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HEALTH
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NEWMARKET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.



R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1942.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

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Public Health Offices,
Westgate House,
13, Westgate Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.
June, 1943.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Newmarket,
in the County of West Suffolk.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable
consideration my seventh Annual Report as Medical Officer
of Health being for the year ended December 31st, 1942.

On the instructions of the Minister of Health the
report has been limited owing to the War.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.
M.B., B.S., B.Hy, D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.,
also Medical Officer of Health Cosford,
Mildenhall, Thedwastre & Thingoe
Rural Districts and

Assistant County Medical Officer
of Health, West Suffolk.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR F.B. Waterfall, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
also Surveyor & Shops Inspector and
O/in C.Technical Services,Civil Defence.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR H.W. Jefford, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	5,640 acres	
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid-year	8,860	Rateable value £71,53
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	2,794	Sum represented by a Penny Rate £28

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	124	58	66
Illegitimate	6	4	2
<u>Stillbirths.</u>			
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Deaths.</u>	132	73	59

<u>Birth Rate.</u>	Newmarket	14.7	England & Wales	15.8
<u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000</u>				
total (live & still) births.	"	22.6		
<u>Death Rate per 1000</u>				
resident population	"	14.9	"	11.6
<u>Death Rate of Infants</u>				
<u>under 1 year.</u>				
All Infants per 1000				
live births	"	46.2	"	49
Legitimate Infants per				
1000 legitimate births	"	48.4		
Illegitimate infants per				
1000 illegitimate births	"	nil		

6 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (3 males and 3 females all legitimate). 2 deaths from maternal causes (Heading 30), 22 deaths from Cancer and no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On the following page is a Table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures. The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

Both the Birth Rate and the Death Rate of 1942 are higher than those for the previous six years. It may be noted that of the 132 Deaths 80 = 61% occurred at age 65 years or over and of these, 33 = 25% of the total occurred at age 80 years or over.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of
"RESIDENTS" whether occurring in
or beyond District.

HEADING		Under 1 Year		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 45		45 and under 65		65 and upwards		TOTAL = Registrar General's Figures	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
13	Cancer of buc:cav: & oesph (M) uterus (F)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
14	Cancer of Stomach & duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	3	1
15	Cancer of Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
16	Cancer of all other sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	7	4	-	8	6
17	Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
18	Intra:cran: vasc: lesions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	8	-	6	11
19	Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	20	12	-	24	14
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
21	Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	3	1
22	Pneumonia	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	4	5
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-
26	Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
27	Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
28	Nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	3	1
30	Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
31	Premature Births	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
32	Con:mal: birth injur: infant diseases	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
35	Other Violent Causes	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	6	2
36	All Other Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	4	-	4	6
	TOTAL Male	3	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	20	14	-	-	73	-
	Female	-	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	6	-	11	-	36	-	-	59

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(ii) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge, under the Directorship of Dr. A.W. Downie, carried out, in addition to the usual public health bacteriological examinations, the examination of 279 water samples, 74 milk samples and provided diphtheria immunization materials and measles serum.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.	}	No change.
(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.		
(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.		
(e) HOSPITALS.		

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) WATER.

181 samples of water were analysed to supervise the public supply. The high standard of bacteriological purity maintained by the Newmarket Water Company is indicated by the fact that not one of these 90 samples from the well proper at Southfields Pumping Station and 91 samples from various points on the public mains was found unsatisfactory.

4 samples analysed from the White Lodge Hospital well were all satisfactory but other sources which may have to be used as emergency water supplies did not give like results - of 56 samples analysed 9 only were satisfactory, 6 were suspicious and 41 unsatisfactory. The policy of relying on boiling of water from emergency sources under blitz conditions has therefore been decided and the public informed of this through the Press and by notice on the back of the Rate Demand Note. Cards and posters stressing this policy are ready for issue should the need arise.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

224,000 gallons of crude gas liquor were carted by the Newmarket Gas Company to the Sewage Disposal Works thereby assisting in the prevention of pollution of rivers and streams.

3. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

128 inspections in connection with water closets were made during the year.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cleansing of streets and road gulleys and the collection of house refuse and salvage is carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

The collection of house refuse, shop refuse and salvage, including removal of refuse from premises occupied by military authorities, is carried out weekly with the Council's 12 cubic yard Scammell Moving Floor Refuse Collection vehicle.

Salvage materials are sorted (and where applicable are baled) at the Refuse Destructor Works and sold. During the year the under-mentioned materials were sold, the receipts amounting to £1,781.15

Paper 140 tons; Rags 10 tons; Tins 245 tons; Bones 4 tons;
Ferrous metals 39 tons; non-ferrous metals 2 tons;
Rubber 2½ tons.

703 lorry loads of house refuse and 114 lorry loads of shop refuse were collected and disposed of in the Council's 3 cell Manlove Alliot Refuse Destructor which is worked in conjunction with the Babcock and Willcox Water Tube Boiler for raising steam to operate the Sewage Pumping Plant.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tabular statement has been supplied by Mr. Waterfall -

Dwelling Houses.

Total number of dwelling house inspections made under the various Acts.	218
Total number of re-inspections thereof	84
Number of houses inspected after Infectious Diseases	6

Drains.

New drain tests and inspections	4
Inspections in connection with choked drains	43

Various.

Slaughter Houses	271
Visits in connection with reported nuisances	119
Food shops, market stalls etc.	114
Bake Houses	10
Factories	10
Cow Sheds	10
Dairies	31
Milk Samples	74
Water Samples	279
Common Lodging Houses	7
Houses let in Lodgings	3
School inspections	12
Swimming Baths	47
Shops	9
Public Houses (sanitary accommodation)	9
Rats and Mice destruction	9
Visits made to Shops etc. for the purpose of food inspection	82
Inspection of Evacuee Billets	39

1,490

Number of informal notices given in 1942	54
Outstanding informal notices at 1st January 1942	24
Outstanding informal notices at 31st December 1942	18
Number of Statutory notices served in 1942	5
Outstanding Statutory notices at 1st January 1942	2
Outstanding Statutory notices at 31st December 1942	nil

Classified list of Housing defects and nuisances abated during the year.

Dampness	1
Roofs repaired	18
Defective walls and ceilings repaired	3
Windows repaired	12
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	8
Defective W.C. pedestals repaired or renewed	3
New dust bins installed	31
Insanitary houses cleansed	10
Drain stoppages	43
Stoves repaired or renewed	2
Floors repaired	6
Doors and frames repaired	5
W.C. flushing systems repaired or renewed	3

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Factory Act, 1937.

10 inspections to Factories with Mechanical Power were made -
2 written notices being issued for want of cleanliness which was remedied.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

9 inspections relating to the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, were made - notices regarding want of cleanliness were served in 2 cases.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

No applications for Licence to occupy a site were made during the year.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action necessary.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Council have taken on lease a privately owned swimming bath of modern design and recent construction in the Town. The water, obtained from the Newmarket Water Company's mains, is during the open season continuously circulated through a Bell horizontal sand filter and is heated and chlorinated by suitable plant. Facilities for sun-bathing are provided. The bath is well patronised by the public and used regularly by the several schools.

The Bath is under the supervision of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector and frequent visits are made to ascertain that the water, towels, cubicles and sanitary conveniences are being kept in a satisfactory condition. 38 samples of water taken from the Bath were all satisfactory except 7 taken at one period when the chlorination plant was temporarily out of order.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Disinfestation of 4 Council houses was carried out by the Council's workmen using Fuminol. A block of 5 Council houses was disinfested with Hydrogen Cyanide by Associated Fumigators Ltd. 15 private houses have been disinfested by the Council's workmen using Fuminol. Disinfestation from FLEAS was carried out at one private house by the Council's workmen using Fuminol and Thermatox.

4. SCHOOLS.

The washing and sanitary accommodation was examined during 12 inspections.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

- | | | |
|----------|---|-----|
| 1.(1)(a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 218 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 302 |
| (2)(a) | Houses recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 | nil |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 24 |
| (4) | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head.) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 62 |
| 2. | <u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u> | |
| | Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | 16 |
| 3. | <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u> | |
| | There were no proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936, nor proceedings under the Public Health Acts, except 8 houses under Section 11 of the Housing Act. | |
| 4. | <u>Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.</u> | |
| | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 5 |
| | Number of families dwelling therein | 5 |
| | Number of persons dwelling therein | 47 |
| | Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 2 |
| | No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 1 |
| | Number of persons concerned in such cases | 9 |
| | Dwelling houses again overcrowded after abatement by L.A. | nil |

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

74 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, of these 31 samples were found to be satisfactory. In the case of each of the 43 unsatisfactory sample results the matter was taken up with the producers or officials of the Districts concerned.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Particulars of Condemned Meat etc.

Total number of carcasses inspected	6,247	
Total weight of condemned meat etc.	13,675	lbs

Beasts.

Whole carcasses	9	Mesenteric fats	33
Lungs	139	Kidneys	10
Livers	91	Tongues	5
Heads & Tongues	84	Skirts	50
Spleens	22	Hearts	14
Portions of beef	1,663 lbs	Portions of liver	282 lbs

Calves.

Whole carcasses	1
Lungs	1
Livers	1

Pigs.

Whole carcasses	4
Livers	23
Plucks	6
Heads	38
Portions of Pork	114 lbs

Sheep and Lambs.

Whole carcasses	6
Livers	20
Portions of Mutton	8 lbs

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>Cows.</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed	1213	421	125	3865	623
Number inspected	1213	421	125	3865	623

(All Diseases except Tuberculosis)

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	6	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	80	47	-	19	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.5%	11.1%	0.8%	0.64%	4.9%

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	1	8	-	-	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	173	88	1	-	41
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	14.3%	22.8%	0.8%	-	7.06%

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

505 Eggs	70 Tins of Vegetables
554 Tins of Condensed Milk	83 Tins of Fish
255 Tins of Meat etc.	58 lbs. Flour
175 Tins of Jam	13 st. Mackorel
406 Tins of Fruit	33 st. Herrings

(c) ADULTERATION ETC. No change.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Arrangements and suitable premises for dealing with Gas Contamination of Foodstuffs are available as is a trained Decontamination Squad of nine males and two females.

(e) NUTRITION.

The British Restaurant is playing an important part in maintaining satisfactory nutrition - the number of meals served was at the Restaurant - adults 41386, children 44723, cash and carry - adults 3673, children 1969 - a total of 91751 meals. The price of meals was varied during the year from 9d. to 11d. for adults and from 5d. to 6d. for children.

(f) SHELL FISH (Molluscan). No change.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR, 1942.

	Total cases Notified	Age in years.												Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		-1	1	2	3	4	5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	+65	
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	nil
Whooping Cough	34	-	-	5	5	2	6	6	9	1	-	-	-	3	nil
Diphtheria	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	nil
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	nil
Measles	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	nil	nil
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	nil	2
	45	-	-	5	5	2	7	6	13	1	-	1	3	1	1
														10	11

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
45 - 55	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	1	-	-	1	1	-

40 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 16, Female 12, and Non-respiratory Male 5, Female 7.

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1942 was 45. This was a considerable improvement on the 410 notified in 1941.

Parents continued to respond very well to the advice to have their children immunized to protect them from Diphtheria. By the end of 1942 80% of children under 5 years of age and 92% of children between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the immunization course.

During 1942 87 cases of Scabies were treated - 46 under the old arrangements at Bury St Edmunds and 41 at the Centre equipped and staffed by this Authority and opened in Newmarket during September.