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Contributors

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1943.
INTERIM
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY
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Medical Officer of Health.

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1944.

COUNTY HALL,

NEWPORT, I.W.

July, 1944.

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the health of the District for the year 1943.

The birth rate is up by almost three per 1000, the death rate down by almost five per 1000, and although the infantile mortality rate is higher than in 1942 which showed a low record it was still below that of the country generally.

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis was higher than in 1942 (29 as against 20) but the number of deaths for that disease was less (6 as against 8).

There was an increase in the notifications of Scarlet Fever and of Measles but there were no cases of Diphtheria.

Taking everything into consideration there is no evidence which would point to the fact that the War is having any appreciable effect on the health of the people.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. WALLACE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	5542
Rateable value	£110,836
Sum represented by a penny rate	£394 16s. 4d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	18'2
Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ...	44'0
Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	14'5
Puerperal death rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	Nil

Infantile Mortality:—

All infants per 1000 live births	46'0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births ...	45'5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births ...	52'6
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	23
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	1

BIRTHS.

The birth rate per 1000 living which was 18'2 exceeded that for the country generally (16'5).

DEATHS.

The death rate was 14'5 per 1000 of the estimated resident population, the death rate for England and Wales being 12'1.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality rate was 46.0 per 1000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 49.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Frequent samples of the raw and treated are taken for analysis, and the results were uniformly satisfactory.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

One hundred and ninety six houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts and as a result 147 houses were found not reasonably fit for human habitation.

One hundred and seventy two defective dwelling houses were rendered fit as the result of informal action.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All animals are now slaughtered at Government Controlled Slaughter Houses in Newport, Ryde or Wroxall.

When carcases and offal arrive at Allocation Centre, weekly inspection is again carried out before being passed on to local butchers.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following table shows the amount of unsound food dealt with during the year :—

Hind and Fore quarter Beef, Bone taint and heated	258 lbs.			
Lamb Trimmings, Mould	...	...	...	8 „
Cheese, Unsound	...	...	...	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
Sugar,	„	...	...	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
Bacon	„	...	...	129 „
Cod Fillets	„	...	...	333 „
Fish Cakes	„	...	...	25 „
Fresh Pilchards	„	...	...	63 „
Flour	„	...	...	35 „
Split Peas	„	...	...	24 „
Rice	„	...	...	33 „
Spaghetti	„	...	...	112 „
Creamalt	„	...	...	112 „
Figs	„	...	...	112 „
Macaroni	„	...	...	112 „
Sundries	„	...	...	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
				<hr/>
				1397 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
				<hr/>

In addition 1,187 tins of various kinds of meat, fruit, etc., weighing 1,602 lbs. were found to be unsound.

All the above was taken to Newport to be used for the manufacture of artificial manure for the Ministry of Food.

SECTION F.

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

As in the country generally there was an epidemic of Influenza during the last quarter of the year. Generally the disease was of a mild type, but there were 18 deaths definitely due to that disease.

There were 20 notifications of Scarlet Fever (two in 1942) but these were all of a mild type.

Diphtheria was again absent from the area and this in my opinion is due to the fact that 81.1% of the school children are immunised against that disease. Only 35.8%

of the children under school age are so immunised which is a disappointing figure, but as no child is immunised before reaching the age of one year some 20% should be added to the figure of 35.8%.

Measles was becoming epidemic towards the end of the year.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases among school children.

Mumps	...	...	...	182
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	61
Ringworm	...	...	...	—
Scabies	...	...	...	21
German Measles	...	...	...	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	—
Influenza	...	...	...	242
Influenzal Colds	...	...	...	—
				506

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Cerebro Spinal Fever...	1	—	1
Smallpox ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	20	13	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	6	1	1
<i>Erysipelas</i> ...	1	—	—
Encephalitis			
Lethargica ...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—
Ophthalmia			
Neonatorum ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	86	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	—
Totals ...	116	15	2

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Measles	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
2 „ 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
3 „ 4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	—
4 „ 5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	—
5 „ 10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	1	—
10 „ 15	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
15 „ 20	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 „ 35	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 „ 45	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—
45 „ 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	20	—	—	1	6	1	1	86	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	Totals.	New Cases.				Totals.	Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
0 and under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 " " 5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 " " 10	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 " " 15	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 " " 20	4	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
20 " " 25	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 " " 35	6	5	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
35 " " 45	5	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
45 " " 55	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55 " " 65	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Total ...*	29	19	9	1	—	6	5	1	—	—

*Included in this total is one transfer from the mainland.

