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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

as to the

Sanitary Conditions of the Hartismere Rural

District for the year 1950.



To the Chairman and Members of the Council of the
Hartismere Rural District.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report
of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950.

As you are aware, I have been Acting Medical
Officer of Health since your previous Medical Officer, Dr.
H.C.G. Pedler, retired on the 21st September, 1950. My
other duties have made it necessary for me to confine my
attention to emergencies, but I would like to record my thanks
for the help I have received from your other Officers, your
Sanitary Inspectors in particular having given me much
valuable assistance.

Examination of the statistics embodied in this
report confirm that Hartismere has enjoyed a healthy year.
Whilst it is unwise to draw any conclusions from such
small numbers, it may be noted that the birth rate is
lower than the average for the country, whilst the death rate
is just above. It may also be noted that there were no
cases of maternal mortality, whilst the infant mortality
rate was considerably lower than the figure for England and
Wales.

Apart from an outbreak of measles, mostly among
the school population, the area was very free from infectious
diseases. Two cases of poliomyelitis occurred in the district, and
both have made satisfactory progress.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	96,486 acres.
Population	17,110
No. of inhabited houses	5,344
Rateable Value	£40,076.
Product of penny rate	£175.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate births	123	111	234
Illegitimate births	16	2	18
Total births	<u>139</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>252</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 population	14.7		
Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	15.8		
Comparability factor	1.22.		

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stillbirths	5	3	8
Rate per 1,000 live births	31.7		
Rate per 1,000 population	0.46		
Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	0.37		

Maternal Mortality Nil.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Infant Mortality</u>			
Deaths of infants under one year (Legitimate)	1	3	4
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (England & Wales)	29.8		
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	15.9		

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	98	103	201.
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.7		
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England & Wales)	11.6		
Comparability factor	0.80		

Causes of Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	3	7
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	5
Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	15	8
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14	17
Coronary Disease, angina	12	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	2
Other heart disease	20	25
Other circulatory disease	5	-
Influenza	2	3
Pneumonia	3	2
Bronchitis	4	-
Other disease of respiratory system	2	2
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	2
Nephritis & nephrosis	1	2
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	5	16
Accidents (other than motor)	3	2
Suicide	1	-
	<u>98</u>	<u>103</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Whooping Cough	31
Measles	398
Pneumonia	14
Scarlet Fever	6
Jaundice	12
Poliomyelitis	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the beginning of the year there were 83 cases on the register (41 pulmonary and 42 non-pulmonary). During 1950 there were 7 cases notified (all pulmonary). 6 deaths occurred, 5 recoveries and 3 removals, leaving 76 cases on the register.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following information:-

Pre-school children immunised	728
Total number of children immunised	2677
% pre-school children immunised	51.9%
% all children immunised	68.8%
"Booster" treatment	217.

MILK.

29 milk samples were taken by the E.S.C.C. from dairy farms in the district and tested for T.B. and Brucella organisms. Of these, 7 were found to contain Brucella organisms which is the causative organism of undulant fever. Notices were served under section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 requiring the milk to be heat treated before sale for human consumption. Two of the four retailers concerned were unable to make private arrangements to prevent the sale of their milk in a raw state, and arrangements were made with the Milk Marketing Board to supply the necessary amount of pasteurised milk. One sample was found to be positive T.B. Milk from the herd concerned was already being sent for pasteurisation. One cow was removed from the herd and a further sample was shown to be non-tuberculous.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Application was made to the Hartismere Magistrates for the removal of one case under section 47 of this Act. The man who was living alone in a condemned house, was no longer able to fend for himself. The application was granted and he was admitted to Part III accommodation at St. James' Shipmeadow, on the 3rd August, 1950. The house has been subsequently demolished.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948.

The following details have been abstracted from the annual report of the Medical Officer submitted to the Minister of Labour and National Service:-

No. of factories with mechanical power	56
No. of factories without mechanical power	10
Other premises - Building sites etc.	25
No. of inspections made	68
No. of defects found	4

FOOD POISONING

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

S.T.G. GRAY.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

2nd November, 1951.