

Contributors

Thornton (Lancashire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1939

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ggjzb4my>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

URBAN DISTRICT OF THORNTON CLEVELEYS.
INTERIM REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1939.



Thornton Cleveleys
July 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Thornton Cleveleys
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

The Ministry of Health has directed that only a brief interim report should be made for the year 1939, and that it should be confined to urgent and essential matters concerning public health. Records continue to be kept, and at the end of the war it is intended that a full report should be published.

The most notable event of the year was the reception into this District of some 2,800 children evacuated from the Manchester district, thus doubling our normal child population.

Fortunately the weather was very fine for several weeks after their arrival and they were able to spend a great part of each day on the seashore with very evident advantage to their health.

There were only 81 cases of infectious disease notified during 1939, this being the lowest figure for 6 years.

The freedom from infectious disease in the children evacuated from industrial areas was very noticeable.

A sick bay was established at the beginning of September for reception of cases of non-notifiable infectious illnesses and other cases occurring amongst evacuees where the billets were not suitable for nursing sick children. The sick bay had 15 beds with room for expansion to 20 and proved of great value. It was closed at the end of the year as its functions were taken over by a larger hospital established in Poulton by the Lancashire County Council.

The loan of an Assistant Medical Officer enabled the County Council Clinic to be opened for extra sessions and valuable work was done in treating the cases of impetigo,

scabies, pediculosis and emuresis amongst the evacuees.

The services of the W.V.S. in inspecting billets and generally supervising the welfare of evacuees has been valuable in contributing to the health and wellbeing of the children.

During the year a full programme of private street improvements was carried out including the making up of some 16 private streets or parts of streets.

New houses, totalling 134, were erected in the year and the usual inspections of premises undertaken; no statutory proceedings were instituted against owners in default.

The 186 factories, workshops and bakehouses, together with the 14 fish frying premises were frequently visited.

192 visits were made to verminous premises, spraying and fumigation resulted in a diminution of complaints.

Close attention has also been given to the requirements of the Shops Acts, Food and Drugs Act, and the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders. Samples of Food Stuffs and Milk have been taken by the Police Authorities and this Department.

As from the 1st July 1939 Sec. 115 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938 affecting the registration of Hawkers of Meat, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables has been in operation in the District.

New Building Bye-laws made under the Public Health Act 1936 were confirmed by the Ministry of Health on 12th October 1939.

The New Sewerage Scheme commenced in 1937 was completed before the end of the year. The provision of a new outfall and storage tank, five new sub-stations and the extension of the sewerage system will meet the needs of developments for many years to come.

I am, Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

A.H. PENISTAN.

Medical Officer of Health.