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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

Hexham Urban District Council

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1942,

BY

DR. G. PATTON.



HEXHAM :

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OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
HEXHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1942.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
HEXHAM.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hexham Urban District Council :—

GENTLEMEN—

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

This report does not take the usual form, being condensed in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, and is mainly statistical.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
G. PATTON,
Medical Officer of Health.

**Sec. A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA.**

Area in Acres 5,926

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING INDUSTRIES CARRIED ON
IN THE AREA.

No large industries ; nothing affecting Public Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Legitimate ...	117	71	46
Illegitimate ...	7	3	4

STILL BIRTHS.

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Legitimate ...	4	1	3
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

		Rate per 1,000.	
		Total Deaths	(Live & Still) Births
No. 29.	Puer. and post-abort. sepsis ...	Nil.	Nil.
No. 30.	Other maternal causes ...	Nil.	Nil.
	TOTAL ...	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	64.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...	...	51.2
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	285.7
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	21
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	2

DEATHS.—Age Groups in each Ward, also Adult, Infant and Uncertified Deaths.

WARDS.			Gilesgate.	Leazes.	Priestpoppie.	Hencotes.	TOTAL.	
AGE GROUPS :—								
0—1	...		3	1	4	—	8	
1—2	...		—	—	—	—	—	
2—5	...		1	—	1	—	2	
5—15	...		—	1	—	—	1	
15—25	...		—	1	1	—	2	
25—45	...		1	2	5	3	11	
45—65	...		4	4	16	3	27	
65—75	...		5	12	15	7	39	
Over 75	...		16	9	11	9	45	
Totals all ages ...			30	30	53	22	135	
Uncert.	M.	...	—	—	1	2	3	
	F.	...	—	1	1	—	2	
Infant	M.	...	1	—	4	—	5	} 135
	F.	...	2	1	—	—	3	
Adult	M.	...	13	15	23	13	64	
	F.	...	14	14	26	9	63	

The chief causes of Death are set out in the following Tables :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.						M.	F.
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tub. of resp. system	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Ac. infl. enceph	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cancer of buc. and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Intra-cran. vasc. lesions	...	...	...	...	...	6	10
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	16	14
Other dis. of circ. system	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other resp. dis.	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other digestive dis.	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Road Traffic Accident	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	11	14
						69	66
TOTAL						...	135

INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 8 deaths of infants under one year of age as compared with 14 in 1941. The Infant Mortality Rate is 64.5 per thousand births compared with 93.9 for 1941.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1942.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & upward
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	12	—	—	3	6	3	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	15	—	—	2	7	3	3	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	39	2	2	1	10	6	10	8	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	5	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—
Erysipelas ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles ...	6	1	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	81	3	2	12	26	12	16	9	1

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year under review.

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1942 :—

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Urban District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
35—45 ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	3	2	—	2	4	3	—	—

		Cases Notified	Deaths
Gilesgate Ward ...	...	1	1
Leazes Ward ...	...	2	2
Priestpottle Ward ...	...	2	3
Hencotes Ward ...	...	2	1
		7	7

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Does not differ in essentials from the report of the previous year.

Diphtheria Immunisation, 1942.

	Total number of Children Immunised	Pre-School Children	School Children
Diphtheria Immunisation	258	101	157

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Bakehouse Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Choked Drains ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Disinfection at Schools...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Disinfestation of Rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Evacuation visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Farm Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Filthy Houses—Visits and Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Housing Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
House-to-House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
House-to-House Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Infectious Disease Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Knackers' Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Markets and Marts	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Milk Shops, Dairies, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Military Billets Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
New Drainage Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Public Health Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Public Health Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Reconstructed Drainage Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Slaughter House	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Shops, Foodstores, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	319
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Various Nuisance Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Verminous Houses and Re-Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Water Supply (not Housing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Total							1,416

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED, 1942.

Hexham Urban District. Inspector—W. M. ALDER.		After Letter or Interview	After Informal Notice	After Statutory Notice	Total
Sanitary Conveniences	Privies abolished ...	1	...	...	1
	" repaired ...	...	...	...	...
	Privy ashpits abolished ...	...	...	...	...
	" " roofed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...
	Pail-closets abolished ...	1	...	...	1
	Water closets provided ...	10	1	...	11
	" " repaired ...	9	19	...	28
Drainage	Sanitary bins provided ...	2	2	...	4
	" " renewed ...	12	2	...	14
	New drains constructed ...	8	...	...	8
	Drains repaired or reconstructed ...	12	5	...	17
	Additional gullies provided ...	18	2	...	20
	Old gullies replaced... ...	2	...	...	2
	Scullery sinks provided ...	1	...	...	1
Water supply	" waste pipes repaired ...	11	3	...	14
	" " trapped ...	3	...	...	3
	Yards repaired or reconstructed ...	...	1	...	1
	Sources closed or discontinued, — No. of houses affected, —				
	New service provided ...	3	"	"	1

D.—HOUSING.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1942.

		With State Assistance	Unaided	TOTAL
(a)	By Local Authority ...	—	—	—
(b)	By other Bodies or Persons ...	—	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION, 1942.

UN SOUND FOOD.		Surrendered		Seized	Legal Pro- ceedings
		st.	lbs.		
Beef (home-killed) ...	...	3147	4	—	—
" (Imported) ...	...	—	—	—	—
Mutton (home-killed) ...	...	161	—	—	—
" (Imported) ...	...	5	1	—	—
Pork ...	...	84	—	—	—
Bacon ...	...	—	—	—	—
Fruit ...	...	—	—	—	—
Other Foods ...	...	69	2½	—	—
Canned Foods (No. of tins 1862)	...	210	3	—	—
TOTAL ...		3676	10½		

URBAN DISTRICT OF HEXHAM, 1942.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Laundries)	21	3	—
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' premises)	13	—	—
TOTAL	34	3	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prose- cutions were instituted (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	...	...
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	...	...	...
Sanitary { insufficient	...	...	...	...
Conveniences { unsuitable, defective	2	2	...	...
(S.7) { not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
Other offences	4	4	...	...
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
Total	10	10	...	...

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Section 6 (1) and (4).

Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district	...	26
Approximate number of cows kept	... ..	450

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Supplementary Licences Granted (Pasteurised Milk)	3
---	---

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Renewals of Licence to Slaughter	... ..	10
New Licences Granted	... ..	2

DISINFECTION.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	... ..	4
Cases of Scarlet Fever	... ..	12
„ „ Tuberculosis	... ..	2
„ „ Cancer	... ..	2
„ „ Diphtheria	... ..	15
„ „ Erysipelas	... ..	2
„ „ Chicken Pox	... ..	—
School Rooms and Outbuildings, etc.	... ..	2
Library Books destroyed (bundles)	... ..	1
Other Rooms and Outbuildings, etc.	... ..	8
Small Articles disinfected	... ..	11
Mattresses and Eiderdowns	... ..	7
Pillows	... ..	9
Blankets	... ..	14
Bedding destroyed (lots)	... ..	1
Other bedding, beds, etc., when required	... ..	4
Vehicles	... ..	5



