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Contributors

Sedgefield (England). Rural District Council.

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Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present

an interim report for the year 1939, this being as requested by
the Ministry of Health in Circular 2067 dated the 19th July, 1940.

General Statistics.

Area: 39,312 acres.

Population: 32,301.

Number of inhabited houses, Dec. 31st, 1939: 8,907.

Rateable Value: £115,979.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £435.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS:-	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate:-	260.	252.	512.
Illegitimate:-	8.	7.	15.
	<u>268.</u>	<u>259.</u>	<u>527.</u>
STILL BIRTHS:-			
Legitimate:-	14.	13.	27.
Illegitimate:-	-	-	-
	<u>14.</u>	<u>13.</u>	<u>27.</u>
DEATHS:-	198.	168.	366.

Birth Rate:- 17.36.

Death Rate:- All causes 11.31.

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age:- 35

Death-rate per 1000 births:- Legitimate 65.4

Illegitimate 3.74

Infantile Mortality Rate:- 62.27

Causes of Death.

	Male.	Female.
All causes	198.	168.
Measles	2.	3.
Whooping Cough.	1.	1.
Influenza	5.	3.
Encephalitis Lethargica	-.	-.
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	7.	5.
Other tuberculous diseases ..	3.	1.
Syphilis	1.	-.

			Male.	Female.
Cancer, malignant disease...	...	...	20.	13.
Diabetes	...	...	1.	5.
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	...	...	18.	20.
Heart Disease.	...	...	56.	45.
Aneurysm	...	...	1.	-.
Other circulatory diseases.	...	...	13.	9.
Bronchitis.	...	...	6.	6.
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	11.	3.
Other respiratory diseases ..	...	...	6.	-.
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	2.	-.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	-.	-.
Cirrhosis of liver.	...	...	-.	-.
Other diseases of liver	...	...	-.	1.
Other digestive diseases	...	...	2.	1.
Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	4.	6.
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	-.	1.
Other puerperal cause.	...	...	-.	2.
Congenital debility, premature birth, mal-formations, etc...	...	...	6.	13.
Senility	...	...	4.	5.
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	-.	-.
Diphtheria	...	...	3.	4.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	-.	-.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever	...	...	-.	-.
General paralysis of the insane. tabes dorsalis	...	...	1.	-.
Appendicitis	...	...	1.	-.
Suicide	...	...	1.	-.
Other violence	...	...	14.	2.
Other defined diseases	...	...	9.	12.
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	-.	1.
Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	...	...	-.	1.

7 BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, AND MATERNAL
DEATH-RATES IN THE YEAR, 1939.

					ENGLAND AND WALES.	SEDGEBFIELD LOCAL DISTRICT.
					Rates per 1,000 Population.	
BIRTHS:-						
Live	...	...	...	...	15.0	16.52
Still	...	...	...	...	0.59	0.36
DEATHS:-						
All causes	...	...	...	...	12.1	11.33
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	..				0.00	0.00
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	-	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	...	0.01	0.15
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0.05	0.21
Influenza		...	...	...	0.21	0.24
					Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
Deaths under 1 year of age	...				50	65
Deaths from Diarrhoea and) Enteritis under 2 years of) age.)					4.6	0.00
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-						
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...			0.77	1.87
Others	...	...	...	...	2.16	3.74
Total	...	...	...	...	2.93	5.61
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-					Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)	
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...			0.74	1.78
Others	...	...	...	...	2.08	3.56
Total	...	...	...	...	2.82	5.34

Laboratory Work.

The under-mentioned table shows the use made of it during the year:-

Bacteriological Examinations for-	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tubercle Bacillus	3	32	35
Diphtheria Bacillus	10	38	48
Typhoid Bacillus	-	2	2
Meningococcus	-	4	4
Haemolytic Streptococci	-	-	-
	13	76	89

The following figures represent the work carried out by the local authority during the year:-

Throat Swabs taken	369
Nasal " "	Nil.
Prophylactic Injections of diphtheria anti-toxin given	91.
Virulence Tests	Nil.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The quality of the water supplied by the Durham County Water Board leaves nothing to be desired, and has not been analysed by this Authority during the year. The supply generally is abundant and the shortages previously complained of have been removed by the Durham County Water Board laying additional mains.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

SCARLET FEVER.

48 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1939 as against 61 for 1938.

43 cases were admitted to hospital and all recovered.

DIPHTHERIA.

During 1939, 66 cases of diphtheria were notified as against 88 in 1938, 7 deaths occurred.

CONTROL OF INFECTION.

All cases were notified by telephone and removed without delay to your hospital.

As in the past five years, the throats of all 'contacts' were swabbed in order to detect any 'carriers' and injections of anti-toxin offered free of charge.

Ninety-one injections of anti-toxin were given to diphtheria 'contacts' mainly children, and 369 throat swabs taken. All 'carriers' discovered were warned as to their condition and 'swabbed' until free from infection. Virulence tests were carried out in the case of persistent 'carriers'.

ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Free public artificial immunization against diphtheria is available to all residents in the Sedgefield Rural District.

This service has been well advertised and is carried out by the family doctors under agreement with the Council.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

One hundred and fifteen cases were admitted to your Isolation Hospital during 1939 as against one hundred and fifty-one in 1938.

Admissions were as follows:-

(a) From Sedgefield Rural District:-

43 cases of Scarlet Fever.

66 cases of Diphtheria .

5 cases of Pneumonia.

1 case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

CANCER.

During 1939, Cancer was given as the cause of death in 38 cases, as against 40 cases in 1938.

Two occurred between the age of 30 and 45 years, 18 between 45 and 65 years and 18 over 65 years.

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

This continues to be satisfactory. No cases of wilful neglect to notify occurred during the year. There were 16 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, all of which were notified during life.

Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, in concluding my report, I desire to thank all members of the Council and their staff for the valuable help and encouragement they have afforded me throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J.C.V. HINDHAUGH.

Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS (New cases and Mortality During 1939).

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 1 year.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	1
5 to 10	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
10 to 15	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	-	2	2	1	-	1	2	-
20 to 25	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	-
25 to 35	4	2	3	1	2	2	-	-
35 to 45	3	1	-	-	5	-	-	-
45 to 55	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 to 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	11	7	16	6	7	5	3	1

18

40

22

12

16

41

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
1939.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1939.	AGE GROUPS.																	Deaths Total	Hosp Total	Home				
	At all Ages.	Under one year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 6	6 to 7	7 to 8	8 to 9	9 to 10	10 to 11	11 to 12	12 to 13	13 to 14	14 to 15	15 to 16				16 to 17	17 to 18	18 to 19	19 to 20
Scarlet Fever.	48.	-	3.	1	2	1	23	13	3	1	-	1	43	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	66	-	1	2	2	6	23	16	6	8	2	-	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	17	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	3	13	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	1	-	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Menigitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Acute, Primary Influenzal)	34	1	-	-	2	-	2	1	2	11	5	7	19	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	159	7	13	19	21	23	74	2	-	-	-	-	-	159	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	9	1	1	1	2	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	349	12	18	23	29	31	125	33	12	32	12	16	29	150	6	29	150	199						

