation is greatly in excess of the available supply. There is a good deal of overcrowding, and a considerable proportion of this will, I am afraid, have to be regarded as inevitable.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

Milk Supply:—

Number of visits paid to cowsheds	...	...	75
Number of visits paid to dairies...	...	...	83
Number of producers of "Accredited" Milk		...	29
15 of whom are retailers.			
Number of producers of Tuberculin-tested milk		...	0
Number of licenses issued by the Corporation to distributors of Pasteurised milk	...	...	0

Out of 32 mixed milk samples examined for tubercle bacilli, none was found to be positive.

1 informal notice was served with respect to cowsheds and 1 with respect to dairies; both were complied with.

Meat and other Foods.—

Total amount of meat destroyed was 86,578 lbs.

Approximately five-eighths of this meat was taken from casualty animals, and the total weight destroyed also includes all offals. Killing is done here not only for the Borough, but also for a large portion of the Congleton Rural District, and other districts.

No cases of food poisoning were notified.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The number of notifications of diphtheria, 6, shows a welcome reduction from that of last year, 17, and no deaths were recorded from this disease. None of the cases was immunised against diphtheria.

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the past year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the total number of deaths from each of these diseases.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the
Year 1942**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	34	30	0
Diphtheria	6	6	0
Enteric Fever(including paratyphoid)	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0
Pneumonia... ..	30	2	8
Erysipelas	9	2	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	0	0
Measles	77	0	0
Whooping Cough	33	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	5	4	1

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	0	4	0	3	1	13	6	3	3	1	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pneumonia	4	1	2	2	0	4	1	0	3	1	7	5
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	4
Measles	1	7	5	12	13	27	8	3	1	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	5	4	3	2	14	1	0	2	1	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis...	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

A diphtheria immunisation scheme is in force within the Borough and the following table shows the extent to which it has been used during the year :—

Number of children immunised, under school age...	...	190
Number of children immunised, of school age ...	...	330
Total number of children immunised since inception of the scheme in 1939 ... ..	...	1879

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods		New Cases				Mortality			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Up to 1 yr.	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-15	...	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
15-25	...	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
25-35	...	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
35-45	...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45-55	...	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
55-65	...	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	4	6	2	2	4	4	0	0

Factories Act, 1937.

No Certificates have been granted during 1942 in respect of Fire Escapes under the Factories Act, 1937.

My thanks are due to the Sanitary Inspector and the Surveyor for their help in compiling this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CLEMINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

