

**[Report 1939] / Medical Officer of Health, Crewe Borough.**

**Contributors**

Crewe (Crewe and Nantwich, England). Borough Council.

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Public Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Crewe.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and  
of the Maternity & Child Welfare Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the  
Health Conditions in Crewe during 1939.

Area 4,414 acres; Population - estimated, 1939 - 48,000; Number  
of houses 14,641; Rateable Value £248,505; Sum Represented by  
Penny Rate £918.

Registered Births were 685, representing a birth rate of  
14.7 per 1,000. Legitimate live births: Male 348, Female 309.  
Total 657. Illegitimate live births: Male 15, Female 13. Total  
28. Stillbirths numbered 33 - Male 14, Female 19.

Corrected deaths - Male 318, Female 317. Total 635. The  
death rate was 13.1 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-  
birth (a) from Sepsis 0 (b) from other causes 3.

43 infants under one year died, a death rate per 1,000  
births of 62.7. Eight of the deaths were illegitimate.

There were no striking features amongst the Causes of Death:  
the number dying of the various causes being similar to those  
recorded in previous years.

Laboratory Facilities. The number of specimens examined were:-

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for Diphtheria ...	10	299	309
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	5	10	15
Cerebro-spinal Fluid ...	-	1	1
Pus for Gonococci ...	2	2	4

77 specimens of sputum from Crewe residents were examined  
in the County Laboratory, 12 of which were positive.

Ante-Natal Clinic. This was continued during the year and the  
number of expectant mothers attending was 46. Five mothers  
attended the Post-Natal Clinic.

Maternity Home. During the year 319 cases were admitted to  
the Home of which number 106 came from addresses outside the  
Borough. In 258 instances (80.0%) the case was attended by a  
medical man and 61 were attended by the midwives.

The average duration of stay in the Home was 13.4 days.  
Of the babies born 16 were stillborn.

Two expectant mothers were found at the ante-natal  
examination to have albuminuria.

On the ante-natal afternoons, 279 expectant mothers made  
1259 visits.

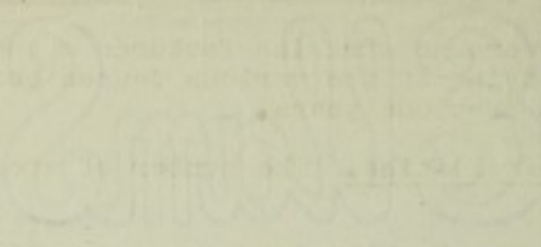
Work of Health Visitors. The total number of visits paid by  
the Health Visitors was 7121.

Orthopaedic Cases. 62 cases were treated at the After-care  
Centre during the year.

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Water. During the year 400,710,427 gallons were supplied to the Corporation for the use of the town, approximately 22.8 gallons per person per day.

6,350 yards of water mains were laid during the period under review.

Prevalence of Infectious Disease. No outbreaks of infectious disease occurred during the year. The incidence of all the notifiable diseases being well below the average,

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

No appreciable alteration has been recorded during the year with the exception that the administration of the Food & Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, which was carried out by the County Council to the 30th September, 1939, is now administered by the Town Council.

Milk. 196 persons are registered to sell milk from premises and vehicles, an additional 123 persons are registered to sell sealed bottled milk only.

During the year 169 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological and inoculation tests.

The bacteriological count showed that 24 samples gave less than 5000 bacteria per millilitre, 69 gave between 5000 and 30,000, 38 gave between 30,000 and 100,000, and 29 gave more than 100,000. *Bacillus Coli* were found in 50 samples.  
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Conclusion. Crewe is a neutral area and as such has not suffered from the disturbances produced by evacuation or by reception. It has, however, had an appreciable increase in population and this is reflected in the increase of new houses erected during the year - 567 as compared with 236 in 1938.

In the interests of economy this report has been abbreviated as much as possible. Full records of work done are being kept for use after the war is ended, but statistics of work done which do not differ materially from those record in previous years have been omitted from this interim report.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

J.D.INGRAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

