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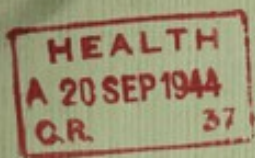
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NEWMARKET RURAL DISTRICT

IN THE

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE

A N N U A L

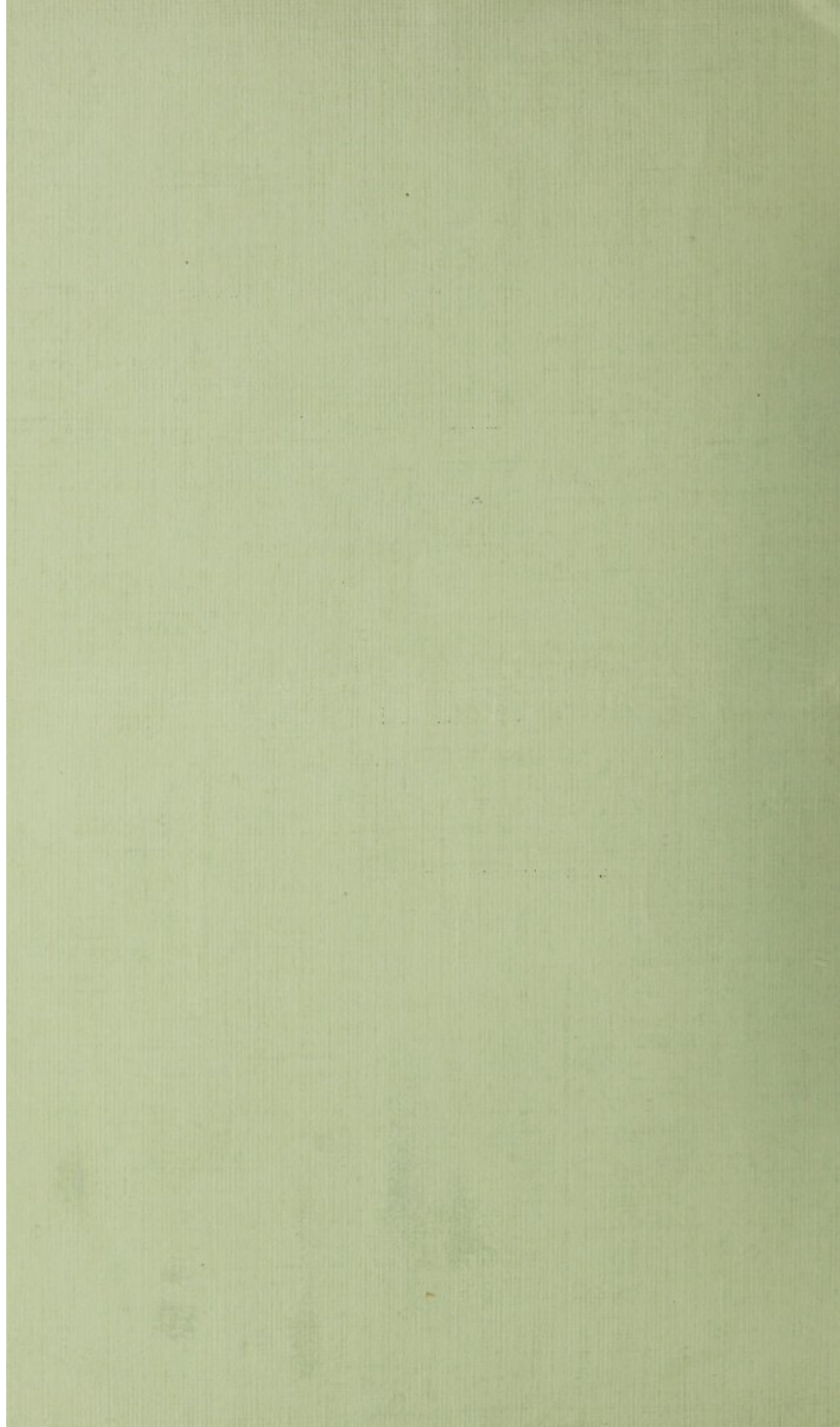
R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

1943



To the Chairman and Members
of the
Newmarket Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration my
Annual Report for the year 1943 on the Health, Sanitary Conditions,
and Vital Statistics of the Newmarket Rural District.

The Report is an abbreviated one and there
are no matters of immediate urgency towards which it is
necessary to draw attention. The general health of the
population has remained good.

Arthur Morgan,
Medical Officer of Health.

OF THE
INSTITUTE

OF THE

OF THE

I am to present for your consideration

the report of the committee on the subject of the

and the results of the investigation of the

The report is as follows:

It is the result of a series of experiments

conducted in the laboratory of the

and the results are as follows:

Yours faithfully,

W. H. R. S. S.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area:	Land	80, 856 acres
	Water	245 "

Number of Parishes: 22

Rateable Value: . £55,463

Sum represented by a penny rate: £220. 10. 9.

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books 6,049

The whole district is agricultural in nature.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	267	124	143
Illegitimate	18	9	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	285	133	152

Birth Rate per thousand estimated population	14.6
--	------

Birth Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	16.5
---	------

Still Births:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	12	5	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Totals	12	5	7

Rate per thousand total (live and still births)	40.4
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Deaths:

Total	Male	Female
234	122	112

Death Rate per thousand estimated population	12.0
--	------

Death Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	12.1
---	------

Deaths from Puerperal causes:

(a)	Puerperal sepsis	Nil
(b)	Other Puerperal causes	Nil

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Totals	6	3	3

Death Rate of infants under one year of age:

(a)	All infants per thousand live births	21.0.
(b)	Legitimate infants per thousand legitimate live births	22.4
(c)	Illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	47
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil
Deaths from influenza (all ages)	...	...	8
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)...	...	...	1

Birth and Death Rates for the last five years:-

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Birth Rate	13.8	12.3	13.3	13.7	14.5
Death Rate	11.5	12.7	13.7	12.8	11.1

Note:- The death rates are uncorrected for age and sex distribution.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.

There is no particular alteration to record in any of these services.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:-

- (a) A whole time Medical Officer of Health who also acts for other districts.
- (b) Two whole time Sanitary Inspectors. The assistant Inspector is serving in H.M. Forces and has not been replaced. The Senior Inspector (Mr. W.H. Couperthwaite, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., and special certificate in meat and other foods) is, therefore, working alone.

LABORATORY FACILITIES:-

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, make all bacteriological examinations that are required in cases of infectious diseases, etc.

Samples of milk are usually sent to the Agricultural Department, University of Cambridge.

HOSPITALS:-

There are no General Hospitals situated within the area. Cases of the infectious diseases are treated at the Council's Isolation Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY:-

Only four parishes and some outlying premises are without a piped water supply.

The supply is constant and has been well maintained. There are no new features to report.

Number of houses having a piped supply under pressure into or on to the house	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3201
Number of houses supplied from standpipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1343
(curtilage within 200 ft)										<u>4544</u>

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:-

The conditions remain the same.

PUBLIC CLEANSING:-

A scavenging scheme which covers the whole area is administered by the District Council.

A collection of refuse is made once in every three weeks over the greater part of the district, and the remainder is covered by a collection at intervals of six weeks.

The refuse collection is, at present, combined with a scheme to salvage certain necessary materials, and machinery for the baling of tins has been installed. The refuse is disposed of in selected pits by controlled tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a summary of the number of inspections made during the year:

Slaughter-houses and butcher's shops,	164
Bakehouses,	67
Fried Fish shops and other premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938,	23
Knacker's Yard	12
Factories (excluding bakehouses),	12
Cowsheds and Dairies,	742
Refuse Tips,	15
Infectious Disease,	46
Rooms disinfected,	59
Disinfestations (rooms),	18
Sewage Disposal Works,	33
Dwelling-houses,	135
Reinspections of dwelling-houses,	28
Nuisances,	38
Infestation Order 1943 - Visits	97
Miscellaneous,	180

Samples taken:

Water,	144
Milk,	194
Sewage effluent,	2

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

5 dwelling-houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year and were disinfested by using liquid insecticides or by a combination of a liquid insecticide and gaseous fumigant other than Hydrogen Cyanide.

There is nothing fresh to add in regard to the procedure for disinfesting these premises.

CAMPING SITES, etc.

There is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

SCHOOLS

There is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

HOUSING:

Summary of No. of Houses inspected	135
No of inspections made for the purpose	163

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour and materials, only essential repairs have been carried out. The position as regards overcrowding is not serious. There are, however, a number of houses which, although not officially overcrowded, can be regarded as being on the border-line.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Number of Cowkeepers or Purveyors of milk on the registers (as at 31st December, 1943):

Wholesale Purveyors	...	...	...	79
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	36
Wholesale and Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	37
Retailers who are not cowkeepers	...	...	...	6
				<u>158</u>

Inspection.

Regular inspection is made of all registered premises and 742 inspections were made for the purpose during the year.

Efforts have been made to encourage clean milk production by intensive propaganda and by advisory visits.

Numerous informal notices were served in connection chiefly with lack of cleanliness and limewashing and these were all subsequently complied with.

10 Statutory notices under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, were served and as a consequence six cowsheds were reconstructed with properly drained floors and the necessary work in the remaining cases was either carried out or put in hand.

Milk Sampling.

The samples are sent to the School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge, for examination.

37 samples were examined by the Methylene Blue and Coliform tests and 21 of these were satisfactory.

157 samples were taken mainly from Producer-Retailers, to assist in the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme. These samples were examined by the Resazurin test.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The position remains the same as that outlined in the reports for the years 1939 - 41 and the Newmarket Urban District's Inspectors have again been assisted with the inspection work at the Government Abattoir when necessary.

Owing to the prolonged absence through illness of one of the Urban Districts Inspectors during the year it was necessary to undertake regular inspection of meat at the Government Abattoir, during the evenings.

164 inspections of slaughter-houses and butchers' shops were made during the year and 3,949 carcasses were examined.

7 whole carcasses beef, 2 whole carcasses pork, 3 whole carcasses mutton and 560 organs or parts of carcasses were condemned at the Government Abattoir.

The figures for unsound meat condemned will be included in the report of the Urban District's Inspectors so to avoid any overlapping no separate detailed figures for this district are given.

Regular inspection is made of premises where foodstuffs are stored or exposed for sale and the following is a summary of the foodstuffs condemned during the year:

Various tins of foodstuffs (Blown or otherwise unfit)	...	...	366
140 lbs cod fillets (Decomposition)			
11 lbs rolled oats (unfit)			
12½ doz eggs (decomposition)			
28½ lbs meat { " " }			
25 doz Cheese cakes (decomposition)			
19¾ lbs sausages { " " }			
8½ lbs sausage meat { " " }			
12¼ lbs ham { " " }			
21 lbs flour { " " }			

PREMISES ON WHICH FOOD IS PREPARED .

Regular inspection is made of these premises and a high standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

There has been no alteration in the number of premises and the registration particulars are the same as those given in the report for the years 1939 - 41.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 24 bakehouses in the district and 67 inspections were made during the year.

A high standard of cleanliness has again been maintained.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Every effort is made to see that the requirements of this Act are carried out and 31 licenses were granted during the year.

FACTORIES

The following is a summarised report on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 in the district:

Number of Factories on the register

Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	46
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	<u>27</u>
				<u>73</u>

INSPECTIONS, etc

79 inspections have been made and 3 written notices served in connection with various defects (chiefly sanitary conveniences) which were remedied without reference to H.M. Inspector of Factories or Legal proceedings.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Apart from a considerable increase in the number of notifications of measles the general incidence of these diseases has continued to be low. Two suspected cases of diphtheria were investigated but in neither case was the diagnosis confirmed.

The number of notifications and the age groups are set out in the following table:

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Analysis under Age Groups At Ages - years											Admitted Hospital	Deaths
		1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65		
Pneumonia	15	1	1	1	3	2	4	3					1	2
Whooping Cough	9		2		2	4		1					2	Nil
Measles	249	2	22	26	22	25	135	9	5	3			2	Nil
Cerebro spinal fever	1									1			1	Nil
Scarlet fever	39		1	1	3	23	10	1					37	Nil
Dysentery	1						1						1	1
Totals	314	3	26	27	26	27	165	20	8	8	1	3	44	3

Notifications of some of the principal infectious diseases during the last five years as compared with the present year:-

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
Scarlet fever	46	23	52	18	22	39
Diphtheria	2	2	2	5	2	-
Measles	-	-	106	627	2	249
Whooping cough	-	10	127	29	47	9
Pneumonia	7	4	3	12	19	15.

Diphtheria Immunisation:-

The general arrangements are the same as set out in my Report for the year 1942 and they have continued to function satisfactorily. At the end of 1943 it was estimated that 79% of children under 5 years of age and 86% of children between the ages of 5 and 15 had been fully protected. Diphtheria prophylactic and antitoxin are always supplied free of charge to Medical Practitioners.

Information regarding the non-notifiable infectious diseases is necessarily more limited than in the case of the notifiable diseases but there does not appear to have been any abnormal incidence of these diseases, nor has scabies been unduly prevalent.

TUBERCULOSIS
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								
1 ...	1							
5 ...		1		1				
15 ...	3		1	1	1	2		
25 ...	2	1		1	2	2		
35 ...		1	1	1				
45 ...	1					1		
55 ...								
65 & over								
Totals	7	3	2	4	3	5	Nil	Nil

There were two deaths that had not been notified.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Arthur Morgan,
M.A., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.