

[Report 1942] / Medical Officer of Health, North Cotswold R.D.C.

Contributors

North Cotswold (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1942

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NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR 1942.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

Stephen Knight. M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; D.P.H.,
(since 1st. September 1939, serving in R.A.M.C)

Deputy Acting Medical Officer of Health.

J. E. Jameson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.C., D.R.O.G.

Surveyor & Chief Sanitary Inspector.

J. E. Busfield. Testamur, Institution of Municipal and
County Engineers: Certified Sanitary
Inspector: Certified Meats and Food
Inspector: Sanitary Science Certificate.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

R.A. Warboys. Certified Sanitary Inspector.
(to May 1942)

A. Ede Certified Sanitary Inspector.
Certified Meats and Food Inspector,
Sanitary Science Certificate.
(March 1942)

Council Offices,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	86,218.
Registrar-General's estimate of -	
(a) Resident population - mid 1940)	
(b) Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates)	17,990
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to rate books	4,984.
Rateable value. 31st. December 1942.	£ 88,948.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£ 363. 7. 5.

Social Conditions.

The people in the district are mainly engaged in agriculture, market gardening, fruit growing, and associated occupations.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>
Legitimate	350	182	168
Illegitimate	21	9	12
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population			17.0

Still Births.

Legitimate.	11	5	6
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			30.4

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>
	205	100	105

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population. 11.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)</u>
No. 29. Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30. Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil.
Total:	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	41.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	95.2

DEATHS FROM CANCER.	30
" " MEASLES (all ages)	Nil
" " WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	Nil.
" " DIARRHOEA (all ages)	Nil

GENERAL COMMENT.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have there been any specially noteworthy causes of sickness or invalidity requiring comment.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The County Council have arrangements for the examination of sputum, swabs and other pathological material at the Cheltenham General Hospital. As a war time measure additional laboratory facilities are now available at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford.

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious cases. The ambulance service is provided by the Delancy Hospital, Cheltenham.

(b) Other cases. The Cheltenham Ambulance Service is under agreement with the Council to serve the whole area. In addition, A.R.P. Services maintain five whole time ambulances and four part-time ambulances in the area. The service is adequate.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

The whole area is covered by the District Nursing Association.

4. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Stow-on-the-Wold.	1st. & 3rd. Tuesdays
Blockley	Alternate Wednesdays
Moreton-in-Marsh.	2nd. Tuesdays.
Bourton-on-the-Water.	2nd. & 4th. Fridays.
Camden.	2nd. & 4th. Mondays.

5. HOSPITALS.

(a) Voluntary. Moreton District Hospital (Maternity, Medical & Surgical)
Bourton-on-the-Water, Cottage Hospital (Medical & Surgical)

(b) Infectious. The Delancy Isolation Hospital, Cheltenham.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (a) Particulars of new sources of public supply.

During the year a supply of water was made available to two R.A.F. Stations, one at Weston Subedge, and one in the Stratford-upon-Avon Rural District. The scheme involved the development of springs at Weston Park, and for this purpose collecting works, chlorination plant and recording apparatus were constructed. As the supply in the drier periods of the year would not be sufficient to meet the requirements of the Air Ministry, arrangements were made for augmentation from the Council's Springhill Reservoir, a main for this purpose being laid from this Reservoir to Saintbury Coppice. Thereafter, a main is laid through Weston Subedge, skirting Aston Subedge and Mickleton to the Stratford-upon-Avon Rural District. This system has made it possible to supply Saintbury, Aston Subedge and Mickleton, whilst Weston Subedge is now supplied from this system.

To meet additional requirements of the War Department, an additional spring at Blockley has been developed so as to provide augmentation water to the main Blockley Pumping Station, the works necessitated at the construction of a Pumping Well with a Pump House over, and the laying of a 4" main to the collecting well at Mill Cottage. This augmentation supply is for use in dry periods when the springs at Mill Cottage are insufficient to meet the very considerable call now being made upon the Council's Water Supply System.

(b) Particulars of extension of existing main.

Extension of the Council's distribution system was carried out during the year to provide the War Department with their requirements at Bourton-on-the-Hill and Meugersbury.

(c) Measures taken and/or in force for discovery of contamination (including number of samples taken for examination.)

Sampling of supplies, both public and private, in all parishes. A total number of 83 samples were taken during the year.

(d) Number of new connections with Public Supply - 43.

(e) Particulars of supply where unsatisfactory in quality or in quantity.

Similar remarks may be made concerning unsatisfactory supplies as were made in the last Annual Report.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

- (a) Particulars of new schemes completed during the year - Nil.
(b) New works commenced during the year. - Nil.
(c) Particulars of contemplated works. - Nil.
(d) Particulars of parishes where there is need of Sewerage System - Mickleton, Willersey and Bourton-on-the-Hill.
Improvements in existing sewerage. - Nil.
Improvements in sewage disposal. - Nil.

(3) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Action taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

Periodic inspection of private disposal systems.

(4) CLOSET ACCOMODATION.

- (a) Number of earth closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed. - 23.
(b) Number of replacements of earth closets etc. by W.C's. - 9.

(5) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

All parishes in the district are covered by the system of refuse collection and disposal.

The emptying of latrine buckets for the troops stationed in the district has been continued.

As will be seen from the figures below, the salvaging of useful materials has been continued successfully:-

	<u>Approximate Quantity.</u>	<u>Value Estimated.</u>
Paper.	191 tons	£1214.
Rags.	84 "	£130
Non Ferrous Metal.	1½ "	£27.
Rags and sacking.	13½ "	£126
Rubber.	5¼ "	£6.
Bones.	4 "	£14.

(6). SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

(a)	Inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	1563.
(b)	Nuisances discovered and reported	...	...	...	...	...	173
	" " " " " "					Swine only	1
(c)	Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	296
(d)	Informal or preliminary notices sent	...	...	...	...	...	132
(e)	Statutory notices sent	...	...	...	...	...	13
(f)	Nuisances abated.	...	...	...	...	...	127
(g)	Summonses issued	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(h)	Convictions obtained	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

(7) PREMISES OR OCCUPATIONS SUBJECT TO STATUTORY NOTICES.

(a) Shops and Offices.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	47
Number of inspections made	1...	...	...	...	...	68

Particulars of actions taken during the year.

- (1) Under Shop Acts 1934. No action taken.
 (2) Under Public Health Act 1936. " " "

(b) Factories with Power.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	53

(c) Factories without Power.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	19
Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	32

(d) Bakchouses.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	15
Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	29

(e) Offensive Trades.

No offensive trades in the district.

(f) Outworkers residences.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	2.

All outworkers residences are used for the manufacture of gloves and conditions were found to be quite satisfactory.

(g) Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number inspected.	...	...	...	...	...	72
Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	95

Actions taken.

Byelaws for tents, vans and sheds, and fruit pickers lodgings are in operation.

Conditions generally showed improvement during the pea and fruit picking seasons.

(h) Canal Bosta. - Nil.

(1) Cowsheds and Dairies.

Number inspected	...	...	...	...	...	187
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	235

Action taken.

Improvement to many cowsheds and dairies were effected during the year.

Number of samples taken.	...	...	...	...	163
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Where found to be unsatisfactory, advice was given to the producers concerned.

(j) Milk Shops. - Nil.

(8) SNOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints and no action necessary.

(9) BUG ERADICATION.

	<u>Council Houses.</u>	<u>Other Houses.</u>
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(a) Number of houses found to be infected	Nil.	Nil.
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(b) Number of houses disinfected.	Nil.	Nil.
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(c) Methods employed for freeing infected houses.

Blowlamp round walls and floors, destruction of bedding etc. where necessary.

(d) All houses subject to clearance or demolition orders are inspected but no instances of infestation have been found.

(10) SCHOOLS.

A piped water supply is being laid on to the Great Rissington C. of E. School.

(11) CAMPING SITES.

(1) Number of sites used for camping during the year.	5.
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(2) Number of sites in which licences have been issued under Section 269 of Public Health Act, 1936.	1.
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(3) Estimated number of campers resident in the district at one time during the summer season.	35.
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(4) Remarks. Most camping sites are used for very short periods, insufficient for registration.

(12) SWIMMING POOL AND NATURAL FACILITIES FOR SWIMMING.

(a) Particulars of any swimming baths or pools open to the public and action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water

(1) Publicly owned. - Nil.

(2) Privately owned - one at Broad Campden.

(b) Particulars of any natural facilities for swimming in lakes, rivers, etc. in the area and the condition of the water for bathing.

(1) The River Windrush is used at a point below Bourton-on-the-Water, the water being quite suitable for this purpose.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

(1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(a) 1.	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	489
2.	Number of inspections made for this purpose.	632
(b) 1.	Number of houses included under the above which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1937.	57
2.	Number of inspections made for this purpose.	86
(c)	Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil.
(d)	Number of houses exclusive of those referred to under (c) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	42

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action.	37
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(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Act.

1.	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
2.	Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a)	By owners.	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936. (Part II Repairs, Demolition, Closure)

1.	Repairs (9, 10 and 16)	
(a)	Number of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs.	3
(b)	Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
	By owners.	2
	By Local Authority in default of owners.	1
2.	Demolition (sections 11 and 13)	
(a)	Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders made.	Nil
(b)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	Nil.

3. Closure of portions of buildings (Section 12)

- (a) Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Order was made. Nil.
- (b) Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil.

Part 111. (Clearance, Re-Development and Improvement Areas)

- 1. Clearance Area declarations made by Council. Nil.
- 2. Clearance Orders submitted and awaiting confirmation by Minister. Nil
- 3. Clearance Orders submitted and rejected by Minister. Nil
- 4. Clearance Orders submitted and confirmed by Minister. Nil
- 5. Re-development Area Declarations made by Council. Nil
- 6. Re-development Plans submitted and awaiting confirmation by Minister. Nil
- 7. Re-development Plans submitted and rejected by Minister. Nil
- 8. Re-development Plans submitted and confirmed by Minister. Nil
- 9. Improvement Area Declaration made by Council. Nil

Part 1V. - Overcrowding.

Overcrowding is a problem which continues to fluctuate, but on a somewhat increased scale. Under present circumstances it is impossible to give the number of cases of overcrowding which exist, and owing to the increasing shortage of houses, it is impossible to deal with even a small proportion of the cases which come to the notice of the department.

PARTICULARS RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL POPULATION.

Action under Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of houses provided for members of agricultural population to relieve overcrowding, and subject to Ministry and County Council Grants under Section 108 and 115 (3) Nil.
- (2) Number of houses provided for members of the agricultural population, exclusive of those for the relief of overcrowding, and subject to grant from the County Council under Section 115. (2). Nil.

ALL NEW HOUSES.

- (1) Total of new houses erected during the year. Nil.
- (2) New houses erected during the year with State assistance under Housing Acts. Nil.
 - (a) By local Authority. Nil.
 - (b) By other bodies or persons. Nil.
- (3) New houses erected during the year without subsidy. Nil.
 - (a) Council. Nil.
 - (b) Others. Nil.
- (4) New houses during the year proposed to be erected under Housing Acts but not yet built. Nil.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Dairies, Cowsheds, Milk Shops.

Number inspected.	187.
Number of inspections.	235

Improvements to cowsheds and dairies were effected during the year. 163 samples of milk were taken and where these were found to be unsatisfactory, advice was given to the producers concerned.

(b) Meat and other foods.

Meat for the district is obtained from two centralised slaughterhouses, one at Cheltenham and one at Evesham.

Periodical inspections of the meat on arrival in the shops are carried out, and it was not found necessary to condemn any butchers' meat during 1942.

So far as handling the meat in transit is concerned, only one complaint was received and generally speaking, the conditions during transit are quite satisfactory. Concerning the one complaint received, the trouble was not due to any lack of cleanliness, but simply to the fact that offal had been in a container under closed conditions for too long a period, and certain of the offal was unfit for use.

(c) Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933.

At the end of the year there were 48 licensed slaughtermen.

(d) Meat and Food Condemned during 1942.

42.	tins meat.
16	tins fish
450	lbs. fish.
25 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. cheese.
73	tins milk.
8	tins beans.
22	tins fruit.
2	tins soup
1	tin tomatoes.
3	tins peas.
10	tins vegetables.
9	pots preserves.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
During the year 1942.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospitals.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	2	Nil.
Diphtheria	5	4	Nil.
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	2	2	-
<u>Other diseases generally notifiable</u>			
Pneumonia	9	-	7
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Acute polio myelitis	1	-	1
Measles.	35	-	-
Whooping Cough.	5	-	-

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
0	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	2	1	-	-	-	3	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	3	4	6	-	-	4	1	-

