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THE BOROUGH of DUNHEVED


otherwise

*File* LAUNCESTON.  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

for the year 1938.

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To: a

The Mayor & Councillors of the Launceston Borough Council.

Mr Mayor & Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1938 arranged in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health.

Sections C, D, & E have been compiled from data supplied by your Sanitary Inspector.

No mention of Air Raid Precautions is made in this report as most of these precautions have been taken ~~during~~<sup>in</sup> 1939.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

*Douglas H. A. Galbraith*

Medical Officer of Health for

The Borough of Launceston.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Part Time Officers:-

Douglas H. A. Galbraith M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
Medical Officer of Health and  
Medical Officer Infant Welfare Clinic.

Mrs E. A. Luckes C.M.B.,  
Nurse to Infant Welfare Clinic and  
Infant Protection Visitor.

Full Time Officer:-

J. F. Burford M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., M.S.I.A.  
Borough Surveyor and  
Sanitary Inspector.

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The Board of Directors of the American Medical Association

Washington, D.C.

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors

has approved the proposed changes in the Constitution of the Association

and has authorized the Executive Committee to take such action as may be deemed

advisable in connection therewith.

The proposed changes are set forth in the enclosed copy of the Constitution

as amended, and in the report of the Executive Committee thereon.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Rorer, Secretary

*[Handwritten signature]*

Enclosed for you are the following documents:

1. A copy of the Constitution of the Association as amended.

2. A copy of the report of the Executive Committee on the proposed changes.

3. A copy of the report of the Board of Directors on the proposed changes.

4. A copy of the report of the Council on the proposed changes.

5. A copy of the report of the House of Delegates on the proposed changes.

6. A copy of the report of the Executive Committee on the proposed changes.

7. A copy of the report of the Board of Directors on the proposed changes.

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19. A copy of the report of the Board of Directors on the proposed changes.

20. A copy of the report of the Council on the proposed changes.

SECTION "A".

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Table 1.

Area of the district in acres	...	...	...	2188.
Population as estimated to Midsummer 1938	...	...	...	4273.
Number of inhabited houses...	...	...	...	1362.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£26,085.
Sum represented by 1d rate...	...	...	...	£104.

Table 2.

LIVE BIRTHS.

				<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total...	...	...	...	37.	30.
Legitimate	...	...	...	35.	28.
Illegitimate..	...	...	...	2.	2.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population =15.67

STILL BIRTHS.

Total...	...	...	...	1.	3.
Legitimate	...	...	...	1.	3.
Illegitimate..	...	...	...	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births =56.33

DEATHS.

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
31.	26.	57.

Death Rate per 1,000 of resident population = 13.33.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes. ... Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births... =14.82  
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births =15.87  
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)... 9.  
" " Measles (all ages).. 1.  
" " Whooping Cough (all ages). Nil.  
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) Nil.



### Comparative Rates.

Live Births, rate per 1,000 total population.	<u>Launceston.</u>	<u>Cornwall.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
	15.67	13.13	15.10
Still Births per 1,000 Pop'n	0.93	0.54	0.60
Total Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	14.82	50.16	53.0
Diarrhoea, under 2 years per 1,000 live births	Nil.	1.48	5.5.
Deaths from all causes per 1,000 pop'n	13.33	13.95	11.6.
" Measles = = =	0.23	0.019	0.04
" Enteric " " "	0.00	0.00	0.00
" Scarlet Fever " "	0.00	0.009	0.01
" Whooping Cough " "	0.99	0.039	0.03
" Diphtheria " " "	0.00	0.029	0.07
" Influenza " " "	0.23	0.15	0.11
" Violence " " "	0.23	0.54	--
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live births	Nil.	4.74	2.97

### Birth Rate.

The Birth Rate in Launceston was 15.67 for 1938. This is a satisfactory increase over the rate for 1937, which was 13.06 and it also compares very favourably with the rate for England and Wales for 1938 which was 15.10

### Population.

The estimated population for the Borough shows a slight decrease on that for 1937 being 4,273 for 1938 as against 4,287 for 1937.

### Density.

The density of population per acre was 0.51 persons per acre. This figure is a little more than the density for the County as a whole.

### Infant Mortality.

The Infant Mortality rate was 14.82 per 1,000 live births. This is very satisfactory when compared with 50.16 for Cornwall and 53.0 for England & Wales.

### Death Rate.

The Death Rate, 13.33 is less than that of Cornwall taken as a whole. (13.95.)

The chief causes of death at all ages were:-

Diseases of Heart & Blood Vessels...	12.
Cancer ... ..	9.
Respiratory Disease. ... ..	7.
Old Age ... ..	3.
Tuberculosis ... ..	2.
Violence.. ... ..	1.
Diseases of Kidneys etc. .. ..	1.
Congenital Debility . ... ..	1.
Influenza.. ... ..	1.



SECTION "B".

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

I. (1) The names and qualifications of the Public Health Officers are given on the first page of this report. Strictly speaking, the appointments of myself as Infant Welfare Medical Officer and of Nurse Luckes as Infant Welfare ~~Nurse~~ Nurse should not be put in as these appointments now come under the Council.

(2) (a) There are no Laboratory Facilities provided in the area.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. The Launceston Detachment of the British Red Cross Society and the Launceston Division of the St John's Ambulance Association continue to give efficient and enthusiastic service. There are two motor ambulances maintained by the St John's Brigade.

(c) Nursing in the Home. The services rendered by Nurse Luckes, as Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse and by Nurse Knowles as District Nurse continue most ~~satisfactory~~ satisfactory.

(d) Hospitals. The removal of the Launceston Hospital to its new premises has proved how necessary was the extra accommodation. The Hospital has been filled to capacity several times during the year.

(e) Treatment Centres and Clinics. The Child Welfare Clinic (now under the County Council) continues to be well attended as does also the Orthopaedic Clinic.

II. No report is due from me on this section.

III. Maternity and Child Welfare. Under the County Council.

Institutional Provision for Mothers & Children.

There is no such provision in this area.

Health Visitors and Child Life Protection.

There has ~~been~~ been no alteration in these services.

Arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic etc Cases.

There are no facilities other than under the public Assistance Committee for Dental Treatment. Orthopaedic Cases are dealt with at the Clinic in Woods Road under the Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid.

SECTION "C". SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I. (1) Water. There has been no alteration in the sources of supply during 1938. As usual the quality has been controlled by bi-annual bacteriological examinations.

(a) Report on sample taken on 21st July 1938:-

Total number of organisms growing on Agar at 22° C <sup>4 per m.l.</sup> ~~was~~.

Total number growing on Agar at Blood Heat = less than 1 per m.l.

Number of Coli Aerogenes Bacteria per 100 m.l = None.

"These are satisfactory results: There is no evidence of any pollution."



SECTION "C". (contd.)

1. (1) (b) Report on Sample taken on 23rd November 1938:-

Total number of organisms growing on agar at 22' C = 7 per m.l.  
Total number growing on agar at Blood Heat = less than 1 per m.l.  
Number of Coli Aerogenes Bacteria per 100 m.l. = None.

"These are satisfactory results: there is no evidence of any pollution."

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage. The drains to 16 new houses have been tested and found to be satisfactory. 14 of these have been connected to the Town Sewer and 2 to Cesspits. One Privy has been converted to the Water-carriage system.

2. Rivers and Streams. No complaints have been received on these during the year.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.:-These have been increased during the year from 1630 to 1837.

(ii) Public Cleansing. There has been no change in this during the year.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area. :-

- A. Nuisances. No formal complaints received.
- B. Fumigation. One house and two rooms were fumigated.
- C. Cowsheds. There are 30 registered cowkeepers.
- D. Dairies. These have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.
- E. Slaughter Houses. There are 5 as against 7 last year. These have been inspected and found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

(iv) Shops and Offices. These have been inspected from time to time and found to be kept in a sanitary condition.

(v) Camping Sites. Nil.

(vi) Smoke Abatement. No complaints have been received.

(vii) Swimming Baths. There are two open air baths in the area. Both are privately owned and are open to the public. There has been no change since last year.

(viii) Eradication of Bed bugs. There have been neither complaints nor signs of infestation by bed bugs.

4. Schools. These appear satisfactory. Cases of infectious disease which come to the notice of the teachers are reported to the M.O.H. Closure of schools is only done on the authority of the County Medical Officer.

SECTION "D". HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects ... .. 70.

(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose.. 63.

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the ~~Housing~~ Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1938. Nil.

(b) Inspections made for above purpose = Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling house found unfit for human habitation = Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. = 10.

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices :-

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action = 10.

The first part of the report is devoted to a description of the general situation in the country at the beginning of the year. It is noted that the economy is still in a state of depression, and that the government is facing a serious financial crisis. The report also mentions that the population is suffering from a lack of food and clothing, and that the government is unable to meet its obligations to the foreign powers.

The second part of the report deals with the political situation. It is noted that the government is weak and corrupt, and that the opposition is growing. The report also mentions that the military is in a state of disarray, and that the government is unable to maintain order in the country. The report concludes that the situation is hopeless, and that the only way out is a complete revolution.

The third part of the report is a detailed analysis of the economic situation. It is noted that the country is suffering from a severe shortage of raw materials, and that the government is unable to produce enough goods to meet the needs of the population. The report also mentions that the government is spending too much money on the military, and that it is neglecting the needs of the civilian population. The report concludes that the economy is in a state of collapse, and that the government is unable to take any effective measures to improve it.

The fourth part of the report is a detailed analysis of the political situation. It is noted that the government is weak and corrupt, and that the opposition is growing. The report also mentions that the military is in a state of disarray, and that the government is unable to maintain order in the country. The report concludes that the situation is hopeless, and that the only way out is a complete revolution.

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The sixth part of the report is a detailed analysis of the political situation. It is noted that the government is weak and corrupt, and that the opposition is growing. The report also mentions that the military is in a state of disarray, and that the government is unable to maintain order in the country. The report concludes that the situation is hopeless, and that the only way out is a complete revolution.

SECTION "E". INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) Milk Supply. :- As noted in Section "C" all the dairies in the area have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.
- (b) Meat and Other Foods. :- The Slaughter Houses have been kept satisfactorily during the year.

Carcasses inspected and Condemned.

	<u>Killed.</u>	<u>Condemned.</u>
Cattle.	561.	12.
Calves.	131.	1.
Sheep & Lambs.	15,139	32.
Pigs.	10,336.	24.

SECTION "F". PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of cases notified was the same as for last year. There were 11 cases of Pneumonia, 2 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1 case of Erysipelas and 1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

NO cases of Scarlet Fever, Puerperal Fever or Diphtheria were notified.

Table of Notifications etc.

Disease.	Under													Total	Deaths
	one year	1 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 33	33 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over				
Pneumonia.	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	1	3	2	1	2	11	2	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	
Surgical Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	

Tuberculosis.

As noted in the Table above 2 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. Both these cases were transferred to Tehidy and both were eventually sent home. One case fully recovered but the other died later at home.

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF [illegible]  
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the County, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears on file in my office.Witness my hand and seal of office this [illegible] day of [illegible] 19[illegible].

That the enclosed is [illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF [illegible]

The undersigned, Clerk of the County, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears on file in my office.Witness my hand and seal of office this [illegible] day of [illegible] 19[illegible].

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
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