

**[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Rothwell (Northamptonshire)  
U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Rothwell (Northamptonshire, England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1944

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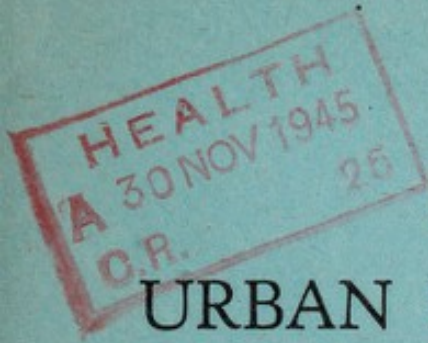
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ROTHWELL  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year 1944.

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KETTERING :  
H. RICHARDSON, WATER STREET.





# Urban District of Rothwell.

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## *Members of the Public Health Committee :*

1944. MESSRS. H. SUMPTER (*Chairman*), L. F. BARLOW, S. L. AUSTIN, J. W. ROWLETT AND W. MAIDS.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are  
ex-officio members.

## *Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :*

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

JOHN TERENCE MURPHY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds the appointments of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Councils of Burton Latimer, Corby, Desborough, the Rural Council of Kettering and Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Northamptonshire County Council.

### *Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :*

JOHN MILES, A.R.S.I.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
75, LONDON ROAD,  
KETTERING.

*August, 1945.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for 1944.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and also to the Clerk, and to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Miles, for his willing help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. MURPHY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944.

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Area (acres) ... ..	3638	3638	3638	3638	3638
Population (Registrar-General's estimate). ... ..	4829	4918	4559	4432	4458
Number of Live Births ... ..	70	54	94	84	99
Legitimate ... ..	67	53	91	73	81
Illegitimate ... ..	3	1	3	11	18
Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	14.49	10.98	20.61	18.95	22.20
Number of Still Births ... ..	2	—	1	5	2
Legitimate ... ..	2	—	1	5	2
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ..	27.77	—	10.52	56.18	19.80
Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	0.41	—	0.21	1.12	0.44
Number of Deaths ... ..	65	68	52	64	55
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.46	13.82	11.40	14.44	12.33
Total Maternal Deaths ... ..	—	1	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal Causes	—	1	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	57.14	55.55	21.27	83.33	30.30
*Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	3	6	5	5	5
*Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	5	3	5	4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	8	11	10	7	8
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

\* Registrar General's figures.

# BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Para- typhoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Influenza	Diarr- hoea & Enteritis under 2 yrs	Total Deaths under 1 yr
England and Wales ...	17.6	0.50	11.6	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.12	4.8	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	20.3	0.64	13.7	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.10	7.3	52
148 Smaller Towns (estd. resident populations, 25,000—50,000). ...	20.9	0.61	12.4	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.11	4.4	44
London ... ..	15.0	0.42	15.7	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.08	10.1	61
ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT	22.20	0.44	12.33	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.00	30.30
The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales per 1,000 total births ...												
"	"	Rothwell	"	"	"	"	"	0.31	0.09	0.28	1.25	1.93
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



## SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres) ... ..	3,638
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	4,458
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books ... ..	1,470
Rateable Value ... ..	£19,917
Sum represented by Penny Rate ... ..	£75

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows :—  
 Boot and shoe manufacture, ironstone mining and manufacture of agricultural implements.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS.				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Legitimate	...	...	...	81	53	28
Illegitimate	...	...	...	18	10	8
Totals				99	63	36

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 22.20

STILL BIRTHS.				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
				2	1	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 19.80

DEATHS.				TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
				55	27	28

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.33

Deaths from Puerperal causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	30.30
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	37.03
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	8

**Deaths.**—No “comparability” factor was issued for 1944, owing to the magnitude of local population changes and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths. Non-civilian deaths registered after 3rd September, 1939, are excluded.

**Births.**—The following table shows the birth rate for 1944 together with the rate for England and Wales.

#### LIVE BIRTH RATES 1944.

Rothwell	...	...	...	22.20
England and Wales	...	...	...	17.6

Infantile Mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding and maternity and child welfare.

#### INFANILE MORTALITY RATES 1944.

Rothwell	...	...	...	30.30
England and Wales	...	...	...	46.0

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL
All Causes	27	28	55
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	1	4
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	1	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—
9. Influenza	1	1	2
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and poliomyelitis	—	—	—
12. Acute infantile encephalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer	6	2	8
14. Diabetes	2	—	2
15. Heart disease	9	11	20
16. Intracranial vascular lesions	1	2	3
17. Other circulatory diseases	2	1	3
18. Bronchitis	—	1	1
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	—	1	1
20. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—	—
22. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	—



REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued.*

				MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
23.	Appendicitis	...	...	—	—	—
24.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Nephritis	...	...	2	2	4
26.	Puerperal Causes	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Premature Birth	...	...	—	2	2
28.	Congenital debility, malformation, and birth injury	...	...	1	1	2
29.	Suicide	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Other violent causes	...	...	—	1	1
32.	All other causes	...	...	—	1	1

**SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.**

(a) **Laboratory facilities.**—Bacteriological examinations have been carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton.

The following specimens were examined :—

				1944
Swabs	...	...	...	11
Blood	...	...	...	1
Faeces	...	...	...	21
Urine	...	...	...	—

(b) **Ambulance facilities.**—Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance of the Joint Hospital Board. Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the Desborough or Kettering ambulance under the administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—The Rothwell Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the County Nursing Association, provides the services of a whole-time nurse. Details of the work carried out during 1944 are as follows :—

<i>General</i>	<i>Cases Nursed Midwifery</i>	<i>Maternity</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
150	26	34	3,802

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Child Welfare Clinic is held twice monthly. A Medical Officer attends one session each month.

The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

Orthopaedic cases attend the Manfield Orthopaedic Clinic at Kettering and persons suffering from Venereal Diseases are treated at the Kettering and District General Hospital every Thursday evening under the County Council scheme.

Under the Scabies Order, 1941, a cleansing centre was established in 1942 and the services of a nurse was obtained for treating women and children.

<i>Number ascertained</i>	<i>Number treated at Centre.</i>	<i>Number treated at home.</i>
50	47	3

Four contacts also received treatment with Benzyl Benzoate.

Diphtheria Immunisation : From 1941 free immunisation against diphtheria was offered to all children from 1-15 years of age.

The numbers immunised were as follows :—

	<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>Between 5 and 15 years.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1941	115	476	591
1942	59	13	72
1943	111	70	181
1944	77	33	110
TOTALS	362	592	954

The percentage of children immunised up to December 31st, 1944 is :—

<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>Between 5 and 15 years.</i>
75%	89%

As children reach the age of fifteen years they are excluded from the percentage of immunised children.

## SECTIONS C. & E. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and Inspection and Supervision of Food.

**Water.**—As a consequence of low rainfall during the winter and spring of this year, the yield of water failed to meet the demand and restricted supplies only were available from 7th June to the 3rd November. For a period during the late summer, water was available to the public for only 6½ hours per day.

Frequent samples of water were taken at intervals during the year for bacteriological testing. In every case, the treated water was found to be thoroughly satisfactory. In one instance the laboratory report on a sample of untreated water was “an unsatisfactory count but no evidence of faecal pollution.”

Approximately 98% of the population of the district receive water from the undertaking. It is estimated that 75% of the houses in the area are supplied with water from fittings inside the house and the balance of the population depends on common standpipes.



**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**—No alteration was made during the year in either the sewerage system or the disposal works. The plant is in good order but it may be necessary in the near future to change the media in one or two of the circular filters.

**Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**—The total number of inspections carried out during the year was 434. The following summary indicates the scope of the work done :

Number of notices served during the year :

Statutory	...	...	...	...	4
Abated	...	...	...	...	4
Informal	...	...	...	...	46
Abated	...	...	...	...	38

The principle defects noted were :

Defective or stopped drains	...	63
Structural defects	...	75
Sub-standard sanitary accommodation	...	35
Houses in dirty condition	...	8
Rat infestations	...	7

**Meat and Other Foods.**—The following summary indicates the work done under this heading :

Meat (including tinned meat) condemned and destroyed	88 lb.
Fish do. ... ..	3 lb.
Vegetables (tinned) ... ..	5 lb.

**Bakehouses.**—The four bakehouses were each inspected four times during the year and a very satisfactory standard of cleanliness was maintained in each case.

**Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.**—Monthly inspections of all dairies and cowsheds were made throughout the year and the summary of the results of the samples show an improvement on the previous records.

85 samples of milk were submitted to the methylene blue test. The reports being :—

Good	...	...	...	...	67
Moderate	...	...	...	...	12
Bad	...	...	...	...	6

Ten samples of pasteurised milk were also submitted to the phosphatase test and all the samples satisfied the test.

The following gives the position with regard to milk production in the district on 31st December, 1944 :—

Number of cowsheds	...	...	14
Number of retailers	...	...	7

			<i>Producers.</i>	<i>Retailers.</i>
Tuberculin tested milk	...	...	Nil	1
Accredited milk	...	...	2	Nil
Pasteurised milk	...	...	Nil	1
Ungraded milk	...	...	11	5

## SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.

**Smallpox.**—No cases were notified.

**Enteric Fever.**—No cases were notified.

**Scarlet Fever.**—Sixteen cases occurred, ten were removed to hospital. The disease was mild and there were no deaths.

**Diphtheria.**—One case occurred in a girl aged eleven years. She had been immunised and recovered from the infection.

**Erysipelas.**—One case was notified in an elderly person complicating operation for carcinoma of the breast. The patient died.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**—One case was reported. The patient was nursed at home and recovered.

**Dysentery.**—Three cases of sonne dysentery were notified. All were nursed at home and recovered.

**Measles.**—One case of measles was notified ; there were fifty-eight cases the previous year. The patient remained at home and recovered.

**Whooping Cough.**—There were seventeen cases. All were nursed at home and all recovered.

Tables are shown giving the age and monthly incidence of the infectious diseases.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during the year.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172. No action was taken under this section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

Four cases of pulmonary and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. The records show that two deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year.

**Tuberculosis After-Care.**—The Committee continue to show keenness in the welfare of the patients and in the preventive side of tuberculosis.

## Government Evacuation Scheme.

No official reception of evacuees occurred during the year.

				<i>Evacuees received.</i>	<i>State at end of Year.</i>
1944	...	...	...	—	189



MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1944.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including typhoid and paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	7	2	16
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	2	4	2	2	—	—	2	3	17
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	4	2	3	5	2	2	4	—	9	6	40

# AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1944.

Disease	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Enteric Fever (including typhoid and paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	10	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	1	4	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	1	4	2	4	19	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	40	11	1



### NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Respiratory.</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	1	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	1	—	—
25—	—	1	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	1	—

### DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	—	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
Totals	2	—	—	—

These figures, which are locally compiled, differ from the Registrar-General's figures given in page 2.





