

**[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Newhaven U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Newhaven (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1944

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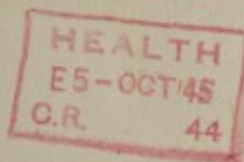
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NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED - 31st December, 1944

17th August, 1945

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NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st December, 1944.

Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in forwarding the Annual Report on the Health of Newhaven during the year 1944.

This Report was, in the main, compiled by my predecessor, Dr. Rodie Parkhurst, to whom I have been greatly indebted for much information relating to the statistical figures.

Apart from these figures, the Report is almost wholly one drawn up by Dr. Parkhurst, and I am sure you will appreciate the very long and honourable service carried out whilst he was Medical Officer of Health.

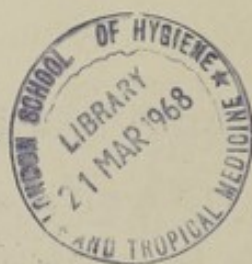
I am, Madam, and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

G.M. DAVIDSON LOBBAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWHAVEN.

17th August, 1945.





NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st December, 1944.

To the Members of the Newhaven Urban District Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

During the year 1944 the general health of the District was good and there was freedom from serious infectious disease.

The crude death rate was 11.85, compared with 16.4 in 1943.

The chief causes of death were: heart disease (19 deaths); intra-cranial vascular lesions (10); cancer (8); bronchitis (5).

The death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was .38 compared with .4 in 1943.

The birth rate was 21.98, compared with 22.27 in 1943. There were 12 illegitimate births, and there were 2 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 17.39, compared with 64 in 1943.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF NEWHAVEN

The chief industries in the District are as follows:-

Southern Railway Company.  
Dock and Harbour Works.  
Building Trades.  
Valentine Pen Company.

Many workers are also employed at the Alpha Cement Works situated a short distance outside the District.

My thanks are due to Members of the Council for their un-failing courtesy and to Officials for the ready aid extended to me in the performance of my duties.

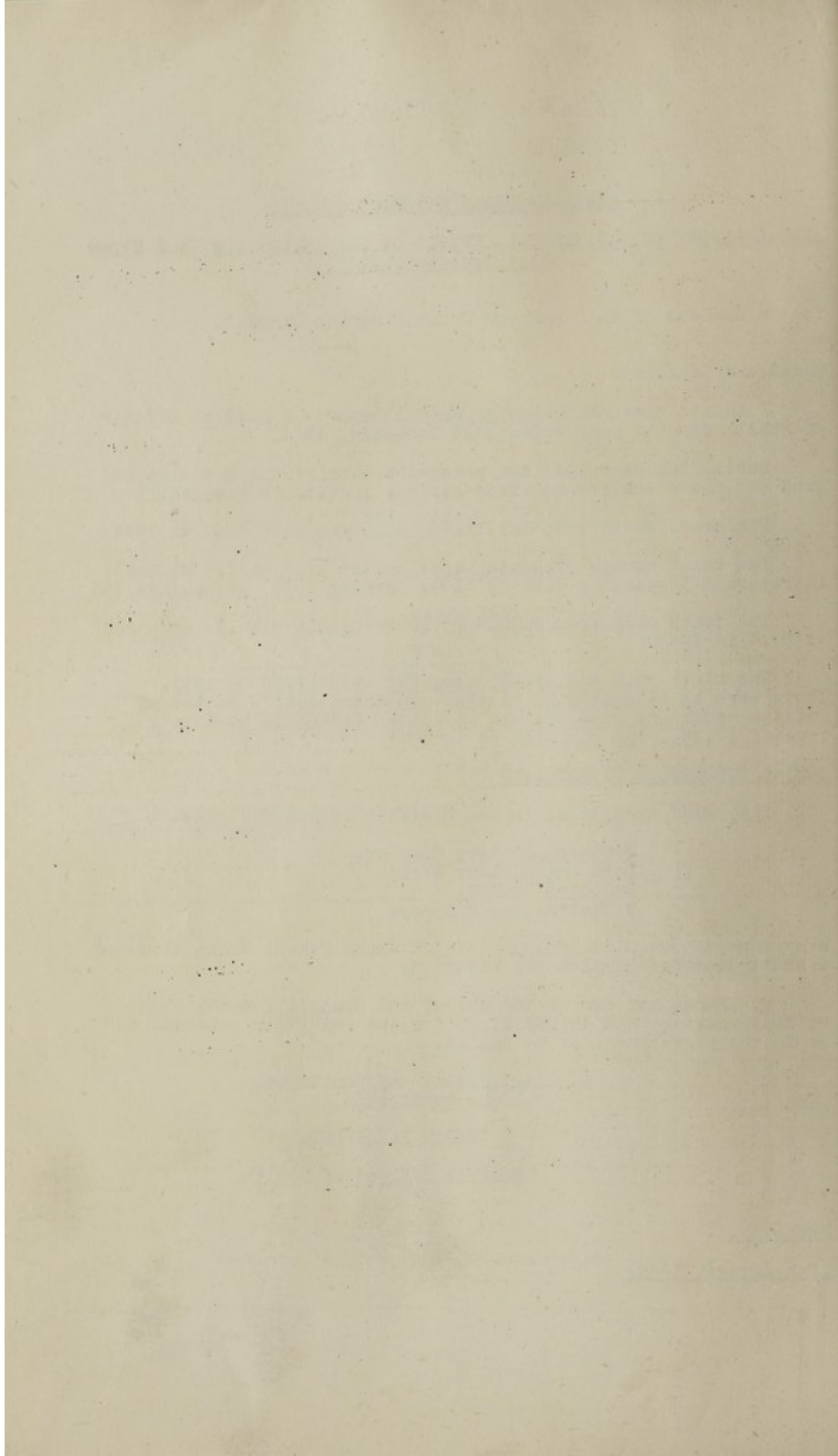
I am, Madam, and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

RODIE PARKHURST.

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWHAVEN.

17th August, 1945.





# NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December, 1944.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA	...	...	...	...	...	1,766 acres
POPULATION - census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	7,383
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	...	...	...	£44,438
SUM PRODUCED BY PENNY RATE	...	...	...	...	...	£169. 4. 10

### 1. Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year

Births	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	47	56	103
Illegitimate	9	3	12
Stillbirths	2	2	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births			17.39
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	...	...	0
Deaths from Zymotic disease	...	...	0

### 2. TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1944, with age period.

Ages	Measles		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Pneumonia		Whooping Cough		Dysentery		Erysipelas	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1							1		3	1				
1-5	1	1					1		3	2				
5-15					1	2			1	2				
15-25											1			
25-35									1					
35-45													1	
45-55														
55-65														
65 & over														
Total	1	1			1	2	2		7	6	1		1	

### TABLES OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1944 AND DEATHS THEREFROM

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1				1				
5			2	1				
15		3		1				
25	2	1						
35	2				1	3		
45	1			1				
55								
65 & over								
Total	5	4	2	4	1	3		



### 3. Causes of Sickness.

There were no particular causes of sickness during the year 1944. The total number of infectious diseases notified was as compared with 81 in 1943. There were 3 cases of scarlet fever; 2 of measles; 2 pneumonia; 13 whooping cough; 1 dysentery; 1 erysipelas.

The crude death rate was 11.85 as compared with 16.4 in 1943.

The birth rate was 21.98 as compared with 22.27 in 1943.

The chief causes of death were as follows:- heart disease 19 deaths; intra-cranial vascular lesions 10 deaths; cancer 8 deaths; bronchitis 5 deaths.

### 4. Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospital and Other Institutions Available for the District.

The Newhaven and District Nursing Association supply two Queen's Nurses and one Health Visitor. One Queen's Nurse carries out the general nursing of the District and part of the Rural District; the other Queen's Nurse is midwife for the Town and gives relief duty to the other nurses when needed. The Health Visiting is carried out by the Health Visitor. The nursing is carried out by the Local Authority, assisted by a grant from the County Council. There is also a maternity and child welfare centre; meetings are held where mothers can attend with their children for instruction in their upbringing. This centre is carried on by the Health Visitor assisted by the Town Midwives.

CLINICS. The Health Visitor attends the School Clinic and also the Dental and Eye Clinics held at the schools, under the arrangements made by the County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. A motor ambulance is provided by the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Joint Hospital Board for the conveyance of infectious diseases to the Isolation Hospital and an up-to-date motor ambulance is provided by the Newhaven and District Nursing Association for the removal of non-infectious diseases and accident cases. This ambulance is available in the Urban District and outlying Districts.

HOSPITALS. There is no hospital in the District for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The Isolation Hospital is provided for the reception of infectious diseases occurring in the Town and Port, and from Districts represented by the Joint Hospital Board. This Hospital receives a grant from the County Council under the condition that cases should be received from the outlying Districts should their own Hospitals be full. The Smallpox Hospital is the East Sussex Western Hospital situated at Chailey, to which the Newhaven Urban District Council contributes a subsidy.

There is no Maternity or Children's Hospital in the District; or any institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate or homeless children.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. During the year 1944 arrangements were carried out urging on parents the necessity of having their children immunised against diphtheria, and informing them of the days and hours at which immunisation could be obtained free of cost at the surgeries of the Doctors in the District.

It has been somewhat difficult to estimate the number of children who have been immunised, as a considerable number have received treatment during evacuation. Accordingly I have had a census of children immunised from the schools and found as follows:- Of children under 5 years of age 71% have been immunised, and of children from 5 to 15 years of age 70% have been immunised.



VENEREAL DISEASE. Posters are displayed in the conveniences and other places in the District warning the public of the danger of Venereal Disease and also giving a list of the Hospitals and the hour at which free treatment and advice is given confidentially. Ships' crews are given handbills.

HEAD LICE. Children attending the School Clinic are inspected. Other children are examined and the parents advised by the visiting nurse.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL - JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD. This Hospital is in a satisfactory condition; a new cubicle block and fresh drainage would, however, be a great improvement. During the year 1944 the number of cases under treatment was 24 and I append a table of the cases treated.

District	Diphtheria & Suspected	Scarlet Fever & Suspected	Measles	Enteric Fever & Suspected	Tot- als.
Lewes	1	10	-	-	11
Newhaven	-	5	-	-	5
Seaford	1	4	-	1	6
Military & Naval	1	-	1	-	2

#### 5. Laboratory Work.

No Bacteriological or Pathological examinations are undertaken locally but arrangements are in force with Dr. Shera, East Sussex County Mental Hospital, Hellingly, for the examination of all specimens, the charges for which are borne by the Newhaven Urban District Council. All Medical Practitioners in the District are supplied with diphtheria anti-toxin free of cost.

#### 6. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area-List of Adoptive Acts.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Acts, 1890, parts i, ii, iii.  
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Acts, 1890.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, parts iv, vi,  
ix and x; section 15-22 inclusive and 28 and 31, 32,  
33 of part 2 and section 81 of part 7.

#### 7. Water Supply.

The District has two sources of water supply.

1. From the Newhaven and Seaford Water Company which obtains water from a well sunk into the chalk at Poverty Bottoms and
2. From the Southern Railway Company's well at Denton.

Both of these water supplies have been analysed regularly and quarterly reports show them to be of good quality - there is also a sufficient quantity. Both the supplies are constant and all dwellings are served with service pipes direct to the houses. There is no lead contamination.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. All premises in the District are provided with closets connected with the sewer with the following exceptions:

#### Premises with cesspools:

West Pier	...	...	...	3
Cemetery	...	...	...	1
Court Farm Cottages	...	...	...	3
Harbour Heights Estate	...	...	...	46
Added Area	...	...	...	185



Premises with Earth Closets:

Meeching Court Farm	...	...	5
Golf House	...	...	1
New Road	...	...	17
Fort Glacis	....	...	1
Bungalow, Church Hill	...	...	1
Denton Village	...	...	32

SCAVENGING. House refuse is disposed of by the Bradford Tipping System, buried daily, and proved to be satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT AND THE WORK OF THE  
INSPECTOR DURING THE YEAR 1944.

The following is the number of houses visited by the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1944:-

In connection with infectious diseases	-	Nil
Various . . . . .	-	Nil

Abstract from the Sanitary Inspector's Report:-

The Sanitary Inspector carries out regular inspections of the District and I subjoin abstracts from his report. The Sanitary Inspector reports that during the year 1944 he has made 1,722 visits in connection with his work. In respect of these visits 58 informal notices were served; 26 verbal instructions were given, and no formal notices were served. Complaints during the year numbered 57, all of which were dealt with and the condition remedied. I append a table of the number and nature of inspections carried out during the year 1944.

<u>Housing</u>	Inspections under the Public Health Acts	35
	Visits under the Public Health Acts	35
	Inspections under the Housing Acts	110
	Visits under the Housing Acts	145
	Verminous Premises - Inspections	31
	Visits	42
	Fumigations	20
	Miscellaneous Housing Visits	12
<u>Infectious Disease</u>	Enquiries and Visits	16
	Disinfestations	7
Visits in respect of Water, including emergency supply		18
Drainage		64
Complaints		57
Stables and Piggeries		11
Fried Fish Shop		30
Common Lodging Houses		6
Factories		31
Bakehouses		67
Conveniences		269
Refuse collection		15
Refuse Disposal		25
Rats and Mice		177
Miscellaneous		126
Meat and Food		197
Cowsheds		24
Dairies		16
Milk Sampling		2
Cafes		10
Miscellaneous Food (Decontaminated etc.)		74
Salvage		48
Deputy for Surveyor		2
		<u>1,722</u>



## SUMMARY OF WORK AFTER SERVICE OF NOTICE

Water Closets, New	6
Water Closets, Repaired	5
Cesspools, cleaned	2
Drainage systems, new	6
Drains cleared or repaired	4
Accumulations of refuse removed	9
Cooking ranges repaired	7
Rooms of dwelling houses cleaned	3
Dustbins provided	10
Sinks repaired	35
Roofs repaired	6
Chimney stacks repaired	12
Dampness remedied	3
Food stores provided	3
Premises cleared of rats	36
Renewed floors	3

## SHOPS AND OFFICES

All shops and offices are regularly inspected and with the exception of minor items are found to be satisfactory.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

- (1) Number of houses infested - Council Houses Nil  
Other Houses 22
- (2) Method employed to disinfest - Cimex Cubes. Lethane  
with paraffin in 10% solution is also used with success.
- (3) All furniture and effects are successfully disinfested.
- (4) All occupiers are instructed by the Sanitary Inspector.

## SCHOOLS

The sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory and the water supply is good and adequate. There is a need for the provision of a new school in the District as since the admission of the scholars from Peacehaven it has been necessary in the Boys' School to hold two classes in one room, which is not satisfactory.

All cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever are removed to the Isolation Hospital and contacts excluded for the prescribed period. Notices of non-notifiable diseases are sent to the Medical Officer of Health by the Head Teachers so that any steps considered necessary may be taken.

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

1. Lodging Houses. The one lodging house in the Town has been closed during the year as no longer necessary.

2. Dairies. There are three dairy farms in the District, one of which is about to cease production as the milch cows are disposed of. The conditions generally have been found satisfactory during the frequent inspections. The Sanitary Inspector has made 23 inspections during the year and given two informal notices in respect of Cowsheds, and 16 dairy inspections with three informal notices. In one case the Sanitary Inspector of a District sending milk into the Town was notified of unsatisfactory milk from his District. There are now only six registered retailers and two wholesale traders for the sale of milk.

3. Slaughter of Animals. Under Government Central Slaughtering this is carried out at Brighton for the District. All pigs slaughtered for local pig clubs are examined.



## F O O D

A. Milk Supply. The premises from which milk is supplied to the District retail, received special attention. Samples were taken from two producers and found to be satisfactory. Samples are taken each fortnight by another authority and no complaint has yet been received.

B. Other Foods. All premises where food is prepared for sale are inspected regularly and their condition has proved to be satisfactory, except in some minor detail which has been made good after verbal instructions. There are 5 bakehouses in the District all of which are above ground.

The Public Health Officers of the District consist of a Medical Officer of Health (part-time), and a Sanitary Inspector (full-time). The staff of the Isolation Hospital comprises a Matron, two assistant nurses, one probationer nurse, one cook, one maid and a caretaker.

The Hospital is governed by the Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford Joint Hospital Board, and the Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

No action was taken under these regulations during the year.

I append a table of general statistics for the past ten years.

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Population est. to middle of year.	5232	-	5129	4993	6889	112	7062	6989	7060	6989
Birth rate per 1000 Population	21.98	22.27	20.7	17.	15.2	15.3	15.0	15.1	12.6	13.7
Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1000 births.	17.39	64	47	70	57	18	nil	66	22.5	10.4
Crude death rate per 1000 population	11.85	16.4	14.7	15	14.8	12.6	11.9	10.3	11.7	12.4
Adjusted death rate per 1000 population	-	-	-	-	13.6	11.5	10.9	9.47	10.7	-
ZYMOTIC DEATH rate per 1000	Nil	.4	.58	.4	.29	.56	.56	.4	.4	.7
Death rate from other respiratory diseases per 1000	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.7	1	.4	.7	.8	1.6

### Disinfection

Premises where cases of infectious disease have occurred are disinfected with formalin. In cases of cancer or tuberculosis, disinfection is carried out after the removal of the patient. Infected bedding and clothing treated at the Isolation Hospital in the steam disinfector.

### SANITARY OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health - Rodie Parkhurst. M.B., C.M.Edin.  
 Sanitary Inspector - S.V. Needham. C.S.I.B., C.R.S.I.  
 D.R.I.P.H.  
 Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

NEWHAVEN.

15th August, 1945.

v

RODIE PARKHURST.

Medical Officer of Health.