[Report 1970] / Medical Officer of Health, Crewkerne U.D.C.

Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

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12 4234

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

A.M. McCALL

V.R.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health D.V. Hague, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector
A.C.N. Gully, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Clerk to Medical Officer
Miss Y. Nichael, M.A.

Health Visitor

Miss M. Hoskins, H.V., S.R.N., S.C.M.

District Hurses

Miss G. Johnston, S.R.N.

Mrs. J.R. Sexton, S.R.N., S.C.M. (resigned Dec. 1970)

Miss A. Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M. (from 14.12.70)

PUBLIC HEALTH CONMITTEE

and

HOUSING COMMITTEE

The whole Council.

Health Department, 16, Church Street, Crewkerne. Somerset.

PUBLIC REAL OF COPYLORS

Medical Critcor of Health

Denuty Medical Officer of Realth. B.V., B.Ch., D.P.H.

LUCAL Health Inspector

Glerk to Medical Officer Hise Y. Michael, M.A.

Miss N. Hoskins, H.V. S.E.H. S.C.H.

Pistifot Duropa Miss G. Johnston, S.R.M. Mrs. J.R. Santon, S.R.M., S.C.M. (resigned Boc. 1970) Miss L. Mdwards, S.R.M., S.C.M. (from 14,12,70)

PULLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Been

HOUSTAND COMMUNISTERS

The whole Council.

Health Popertiest, 16, Church Street, Crowlerns, Sergreet. Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1970.

Although there was little infectious disease, the influenza epidemic in the early part of the year caused five deaths and a good deal of sick-ness.

Over the years I have been anged at the lack of public interest in Council work. Occasionally some item, usually affecting the financial interest of a small section of the community, prompts a few people to attend monthly meetings, but generally no one bothers to attend and see the enormous amount of work carried out by the Council. My Report records some part of that work. For years one resident used to enquire when my Annual Report would be available in the Library for public reading. Unfortunately he has died and has not been replaced.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,
Your obedient Servant,
A.M. McCALL
Medical Officer of Health

by Chairsan and Councillorn,

I bee to subout my Amend Report for 1970.

Although there was little infections disease, the influence opidents the early port of the year caused five deaths and a good deal of sink-

Over the years I have been caused at the lack of public interest in Council work, Occasionally seem that, usually affecting the Cinemaial interest of a small section of the community, proupte a few people to attend southly coeffice, but convolly no one bethere to attend and see the council of the council

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SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the 'rea

<u>Crewherne</u> to be 5,040 which gives a density of 3.9 per acre. I must emphasise that this is an estimate. The rateable value was £188,888 and the product of a penny rate was £752.

Birth Rate The corrected Birth Rate was 19.2 per thousand compared with a figure of 16 for England and Wales. There were two illogitimate births.

Death Rate The corrected Death Rate was 15.1 per thousand compared with the initional figure of 11.7. Out of a total of 76 deaths, 17 were due to heart disease, 14 deaths were caused by stroke. There were 19 deaths to various forms of respiratory disease and 5 deaths due to influenza which was prevalent in the early part of the year. At the age of 65 men can expect to live another 12 years and women 15.9 years and 70% of males and 82% of females can be expected to live to 65 years. These cheering statistics, supplied by the Registrar General, also show that the expectation of life at birth has risen to 68.7 years for a boy and 74.9 years for a girl. Perhaps Womens' Lib. will have a moderating effect on this disparity.

Appendix A, Table 3 shows full details of the causes of deaths.

Maternal Mortality There were no naternal deaths in 1970.

Stillbirths There was one stillbirth during the year.

Infant Mortality Two infants died, one of bronchitis and one of congenital abnormality.

Social Habits There was little change in the social pattern conpared with the previous year. The cost of living continued to rise.

- 7 -

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

The local health services provided by the County Council continued.

The Child Velfare Clinic was held twice a month but the additional clinic which was previously held once a month for immunisation was discontinued. Local private practitioners are now carrying out immunisations themselves with the aid of the computer at County Hall.

I carried out an annual medical inspection at each of the four schools in the town. Details of these inspections are shown in Appendix B, Table 2.

The Speech Therapy and Orthopaedic Clinics continued unchanged.

The School Dentist, who had been transferred to another part of the County in October, 1969, was not replaced until June.

The British Red Cross Society Centenary occurred on 4th August. The sufferings of the wounded at the Battle of Solferine in 1859 inspired five Swiss citizens to form the International Committee of the Red Cross and to call an International meeting at Geneva in 1863. After the outbreak of the France-Prussian War Col. Bloyd-Lindsay, V.C. made a public appeal to raise funds to help the wounded in France. The public response was immediate and he became the Society's first Chairman. Since then the Red Cross Society has expanded its activities in many spheres all over England. The small branch in Crowkerne carries on the good work. At the request of the Council they undertook the distribution of Meals on Whoels and had 44 names on their list at the end of the year. Last year I mentioned the Medical Lean centre they had established at the Clinic. In addition they run a club for the Physically Disabled which neets twice a menth and in many other ways, particularly in transport, they assist our less fortunate members of the corrunity.

Ramus House, a welfare home for the aged and financed by the County Council, continued to retain its full complement of 29 and there is a fairly long waiting list. Natron and her staff look after the residents extremely well and, although mursing is not strictly within their terms of service, they do devote great care and attention to those who fall seriously ill as it is almost impossible for a hospital bed to be found for these elderly people. At the beginning of the year the average age of the residents was 85 years, the highest in any County home.

The Crewkerne Old Peoples Welfare Association, with a membership of approximately 350, held weekly meetings in the Community Centre throughout the year end the average attendance was 75. In addition, a holiday in Torquay was arranged for 35 members and approximately 115 members took advantage of the chiropody service which is mainly financed by the Senerset County Council. This active Association is anxious to build a centre of their own and has already bought a suitable plot of land and also raised some £800. Their energetic Counittee are to be congratulated.

SECTION C

Prevention and Control over Infectious Diseases and Other Diseases

The only infectious diseases notified during the period under review were a few cases of measles, one of scarlet fever and one of Tuberculosis.

One non-resident member of the teaching staff of a school was discovered to have a recurrence of infection at the end of 1969 and I skin tested 163 children. Seven were found to have positive re-actions but I am pleased to say that all of them had been given B.C.G. vaccination previously which had provoked the reaction. In January I arranged a visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to X-Ray all the school staff and the public were invited to attend. Fortunately all the staff were clear. Full details of the visit and a follow-up visit in April are given in the Appendix.

I carried out my routine B.C.G. programs against tuborculosis in the autumn. Children born in 1959 were those offered vaccination. I vaccinated 52 at the Secondary Modern School and 16 at the Grammar School.

The epidemic of influenza which commenced at the end of 1969 carried on into the early part of 1970 and there were five deaths in Crewkerne.

Men is well entertained. The reads of the fewer are requisity swept and even after the enument rate in September the countries was quickly merved and Greekerns seen returned to its normal well-kept appearance. Public Conventences are returned to its normal well-kept appearance incot were well entertained and swifered less darshe from inconstituted out seems.

Set was a feet tention of Council property and severe and dealt with the countries countries of the tention were no heavy infortained out as year.

Set water faths from Schools in the tentions when the father income and dealt with the point water and chloriants in a satisfancing namer.

Set water fath to complaints of mulanas reported to the Public School and Mentales and Schools were no mulanas and the father for the fewer remover.

Set water were promptly dealt with by the Improver and morally entistancing removed.

Details of the inspections countries out by the Public Scalth Improver and Details and

Routino insp. otions were carried out at a number of the G6 registered promises and only informal action was necessary to achieve a actisfactory standard.

At the end of the year the Council had 13 houses in the course of rection and private builders were erecting another moven. There were 90 applicants on the housing list at the end of the year which included for old proples! dwellings and coven unwent cases. Many of the pullicants are at present resident outside the team. living in villages have little or no house building is taking place.

The Council continued to encourage applications for both standard and discretionary greats and gave approved to 22 applicants for atandard route and one thought tender.

Environmental Health Services

A. Sanitary Circumstances

Climatic Conditions In 1970 the weather was generally mild with a good surmer.

Mater Supply Despite the power cuts due to the strike of electricity supply workers, the Wessex Water Board were able to give a satisfactory supply throughout the year both in quality and quantity. Of the 1,800 houses in Crewkerne only two do not receive a mains supply of water. Sampling was carried out by both the Wessex Water Board (21 samples) and our health department (20 samples). All were satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal The capacity of our eastern outfall works is not sufficient to deal satisfactorily with the demands made on it and consultant engineers were engaged to carry out an investigation to see what extension is necessary. The strain at present on the northern outfall works is less but the Council continued to pursue the possibility of combining with the Chard Rural District Council who are actively enlarging their Merriott sewage works.

Refuse Collection The Council continued their regular weekly collection of refuse. Partial incineration is carried out at the tip which is well maintained. The roads of the town are regularly swept and even after the annual fair in September the debris was quickly removed and Crewkerne soon returned to its normal well-kept appearance.

Public Conveniences The conveniences in Church Street and West Street were well maintained and suffered less damage from inconsiderate users.

Redent Control Our part-time redent centrel operator carried out the usual test baiting of Council property and sewers and dealt with private complaints promptly. There were no heavy infestations during the year.

Swirming Baths Three schools in the term have swirming baths. All use mains water and chlorinate in a satisfactory manner.

Muisances The few complaints of nuisance reported to the Public Health Department were promptly dealt with by the Inspector and generally satisfactory results ensued.

B. Factories Act

Details of the inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspector are shown in Appendix D, Table 1.

C. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

Routine inspections were carried out at a number of the 86 registered premises and only informal action was necessary to achieve a satisfactory standard.

D. Housing

At the end of the year the Council had 13 houses in the course of erection and private builders were creeting another seven. There were 190 applicants on the housing list at the end of the year which included 80 for old peoples' dwellings and seven urgent cases. Many of the applicants are at present resident outside the town, living in villages where little or no house building is taking place.

The Council continued to encourage applications for both standard and discretionary grants and gave approval to 22 applicants for standard grants and one discretionary grant.

E. Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Milk sampling was carried out regularly by the County Health Department and all unsatisfactory samples were followed up by the County Dairy Husbandry Advisor. No complaints about milk were received in my department during the year.

Ice Cream Thirteen premises are registered for the retail of prepacked ice cream. Samples taken from ten of them during the summer months were all placed in provisional Grade One indicating that all the retailers are storing the ice cream in a satisfactory manner.

Meat There is no licensed slaughterhouse in the town and no routine meat inspection is carried out.

Regulations and all comply. Informal action was necessary occasionally but no statutory action resulted.

APPENDIX A TABLE 1

Registrar General's estimate of popula	tion ni	d 1970	a server		5,040
Number of inhabited houses at the end Rate Book	of 1970	accordin	to the	100	1,800
Rateable Value		rook rids	··· dr		£188,888
Sun represented by a penny rate	ava bros	eg moodyl	W. med		£752
Aroa	monios, e	***	. mogo or		1,291 acres

APPENDIX A TABLE 2

BIRTH RATE 19.2		Comparabil	ity Factor	1.34
		finder mot Many	P to or	Total
Livo Births	Total	38	34	72
	Logitimate	38	32	70
	Illogitimate	and Mark-Ton	2	2
Stillbirths	Total	1	-	1
	Logitimate	1	-	1
	Illogitimate	n in oursion	- 1 Th and	-
Deaths of Infants	Total	2	-	2
under 1 year	Logitimate	2	-	2
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants	Total	An Ohuren Obs	Set put He	-
under 4 weeks	Legitinate	-	-	-
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants	Total	-	T CANCELLO	-
under 1 week	Legitiente	-	-	-
	Illegitimate	-	-	-

APPENDIX A TABLE 3

DEATH RATE 15.1		
	Total	Under

Comparability Factor 1.00

	Cor	Total All ages	Under		1_ 5_	15-	25_	35_	15_	55_	65_	75.
Late effects of Respiratory	M	nii ages	-	-		-	-	-	- 1	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	69											
Cancer of Intestin	e M F	4	=:::	-		er al		-	-	-	3	1
Cancer of Larynx	e M F	1 Inti	- 1	-		-	- 7	-	-	-	1 -	-
Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	M F	2	nie din	over a	Code	a <u>T</u> (2	-	Ē.3	=	1	1
Cancer of Breast	F	2		-	- 51	el-ui	700	-	-	1	-	1
Cancer of Uterus	F	1		-	83-68	er a	Test	-	-	-	1	-
Cancer of Other Sites	H F	i feet	oT _	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	2	=	1 -		-	-	-	- N8	-	-	1
Hyportonsive Disca	seM F	-	_ as	ito <u>j</u> io	UBG CO	Ingli	Ē	00	E,	-	=	1
Ischaenic Heart Disease	MF	8		_ 0.0	of none	-	2	07.1	1.	3	1 2	3
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M F	2	=	-		-	-	=	-	-	=	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	M F	12 2	=	-		-	-	-	-	-	4	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory Syste	M n F	4	=	-		-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Influenza	M F	3 2	=	1		-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	t-M F	-	=	=		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	M	1	=	-	= =	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle	M	1	-	-		-	-	-	1	-	-	-
All other Accident		- 1	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide & Self	M	1	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Inflicted Injurie All other External		1		-		-	-	-	1	_	_	
Causes	F	-	=	-		-	=	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M F	48 28	-	2 -	= =	-	1	1 -	4	6	13 10	21 15

- 7 --

APPENDIX B TABLE 1

Crowkorne Child Welfare Clinic

-	-	-	-	-	-	100		-	-	7.00		. M	to alsolie and
		_1.	No.	of	chil	Ldre	n 01	regi	ster	who	attended	during	1970
					m ir							69	
					rn ir				-			73	Cancer of Intestin
		-	-	Box	en ir	1 19	55-6	58	T :			103	
	I			-							make?	245	
											Total -	240	
		-		-	77		-			00 75	5		
-	-	_ 2	. No.	01	atte	nda	nce	s in 1	1970	by c	hildren		
		4.	.77		rn ir			-100	-	• • • •	•••	317	
-		200	-		rn ir			900				142	
				Box	m ir	1 19	65-(58				117	
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	£	5.	. No.	of.	doct	tor :	ses	sions	-			28	Implemente Honet
		100	#	-		-			-				Disease
		-											
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P		1					-						
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1	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	1	AL 11	Circulatory Syste
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		100	I		-15	-0.0	204		-	-	Ī		All other External
				-	-				***	-	-	Z.	
	13	9		I				-	2				TOTAL ALL CAUSES
3.5	1.0		1	-	200				-			T	

APPENDIX B, TABLE 2

Name of School	No. on Roll	No. in-	Date of <u>Modical</u> <u>Inspection</u>	Children having nilk	Children having dinner	Date of last Dental Inspection
Ashlands	309	134	22/23/24. 4.70	79.29%	99.03%	10.7.69
Crewkerne Grasmar	171	22	19.2.70	-	97.66%	October 1970.
St. Bartholonew's	168	80	10/11/12.	89.29%	89.29%	12.6.69
Crowkerne Secondary Modern	340	95	11/13/16		70.59%	June 1970

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nefficipliation Respiration

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APPENDIX C TABLE 1

Infectious Diseases

Interest to the Scarlet Fever ... 1

Analysis of Cases Notified

Under

1 yr. 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-10 10-15 15-20 20-35 35-45 45-55 55-65 65+

Lapthon Duto on Link

Scarlet Fever 1
Measles 1 1 1 1 Measles

Tuberculosis

Now Cases Deaths Respiratory Non-Respiratory Respiratory Non-Respiratory M F M F M F Ago Group - 1 1 - 5 5 - 15 15 - 25 25 - 35 35 **-** 45 45 **-** 55 55 **-** 65 65+

APPUNDIX C TABLE 2

Crewkerne Chest X-Ray Sessions 1970

13th January, 1970				200
		Male	Fenale	Total
School Staff		18	33	51
Public		69	124	193
- Mountain- and 1027 (22-11-	Total	87	157	244
Abnormalities		Male	Fenale	Total
Pneumonitis		oldw at som	1	(22)
Salte of Topping Collins				
20th & 21st April. 1970		Male	Penale	Total
School taff		1	8	9
Public		143	148	291
S. Mezza da minipi e comen	Total	144	156	300
15. best agents or come of				
Abnormalities		Male	Fonale	Total
Cardiac Enlargement		1 .011	to far and	1
Bronchitis		1	-	1
Abnormalities of Second	rib	-	11	1
	Total	2	1	2

APPENDIX D TABLE 1

Factories Acts 1937-1959

		No. on Register	No. of Inspect- ions		No. of occupiers prosecuted
[a(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 enforced by Local Authority.	3	4 3	int Loods	
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	36	51	it is rough	-
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding cutworkers' premises)	Same For	ores stra	A fels A	ups 25 15-0
		39	55	hat Condo	
293	Cases in which defects were for	ound		otidu	7
	Cases in which defects were re	emedicd			-
	No. of outworkers in August Laby Section 110.	ist requir		and the trans	59
	-				

APPENDIX D TABLE 2

Action taken during year

1. No. of houses included in Clearance Areasfor which Orders are still to be made.	il
2. No. of houses in Clearance Frees which have been patched for temporary accommodation under Section 48 of the Housing Act 1957.N	il
3. No. of houses closed or denolished under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Clearance Areas)	il
(b) Houses closed	t il 2 il
	il
6. No. of Houses declared unfit under	
(i) Section 9 of the Housing Act 1957	il il
7. No. of houses made fit during year	18
8. No. of unfit houses occupied under licence N	il
9. Houses in multiple occupation (Housing Acts, 1961 to 1969)	il
10. Reconditioning of condermed houses - Exclusion from Clearence/Denolition Orders (Housing Act, 1961)	1
11. Substitution of Closing Order for Devolition Order (Housing Act 1961). Action taken.	il
12. Housing Act, 1969 Section 28 General Improvement Areas - Number of Areas so defined No.	no
13. Housing Act 1957 - Slum Clearence 1970 - 73	
1971 1972 1973 1	974
1. Part III a. Houses in creas to be declared	-
2. Part II Houses likely to be subject to denolition or closing orders 3 6 6	6
Romarks	
14. Housing act, 1964. Any action taken during year.	il
15. Rent et 1968 and Housing Act 1969	
(i) Cortificates of Pair Rent - Cortificates issued (if known)	1
(ii) Cortificates of Disrepair (a) No. of Applications received (b) Cortificates issued No.	
Houses erected Houses in course Gained from Lost from during year of erection conversion of conversion For Slum For other For Slum For other large houses of two of Clearance Purposes Clearance Purposes or buildings more house into flats or into one dwellings	on
Local	
Authority 13	
Private Entorprise 7 1 -	
Number of Post-Var Houses erected from	
1st April, 1945 to 31st December, 1970.	
By Local Authority By Private Enterprise	

13

334

396

	S AND VOICE	RIGHT 1
	Future Housing Programme (if known)	(As requested by Ministry of Housing & Local Government Circular No. 21/65)
	Programmo forecast 71, 72, 73, 74.	71/72 36 72/73 10
THE		73/74 10
TEN.	(a) No. of temporary housing units	occupied (i) Profabs - (ii) Huts, otc
	(b) No. of houses found overcrowded	
	Houses required	Lat. 1957 (Cloarance Areas)
	(i) To replace houses schedule (ii) To abate overcrowding	od for domolition Nil
	(iii) For other purposes	bacolo acanol (d) 6
	(iv) Applications for Council 1 (a) Urgent bona fide case	
	(b) Applications for old	d people's dwellings 80
	(c) Others	minus of to e molecus (£) 103
		Total applications 190
	No. of GAINED Permanent a) Erected	LOST Loss houses No. of
	Dwellings in b) Conversion	Total a) Demolished permanent
	District as at c) Council 31.12.69 houses sold	(a) b) Closed dwellings in + c) Sold during District as
	(d) to P.E. dur	ing (b) 1970 at 31.12.70
	1970 (ъ)	d) Conversion
	Jonord Indrova ont Arona -	
	L.A. 506 1* 2	506 2 - 504
197	MINOR DINCE FORE	1298 - 2 1296
-	Totals 1799 - 1 2	1804 - 2 2 - 1800
	* Closing Order removed after improve	verent works carried out.
	OLD PROPLI	S DWELLINGS
	Total number erected to 31.12.70	
	With County Without County Council Aid Council Aid	With County Vithout County Council Aid Council Aid
1	(.30 d as) homes not 18 11 100 - to	mil shall be not makility so 5(1)
	Grants by Local Authorities to priva	nte owners
	Number of Applications and houses de	ealt with by Local Authority during year
		f Dwellings Applications No. of Dwelling
	1. Improvement 1	1 Cleanmed Purposes Closl
	2. Standard 22 22 Grants	
	3. Special	Authority
	Grants -	calmining
	Letter Houses erected from	
	is to Mart Docorber, 1970.	lat inril, 19