

[Report 1942] / Medical Officer of Health, Matlock U.D.C.

Contributors

Matlock (England). Urban District Council.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF MATLOCK.

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Matlock Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

My Annual Report for the Year 1942 is again seriously curtailed in accordance with the Ministry of Health instructions as given in Circular 2773.

Population, estimated by Registrar General. ... 17,180

STATISTICS.

	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. ...	14.92	15.94
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births. ...	52.08	24.91
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. ...	12.15	11.99
Infant Mortality Rates :-		
All Infants per 1,000 live births. ...	54.94	47.44
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births. ...	50.19	48.58
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births. ...	142.85	37.03

MEAT INSPECTION UNDER CONTROL SCHEME.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

by the Meat Inspectors of Matlock and Bakewell Urban and Bakewell Rural District Councils.

	<u>Cattle</u>		<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
	1941	1942			
Number Inspected. ...	2,479	2,494	107	7,135	181
All diseases except Tuberculosis :-					
Whole carcases condemned. ...	23	56	12	19	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. ...	288	230	4	22	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis. ...	12.54	11.46	14.95	0.57	2.21
Tuberculosis only :-					
Whole carcases condemned. ...	69	115	2	0	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. ...	277	376	1	0	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis. ...	13.95	19.68	2.80	0	1.65

The increase in the number of cattle found to be affected with tuberculosis is probably due to several causes. Firstly, farmers are now encouraged in various ways to "cull" any cows which are not giving satisfactory milk production or are not thriving. Many of these animals are found to have signs of early tuberculosis. Secondly, a latent infection is liable to become active if good nutrition is not maintained. There seems little doubt that many herds have, under the rationing system, not received the foods necessary to maintain full health and resistance to infection.

The weeding out of early tuberculosis is all to the good if due to the first cause, but is to be viewed in a very different light if the increase is mainly due to malnutrition. The remarks of the County Medical Officer of Health in his 1941 annual report on the increase of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in humans have a distinct bearing on this problem.

The elimination of early tuberculosis from the dairy herds should be encouraged by every possible means but this should go hand in hand with better feeding and housing conditions, so that healthy animals resistant to, and free from, disease are the sole source of the country's milk supply.

DIPHTHERIA IMMINISATION.

Monthly clinics were held at the Town Hall from March to October. It was disappointing to find that the attendances were relatively few. In the 5 - 15 year group 77 completed immunisation and in the under 5 year group 118 children attended.

At the end of the year the percentage of school children immunised since the commencement of the scheme was 84.34% while the figure for children of pre-school age was only 44.59%. This latter figure is exceedingly poor, especially when one considers that the greatest risk of infection occurs in the first period a child attends school.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

	1940.	1941.	1942.
Smallpox.	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	20	11	37
Diphtheria.	8	6	3
Pneumonia.	3	11	5
Enteric Fever (including para-typhoid.)	0	3	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.	0	15	18
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	0	2	0
Erysipelas.	2	1	0
Poliomyelitis.	9	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	4	5	3
Tuberculosis (all forms)	19	20	20
Malaria.	0	1	0
Whooping Cough.	22	47	3
Measles.	144	60	9

Included in the above figures for 1942 the following were 'Non-Civilian' cases :-

2 Scarlet Fever.
1 Diphtheria.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. Stoeckli

Medical Officer of Health.

Bath Street,
Bakewell.

13th July, 1943.