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Annual Report

On the Health of the Borough of Newport, Isle of Wight, for the year 1946

BY

JOHN MILLS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PRESENTED TO THE CORPORATION THROUGH THEIR COMMITTEE.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

OF

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.

COUNTY HALL,

HIGH STREET,

NEWPORT, I.W.

September, 1947.

To the Urban Sanitary Authority, the Town Council of the Borough of Newport, Isle of Wight.

MR. MAYOR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Newport for the Year 1946.

I commenced duties as your Medical Officer of Health on March 1st, 1947, so that this report is compiled from the records of my predecessor.

The birth-rate increased by 0.3 per thousand of the population and the death-rate decreased by 1.2 per thousand. The infantile mortality rate increased by 8.4 per thousand but was less than the rate for England and Wales generally by 2.9.

There was a marked increase in the number of Infectious Disease Notifications, the figure being 361 compared with 53 the previous year due to the occurrence of 282 cases of measles and an outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever.

It is hardly necessary to emphasise the great need for new houses in the Borough.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MILLS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 15,530)
Population (Registrar General's Figures) 19,810)
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946) per	
rate books 5,06	1
Rateable Value £133,255	5
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £538	3
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.	
Live Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident	
population 17.6	3
Still Birth—Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 19.	7
Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 11:	3
Death from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth:—	1
Rate per 1000 total (live and still births) 2.7	7
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :-	
All infants per 1000 live births 40.1	l
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 34.8	5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live	
births 100)
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 35	2
Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) Nil	-

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births was 349 of which 319 were legitimate and 30 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 17.6 per 1000 living; the birth rate for England and Wales being 19.1.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths was 224 which gives a death rate of 11.3 per 1000 of the estimated resident population, the death rate for England and Wales being 11.5.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality rate was 40·1 per 1000 registered live births; the rate for England and Wales generally was 43·0.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year 1946 there was no interruption of the water supply in Newport due to the steady supply maintained from the bore holes in the orchard at Carisbrooke. Although economy in the use of water by the public was urged, it was not found necessary to cut off the supply at night during the summer. The water from all sources is chlorinated and monthly samples of the treated water showed no evidence of harmful pollution. Quarterly samples of the raw water submitted for bacteriological examination showed that on four occasions water from the Bowcombe Well was slightly polluted with surface soil coli-aerogenes organisms. Samples from the other wells were free from pollution.

Water supplies from main supply 4986 dwelling houses and 19,510 population. None are supplied from stand pipes.

SWIMMING POOL.

Bacteriological control of the water in the swimming pool continued satisfactorily throughout the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new works of sewerage and sewage disposal were undertaken during the year. The number of dwelling-houses connected to sewers is 4581.

HOUSING.

Only 69 houses were inspected under the Housing and Public Health Acts and of these 60 were found unfit.

Three statutory notices were issued under the above Acts, the necessary work in two cases being carried out by the Corporation on default of the owners.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A large proportion of the animals slaughtered in the whole Island are killed at the Government controlled slaughter houses in the Borough and this has added greatly to the work of the Meat and Food Inspector.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

eard of supared observed	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number inspected	1917	6544	5479	2538
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B. Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ	2	2	5	1
was condemned	562	11	542	126
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B	29.42	·19	9.98	5
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole carcases condemned	49	2	ond to the seathers continues models	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	520	1		94
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B	29.68	.05		4.09
Total meat condemned	Tons. 23	Cwt. 19	Qrs.	Lbs. 17
Other Foodstuffs	3	6	1	2
Total	27	5	2	19

In addition 1,310 tins of various foodstuffs were destroyed.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases, 361, was considerably greater than in 1945 (53).

Scarlet Fever accounted for only 13 but Measles for

282. There were no notifications of Diphtheria.

Immunisation against Diphtheria continued throughout the year. Every effort is made to persuade parents to take advantage of this universally acknowledged protective measure against one of the most killing diseases of childhood. All children at the age of one are offered protection and a further "boosting" dose is offered on entry into the infants' schools.

Of the children under 5, 44.8% are immunised and of children of school age, 94.8% are immunised.

PARATYPHOID FEVER AT WOOTTON.

During February and March, 1946, a sudden localized epidemic of paratyphoid B fever occurred in the Wootton District. In all, 62 persons were affected; of these 33 were clinical cases and 29 were symptomless excreters.

A chain of infection was traced from two carriers in a distant house by way of a defective cesspool and stream, on to the mud of the field of a dairy farm in which the milch cattle grazed. Paratyphoid organisms were isolated from both the carriers, from the cesspool, from the stream and from the muddy pastures.

The evidence was strongly suggestive of a milk borne infection although the disease was associated with the consumption of only one portion of the milk, that from the afternoon milking.

All necessary measures to prevent a recurrence of such

infection were taken.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OCCURRING IN SCHOOLS

Mumps	build.	**	15	Influenza			
Chicken Pox			95	Influenzal col	ds		MALE!
German Mea	sles		3	Jaundice			-
Scabies			_			-	
Ringworm			_				113
Impetigo			Otmou			Wibis-	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

PHEVALENCE OF AME CONTROL OWEN

DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.	
Smallpox	-	-	ed - b-	
Scarlet Fever	13	4	1 -	
Diphtheria	_	-	-	
Enteric Fever				
(including Para-				
typhoid)	34	18	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	2		
Pneumonia	4	-	68 6 61	
Ophthalmia				
Neonatorum	1	1	The state of the s	
Other diseases gen-				
erally notifiable				
Erysipelas	6	-	-	
Encephalitis				
Lethargica	-	_	-	
Cerebro Spinal			A STATE OF THE STA	
Meningitis	_	-	-	
Whooping Cough	13	1	COL - IAS	
Measles	282	-	minima de	
Dysentery	-		-	
Malaria	1	-	-	
and the state of t	The state of			
3800	PARCES A	10.2.2.10.2.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.	The Marian	
TOTALS	361	26		
TOTALS		The state of the state of		

Note.—Figures for non-civilians are not included.

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.	Malaria.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Poliomyelitis.	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	Whooping Cough.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles.
Under 1 1 and under 2 2 ,, ,, 3 3 ,, ,, 4 4 ,, ,, 5 5 ,, ,, 10 10 ,, ,, 15 15 ,, ,, 20 20 ,, ,, 35 35 ,, ,, 45 45 ,, ,, 65 65 and over	1 1 1 7 2 - -			- - - 1 1 - 2 - -		1 4 1 10 3 1 1 3 4 1		1111111111	TITILITIE!			- 1 	7 28 26 30 42 133 11 2 2 1 —
TOTALS	13		7	4	6	34	1	-		-	13	1	282

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	CASES.		Vision				
Notified. Treated.		ated.	un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death.	
Notined.	At home	In hospital	impaired.				
1	_	1	1	_	_	-	

TUBERCULOSIS, 1946.

		NI	ew CA	SES.	DEATHS.					
AGE PERIODS.		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non- Pulmona	
	Totals	M.	F.	M.	F.	Totals	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 and under 1	-	_	_	_	_		_		_	_
1 ,, 5	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 ,, 10	3	-	-	1	2	-	_	_	-	-
10 ,, 15	1	-	-	-	1	-	_	_	_	-
15 ,, 20	1	_		_	1	_	_	_		_
20 ,, 25	2	2	-	_	-	-	-	_	_	
25 ,, 35	9	7	2	-	_	1	_	1	-	_
35 ,, 45	4	3	_	-	1	2	1	-	_	1
45 ,, 55	4	3	1	_	_	4	3	1		
55 ,, 65	2	2	_	_	_	1	1	_	_	
65 and over	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	28*	17	4	1	6	8†	5	2	_	1

^{*}Included in this total are three patients who have been transferred from the mainland, two old cases "lost sight of" and returned, and two cases who had recovered and disease now returned.

[†]Includes three cases in which the Death Returns gave the first information.

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