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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

1943

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



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of
Newmarket in the County of West Suffolk for the
year ending 31st December 1943.

Public Health Offices,
Westgate House,
Bury St. Edmund's.
June 1944.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Newmarket.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your
favourable consideration my eighth Annual Report as Medical
Officer of Health being for the year ended December 31st, 1943.

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 and 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 C/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	8,618
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	2,792
Rateable value	£71,683
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£280

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	113	63	50
Illegitimate	10	5	5
<u>Stillbirths.</u>			
Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Deaths.</u>	155	77	78
<u>Birth Rate.</u>	Newmarket	14.3.	England & Wales 16.5.
<u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births.</u>	"	39.1.	
<u>Death Rate per 1000 resident population</u>	"	18.0	" " 12.1
<u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.</u>			
All Infants per 1000 live births	"	32.5	" " 49
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births	"	35.4	
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	"	Nil	

4 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (3 males and 1 female all legitimate). 1 Death from Maternal Causes (Heading 30), 28 deaths from Cancer, two deaths from Measles and no deaths from 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.

The Death Rate of 1943 is higher than those reported in my previous seven Annual Reports. It may be noted that of the 155 deaths, 102 = 66% occurred at age 65 years or over and of these 42 = 27% 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	M = Male F = Female	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	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
8	Syphilis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
9	Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	2
10	Measles	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
12	Acute infectious encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
13	Cancer of buc:cav: & oesoph (M) uterus (F)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2
14	Cancer of Stomach & duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
15	Cancer of Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
16	Cancer of all other sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	3	7	4	13	8
17	Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
18	Intra.Cran.vasc:lesions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	2	6
19	Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	17	31	21	36
20	Other diseases of Circulatory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
21	Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	1
22	Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
24	Ulcer of stomach or Duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
27	Other digestive diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	3	2
28	Nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	1
30	Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
31	Premature Births	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
32	Con.mal.birth injuries infant diseases	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
34	Road Traffic accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	3	1
35	Other violent Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
36	All other Causes	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	9	7	10	9
TOTAL		Male		3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	17	-	49	-
		FEMALE		-	1	-	2	-	1	-	6	-	14	-	53	-	78

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- (11) (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 115 water samples, 33, milk samples and provided diphtheria immunisation materials and measles serum.
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---------|
| (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. | } | No |
| (c) NURSING IN THE HOME. | | |
| (d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. | | |
| (e) HOSPITALS. | | |
| | | Change. |

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) WATER 95 samples of water were analysed to supervise the public supply. The Newmarket Water Company constantly maintained a very high standard of bacteriological purity of the water in the public supply as is indicated by the fact that all the 50 samples taken from various points on the public mains throughout the year were found to be satisfactory. 45 samples were taken from the well proper at Southfields Pumping Station before chlorination - only two of these samples gave doubtful results on analysis.

Throughout the year the Water Company has again demonstrated their continuous solicitude to ensure a pure and adequate water supply to the town - their efforts certainly merit the utmost co-operation from all water consumers to minimise drought difficulties.

2 samples analysed from the White Lodge Hospital well were satisfactory. 3 samples taken from the well at Fordham Road Depot were all satisfactory.

- (11) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The main Newmarket Sewage Disposal Works were designed and constructed about 1894 on the Primary and Secondary Contact Bed System, and were capable of dealing with a d.w.f. of 220,000 gallons per day. Some time later the Works were modified so that the Primary Contact Beds were utilised as Quiescent Sedimentation Tanks and eight circular percolating filters were constructed in the place of the Secondary Contact Beds. Humus tanks were also added.

Prior to the outbreak of war the Works were dealing with 222,000 gallons per day. This has been increased to 475,000 gallons per day, and a further 75,000 gallons per day is anticipated. It was therefore necessary to carry out considerable modifications to the tanks, and also to construct new sludge beds, underdrained and connected to the main pump well. Consideration was also given to the conversion from steam driven pumping plant to electrically driven, and the abandonment of the existing 4ft. diameter brick culvert acting as a storage chamber and necessitating being cleaned of detritus weekly by hand.

A scheme was prepared incorporating these modifications, but in view of the excessive estimated cost the conversion from steam to electricity, and the dis-use of the culvert were deferred, but work was commenced on the construction of six new sludge beds, divided by concrete walls, and the necessary drainage thereto. A scheme was also prepared for alterations to the rising mains, detritus tanks and sedimentation tanks, and the work will commence

early in 1944.

This will have the effect of giving better distribution increased capacity, continuous sedimentation and central disposal of sludge from the tanks, and also the provision of storm water tanks.

400,800 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.

The Final Effluent after land treatment, taken at point of discharge in to the stream was analysed and reported upon as follows:-

"In my opinion this effluent is suitable for discharge into a river of average capacity or where the dilution taking place with the river water is at least 1:5".

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. 73 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 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 undermentioned materials were sold, the receipts amounting to £1,087-15s.

Paper 101 tons; Rags 11 tons; tins 120 tons; Bones 7 tons;
Ferrous metals 28 tons; non-ferrous metals 1½ tons
Rubber 5 tons.

651 lorry loads of house refuse and 493 lorry loads of other refuse were collected and disposed of in the Council's 3 cell Manlove Alliott Refuse Destructor which is worked in conjunction with the Babcock and Wilcox Water Tube Boilers for raising steam to operate the Sewage Pumping Plant.

- (iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. Jefford, now fortunately recovered was absent from duty owing to illness from February 1943 until the end of the year.

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

Dwelling Houses. Difficulty was experienced by owners of property in obtaining certain materials, and the necessary labour to carry out repairs, but from owners desiring to take advantage of the General Scheme for the Repair of Houses, no applications for Certificates were received.

Dwelling Houses.

Total number of dwelling house inspections made under the various Acts.	253
Total number of re-inspections thereof	187
Number of houses inspected after Infectious Diseases	45

Drains.

New drain tests and inspections.	1
Inspections in connection with choked drains.	27

Various

Slaughter Houses.	290
Food shops, market stalls etc.	114
Bake-houses	6
Factories.	13
Cow-sheds	8
Dairies	14
Milk Samples	33
Water Samples	115
Common Lodging Houses	7
Houses let in Lodgings.	1
School Inspections	7
Swimming Baths	90
Shops	3
Public Houses (sanitary accommodation)	6
Rats and Mice destruction	17
Visits made to Shops etc., for the purpose of food inspection	57
Fish and Chip Shops	10

1304

Number of informal notices given in 1943	127
Outstanding informal notices at 1st January 1943	18
Outstanding informal notices at 31st December 1943	4
Number of Statutory notices served in 1943	-
Outstanding Statutory notices at 1st January 1943	-
Outstanding Statutory notices at 31st December 1943	-

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

Dampness	3
Roofs Repaired	4
Defective walls and ceilings repaired	5
Windows repaired	16
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	6
Defective W.C. pedestals repaired or renewed	3
New dust bins installed	72
Insanitary houses cleansed	12
Drain stoppages	18
Stoves repaired or renewed	3
Defective Yard Paving	3
Defective Drains	17
W.C. flushing systems repaired or renewed	25
Sink Waste Pipes	1

188

Factory Act, 1937.

13 inspections to Factories with Mechanical Power were made-No notices were necessary.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 3 inspections relating to the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934 were made.

(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 Baths are 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. 15 samples of water taken from the Baths, were with one exception all satisfactory.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Disinfestation of 15 private houses was carried out by the Council's workmen using Fuminol. Disinfestation from cockroaches was carried out at one private house by the Council's workmen, using "Tally-Ho" Beetle Powder.

4. SCHOOLS. The washing and sanitary accommodation was examined during 7 inspections.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

- | | | |
|------------|--|------|
| 1. (1) (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 125. |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 187 |
| (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 | 31 |
| (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. | 41 |
| 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. | 39 |
| 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 31 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 | 8 |
| | Number of families dwelling therein | 12 |
| | Number of persons dwelling therein | 72 |
| | Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the Year | 3 |
| | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during Year | - |
| | Number of persons concerned in such cases | - |
| | Dwelling houses again overcrowded after abatement by L.A.- | |

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

28 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, of these, 13 samples were found to be satisfactory. In the case of each of the 15 unsatisfactory sample results the matter was taken up with the producers or officials of the Districts concerned. In addition 5 samples of School Milk were found on animal inoculation to be free from Tubercle Bacilli.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. During Mr. Jefford's absence Mr. Cooperthwaite and Mr. Trotter, the Sanitary Inspectors of the Newmarket and Mildenhall Rural Districts, provided Mr. Waterfall with some assistance in the inspection, during evenings and week-ends, of the considerable amount of meat dealt with at the Centralised Slaughter House in the town.

Particulars of Condemned Meat etc.

Total number of carcasses inspected 6,443.
Total weight of condemned meat etc. approx 16,625lb.

Beasts.

Whole carcasses	12	Mesenteric fats	95
Lungs	235	Kidneys	9
Livers	188	Udders	4
Heads & tongues	140	Skirts	10
Spleens	12	Hearts	3
Portions of beef	480 lb	Offal	1651b

Calves.

Lungs 1

Pigs

Whole carcasses	5
Livers	10
Plucks	5
Heads	16
Portions of Pork	101b
Lungs	3
Mesenteric fats	8
Kidneys	2

Sheep and Lambs.

Whole carcasses	4
Livers	3
Portions of Mutton	41b
Lungs	5
Plucks	16

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,543	344	4208	348
Number inspected	1,543	344	4208	348
(All Diseases except Tuberculosis)				
Whole carcasses condemned	3	-	4	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	169	2	25	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	11.1%	0.3%	0.7%	5.4%
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcasses condemned	9	N11	N11	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	334	N11	N11	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	21.6%	N11	N11	6.9%

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED AS BEING UNSOUND OR OTHERWISE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

420 Eggs.
376 Tins of condensed Milk
630 Tins of Meat Fish etc.
2 Tins of Jam
100 Tins of Fruit.
6 lb Cake Mixture

17 tins of Vegetables
21 st. Herrings
25 lb Dried Fruit
12 lb Cheese
399 lb Semolina
128 lb Biscuits
57 lb. Chocolate

(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 increased its important part in maintaining satisfactory nutrition- the price of meals was 12d. for adults and 6d. for children. The number of meals served was:-
1943. 1942.

At the Restaurant

Adults	61,863	41,386
Children	46039	44,723
School Children (Education Committee free Meals)	1630	
Cash and Carry		
Adults	5057	3673
Children	4526	1969
TOTAL	119115	91751

(e) SHELLFISH (Molluscan) No Change.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

	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	36	-	1	2	-	4	3	14	8	2	2	-	-	-	29	Nil
Whooping Cough	18	1	1	3	2	5	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	Nil
Measles	86	1	2	9	3	6	25	31	1	1	7	-	-	-	1	2
Pneumonia	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	Nil
TOTAL	155	2	4	14	5	15	32	48	9	3	12	2	4	5	32	5

2 Cases of Infective Jaundice were notified during December.

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1943 was 155. This was a considerable increase on the figure of 45 for 1942.

165 children (114 age 0-4 years and 51 age 5-14 years) completed the course of Diphtheria Immunisation during 1943. By the end of 1943 95% of children under 5 years of age and 100% of children between 5 and 15 years of age, it is estimated had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation course.

During 1943 103 cases of Scabies were treated. In addition 14 cases were treated for neighbouring authorities.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1943.

NEW CASES

DEATHS

<u>Age</u> <u>Periods</u>	<u>Respiratory Non-Respiratory</u>				<u>Respiratory Non-Respiratory</u>			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24	2	1	1	-	-	1	1	-
25-34	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35-44	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
45-54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-64	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	2	5	-	2	1	3	-

39 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory, Male 15, Female 14, and Non-Respiratory, Male 5, Female 5.