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Contributors

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**LEEK RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year 1961

November 1962



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Leek Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1961

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. HAMMOND

Members:

Councillor	J. T. Barks	Councillor	H. Mear
"	G. Biddle	"	A. Mellor
"	F. E. Brocklehurst	"	T. Riley
"	H. Cotton	"	A. M. Robinson
"	C. R. Critchlow	"	Mrs. M. Robson
"	H. Ford (died March 1962)	"	G. Shufflebotham
"	R. G. Grindon	"	Mrs. G. Sigley
"	J. Harrison	"	J. G. Stubbs
"	T. Hine	"	W. G. S. Stubbs
"	S. E. Hulme	"	J. Torr
"	S. Jackson	"	F. Tunnicliffe

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector:

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

OFFICES

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 18, Stockwell Street, Leek,
Staffs. (Tel.: Leek 1061)

REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,479
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£138,424
Net product of 1d. rate for year ended 31/3/61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£549/6/5
Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,640
Number of persons per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.270

INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	179	156	346
Illegitimate	1	2	3
	<hr/> 180	<hr/> 158	<hr/> 349

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population — 17.41 (17.4)

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> —	<hr/> 3

Rate per 1,000 of the population — .15 (.33)

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	100	83	183

Death rate per 1,000 of the population — 11.63 (12.0)

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 6

Death rate per 1,000 live births — 21.49 (21.4)

(The rates for England and Wales are shown in parenthesis)

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Cases on Register 31/12/60 ...	56	38	94	6	7	13	62	45	107
New Cases notified during year ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
	57	38	95	6	7	13	63	45	108
Cases removed from Register during year ...	3	4	7	—	—	—	3	4	7
Cases on Register 31/12/61 ...	54	34	88	6	7	13	60	41	101

For purposes of comparison I give below the details of new notifications for the six years — 1956-1961.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1961 ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
1960 ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
1959 ...	4	1	5	1	1	2	5	2	7
1958 ...	5	3	8	—	—	—	5	3	8
1957 ...	—	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	4
1956 ...	3	4	7	2	1	3	5	5	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1960 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:—

	1961	1960	1959	1958
Measles ...	279	34	339	58
Whooping Cough ...	6	47	1	5
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	8	2	2	6
Scarlet Fever ...	4	13	26	15
Erysipelas ...	—	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	21	1	5	6
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	1
Acute Encephalitis (P.I.) ...	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	2	6	3	4
Tuberculosis — Pulmonary ...	1	2	6	8
Tuberculosis — Non. Pul. ...	—	—	1	—
Total Cases ...	323	106	384	104

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis (N. P.)	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal Infection
Alstonefield	4								
Bagnall	11								
Bradnop		1							
Butterton									
Endon and Stanley	69		2			9			
Fawfieldhead	1								
Grindon									
Heathylee	2								
Heaton	1			1					
Hollinsclough				1					
Horton	17		1					2	
Ilam	13								
Leekfrith	1								
Longnor	8								
Longsdon	5	1				10			
Norton-in-the-Moors	113	3	1	1	1	1	1		1
Onecote	3		1						
Quarnford	8			1					
Rushton						1			
Sheen	8								
Tittesworth	2	1	3						
Warslow and Elkstones	10								
Wetton	3								
Total	279	6	8	4	1	21	1	2	1
Months of Occurrence									
January	24	4	2	1					
February	46		3						
March	18		1						
April	19		1						
May	25		1						
June	51	1		1		16			
July	86					4			1
August	9			1				2	
September	1								
October		1			1				
November							1		
December				1		1			
Total	279	6	8	4	1	21	1	2	1

Age of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Acute Poliomyelitis		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Meningococcal Infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	8	5	1	2																1
1 to 2 years	28	25		1			1		1		1	1								
3 to 4 years	36	32									2	2								
5—9 years	62	69	1		1	1					5	2								
10—14 years	8	5									2	1								
15—24 years	1														1					
25—44 years												3		1						
45—64 years														1						
65 and over																				
Total (all ages)	143	136	2	4	4	4	1	3	1	—	12	9	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL — Male and Female	279		6		8		4		1		21		2		1		—		1	

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1961

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms ...	8	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	16	18
Coronary disease, angina	18	11
Hypertension with heart disease	—	—
Other heart disease	8	18
Other circulatory disease	3	4
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	8	2
Bronchitis	8	2
Other disease of respiratory system ...	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	3	8
Motor Vehicle accidents	—	1
All other accidents	1	2
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
Total — all causes	100	83

Sanitary inspection of the Area —

Summary of Visits

HOUSING:

(a) Inspection for defects	89
(b) Council House applicants	17
(c) Moveable dwellings	18
(d) Housing Inspections	92
(e) Improvement Grant applicants	217
(f) Rent Act	2
	— 435

GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances	36
Food premises	2
Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard	722
Drainage inspections	174
Privy conversions	99
Water supplies — general	59
Samples of water taken	37
Shops	102
Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal	266
Infectious diseases	40
Fumigations and Infestations	5
Rodent control	129
Factories	47
Petroleum stores	74
Swimming pool	7
Miscellaneous	103
Ice Cream Shops	2
Milk Supply	6
	— 2,345

NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices	67
	Statutory Notices	5
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied .	11
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices ...	33

WATER SUPPLIES

EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

Section "A" Part 1

Twelve new connections were made during the year making a total of 187 properties connected as follows:—

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	57*	31	16
ILAM	16	11	8
WETTON	25	17	6
	—	—	—
	98	59	30

(* One stand-tap serves 5 properties)

Section "A" Part 2

Progress with this, the major portion of the Eastern Parishes Water Scheme which was commenced in June 1959, continued during the year under review, and it is anticipated that it will be completed during the latter part of 1962.

HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Eleven new connections were made during the year making a total of 212 properties connected as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ENDON AND STANLEY ...	15	4	—
HORTON	103	39	4
LONGSDON	31	12	4
	—	—	—
	149	55	8

RUSHTON WATER SUPPLY

The water supply scheme to serve parts of the parishes of Rushton and Heaton was commenced in April of this year. A bulk supply is to be taken from the Leek Urban District Council's bore-hole at Pool End which will be pumped to a 75,000 gallon storage reservoir at Fair Edge Hill, Heaton. The length of mains to be laid is approximately 10 miles.

BOTTOMHOUSE WATER SUPPLY

This scheme to serve the several small-holdings in the Bottom-house area was commenced in October. The work involved consists of the laying of approximately 1,500 yards of main and a supply is to be taken in bulk from the Cheadle Rural District Council's main.

SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Thirty-three samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and four for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below:—

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit
Well	5	1	4	—	—	—
Spring	19	9	10	4	3	1
Borehole	3	2	1	—	—	—
Stream	1	—	1	—	—	—
Public Mains	3	2	1	—	—	—
Pools	2	—	2	—	—	—
Total	33	14	19	4	3	1

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No extensions to the public sewers were carried out during the year under review.

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 7 applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £133.

Further to the above under the Improvement Grant conditions, 45 conversions were carried out as part of the improvements.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish of the district by direct labour and tipping is carried out at the various village tips which are levelled and tidied from time to time.

The tip at Stockton Brook is now taking the bulk of the refuse and tipping is carried out without nuisance to the neighbourhood. A full time tip attendant levels and covers all refuse immediately and also keeps the tip rat-free. The site is comparatively dry and there is no smell nuisance. The method of tipping prevents overheating and any fires are quickly brought under control.

During the year 266 visits and inspections in respect of Refuse Collection were made by the Public Health Officers.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER:—

Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Non-Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE 47

Only two factories are of any size.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

HOUSING

Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts	Nil
Parts of Buildings closed	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957	Nil

Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts	33
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil

Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil
---	-----

Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders)	Nil
--	-----

New Houses Erected during the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise	116
(b) By Local Authority	Nil
	116

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Number of Applications received during the year	32	27
Number of Applications in abeyance from previous year	1	—
Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of:—		
(a) Improvements to existing houses	25	24
(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation	—	—
Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant	£13,909.14.6	—
Total value of Improvement Grants approved	£6,523.0.0	£3,020
Number of Improvement Grant Applications refused or withdrawn	1	2
Number of Applications in abeyance	7	1
Number of Improvement works completed during the year...	31	17

Of the 49 grants approved 39 were in respect of owner occupied property and 10 in respect of tenanted property.

RODENT CONTROL

The Public Sewers and Refuse Tips were treated as necessary and the rat population was kept to a minimum.

The Council's Sewage Works were successfully treated on occasions throughout the year and the infestations kept under control.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was increasingly made use of and in appropriate cases as an economy measure, bait suitable for mice clearance was issued to householders.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Forty-four licences were issued for the bulk storage of 74,050 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Carcases inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1087	5	6840	418	—
Number inspected	1087	5	6840	418	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	127	—	619	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.68	—	9.04	.23	—
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	.18	—	—	1.19	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	4	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:—

(a) Tuberculosis	90 lbs.
(b) Other diseases or conditions	2,095 lbs.
	<hr/> 2,185 lbs. <hr/>

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

18lb. Corned Beef; 25lb. Ox Kidneys; 84lb. Beef; 6lb. Ox Tongue; 3½lb. Ham; 3½lb. Dressed Duck.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Eighty-nine premises are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Four cases of suspected food poisoning were notified during the year, two of which were confirmed.

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector



