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SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1951

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1900

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

FOR

1900



SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the
Sidmouth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the public health of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

The report conforms as closely as possible with the requirements laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2/50, dated 25th January, 1950.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	11,475 acres
Number of inhabited houses ...	3,290
Rateable Value	£110,461
Sum represented by a penny rate	£440. 15. 1.53d.
Population	9,795

Vital Statistics

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births (Legitimate)	98	52	46
Live Births (Illegitimate)	11	4	7
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	= 11.13		
Still Births (Legitimate)	2	2	-
Still Births (Illegitimate)	-	-	-
Rate of still births per 1000 total (live and still births)	= 18.01		
Deaths	180	86	94
Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	= 18.37		
Deaths from puerperal causes	= 1		
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age (Legitimate)	2	1	1
do (Illegitimate)	-	-	-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks " (Legitimate)	2	1	1
do (Illegitimate)	-	-	-
Death rate of all infants per 1000 live births	= 18.34.		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32		
Deaths from Measles	nil		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .	nil		

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

(a) Council Officials, Health Department

Medical Officer
Sanitary Inspectors

E.L.Perry D.S.O., D.P.H.,
Stanley T. Chard, M.S.I.A.,
C. Rodgers, M.S.I.A., (to 31.3.51.)
E.P.Bennett, (from 1.8.52)

- (b) (i) Laboratory Facilities: These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Exeter.
- (ii) Ambulance Facilities: All ambulance facilities are provided by the County Council.

1. WATER

- (i) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in both quantity and quality, excepting the supply of Salcombe Regis which is a private supply. The Consulting Engineers are still considering the possibilities of an alternative supply in this case.
- (ii) Altogether 47 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and two for chemical examination. All supplies bacteriologically examined after chlorination have been entirely satisfactory. The bulk of the Council's supply is chlorinated. The two chemical analyses made were satisfactory. The number of bacteriological analyses made has been large this year owing to the prospect of the new scheme for chlorination being undertaken in the near future.
- (iii) The supply from all springs which yield plumbo-solvent water is passed through beds of limestone chippings.
- (iv) There are 3290 dwelling houses in the area, of which 3276 are supplied direct from the mains. The remainder (24) are fed by standpipes and these are mainly in the Parish of Sidbury, which has a private supply maintained by the Sidbury Manor Estate.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Much attention is being paid to the matter of pollution of the River Sid. Every source of pollution, such as overflows from septic tanks, etc. are being sought out and examined. This is important in view of our suspicion that the sewer which passes close to the River on the west bank may possibly be a source of danger to the River.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

I have nothing further to add to my observations in the preceding paragraph.

4. (i) Closet Accommodation

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(ii) Public Cleansing

The refuse collection is under the control of the Surveyor and is satisfactory.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area

See Sanitary Inspector's tabular statement.

(iv) Public Conveniences

Great attention is being paid to these owing to the large increase in the day by day visitors to the town and all necessary steps are being taken to maintain their upkeep and condition to deal with the increasing use of them.

(v) Shops and Offices

See Sanitary Inspector's tabular report.

(vi) Camping Sites

- (a) The number of sites used for camping purposes during 1951 was two.
- (b) The number of licences in respect of camping sites issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was two.

(vii) Smoke Abatement

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(viii) Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

(ix) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No cases were dealt with during the year.

5. SCHOOLS.

No change to report.

SECTION D.

Housing.

With the progress in housing it is now possible to issue a certain number of Closing Orders on very bad property.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

I have noted that there is a very considerable quantity of European tinned ham that has to be condemned, this appears to be due to the failure to provide such bulky food with conveyors that will stand up to the transport.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Cases admitted</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
	<u>Notified</u>	<u>to Hospital</u>	
Erisipelas	2	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	2	-
Measles	17	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	2	2	-
Whooping Cough	5	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	-
Dysentery	10	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1951.

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 upwards	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-

Statistics provided by the Registrar-General

Total Deaths in 1951 - 180

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2.	0.
2. Tuberculosis, other	1.	0.
3. Syphilitic disease	2.	0.
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4.	2.
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lungs, Bronchus	3.	0.
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	0.	3.
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	0.	2.
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	11.	7.
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1.	0.
16. Diabetes	1.	1.
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	11.	16.
18. Coronary disease, angina	13.	9.
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2.	0.
20. Other heart disease	15.	20.
21. Other circulatory disease	1.	13.
22. Influenza	1.	2.
23. Pneumonia	0.	1.
24. Bronchitis	4.	2.
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	0.	2.
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1.	0.
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2.	2.
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	4.	0.
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	0.	1.
31. Congenital malformations	0.	1.
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6.	7.
34. All other accidents	1.	1.
35. Suicide	0.	2.
Total	86.	94.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

E.L.PERRY.

Medical Officer of Health.

SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1951.

TABLE I

Visits, Interviews, etc.

GENERAL SANITATION.

No. of Visits

Water Supply	19
Drainage	75
Sewer and River sampling	8
Movable Dwellings	19
Factories	18
Accumulations and Deposits	4
Refuse Tip	10
Pests	6
Dustbins	4
Rodent Control	104
" " (sewer baiting)	67
Animals improperly kept	4
Smoke abatement	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Enquiries in case of I.D.	15
Enquiries in case of other diseases	4
Visits re disinfection	10

FOODSHOPS AND RESTAURANTS.

Visited and inspected	57
Visits to Slaughterhouses	2
Visits to other premises and pig slaughter	2

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Visits to cowsheds	4
Visits to dairies	10

HOUSING.

Visits under Housing and Public Health Acts	83
Visits re dirty or verminous premises	14
Miscellaneous housing visits (including Council houses)	114

INTERVIEWS, ETC.

Interviews and appointments	67
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TABLE II

Complaints received	28
Nuisances abated	15
<u>Notices Served</u>	
Intimation Notices sent	14
Statutory Notices served	2
Statutory Notices complied with	2

DRAINAGE.

No. of complete new house drainage systems	7
" " house drainage systems repaired, relaid or extended ...	18
" " new water closets	21
" " old closets replaced with new	4
" " drains tested	23
" " drains cleared	5

DISINFECTION.

No. of premises disinfected after I.D.	8
" " " " " T.B.	4
" " " " " for other reasons	3
Lots of bedding or clothing disinfected after I.D.	4
" " " " " T.B.	4
" " " " " for other reasons	6

UNFOOD.

The following amounts of unfood were examined, condemned on voluntary surrender for destruction of salvage during the year:

Meat and Meat Products:

21b. Pork Sausage
160 tins Meat Products (chiefly imported Ham).
2 Chickens
12 lbs. Pressed Beef.

Fruit and Vegetables:

478 tins
12 packets Tomato Cubes.

Milk and Milk Products:

36 tins
51 lbs. Danish Gorgonzola Cheese.
4½ lbs. Cheddar cheese.
8 lbs. other cheeses.

Fish and Fish Products:

197 tins.
2 stones baby Halibut.
3 stones Megrims.
2 boxes dried Cod Fillets.
2 stones Finner Haddock

Miscellaneous Food:

79 lbs. Chocolates, tainted with paint thinners.

HOUSING SUMMARY

	<u>Demolished.</u>	<u>Closed.</u>	<u>Reconditioned.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Houses dealt with previous to 1951:</u>	63	15	66	144
<u>Houses dealt with during 1951:</u>				
Clearance Areas	nil	nil	nil	nil
Individual unfit houses	nil	nil	nil	nil
Houses reconditioned	-	-	2	2
Total	63	15	68	146

I am,

Your obedient servant,

STANLEY T. CHARD.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ROAD
KOLING

MEAT

100 lbs. of meat, less bones to large portion	7
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to small portion	10
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to medium portion	21
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to large portion	3
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to small portion	10
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to medium portion	21

MEAT

100 lbs. of meat, less bones to large portion	7
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to small portion	10
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to medium portion	21
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to large portion	3
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to small portion	10
100 lbs. of meat, less bones to medium portion	21

MEAT

The following amounts of meat and food were destroyed, consumed or voluntary surrendered for destruction of surplus during the year:

Meat and Meat Products:

- 100 lbs. Pork Sausage
- 100 lbs. Meat Products (chiefly imported meat).
- 2 Sausages
- 12 lbs. Processed Beef.

Fruit and Vegetables:

- 100 lbs.
- 12 packets Potato Cakes.

Milk and Milk Products:

- 100 lbs.
- 100 lbs. Danish Gorgonzola Cheese.
- 100 lbs. Cheddar cheese.
- 100 lbs. other cheeses.

Fish and Fish Products:

- 100 lbs.
- 100 lbs. baby Halibut.
- 100 lbs. Mackerel.
- 100 lbs. dried Cod Fillets.
- 100 lbs. Finnish Salmon.

Miscellaneous Foods:

- 100 lbs. Chocolates, coated with peanut shavings.

MEAT

	Available	Consumed	Voluntarily Surrendered	Total
Meat dealt with previous to 1931	51	113	16	180
Meat dealt with during 1931				
Government stores	111	111	111	333
Individual units bought	111	111	111	333
Excess of production	-	-	2	2
Total	51	113	16	180

100

For official record,

WILLIAM T. CHASE.

Chief Marketing Inspector.