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**Contributors**

Newport (Shropshire, England). Urban District Council.

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NEWPORT (SALOP) URBAN DISTRICT

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## I N T E R I M R E P O R T

on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the  
Urban District of Newport (Salop) for the year 1943.

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Once again the Ministry of Health has required that the Report on the Health of the District shall be presented in an abbreviated interim form.

Following the almost complete absence in 1942 of the two common infective conditions of infancy - measles and whooping cough - there was a return. Measles in particular manifested itself but nevertheless it could not be said that either disease at any time gave rise to epidemic conditions.

No comment is necessary on the other diseases brought to notice through notification.

Vital Statistics show that the Birth and Death Rates average well with those prevailing over the Country generally.

There were no deaths recorded among infants under one year of age and again this satisfactory position prevailed for maternal and allied conditions.

The sanitary circumstances of the Area are dealt with under the relevant sections of the Report. Attention is drawn to the water problems of the District which require the closest supervision to maintain an adequate supply of reasonable purity.

The Medical Officer of Health takes this opportunity of thanking your Sanitary Inspector for his close collaboration during the Year and in the compilation of this Report.



SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in Acres) ... ..	768.
Estimated Population (mid year 1944)...	3625.
Number of Inhabited Houses as at 31st December, 1944. (according to Rate Book) ... ..	976.
Rateable Value ... ..	£18,920.
Sum represented by 1d. Rate ... ..	£74.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

<u>Live Births:-</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	29.	28.	57.
Illegitimate ... ..	1.	2.	3.
Totals	<u>30.</u>	<u>30.</u>	<u>60.</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population ... ..	16.5.
" " " " " " " " England and Wales.	16.5.

<u>Still Births:-</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	1.	2.	3.
Illegitimate ... ..	-	1.	1.
Totals	<u>1.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>

Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still) Births ... ..	62.5.
--	-------

<u>Deaths</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths ... ..	25.	22.	47.
Death Rate per 1000 of population ... ..	12.9.		
" " " " " " " " England and Wales ... ..	12.1.		

Infantile Mortality

All Infants per 1000 Live Births - England and Wales	49.
Legitimate Infants per 1000 Live Legitimate Births -	
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Live Illegitimate births -	



Total Number of Infant Deaths - Legitimate	...	...	...	0.
" " " " " - Illegitimate	...	...	...	0.
			Total	<u>0.</u>

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	8.
Measles (all ages)	...	...	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	1.	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	-	

Maternal Mortality:-

Under this heading there were no deaths.

Chief causes of Death:-

Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	2.
Influenza	... ..	3.
Cancer	... ..	8.
Intra-cranial Haemorrhage	...	4.
Heart Disease	... ..	11.
Violent causes	... ..	6.

SECTION B.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. No change has been made in this service.

SECTION C.

SCAVENGING. A fortnightly collection has been able to be maintained and there have been few complaints. The disposal tip is closely supervised and controlled.

RAT INFESTATION. A survey of the District was carried out in association with other areas of the County. Except for one case on an agricultural holding no major infestations were discovered.

By arrangement the County Council Department inspect periodically, and deal with the rats at the Council's Disposal Works, Salvage Depot



and Refuse Tip. This contract works efficiently.

Complaints are forwarded to the County Authority as they arise, and there is little delay experienced in the working of the scheme.

WATER SUPPLIES. As reported in 1942 the Last Quarter of that Year had shewn that the quality of the supply was unsatisfactory.

Investigations conducted by the Consulting Engineer in association with the Bacteriologist and Chemist from Harper Adams College resulted in the fault being traced to a leakage of oil and other foreign matter into the main source of the Town Supply.

Recourse had to be taken to the dismantling of this pump and for the major portion of the Year this borehole was not in use. To meet the needs of the homes two auxillary shallower wells had to be used and dependence had to be placed on chlorination to secure reasonable purity.

It was only by the strictest conservancy of the available supplies that the Authority was able to maintain a reasonably adequate provision and it was fortunate that no marked shortage occurred. Any complaint made was of taste (chlorination) and this evidence of safeguarding will disappear with the return to normal supply.

As soon as conditions permit the whole water system will require to be closely investigated to provide not only an assured quantity but also ample storage and reserve. This the Council have in mind and preliminary steps are being taken.

It can be said that a reasonable constant supply has been able to be maintained over the Year, that the purity has been watched carefully and the incoming year should show improvement.

In the Town most of the homes have their own indoor service, some 5/10 per cent. being dependent on standpipes.



SEWERAGE AND DISPOSAL. No change has been made at the works, attention being directed to supervision of the outfalls, effluent channels and the removal of sludge from the septic tanks as required.

No additional sewerage has been found to be necessary.

Negotiations are in progress with the Wellington Rural Council to provide main service facilities to that Authority, for a limited number of their houses in the Church Aston Area; The final disposal being through the Council's disposal works. When this scheme is completed a ditch, subject to nuisance, will be piped and eliminated.

#### SECTION D.

HOUSING. No new houses have been built by the Council.

Inspections have been carried out and notices for urgent repairs have been served as necessary. This work has been completed as labour conditions permitted. Again maintenance work on Council Housing Schemes has continued and inspections undertaken of these properties.

Tenants have in a number of cases been instructed to improve the conditions of their homes; the internal management is kept under supervision and it has been found that there is need for considerable improvement in several cases.

Licences have been renewed for condemned properties relet and further houses have been opened under this scheme during the Year.

SALWAGE. This service functions well under the <sup>ORGANISATION</sup> ~~control~~ of the Women's Voluntary Service. A regular house to house collection is made of waste paper, cardboard and bones. Paper and cardboard from local shops and trading establishments is gathered by the Staff of the Authority who undertake the baling and disposal.

This service has shewn a substantial profit.



SECTION E.

MILK AND DAIRIES. There are 15 cowkeepers and Retailers on the Register. No new ones have been added during the Year.

Number of Accredited Licences ... ..	0
Number of Tuberculin Testes Licences...	1
Number of Pasteurising Licences . ...	1

Cow sheds are inspected regularly and where cleanliness and relining of walls has been neglected, attention is drawn to these omissions.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The Urban and parts of the adjoining Districts continue to be served by a central slaughter-house situated in the Town. This is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

In addition to a considerable quantity of offal the following carcasses have been condemned:-

Cattle ... ..	14.
Calves ... ..	3.
Sheep ... ..	39.
Pigs ... ..	7.

Inspection of other foodstuffs has been carried out and the following articles have been condemned and destroyed:-

Eggs ... ..	941.
Tins (meat) ... ..	86.
Tins (Milk) ... ..	134.
Tins (fish) ... ..	29.
Tins (veg.) ... ..	8.
Tins (fruit) ... ..	34.
Bacon and Ham ... ..	2 cwts. 1½ qrs.
Fish cake. ... ..	34 lbs.
Tins (Jam) ... ..	18.
Oranges ... ..	57 lbs.



## SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and  
Allied Diseases.

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of deaths:-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Cases notified.</u>		Deaths.
	1943.	1942.	
Scarlet Fever	4.	8.	-
Measles	38.	-	-
Whooping Cough	10.	5.	1.
Diphtheria	1.	1.	-
Pneumonia	12.	5.	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4.	1.	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2.	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1.	-	1.

Incidence of disease in the various  
age groups.

Years.	Scarlet Fever		Measles		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-	-	-	1.	1.	-	1.	-	-
1-	-	-	5.	3.	-	1.	-	-
3-	-	-	3.	6.	1.	1.	-	-
5-	3	1	8.	9.	3.	1.	-	-
10.	-	-	1.	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	-	-	-	1.	1.	1.	-	1.

Years.	Pneumonia.	
	Male	Female.
0-	-	1.
5-	3.	2.
15-	1.	1.
45	1.	-
65	2.	1.



Scabies. 116 cases were treated at the Newport Centre, and 3 at Donnington. Of these 119 individual cases, in certain instances repeatment of treatment was found necessary.

The facilities provided were found to be of great service, and although circumstances arose which limited the use of the Auxiliary Centre at Donnington, the Newport Centre was able to cope with all demands made on it. Whilst the disease was prevalent in the spring and summer months, the close of year showed a decline in numbers.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The bi-annual return submitted to the Ministry of Health for the period ending December 31st 1943 was as follows:-

	Age under 5 years.	5 years and over but under 15.	Total.
Number of children including temporary residents who completed the full course of immun. between 1st January and 31st December.	74.	33.	107
Approximate estimated number of children in the Authority's Area at 31st December, 1943.	277.	628.	905.
Percentage of child population considered to be immunised at 31st December, 1943.	62%	60%	

The clinical control of the scheme for Diphtheria prophylaxis continues to be administered by the County Health Department; a small number of cases however still continue to receive treatment from their private doctors.

Tuberculosis. The number of notified cases on the register at 31st December, 1943, and the comparative number for 1941 and 1942 are as follows:-

... the cases were noted by the report ...  
... (I) these individuals were, in certain instances, repeat-

... of treatment was found necessary.

The facilities provided were found to be of great service, and

... which helped the use of the ...  
... the hospital ... was able to cope with all

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	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulm.	Pulmonary	Non-Pulm.	
1943.	10.	11.	6.	23.	50.
1942.	11.	11.	5.	23.	50.
1941.	11.	10.	5.	21.	47.

<u>New Cases.</u>			
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary		Total
1.	1.		2.

Death Rates.

	Newport	England & Wales.
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1000 pop.	.27	.50 X
Death Rate from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1000 pop.	.27.	.11 X
Total Death Rate (all forms)	.54.	.61 X

N.B. X indicates provisional figures.

New Cases and Mortality 1943.

Age Group	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15	-	-	1.	-	-	-	1.	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	-	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	1.	-	-	-
Totals	-	1.	1.	-	1.	-	1.	-

Cancer.

The number of deaths from Cancer in 1943 was 8 (5 males and 3 females).

	Newport	England & Wales.
Death Rate per 1000000 living	2206.	1723.

(SIGNED) W.A.M. STEWART.

Medical Officer of Health.

27th June, 1944.

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