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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1955



# THE HISTORY OF THE

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DORSET AND BREILWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955, which is furnished in accordance with Article 17, sub-section 5, of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Circular 17/55 of the Ministry of Health.

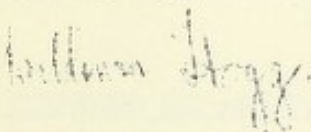
Whilst the very low prevalence of acute notifiable disease experienced during the previous year was not maintained, the incidence was not severe. The number of deaths from all causes increased but the number of live births was only slightly less than in the previous year. The Rural District was free from typhoid fever, poliomyelitis and diphtheria throughout the year.

I have to acknowledge assistance in the preparation of this Report and throughout the year by my colleagues, Mr. F. Craze, Clerk to the Council; Mr. E.A.J. Reece, Financial Officer; Mr. D.J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector; and Mr. D.O. Williams, Assistant Finance and Rating Officer.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the support which has always been given me in the discharge of my duties.


I am,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

19th October, 1956.



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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The District is entirely agricultural in character. There is much fine scenery, especially in the West where the Black Mountains form an impressive boundary.

Area (in acres)	...	84,532
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.55.)	...	2,443
Rateable Value	...	£27,596
Product of a Penny Rate	...	£109.12.1d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	...	8,340

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year

Crude live Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	...	15.1
Adjusted Live Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	...	16.3
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births (live and still)	...	30.8
Crude Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	...	13.1
Adjusted Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	...	12.1
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	...	1.08
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths)	...	0.93

Deaths from Maternal Causes

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total Births
Heading No.30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil

Death Rates of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1000 live births	...	39.7
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	40.7
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil



### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population is 8340. The average number of persons per occupied house is 3.41 and the estimated number of persons per acre is 0.098. The average number of occupied dwellings per acre is 0.029. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths, is 17.

### Births

The total number of live births registered during the year was 126 (57 male and 69 female), giving a crude birth rate of 15.1 per 1000 of the estimated population. The corrected live birth rate, using the comparability factor of 1.08, was 16.3 per 1000 population. The number of illegitimate births was 3 (1 male and 2 female). The live births which occurred out of wedlock were 2.3% of the total live births. The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1955 is 15.0 per 1000 population.

### Stillbirths

Four stillbirths were registered during the year. The still-birth rate was 30.8 per 1000 total (live and still) births. The stillbirth rate for the year for England and Wales is 23.1 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

### Deaths

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the area was 109 (61 male and 48 female), after the deduction of deaths of non-residents occurring within the District and the addition of deaths of residents occurring outside the area. The crude death rate is 13.1 per 1000 population. When the rate is adjusted the corrected death rate for the Rural District is 12.2 per 1000 population. The death rate for England and Wales for the year under review is 11.7 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female deaths is 1.27. In 1954 there were 72 deaths registered in the Rural District.

The most frequent cause of death was heart disease (headings Nos. 18 and 20), accounting for 26 deaths (19 male and 7 female) giving an adjusted death rate from this cause of 2.9 per 1000 estimated population.

### Cancer Deaths

All forms of cancer (headings Nos. 10, 11 and 14) caused 20 deaths and gives an adjusted death rate from this cause of 2.23 per 1000 population. In 1954 there were 11 deaths attributed to all forms of cancer.

### Infantile Deaths

The number of infants under one year of age who died is 5 (3 male and 2 female). The infant mortality rate for the Rural District is, therefore, 39.7 per 1000 live births and this rate for the year for England and Wales is 24.9 per 1000 live births. Three of these babies died under the age of four weeks. The neo-natal mortality rate for the Rural District is 23.8 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales for 1955 is 17.3 per 1000 live births.

Deaths due to Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea

No deaths were attributed to gastritis, enteritis or diarrhoea.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Pneumonia caused five deaths and was the only acute notifiable disease causing death. The adjusted death rate for the Rural District for pneumonia is, therefore, 0.56 per 1000 population. In 1954 four deaths were caused by this disease.

Tuberculosis

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis. The death rate for England and Wales for the year from this cause is 0.146 per 1000 population.

Table of Causes of Death according to Sex and Mortality Rates

List No.	Cause.	Male.	Female.	Persons.	Corrected D.R. per 1000 Popln.
9	Other Infective and parasitic Diseases.	-	1	1	0.11
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2	0.22
11.	" " lung, bronchus.	2	1	3	0.33
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	9	6	15	1.67
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	1	1	0.11
16.	Diabetes.	-	2	2	0.22
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	7	12	1.34
18.	Coronary disease.	7	-	7	0.78
20.	Other heart disease.	12	7	19	2.12
21.	Other circulatory disease.	3	2	5	0.56
23.	Pneumonia.	4	1	5	0.56
24.	Bronchitis.	4	5	9	1.00
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.11
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	-	2	0.22
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	1	1	0.11
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	3	-	3	0.33
31.	Congenital malformations.	-	1	1	0.11
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	6	9	15	1.67
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1	0.11
34.	All other Accidents.	1	2	3	0.33
35.	Suicide.	-	1	1	0.11
All Causes		61	48	109	12.12



## SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Laboratory Facilities

The usual clinical laboratory investigations are made at the Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford.

The following table shows the number of examinations carried out by the Laboratory on behalf of the Department:-

Swabs	...	11
Faeces	...	15
Milk (Methylene Blue Test)	...	33
Milk (Phosphatase Test)	...	17
Milk (Biological)	...	3
Water (Bacteriological)	...	79

In addition three samples of water were sent for examination by chemical methods.

### Hospitals

The needs of the population are met by the hospitals in the City of Hereford. Accommodation for cases of infectious disease is available at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital, and the County Hospital, Hereford.

### Ambulances

The ambulances in the City of Hereford are used to meet the requirements of the inhabitants of the District.

### Clinics

A County Council Infant Welfare Centre is held every Tuesday afternoon at the Instructional Site, Kingstone.

### National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50

No burials were carried out by the Council under this Section during the year.

### National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

One investigation was made under this section during the year; no formal action was required.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAGeology

The whole of the area is formed of Old Red Sandstone of the Devonian System, here represented by Upper and Lower Old Red Sandstone and Marls.

Water

The water supplies in the Rural District are of various types. Many dwellings depend upon shallow wells. There are small piped schemes, both private and public, utilising springs. In the Madley and Kingstone area a scheme uses purified river water. These supplies are not adequate for the needs of the area, and shortage of water was experienced in particular at Abbeydore, Clifford, Twyas Harold, Kilpeck, Vowchurch, Walterstone and Wormbridge. Water shortage in the greater part of the Rural District has been mentioned in my Annual Reports for very many years.

Piped water supplies are provided by the Council in the parishes of Clifford, Dorstone and Longtown. These utilise springs on high ground, and gravitate to the supply areas, no treatment being applied. Domestic supplies are almost all afforded by separate services but there are three standpipes on the Clifford Scheme and one on the Dorstone Scheme. The water of the Clifford Scheme is somewhat peaty and occasionally shows a small bacterial content and this supply is not adequate for the Parish.

The Council continued to manage the water scheme installed at the former R.A.F. Establishment at Madley, which provides a piped supply in Madley and Kingstone. The water is pumped from the river Wye, is purified, chlorinated and pumped to an elevated reservoir at Kingstone. The intake and pumping station is situated at Eaton Bishop, in the Hereford Rural District.

During the year, no extensions of public water mains were made.

The following table gives the number of dwellings supplied from public water mains:-

Clifford	...	96
Dorstone	...	45
Longtown	...	71
Kingstone	...	222
Madley	...	101

535

In Cusop parish 54 dwellings are supplied from the water mains of the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The number of samples of water submitted for bacteriological examination was 79 and 25 of these were not of good potable quality. There is no evidence that any water in use in the Rural District for domestic purposes has any appreciable solvent action upon metals.

During the year 5 wells were cleansed and repaired and one new water supply was provided. The number of water supply inspections was 188.



### Drainage and Sewerage

In Madley parish an extension of 850 yards of public sewer was laid, a pumping station constructed and a 4" rising main laid from the pumping station to the sewage disposal works. This installation was completed in October. In Kingstone, the existing system of public sewers was extended by 1,130 yards to drain the village and the Barrow Common area.

The number of new drains constructed in connection with dwelling houses was 58. The number of existing drains repaired or reconstructed was 51. The number of drain tests carried out by the Sanitary Inspector was 126.

### Rivers and Streams

The Rural District contains a number of rivers. The river Wye in the north forms part of the boundary of the area from Hay to Bredwardine. The Rural District is traversed by the Monnow, the Dore, the Escley Brook and Dulas Brook - all are clean rivers.

### Closet Accommodation

The principal type of closet in use within the Area is the pail closet, but the number of water closets steadily increases each year. Efforts to secure conversion continued throughout the year. Ten privies were converted to pail closets and 10 privies were converted to water closets, whilst 28 pail closets were converted to water closets.

### Public Cleansing

The Council provides a system of domestic refuse collection throughout the area with the exception of Cusop parish. This is carried out by contract and collection is made every six weeks. Refuse disposal is by tipping.

In Cusop parish a regular system of domestic refuse collection is provided once each month by the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The Council does not carry out the cleansing of cesspools and privies other than those on its own property. Twentytwo cesspools were cleansed by the Council during the year.

### Shops and Offices

No formal action was necessary under the Public Health Act, 1936 but 65 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

### Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public within the Area.



Camping Sites

Camping forms no significant public health problem at the present time in the Rural District. Two sites were used for camping purposes during 1955 and were quite satisfactory. The maximum number of campers within the area on any one day is estimated at 60 persons. No licences were issued by the Council with respect to Camping Sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No dwelling houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. D.J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following tabular statement, furnished under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections

Accumulations	...	2
Ashbins and Ashpits	...	12
Bakehouses	...	26
Camping Sites	...	4
Caravans	...	2
Dairies	...	88
Drainage	...	110
Drain Tests	...	126
Filthy and Verminous Premises	...	3
Factories (without mechanical power)	...	14
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	23
Food Poisoning	...	2
Food Handling Byelaws	...	65
Food Premises	...	65
Fruit and Hop Pickers' Quarters	...	10
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925)	...	564
Housing (Other)	...	321
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	...	18
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	...	11
Infectious Disease	...	48
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	...	12
Offensive Smells	...	5
Petroleum Stores	...	24
Schools	...	10
Sewage Disposal Works	...	52
Sewers	...	52
Shops	...	65
Sanitary Conveniences	...	26
Slaughterhouses	...	104
Unsound Food	...	6
Water Supply	...	188
Water Courses	...	21

Notices Issued

Informal	...	44
Statutory re housing	...	2
Statutory under other Acts	...	2

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	...	2
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	...	54
Ditches cleared	...	1
Domestic Baths provided	...	38
Drains and Gullies cleared	...	140
Drains repaired	...	57
New drains provided	...	58
Defective floors repaired	...	31
Defective roofs repaired	...	21
Defective eaves gutters repaired	...	21
Defective brickwork repaired	...	20
Defective Coppers remedied	...	3
Disinfections after infectious		
Disease	...	11
Disinfestations	...	2
Defective windows repaired	...	122
Defective chimneys repaired	...	18
Dampness of floors and walls		
remedied	...	7
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	...	38
Closets repaired	...	32
Dairies reconstructed	...	4
Dairies improved	...	3
Filthy and Verminous Premises		
cleansed	...	2
New Gullies provided	...	162
Gully Covers provided	...	162
Inspection Chambers repaired	...	10
Old drains sealed	...	33
Privies converted to water closets	...	10
Rainwater pipes provided or		
repaired	...	26
Staircases repaired	...	6
Slaughterhouses improved	...	2
New sinks provided	...	61
Soil pipes repaired	...	10
Sanitary Fittings provided	...	38
Stoves repaired	...	38
New Urinals provided	...	1
Urinals repaired	...	2
Ventilation improved	...	2
Wells cleansed or repaired	...	5
Water Supplies provided	...	1
Miscellaneous Defects remedied	...	781
Footpath Channels remedied	...	2



Factory Form 572 (Revised)

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1955, for the Rural District of Dore and Bredwardine, in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspect-ions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	23	29	2	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	14	18	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	7	20	-	-
Total	43	67	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness.	2	2	-	2	-
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	2	-

Outworkers

There are no outworkers registered with the Local Authority.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council has appointed a part time Rodent Officer, and his work during 1955 is recorded in the following table:-

	Premises Inspected.	Total Mice.	Total Infestations		No. of properties treated.	Statutory Notices.
			Major	Minor		
Local Authorities' Properties.	10	-	-	4	12	-
Dwelling Houses.	716	1	1	71	74	-
Agricultural Properties.	870	-	-	126	-	-
All other (including business) premises.	173	1	-	-	-	-
Total	1769	2	1	201	86	-

Altogether 153 treatments were carried out, including 11 at the refuse tip. One sewer test was made at Kingstone and one maintenance treatment was carried out.

SECTION D - HOUSING

Buildings in the former R.A.F. Establishment at Madley and Kingstone continued to be occupied throughout the year as temporary dwellings. At the end of the year 134 were occupied. In addition, there are 29 temporary dwellings under the management of another Authority. It is estimated that about 550 persons are housed in this temporary accommodation, much of it being unfit for human habitation.

At the end of the previous year 147 temporary dwellings were occupied.

The Council's building programme for the provision of new dwellings continued to make progress. The number of new Council houses occupied during the year was 38 (19 at Kingstone and 19 at Madley). A further 32 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. These were situated at Kingstone (7), Madley (18) and Peterchurch (9).

Private persons completed 8 dwellings and 7 were under construction at the end of the year.

When the year closed there were 258 applications for houses before the Council. Inadequacy of water supplies prevented the construction of Council houses at Ewyas Harold. The absence of water supplies continues to be a serious obstacle to the Council's efforts to provide adequate housing.



Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	564
2.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	4
3.	Number of dwelling houses exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	381

Houses demolished or closed during the Year

1.	Housing Act 1936		
(a)	Demolished as a result of informal procedure (Section 11)	...	Nil
(b)	Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	...	One
(c)	Parts of building closed (Section 12)	...	Nil
2.	Housing Act 1949		
	Closed as a result of closing orders under Section 3(1) and 3(2)	...	Nil
3.	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.		
	Closed as a result of closing orders under Section 10(1) and 11(2)	...	Nil

Houses repaired during the Year

1.	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	...	44
2.	Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice:		
	Houses in which defects were remedied		
(a)	By Owners	...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil
3.	Housing Act 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16):		
	Houses made fit		
(a)	By Owners	...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil
4.	Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954		
	Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	...	Nil



Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	...	11
(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	2
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	2
(d) Dwelling houses which have again become overcrowded after steps by Local Authority for abatement	...	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949. Section 20

Seven grants were made by the Council for the improvement of dwellings during the year.

SECTION 3 - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMilk

Eleven distributors of milk are registered with the Council under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

There are no plants for the pasteurisation or sterilisation of milk situated within the Rural District. Four distributors were granted supplementary licences for the sale of pasteurised milk, one was licensed for the sale of sterilised milk, and two licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk.

The number of samples of milk sent to the Public Health Laboratory for methylene blue test was 33, and 17 samples of pasteurised milk were sent for phosphatase test. All samples of pasteurised milk complied in all respects with the standard but four samples of tuberculin tested milk out of nine samples submitted failed to satisfy the standard. Six samples sent for biological test were free from tuberculosis and brucellosis.

Ice Cream

The sale of this food within the Rural District is very limited. During the year 1 registration for the storage and sale of ice cream was granted, bringing the total number of such registrations to ten. The number of inspections made of registered premises was eleven.

Shell Fish

The sale of occasional jars or tins of preserved shell fish appears to form the sale of shellfish within the Rural District. No action was necessary with regard to this food.

Meat

There are four licensed slaughterhouses within the Rural District; these are small but are in a reasonable condition. All carcasses and offals are inspected by the sanitary inspectors.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in  
whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	95	3	1	473	75	-
Number inspected	95	3	1	473	75	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	7	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	1	-	85	17	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	3	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

The inspection of meat immediately after slaughter has been carried out without any difficulty.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 & Slaughter of Animals Amendment Act, 1954

Seven Slaughtermen were licensed by the Council for the slaughter of animals other than horses.



Food Poisoning

Four notifications of food poisoning were received during the year; three arose in the second quarter and involved one household - the infection being caused by *Salmonella Typhimurium*. It was not possible to trace the source of infection as infection was certainly acquired in the London area.

The fourth notification was received in the fourth quarter of the year and was caused by *Salmonella* *Mishmar-Haemek*, a type which is found in Asia Minor but which has not been previously identified in Britain. It appears to cause illness which persists for many months. As the patient had not been abroad it is difficult to account for this infection appearing in a rural area.

Food and Drug Act, 1938. Section 14

Six premises are registered with the Council under this section, one being concerned with fruit and vegetable preservation. The number of inspections of these registered premises carried out in the year was 32.

Unsound Food

The following table shows the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption, and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of Unsoundness</u>
82 lbs.	Beef	Disease.
115 lbs.	Liver	Parasites.
180 lbs.	Pig Meat	Disease.
60 lbs.	Pig Heads	"
18 lbs.	Pig Liver	Parasites.
145 lbs.	Mutton	Disease.
40 lbs.	Sheep Liver	Parasites.

Fresh meat surrendered as unfit for human consumption is collected and used for dog food.

Byelaws as to Handling, etc. of Food

The number of inspections made was 65 and no infringements were found.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable infectious disease in the Rural District during 1955 was somewhat greater than in the previous year as altogether 122 notifications were received. This gives a notification rate of 14.6 per 1000 estimated population. The increase was caused by the increased prevalence of measles about the middle of the year, for the incidence of other diseases was less than in 1954. However, measles tends to increase in prevalence every two or three years, and 1954 was a year of almost complete freedom from the disease.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter

Disease	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Year.
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	-	1	2
Whooping Cough.	6	3	4	4	17
Pneumonia.	7	1	4	3	15
Measles.	-	45	40	2	87
Erythral Pyrexia.	1	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	15	49	48	10	122

Measles.

Altogether 87 notifications of this disease were received, the incidence being almost equally divided between the second and third quarters of the year. The incidence rate was 10.4 per 1000 estimated population. There were 51 dwellings involved; in 27 of these only one case occurred, whilst 15 dwellings each gave rise to 2 cases and 7 experienced 3 cases. In one dwelling 5 cases occurred. There were no deaths caused by the disease. There was a clear history of contact in respect of 33 patients, and over one half of the patients were between the ages of 5 and 10 years. There was a higher incidence in males than in females the ratio being 1.415. The parish of Crook experienced 29 cases and the disease first appeared in this parish, and subsequently spread to the adjoining parishes.

Whooping Cough

The child population of the Rural District was never quite free from whooping cough in any quarter but the incidence was very low, as only 17 notifications were received during the year. The morbidity rate was 2.0 per 1000 estimated population, and 11 families were affected. All patients recovered and ten were under five years of age, the sexes were equally affected, and six patients were contacts of a previous known case.



Scarlet Fever

Only two cases of scarlet fever occurred, one in the first quarter and the other in the final quarter of the year. The incidence rate is, therefore, 0.24 per 1000 estimated population. Both patients recovered.

Pneumonia

The number of notifications of pneumonia received was 15, giving an incidence of 1.8 per 1000 estimated population. This was less than the number in the previous year (21). The first quarter of the year was the period of maximum incidence; six cases occurred in Kingstone parish and three in Madley - these parishes have the largest population. Unfortunately, five deaths were caused by pneumonia, giving a corrected death rate from this cause of 0.56 per 1000 population.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease.	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	65+	All Ages.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	1	2	7	4	1	1	-	1	-	17
Measles.	-	9	14	50	12	1	-	1	-	87
Pneumonia.	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	8	3	15
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	1	13	22	56	14	2	1	10	3	122

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 63 cases of tuberculosis on the Register (50 respiratory and 13 non-respiratory). During the year 6 cases of respiratory and one of non-respiratory disease were added. Four cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were new infections. Ten cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were removed from the Register during the year. No less than eight removals were due to recovery of patient. No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis during the year. The number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year was 59, of these 46 were suffering from respiratory disease.

New Cases and Mortality during 1955

Age Groups.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15+	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35+	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-



