

[Report 1939] / Medical Officer of Health, Congleton R.D.C.

Contributors

Congleton (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1939

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Congleton Rural District Council.



Interim Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District

For the Year Ended
31st December,
1939.

Medical Officer of Health	::	Arnold Brown, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Commenced duty 1st June, 1939. John D. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., Resigned 31st May, 1939.
Sanitary Inspector	::	R. C. Ford, M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the Congleton Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Congleton for the year ended 31st December, 1939. This report has been compiled as laid down in Circulars Nos. 1961 and 2067 of the Ministry of Health and has been considerably curtailed.

There was an increase in the number of notifications of scarlet fever and diphtheria towards the end of the year. This may be regarded as a spread-over from cases occurring in the towns of Congleton and Sandbach, in each of which places there was an abnormally high incidence of both these diseases.

The Rural District of Congleton received 1,308 mothers and children under the Government evacuation scheme. At the end of the year the number remaining was 318. No increase of infectious diseases was noted after the evacuation took place.

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, 1939.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live births Legitimate	147	69	78
Illegitimate	6	1	5
Still births	7	3	4
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid 1939			12.9
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			43.7

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths	127	65	62
Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population			10.5
Comparability Factor—0.96.			

Deaths from puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list):

	No. of Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29. Puerperal sepsis	0	0
No. 30. Other puerperal causes	0	0
Total —	0	0

Death rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	58.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	47.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	333.3

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	4	6	10
Deaths from measles (all ages)	—	—	—
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	—	—	—
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	—	—	—

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment.

There does not appear to be any occupation having a prejudicial effect on health.

Section B.

GENERAL provision of health services for the area.

The following conditions may be noted:—

An addition Child Welfare Centre has been established at Mow Cop in the parish of Odd Rode and is held monthly, alternating with the existing Centre at Scholar Green.

No separate hostel accommodation was provided in the Rural District and evacuated children requiring special attention were sent, by agreement, to "The Quinta," Congleton.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.—No part of the district is in need of an improved supply of water.

Drainage and Sewerage.—A scheme for the extension of the Council sewerage scheme to Mount Pleasant and Mow Cop, which had received the sanction of the Ministry of Health, was to have been commenced in September but was held up owing to the war.

The preparation of the schemes for Goostrey and Newbold Astbury was deferred for the same reason.

The following townships are in need of improved sewerage facilities:—Fir Close, Mount Pleasant and Rode Heath in the parish of Odd Rode, Goostrey and Astbury.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of conversions from conservancy system to water carriage	48
Number of houses in conservancy system in built-up areas, including 360 in the townships referred to above as being in need of improved sewerage disposal facilities	504

Public Cleansing.—There was no change in the arrangements for public cleansing.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	2411
Number of defects remedied	993

**Section D.
Housing.**

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

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of service of informal notice	21
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served under the Housing Act requiring repairs and which were rendered fit after service of such formal notices	6
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	82
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of such notices	86
Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	Nli
Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. —Number of registered milk producers in the area	449
Number of Accredited milk producers in the area	249

During the year 14 cowsheds were put in order, 5 new shippens constructed, 6 dairies altered and 7 new dairies built.

Meat and Other Foods. —Number of licensed slaughter-houses	8
Total weight of meat condemned — 3 tons, 7 cwt. 5 lbs.	

One milk sample out of 21 was certified by the Public Analyst as being "4 per cent. deficient in fat." The seller was cautioned by letter, having first been interviewed in order to advise him how he might improve the quality of his milk supply.

Section F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1939

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet fever	24	22	0
Diphtheria	14	10	0
Pneumonia	9	0	0
Erysipelas	6	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0
Measles	2	0	0
Whooping Cough	5	0	0

Messrs Burroughs Wellcome's Diphtheria Prophylactic T.A.F. is supplied free of charge to medical practitioners for the active immunisation of children under the age of 14.

Number of children, under school age, immunised against diphtheria	70
Number of children, of school age, immunised against diphtheria	86

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Age	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Dysentery
Under 1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	7	6	—	—	1	1	—
10	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
15	4	1	—	2	—	—	—
20	2	3	1	2	—	—	1
35	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
45	—	1	—	2	2	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	1	2	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table of New Cases and Deaths during 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
UP to 1 year	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5 „ 15 years	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—
15 „ 25 years	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
25 „ 35 years	—	—	1	1	—	3	1	—
35 „ 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 „ 55 years	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 „ 65 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	2	4	5	3	3	2	1

Factories Act, 1937.

Number of certificates granted regarding fire escapes 3

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council, the Clerk of the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their assistance during the year.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

ARNOLD BROWN,
Medical Officer of Health.