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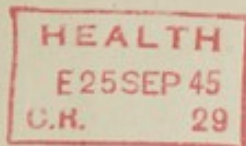
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NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1944.



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OFFICERS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

<u>Office.</u>	<u>Officer.</u>	<u>Qualifications.</u>
Medical Officer of Health.	Guy. B, Picton.	M.B. B.S.
Sanitary Inspector.	John Corney	A.R. San, I. M.S.I.A. Cert. S.I.B.
Senior Health Visitor.	Mrs. D. Linskey.	Health Visitors Cert. R.S.I. C.M.B. S.R.N.
Assistant Health Visitor.	Miss E. Heslop.	Health Visitors Cert. R.S.I. C.M.B., S.R.N.
Clerk.	Mrs. M. Spears.	

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1944.

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my third annual
report.

In accordance with Circulars 10/44 and 49/45 the report
is to be brief and confined to essential and urgent matters which
have affected the public health during the year.

The general health in the district has again been good
but an outbreak of Diphtheria caused us some anxiety and owing to
the virulent type of organisms, we had unfortunately, 6 fatal cases,
5 of these had not been immunised. Of the 118 cases notified,
116 were removed to hospital.

There was a slight outbreak of Scarlet Fever which was of
a comparatively mild type and no deaths were recorded. At one
period owing to beds not being available in the Hospital to which
we normally send our cases, several cases of Scarlet Fever had to
be sent to Hospital in a neighbouring authority's area.

34 cases of pneumonia occurred in the district and
these were largely the influenzal type.

IMMUNISATION :

We have continued the immunisation scheme at the schools
and Infant Welfare Centres.

There are still parents who refuse to take advantage of
our schemes and it is generally children of these people who suffer
most severely. Taken on the whole the schoolchildren themselves
have responded well.

WAR-TIME NURSERY:

This has been going exceedingly well. We had a slight outbreak of German Measles which affected the whole Nursery more or less for about 2 months, but we were able to keep going. Otherwise the childrens' health has been exceptionally good and the staff have worked well.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE :

No. of live births.	407
No. of still births.	6
No. of children who attended Welfare Centres	1158
No. of new cases attending Welfare Centres.	441.

I think people are realising more fully the value of attending the Welfare Centres.

Premature Infants :

There is no delay in removing premature infants to hospital if necessary as the Council acts in accordance with the County Council's recommendations.

Ante-Natal :

Owing to evacuees having to come to this area and receiving preferential treatment at Dilston Hall Maternity Home we were unable for 4 months to send all our cases there. Some of the cases were able to send elsewhere and also we supplied the necessary equipment to those who had to remain at home for confinement.

Illegitimate Children :

We are acting in accordance with the advice given by the Northumberland County Council.

Home Visiting :

The Health Visitors made a total of 2,563 visits.

Scabies :

This infection was less evident than in previous years. Ascabiol and Tetmosol soap have been used with success.

Verminous Persons :

Treatment of verminous persons has been given by this Council. Prompt measures are taken for dealing with such cases. We have used with success Lethane Oil and Ascabiol.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS :

Particulars of district :

Area (in acres)	4,649
Registrar Generals estimate of population	19,390
No. of inhabited houses according to Rate Books.	5,518
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£410.
Rateable value 31st March, 1945.	£104,424.

Extracts from Vital Statistics :

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Live Births (legitimate)	202	187	389
-do- (illegitimate)	12	6	18
Stillbirths.	3	3	6
Deaths	98	115	213
Birth rate per 1,000 population			21.29
Stillbirths per 1,000 live & stillbirths.			14.52
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population.			10.46

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year :

All infants per 1,000 live births.	56.51
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	53.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	111.1

Deaths :

Deaths from Cancer all ages.	26.
" " Measles " "	-
" " Whooping Cough	-
" " Diarrhoea under 2 yrs.	1.

Causes of death in Newburn Area 1944 :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All causes	98	115	213
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-	
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-	
3. Scarlet Fever.	-	-	
4. Whooping Cough.	-	-	
5. Diphtheria.	1	5	
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	6	6	
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis.	-	1	
8. Syphilitic diseases.	-	-	
9. Influenza	-	1	
10. Measles.	-	-	
11. Acute polio myelitis.	-	-	
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-	-	
13. Cancer.	11	15	
14. Diabetes.	-	1	
15. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	10	12	
16. Heart disease.	25	35	
17. Other diseases of Circulatory system.	5	1	
18. Bronchitis.	7	7	
19. Pneumonia.	5	2	
20. Other respiratory diseases	-	-	
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	
22. Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	-	
23. Appendicitis.	1	1	
24. Other digestive diseases.	1	4	
25. Nephritis.	3	3	
26. Puerperal Sepsis.	-	-	
27. Other maternal causes.	-	1	
28. Premature birth.	3	4	
29. Congenital debility, malformation etc.	4	1	
30. Suicide.	-	1	
31. Road traffic accident.	3	1	
32. Other violent causes.	5	3	
33. All other causes,	6	10	

SECTION B :

- (1) Public Health Officials - see page 2.
- (2)
 - a. Laboratory facilities remain the same as in former years.
 - b. Ambulance Service - see Sanitary Inspector's Report.
 - c. Nursing in the home is controlled by the Northumberland County Council.
 - d. The only treatment centre controlled by this authority is the Sun-Ray Clinic.
 - e. There are no hospitals in the area with the exception of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Lemington, administered by the West Northumberland Joint Hospital Board, of which this Council is a constituent member.
- (2) (Medical Officers of Health of Counties and County Boroughs only).

Sections C.D. & E. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Section F :

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious
and Other Diseases.

The following table gives the number and age groups of the cases of Infectious disease notified during the year.

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES - CIVILIANS																Total	Hospit- al	Deaths		
	0 -		1 -		3 -		5 -		10 -		15 -		25 & over		Age unknown						
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F					
Scarlet Fever	-	-	3	2	5	5	13	29	2	10	5	1	1	1	2	-	-	29	49	70	
Whooping Cough.	1	3	2	-	1	4	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	10	-	
Ac. Poliomyelitis	1	1	6	8	10	18	1	29	1	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	42	64	64	-	
Measles.	-	-	2	2	1	9	20	21	20	17	10	10	1	4	-	-	54	64	64	116	
Diphtheria.	0	-	5	-	15	-	45	-	85	8 over	Age unknown	Total									
Ac. Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ac. Eno Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Enteric or typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Opt. Neonatorium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
* Diphtheria	including 1 female		aged 15 -		non civilian																
* Ac. Pneumonia	including 1 male		aged 15 -		non civilian																
																					7

TUBERCULOSIS :

During the year 25 new cases have been notified, 19 pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary.

The following table shows the age distributions of the 25 new cases and of the deaths of persons certified to be due to tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

AGE PERIODS	Cases Notified				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1								
1 - 5			2				1	
5 - 15	1	2	1	1		1		
15 - 25	1	3				2		
25 - 35	3	3	1		1	3		
35 - 45	2	3		1				
45 - 55					2			
55 - 65	1				3			
65 & over								
Total	8	11	4	2	6	6	1	-

Set out below is a table showing new cases notified during the years 1939-44 inclusive. It will be observed that after reaching a comparatively high figure in 1943, a notable decrease is shown in this report.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>New Cases notified.</u>				<u>Total.</u>
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
1939	9	8	4	1	22
1940	13	10	6	5	34
1941	8	3	5	4	20
1942	12	10	5	1	28
1943	22	13	5	5	45
1944	8	11	4	2	25

G.B. PICTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1944.

To Dr. Guy B. Picton M.B., B.S.

Sir,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1944. This report covers the first complete year of my work.

HOUSING :

As in 1943, work in connection with housing defects was limited to the investigation of complaints. Difficulty in getting repairs done was again experienced owing to shortage of labour and materials.

WATER SUPPLY :

Water is supplied to the district by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. and has at all times been satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

All the houses in the area, with the exception of thirteen, have piped supplies, the occupants of these thirteen houses drawing their supply from stand pipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :

No change has been made in the drainage and sewerage systems during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION :

The closet accommodation remains substantially the same as at the end of 1939.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE :

The refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Surveyor's Department.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT :

Routine inspections have had to be curtailed owing to additional work occasioned by the war, but conditions throughout the area are fairly satisfactory.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION :

Owing to centralised slaughtering of cattle, meat inspection is carried out only periodically at Butchers' shops.

The following foods have been condemned and surrendered :-

13 doz. packets flaked oats etc.	4 stones cod.
3 lbs. Self Raising flour.	35 lbs sausage.
3 cwt. Soya flour.	38½ lbs bacon.
50 lbs prunes.	28 " cheese.
144 bottles tomato ketchup	31½ " butter.
32 " Piccalilli.	
6 bottles beetroot.	

Canned Goods :

Pilchards	33	cans.
Sardines	8	"
Milk	1399	"
Beans	11	"
Paste	1	"
Salmon	5	"
Beef loaf etc.	76	"
Jam	2	"

MILK SUPPLY :

Inspection of cowsheds and dairies and milk sampling were carried out as far as possible. The following statement shows the number and result of examinations carried out :-

	<u>Local</u>	<u>Produced outside area.</u>
No. of samples collected	17	17
Samples examined by Methylene Blue Reduction Test	17	12
Samples examined for Tubercle Bacilli	11	6

Methylene Blue Reduction Test :

Of the 17 samples produced in the district 11 or 64.7% were satisfactory.

Of the 12 samples produced outside the district 9 or 75% were satisfactory.

Tubercle Bacilli :

11 samples of milk produced in the district were examined of which 1 was positive.

6 samples of milk produced outside the district were examined of which 1 was positive.

Pasteurised Milk :

5 samples of pasteurised milk were obtained and 1 did not conform with the prescribed standard.

Eradication of bed bugs :

The same steps were taken as in previous years.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA :

The scheme of Public Health Propaganda was continued throughout the year.

BILLETING :

A considerable amount of time had to be given to work in connection with billeting of evacuees and mining trainees. From June until the beginning of September the number of evacuees totalled 501, in the following categories :-

<u>Mothers & Children</u>	<u>Unaccompanied children</u>	<u>Others</u>
140	239	98
		24

In the majority of these cases camp beds and blankets had to be supplied on loan to the householders. We are grateful to the Civil Defence Ambulance Personnel for their help in distributing the equipment. With goodwill on the part of both householders and evacuees we had very few really difficult cases with which to deal.

Preparations had to be made to receive an organised party of 300 evacuees, but owing to a lull in the flying bomb attacks this contingent was not sent. Had it been necessary to deal with this party I am confident that because of the co-operation of the Rest Centre officials, Warden's Service and members of the Council staff we should have been able to carry out the scheme successfully.

Ambulance Service :

During the year the number of patients carried was 2,318 of which 81 were accident cases.

Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining spare parts for repairs and one vehicle was out of commission for 9 months while being overhauled.

J. CORNWY,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.