

[Report 1939] / Medical Officer of Health, Keswick U.D.C.

Contributors

Keswick (Cumbria, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1939

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Keswick
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspector.



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Keswick Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1939, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received October, 1940. Under instructions a considerable curtailment has been effected.

The late publication of the report is regretted. It is scarcely necessary to say that the delay has been unavoidable—much of it being due to the extra duties thrust on the local authority owing to emergency measures and the war. These duties have fallen, of course, largely on the shoulders of officials, but members of the Council and other workers have assisted with commendable zeal and willingness, which I consider ought not to pass unrecognised.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres) 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1939), 4,376
(see page 5)

Number of inhabited houses (end 1939), according to Rate Books, 1,419.

Rateable Value, £34,730.

Sum represented by Penny Rate, £136 7s. 1d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	37	19	18	} Birth Rate (R.G.), 10.9
	Illegitimate	1	1	0	
Still Births		6	3	3	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births, 136.3

		Total	M.	F.	
Deaths		67	28	39	Crude Death Rate (R.G.) 14.3 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Childbirth) :

		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis		0	nil.
Other puerperal Causes		2	45.5
Total		2	45.5

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	nil.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	nil.
Illegitimate ,, illegitimate ,,	nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
,, Cancer	8

KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1939.

The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 1,272.

Social conditions and local industries remain as hitherto. (Unemployment figures will be seen under "Public Assistance"—post).

Meteorological Conditions.—These are shown in a report by Mr. Tom Wilson, Official Observer to the Meteorological Office and Air Ministry, and given at the end of this report.

POPULATION

Population exposed to Risk (figures provided by the Registrar General) :

For Birth Rates : The estimated resident population, including non-civilians, as at the middle of the year was 4,376 (the figure for 1938 was 4,369).

For General Death Rates and incidence of notifiable disease : A population estimate constructed as as to allow for the exclusion of non-civilians during the last quarter and for the different areal assignment of deaths adopted for the first three and last quarters, respectively, was 4,663.

For Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates : Special figures are given—shown under Live Births in table on page 8—on which the calculations are based.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

In the Keswick Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 39, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 120 of the population, as compared with 1 in 95 in 1938.

Six persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 777 of the population, as compared with 1 in 2,184 in 1938.

The numbers for 1939 are detailed as follows:—

	Out-door Relief		Total	Indoor Relief
	Ordinary	Unemployed		
Keswick U.D.	34	5	39	6

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS.—There were 38 Live Births (20 males and 18 females) registered as belonging to the district; of these one male was illegitimate.

The Live Birth Rate was accordingly 8.6 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 10.9 for the previous year. The rate is rather a low one. Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Birth Rates, 1939—Cumberland	15.9
Rural Districts of Cumberland...	15.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland .	16.6
England and Wales ...	15.0
Keswick Urban District ...	8.6

The percentage of Illegitimate Live Births was 2.6, as compared with 4.1 in 1938.

				M	F	M	F
				1	M etc.	B	R
LIVE BIRTHS	{	TOTAL ...	...	21	19	20	18
		Legitimate ...	...	20	19	19	18
		Illegitimate ...	...	1	—	1	—
STILL BIRTHS	{	TOTAL ...	...	3	—	3	—
		Legitimate ...	...	3	—	3	—
		Illegitimate ...	...	—	—	—	—
POPULATION (for Births and Deaths)—1939—R.G.—							
(a) for B.R.				...	...	4,376	...
(b) for D.R.'s and incidences of notifiable diseases				...	...	4,663	...

STILL BIRTHS.—6 still births (all legitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 1.37 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .45 for 1938. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.60).

The still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births was 136.3, as compared with 40.0 for 1938.

DEATHS

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Keswick was 67. This gives a crude death rate of 14.3 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14.8 for the previous year. (The Adjusting or Areal or Comparability Factor was again .80). The resulting adjusted death rate (see below) for Keswick will be noticed to be 2.9 below the crude death rate.

Comparisons :—				Crude	Adjusted
Death Rates, 1939—	Cumberland	...	...	13.4	12.9
	Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	13.2	12.0
	Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	13.7	13.8
	England and Wales	...	...	12.1	—
	Keswick Urban District	...	...	14.3	11.4

INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were no deaths among infants under one year of age, so that the Infantile Mortality Rate was nil. per 1,000 births, as compared with 62.5 (3 deaths) for 1938.

The Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate births, and the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births, were therefore each nil, also. These latter rates were respectively nil, and 65.2 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1939 :—

Cumberland	...	...	...	56
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	55
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	56
England and Wales...	...	...	...	50
Keswick Urban District	...	...	...	Nil.

SENILE DEATH RATE

42 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 62.6 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 61.5 for 1938.

Out of the total 42 deaths :—

7	(f.)	persons died between the ages of 65 and 70 years
12 (5 m. 7 f.)	"	" " 70 and 75 years
9 (3 m. 6 f.)	"	" " 75 and 80 years
8 (3 m. 5 f.)	"	" " 80 and 85 years
6 (1 m. 5 f.)	"	" " 85 and 90 years

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year, there were 2 inquests. An inquest was also held within the district in respect of 1 non-resident.

No Coroner's certificates were received of cases where post-mortem examination had been made, but no inquest held.

3 deaths were uncertified.

VIOLENCE.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0.42 per 1,000 of the population in the Keswick Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Other Violence and the Total Violence Deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates from each per 1,000 of the population :—

	Suicide		Other Violence		Total Violence	
	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938
Deaths ...	nil.	nil.	2	4	2	4
% of all causes	nil.	nil.	2.98	6.15	2.98	6.15
Death Rate ...	nil.	nil.	.42	.91	.42	.91

The 2 Violence deaths during the year include 1 due to road accident and 1 to drowning.

CANCER

Cancer proved fatal in 8 cases, as follows :—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females	Years
Alimentary ...	Stomach	1	3	52, 61, 68, 69
Glandular ...	Breast		1	58
	Thyroid	1		57
Osseous ...	Spine		1	56
	Jaw and Mouth		1	67
Totals		2	6	

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 1.7 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 1.8 in 1938.

Approximately out of every 8 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS

(Vide also page 16).

There were 3 deaths due to Tuberculosis :—

	Males	Females
Respiratory System ...	0	3
Non-Pulmonary ...	0	0

These were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of 0.64 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.45 for 1938.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) death rate is also 0.64 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.45 for 1938.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer, is a Fellow of the Chartered Surveyors' Institute (by examination), and possesses the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and the Special Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Mr. Ronald Thompson acted as general assistant in the Surveyor's Office until the outbreak of war. Soon afterwards a temporary junior clerk was appointed.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with the investigations of certain cases of illness during the year 1939 :—

Material	Test applied for :	Result :	
		Pos.	Neg.
Throat or Nose Swabs	Diphtheria	0	4
	Hæmolytic Streptococci	0	1
Sputum	Tuberculosis	0	5
Cerebro-spinal Fluid	"	0	1
Fæces	Bacillary Dysentery	Atypical	

Speaking generally, other particulars relating to Health Services (e.g. Hospitals, Nursing, Maternity, Ambulance Facilities, etc.), remained unchanged.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.

This essential service has again proved satisfactory during the year. Three samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis—one at the source and two from house taps in the town. The analyst reported the water to be of very high purity.

WATER MAINS.

The Surveyor informs me there were no extensions but the following work was done during 1939 :—

BURR GHYLL SUPPLY.—350 yards of the main supply from Burr Ghyll were relaid, and all the spur lines taken up, cleaned, and relaid. This provided an increased supply to Underscar Reservoir.

ORMATHWAITE MAIN.—About 175 yards of this old water main were replaced by new 5-inch concrete lined spun iron pipes.

OVERFLOW—UNDERSCAR TO ORMATHWAITE RESERVOIR.—The old pipes conveying the overflow from Underscar to Ormathwaite Reservoir, comprising 400 yards, were replaced by 6-inch concrete pipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No sewer extensions were carried out in 1939. The Surveyor informs me the sewage effluent from the Outfall Works was satisfactory, and that several market gardeners and farmers continued to cart away the dried sludge for their own use, free of cost.

Closest Accommodation.—Unchanged.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly.

The refuse tip on "The Cass" was still in use, but is becoming so filled up that the question of an alternative site should not be long deferred.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The sanitary inspection of the district is undertaken by Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer. It is with pleasure I record my appreciation of his willing co-operation. The zeal he shows in all things pertaining to the welfare of Keswick is worthy of note. I gratefully acknowledge his assistance in the making of this report.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926.

Premises inspected during the year	...	...	...	...	186
Nuisances or defects discovered	...	...	...	...	162
Do. do. remedied after informal notice	...	...	...	...	121
Do. do. do. statutory "	...	...	...	...	23
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	92
Factories Inspections	...	...	...	...	41

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1939, and it will be seen that 21 premises were registered. 51 Inspections by the Sanitary Inspector revealed 8 defects which were all remedied.

Premises	Number	Inspections	Defects Found	Written Notices	Defects Remedied	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power	7	19	2	2	2	—
Factories without mechanical power	14	32	6	6	6	—
Other Premises under the Act	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	21	51	8	8	8	—

Under Section 34, one Certificate of Adequate means of Escape in case of Fire was issued during the year.

SHOPS.

There were 156 Shops on the register, and periodical inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector. In three instances, after negotiation, necessary separate w.c. accommodation was provided.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County Council. Poison is available at the Council Offices free of charge. The refuse tip continues to be occasionally baited with rat poison.

Since the outbreak of war, this Act has added importance in view of the necessity to conserve food supplies.

HOUSING

Housing conditions relating to working class dwellings remain as reported the previous year, and little progress was made in dealing with unfit houses owing to lack of alternative accommodation.

Contracts were signed for the erection of 20 additional houses on the Brigham Estate during the year, but these were not proceeded with owing to the outbreak of war.

24 new houses were completed in this district during the year:—

(a) 6 erected by the Council on the Brigham Estate;

(b) 18 built by private enterprise:—

Limepots Road	4
Springs Road Area	6
The Hawthorns, Penrith Road ...	2
Lake Road	1
Lonsties Estate, Ambleside Road...	2
Fenton Estate	2
Halls Mead	1

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS') ACT, 1926.

This temporary Act, which was due to expire 24th June, 1938, has been extended to 30th September, 1942—no action was taken under it in 1939.

HOUSING APPENDIX

(in accordance with Circular 1728 Ministry of Health, 25th Oct., 1938).

STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	97
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	121
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	34
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	52
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	8
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... ..	21

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	20
---	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	12
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... ..	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... ..	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	11
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein	12
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	69
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year ...	0
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year ...	2
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	11
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY.

There were 6 registered milk-sellers whose premises were within the Urban District, all being producers and retailers. Inspections are made periodically. One producer erected a large up-to-date byre capable of housing 48 dairy cows.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 9 of such producers and retailers during 1939.

The table below gives the results of 16 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the 16 samples, 6 were satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows :—

	Satisfactory according to Accredited Standard*	Unsatisfactory according to Accredited Standard*	Total
Samples produced in Urban District	4	4	8
“ “ outside “	2	6	8
	—	—	—
	6	10	16

The 10 unsatisfactory samples comprised :—

- 5 failing the Methylene Blue Reduction test only ;
- 1 “ B. Coli test only (i.e., showing B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes out of 3), and
- 4 “ Combined test.

(Three of these were borderline cases, one belonging the U.D.)

All samples tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli proved negative.

On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by veterinary officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am kindly informed by Mr. John Cameron, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, that in so far as the Urban District of Keswick was concerned, no cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, during the year under review.

The only milk sold under “ Special Designation ” in the Keswick Urban District was by Storms Dairy, Ltd., retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There were still 4 private slaughter-houses (1 registered and 3 licensed). Frequent inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspector, and it is pleasing to report a very low percentage of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Condemnation included 1 whole carcase of beef (Tuberculosis) ; 1½ stone Filleted Haddock (putrefaction) and 1 turkey (putrefaction).

In the Keswick Urban District there are 14 slaughtermen licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

BAIRHOUSES.—In this district there were 7 in 1939 ; these were occasionally inspected and generally found in cleanly condition.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1939, in the Keswick Urban District (including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis), was 4 (excluding 1 Whooping Cough). One of the four was a tubercular case.

(Vide post re notification of Measles and Whooping Cough).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1939.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases notified 1939 admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	1	0	1
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	0
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary			
Males	0	0	0
Females	1	0 (San.)	0
Total	1	0 "	0
Non-Pulmonary			
Males	0	0 "	0
Females	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable Diseases, 1939 :—

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Whooping Cough												1	1
Pneumonia ...					1								1
Erysipelas ...			1									1	2
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary ...											1		1
Other Forms ...													0

From notifications received it is deducted that approximately one in every 1,166 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chicken-pox, Meales and Whooping Cough excluded) and the Tuberculosis Regulations. (Last year's figure, 1 in 437, and in 1928 it was 1 in 177).

There were no cases of Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever during 1939. Comparison case and death rates are given as follows :—

Scarlet Fever—The case rate and death rate per 1,000 of the population were both nil.—the same as in 1938. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1939) were 1.59 and .01.

Diphtheria—The case rate and death rate were both nil.—the same as for the three previous years. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1939) were 1.14 and .05. No Schick Tests or general immunisation scheme was carried out.

No case of Puerperal Pyrexia was recorded. The case rate for this disease (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is :—Puerperal Pyrexia, nil. per 1,000 total births (i.e., live and still births) registered during the year—the same as for the previous eight years. The corresponding rate (1939) for England and Wales was 14.35.

Two maternal deaths occurred—corresponding, therefore to a Maternal Mortality Rate of 45.5 per 1,000 total (live and still births), as compared with nil. in 1938. (There were only two maternal deaths, i.e., of women dying in, or in consequence of, child birth, in the five previous years, viz., in 1931). The rate (1939) for England and Wales was 2.82 (all causes).

PNEUMONIA.—One notification was received. The deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) numbered 4.

There were no notifications of typhoid (including Para-typhoid) Fever, Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Encephalitis, Lethargica, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations only one case (female) of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (and nil. of the other forms) was notified. No case was admitted to Sanatorium from Keswick during the year.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1939 :—

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34—45 ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55 ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
55—65 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 —& upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 10

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1939 was as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	6	5	11
Non-pulmonary...	3	10	13
All Cases ...	9	15	24

No action has been required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relates to powers regarding persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, and in an infectious state, and employed in connexion with a dairy or the handling of milk or milk vessels.

With reference to the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, regarding compulsory removal to hospital or institution, no action has been taken.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Measles and Whooping Cough.—Under Special Regulations of the Ministry of Health, these two diseases were added to the list of Notifiable Infectious Diseases as from 1st November, 1939. By the end of the year one case of Whooping Cough, only, was notified. Again, no death occurred from either disease.

Influenza was prevalent in the winter months, in particular. 2 deaths occurred, equivalent to an influenza death rate of 0.42 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 1 death recorded and a death rate of .22 in 1938. (The rate, 1939, for all England and Wales was .21).

There were no school closures due to epidemic disease during the year.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION

Height above sea level, 254 ft. Lat. 54° 36' N. Long. 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1939

	RAINFALL				SUNSHINE			
	AMOUNT Inches	DAYS	Greatest Fall on one day	Average 37 years	AMOUNT HOURS	DAYS	Average 37 years	
Jan. ...	8.83	on 21	1.57 on 14th	6.53	40.7	on 16	34.9	
Feb. ...	8.16	.. 20	1.82 .. 8th	4.66	42.4	.. 17	53.6	
March ...	8.58	.. 18	1.48 .. 1st	4.04	90.1	.. 23	99.7	
April ...	2.94	.. 16	.68 .. 15th	2.95	169.4	.. 27	131.5	
May ...	.79	.. 8	.46 .. 14th	3.18	205.7	.. 28	176.7	
June ...	4.68	.. 13	1.31 .. 28th	3.27	245.8	.. 25	179.9	
July ...	7.69	.. 23	1.47 .. 28th	4.31	125.2	.. 27	159.9	
August ..	3.43	.. 11	.73 .. 2nd	4.94	154.7	.. 30	142.9	
Sept. ...	1.80	.. 9	.71 .. 18th	4.27	88.2	.. 27	125.1	
October..	3.20	.. 15	.83 .. 11th	6.69	101.7	.. 27	80.7	
Nov. ...	9.46	.. 21	1.29 .. 14th	5.66	30.4	.. 15	25.8	
Dec. ...	2.76	.. 9	.76 .. 1st	6.53	37.5	.. 20	26.1	
Totals ...	59.32	.. 184		57.02	1331.8	.. 282	1259.3	

TEMPERATURES

	HIGHEST MAXIMUM (in screen)	LOWEST MAXIMUM (in screen)	LOWEST MINIMUM (on grass)	Nights Frost	Wind at Gale Force	Snow Lying
Jan.	56.0 on 8th	20.0 on 5 & 6	13.0 on 5 & 6	19	...	1
Feb.	55.0 .. 9th	16.0 .. 3rd	14.0 .. 2 & 3	10	...	...
Mar. ...	56.0 .. 9th	30.0 .. 1 & 20	23.0 .. 20th	12	...	...
April	70.0 .. 11th	27.0 .. 7th	14.0 .. 7th	10	...	...
May	74.0 .. 31st	38.0 .. 2 & 3	30.0 .. 4th	2	...	...
June	82.0 .. 5th	38.0 .. 2nd	33.0 .. 2nd	...	...	...
July	72.0 .. 4th	41.0 .. 11th	37.0 .. 11th	...	...	...
Aug.	77.0 .. 17th	43.0 .. 13th	35.0 .. 13th	...	...	...
Sept.	73.0 .. 2nd	33.0 .. 28th	27.0 .. 28th	3	...	...
Oct....	61.0 .. 7th	26.0 .. 26th	19.0 .. 20th	15	...	...
Nov.	56.0 .. 7th	31.0 .. 20th	25.0 .. 24th	7	2	...
Dec.	58.0 .. 10th	18.0 .. 29th	16.0 .. 18 & 19	17	...	4
				95	2	5

	WIND					EARTH TEMPERATURES			
	Calm	North Quadrant	South Quadrant	East Quadrant	West Quadrant	Highest 1 ft.	Lowest 1 ft.	Highest 4 ft.	Lowest 4 ft.
January ...	9	7	4	5	6	42.1	35.5	45.1	42.5
February ...	4	2	11	1	10	45.2	35.0	43.3	41.7
March ...	4	8	7	2	10	43.5	39.0	44.1	43.0
April ...	6	6	10	2	6	49.7	41.5	46.5	43.3
May ...	13	6	7	3	2	59.4	46.0	51.0	46.5
June ...	10	6	4	6	4	62.5	56.0	54.9	51.1
July ...	15	...	10	1	5	62.3	57.5	57.1	55.0
August ...	20	1	5	1	4	63.0	57.1	58.7	57.2
September ...	16	5	4	3	2	63.0	52.1	59.4	57.3
October ...	12	2	6	9	2	51.7	43.5	57.1	51.4
November ...	8	...	10	1	11	48.2	43.2	51.0	47.8
December ...	16	3	8	1	3	46.3	36.5	48.4	44.8
	133	46	86	35	65				

ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION

November 2nd and 3rd, 1931,	6.16 inches in 36 hours
November 3rd, 1931,	4.86 "
November 12th, 1938,	3.37 "
November 4th, 1926,	3.32 inches in 9½ hours
December 24th, 1925,	3.50 "
August 2nd, 1923,	3.00 "
July 13th, 1932,	2.56 inches in 5 hours
December 2nd, 1902,	3.12 "

SUNDRY NOTES

Thunder heard, 12 days
 Lightning observed 9 days.
 Thunderstorm with precipitation, 5 days.
 Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 2 days.
 More than 1 inch of rain fell on 9 days.
 More than 2 inches of rain fell on 0 days.
 Warmest day, 82° on June 5th.
 Coldest night, 16° on Dec. 18th and 19th.

TOM WILSON,
 Observer to K.U.D.C. and Air Ministry.

THE WEATHER OF 1939

The year from weather point was uneventful ; there was rather more rain than average, but there were more fine days. The only flood occurred early in the year, but was not severe.

There was more sunshine than average, only one moderate gale, very little snow, and not a day registered any abnormal rain.

Crops were good and were well housed ; there was plenty of hay ; bees worked hard and honey was plentiful.

The meagre rainfall of May and early June lowered the level of the lake : a new low water mark was inserted $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches lower than 1887.

The Solar Eclipse on April 19th was observed in perfect conditions.

JANUARY	A flood on the 8th. General cold, with snow and sleet showers. A wet month.
FEBRUARY	Another wet month.
MARCH	Rainfall above average.
APRIL	A fine month, with plenty of bright sunshine. Frost on ten nights.
MAY	Very dry ; 22 rainless days ; sunshine well above average.
JUNE	Rainfall above average, mostly due to one bad day. Extraordinary sunshine record : 245.8 hours, 30 per cent. above average. Many warm days, and the warmest of the year 82.0 on the fifth.
JULY	A wet month, 78 per cent. above normal ; rain on 23 days ; a few thunderstorms, thunder heard on five days.
AUGUST	A fairly good month ; less rain and more than normal sunshine. Thunderstorms with heavy rain on 8th, 10th and 19th.
SEPTEMBER	17 consecutive fine days, mainly dull and cloudy ; deficiency of sunshine.
OCTOBER	Fine, beautiful autumn days. The autumn tints were the feature of a delightful month.
NOVEMBER	Very wet. Rainfall 67 per cent. above normal. A gale on the 25th and morning of the 26th.
DECEMBER	A fine month. Rainfall 60 per cent. below average ; 16 consecutive fine days ; slight snow on the night of the 27th ; 17 nights frost. As the year closed prospect of skating.

