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2018



COSFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.

## REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

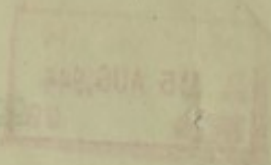
for the Year

1943

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

2018

REPORT OF THE



WEST VIRGINIA

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1907

JOHN H. CLARK, M.D., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Cosford,  
in the County of West Suffolk, for the year ending  
31st December 1943.

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Public Health Offices,  
Westgate House,  
Bury St. Edmund's.  
June 1944.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the  
Rural District Council of Cosford.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your  
favourable consideration my eighth Annual Report as Medical  
Officer of Health, being for the year ended December 31st,  
1943.

Except in the case of items for which  
full particulars are required by the Minister of Health, the  
report has been limited on his instructions, owing to the  
War.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. CLAYTON,

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

also Medical Officer of Health Newmarket Urban, Mildenhall,  
Thingoe and Thedwastre Rural Districts and  
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health-West Suffolk.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor  
and Petroleum Officer.

W.M. Taylor, A.R. San: Inst.,  
Meat Cert: R.S.I.



# SECTION A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### 1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area 48,530 acres

Registrar General's estimate  
of the resident population mid-year 9,441

Number of inhabited houses at end  
of year according to Rate Book 3,090

Rateable Value £33,218

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £124

### 2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	148	76	72
Illegitimate	4	-	4
<u>Stillbirths.</u>			
Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	1	1	-
<u>Deaths.</u>	129	60	69
<u>Birth Rate.</u>	Cosford	16.1.	England & Wales 16.5.
<u>Stillbirth Rate per</u> <u>1000 total (live &amp; still)</u> <u>births</u>	"	31.8.	
<u>Death Rate per 1000</u> <u>resident population.</u>	"	13.7.	" " 12.1.
<u>Death Rate of Infants</u> <u>under 1 year</u>			
<u>All Infants per 1000</u> <u>live births</u>	"	26.3.	" " 49
<u>Legitimate Infants per</u> <u>1000 legitimate births.</u>	"	27.0	
<u>Illegitimate Infants per</u> <u>1000 illegitimate births.</u>	"	Nil.	

4 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (3 males and 1 female, all legitimate). No deaths from maternal causes, 22 deaths from Cancer and no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On the following page is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures. The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths -1938.

The Birth Rate of 1943 is higher than those for the previous six years.

Of the 129 deaths, 92 = 71% occurred at the age of 65 years or over.



CAUSES OF DEATH.		Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond District.									
HEADING	M = Male F = Female	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	TOTAL = Registrar General's figures		
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M	F	
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	- -	- -	1 -	- 2	1 -	- -	- 1	2	3	
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1	- -	- -	-	2	
9	Influenza	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3 3	3	3	
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m) uterus (f)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	2 -	3	1	
14	Cancer of Stomach and duodenum	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2	- 1	1	3	
15	Cancer of Breast	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	-	1	
16	Cancer of all other sites	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 2	5 4	7	6	
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	6 10	6	10	
19	Heart Disease	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	8 9	9	10	
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3 1	3	1	
21	Bronchitis	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	5 3	6	4	
22	Pneumonia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2	1	2	
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	-	2	
24	Ulceration of stomach or duodenum	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	-	1	
26	Appendicitis	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1	-	
27	Other Digestive Diseases	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- -	1 -	2	1	
28	Nephritis	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	2 -	2 2	5	2	
31	Premature Births	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-	1	
32	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	-	
33	Suicide	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	-	2	
34	Road Traffic Accidents	- -	- 1	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	1	
35	Other Violent Causes	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	-	1	
36	All Other Causes	1 -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	1 2	6 9	9	12	
TOTAL Males		3 -	- -	2 -	- -	4 -	8 -	43 -	60	-	
Females		- 1	- 1	- 1	- 2	- 4	- 11	- 49	-	69	



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- (ii) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge provides these facilities for a lump sum which covers also any specimens examined in emergency by the West Suffolk General Hospital.
- (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. No Change.
- (c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The Local Nursing Associations which are financed partly by contributory scheme, partly by voluntary contributions, and partly by County Council grants, carry out this work through their nurses who are residing in the villages of Brettenham, Bildeston, Elmsett, Kersey, Groton, and Lavenham, whilst some parishes on the periphery are served by nurses residing at Hadleigh and Stoke-by-Nayland.
- (d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. } No  
(e) HOSPITALS. } change.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) WATER. Public supplies were maintained throughout the year with the exception of that at Brettenham where in December the bore well collapsed due to a chemical action. A new bore was sunk and the main supply restored in March 1944. It was necessary to cart drinking water for short periods to Windsor Green, Cockfield and to Wattisham in addition to Brettenham. Thirteen new connections were made to the water mains, six being for domestic supplies. Forty-two water samples were taken during the year - 25 from the public mains of which one source proved unsatisfactory. Water from this supply is now chlorinated automatically - Nine of 17 samples from other sources were unsatisfactory.
- (11) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. 4 new drains were inspected, and 19 cesspools emptied during the year.
2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. The clearing and deepening of water courses in the District, by Drainage Boards, as part of their agricultural policy improved the conditions of rivers and streams, but until sewage grants become available cause for complaint is likely to remain.
3. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Night Soil Collection is carried out at Lavenham, Bildeston and Boxford. 2 water closets and 1 pail closet were constructed during the year.
- (11) PUBLIC CLEANSING. Unsightly accumulations are increasing throughout the District, as are complaints of fly and rat infestation. There is need for a controlled collection scheme.
- (111) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following particulars of sanitary work during 1943 have been supplied to me by Mr. Taylor:-



## Number of Inspections.

Houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts.	355
Building Byelaws	6
Tents, vans, sheds	6
Factories.	12
Shops.	16
Schools	12
Cowsheds & Dairies	104
Butcher's premises	12
Samples (Milk & Water 42)	50
Dumps & tips	26
After Infectious Disease	15
Miscellaneous	145
Salvage	68
Food preparing premises	20
Re-inspections	112
Slaughterhouses, meat inspection.	3
Total	<u>962</u>

### Factory Act, 1937.

12 visits to Factories were made. Absence of closet accommodation at one was remedied.

#### (iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

16 visits were paid to inspect heating, lighting and ventilation arrangements.

#### (v) CAMPING SITES.

No applications for Licence to occupy a site were made in 1943. 1 unauthorised site was closed.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. } No  
(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. } Change.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No complaints were received.

4. SCHOOLS. The water, washing and sanitary arrangements were inspected during 12 visits. In general the accommodation is poor and overtaxed by school meals.

## S E C T I O N D.

### HOUSING.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 243  
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 355
- (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. 194  
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 194
- (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 111
- (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding Sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 83



2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.

23

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which                          |     |
| (a) Demolition Orders were made   | Nil |
| (b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation               | 5   |
| (c) Undertakings accepted to repair in specified time                     | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936-Part IV-Overcrowding.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year  | 7   |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein   | 9   |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein   | 44  |
| (b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | 3   |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year   | 1   |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases   | 11  |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. | Nil |

S E C T I O N    E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

No. of registered Cowkeepers & Dairymen	105
No. of registered Dairies	1
No. of visits to Cowsheds & Dairies	104
No. of notices issued in respect of unclean methods	15
No. of notices issued in respect of unclean premises	12
No. of registered premises found to require structural alterations	17
Work completed	-
No. of buildings adapted and brought into use	6
Samples taken for analyses	8
Legal proceedings	Nil
Retail producers removed from register	1

Two cowkeepers obtained Accredited licences, and three with accredited licences obtained Tuberculin tested licences during the year.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No. of Registered Slaughterhouses	Nil
No. of Licensed "	1
No. of Visits to "	3

Small quantities of canned foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption.



(c) <u>ADULTERATION ETC.</u>	}	NO
(d) <u>CHEMICAL &amp; BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.</u>		
(e) <u>NUTRITION.</u>	}	CHANGE
(f) <u>SHELL-FISH (Molluscan)</u>		
(g) <u>WATER-CRESS</u>		

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.

#### ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

	Total Cases	Age in Years														Adm. to Hosp ital.	Deaths	
		Noti- fied																
			-1	1	2	3	4	5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	-65			
Scarlet Fever	24	-	2	1	4	3	3	7	3	1	-	-	-	-	6	-		
Whooping Cough	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
Diphtheria	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-		
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-		
Measles	98	1	-	13	6	13	15	35	6	3	5	1	2	-	-	-		
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL:-	133	1	2	14	12	16	18	43	10	5	7	2	2	1	9	3		

One case of Jaundice was notified during December.

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1943 was 133 - this was an increase of 98 on the 1942 figure of 35.

173 children (129 age 0-4 years and 44 age 5-14 years) completed the course of Diphtheria Immunisation during 1943. It is estimated that by the end of 1943, 82% of children under 5 years of age, and 99% of children between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation course.

64 cases of Scabies were treated during the year, this being an increase of 2 on the 1942 figure.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5-14	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	-
15-24	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1
25-34	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
35-44	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-54	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>

42 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 14, Female 11, and Non-Respiratory Male 7, Female, 10.



