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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1939.



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF: Medical Officer of Health.
C. Grant Nicol M.B. B.S. (London) M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (R.C.P.&S.)

(appointed 1st November, 1939 in succession
to John A. Guy M.D. (Edin) D.P.H.)

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
Chas. E. Ingham M.I.M. Cy.E.

Sanitary Inspector's Clerk.
E. J. Faulkner.

To the Chairman and Members of the Uttoxeter
Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health
of the District for the year 1939, the first that it has been
my privilege to prepare. It is the wish of the Ministry of
Health that the report should take the form of an interim statement
and the usual full statistics be deferred until after the war.

GENERAL:

The health of the District continues to be good, and those
who survive the hazardous first 2 years of life succeed in
living to a ripe old age. The climate is healthy, though
rigorous to those of us who have previously lived in the Southern
half of England.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area:	55,228 acres!	Rateable Value. £27,582.
Population (Sept. 1939 Census)	10404.	Product of 1d Rate. 115.
Number of inhabited houses:	2,554. end of 1939.	

CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

The District is principally agricultural being one of the
"catchment areas" of the milk trade. There is a Mill at
Rocester and at Mayfield and a Stone works at Rocester.
Unemployment is small.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

This section of the report is deferred. It is gratifying to
record that once more we can say that there has been no
puerperal death.

SERVICES PROVIDED.

The position remains unaltered as regards laboratory facilities,
home nursing, hospitals and clinics. The ambulance service
is furnished by Uttoxeter Urban District Council, and arising
out of the war Uttoxeter has been lent an ambulance for the
duration, to be used either for civilian or A.R.P. purposes.
The A.R.P. ambulance service is under the County Medical Officer
of Health's control.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The Parish of Leigh has now witnessed the commence-
ment of its long awaited water supply.

Contd.....

Recd. Oct 1940

CONFIDENTIAL

PROSECUTION OF THE ACTS OF VIOLENCE

Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
To: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
From: Mr. [Name], Special Agent in Charge, [Location]

Re: [Name], [Address], [City], [State], [Zip]

On [Date], [Name] was arrested at [Location] by [Name], [Address], [City], [State], [Zip]

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PROSECUTION OF THE ACTS OF VIOLENCE

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In the other larger Parishes with existing water supplies fresh houses have been put on the main as a result of analysis of their previous supplies from pumps etc. As a matter of interest there were a surprising number of pumps and wells supplying water with a presumptive coli count of 180 per m/litre. Despite this high figure no illness that could be ascribed to the water was reported.

SEWAGE.

In a scattered area the problem of sewage disposal remains difficult. The villages of Abbots Bromley and Rocester are sorely in need of a really comprehensive scheme, but the cost remains prohibitive. One feels that the day will come when the whole matter will have to be dealt with on a National basis and not a parochial one. At the end of the year under review the sewage works at Stramshall are completed but the houses are not connected up. It is my hope to see this done in 1940.

HOUSING.

The outbreak of War brought an end to any large scale building operations but after urgent representations to the Ministry of Health sanction was obtained to complete 26 houses at Rocester and 8 at Abbots Bromley. The total number of new Council houses built this year was 54 the remainder being divided between Stramshall Draycott, Kingstone, Marchington and Newborough.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK:

By way of introduction I would refer in general terms of the position in regard to this the chief product of local agriculture. A register is kept of all producers and retailers; sampling is carried out by the County Council's Sampling Officers and in the case of producers selling direct to the milk trade, the milk is subjected to strict tests by the firms concerned. Inspection of premises is carried out by our own Sanitary Inspector and also by members of the County Staff. The improvement in the Rural water supply has led to a corresponding improvement in the cleanliness of the cowsheds as might be expected, and in arrangements for cooling the milk. The producers have been willing to carry out your Inspector's suggestions for improvements, where necessary. The evacuation of more vulnerable areas has led to an influx of townsfolk who have from babyhood been accustomed to pasteurised milk, and the problem now is to provide pasteurised milk throughout the district. The dangers ascribed to drinking raw milk are tuberculosis, particularly "surgical" tuberculosis, brucella infections (Undulant Fever) sore throats and other streptococcal infections, and enteritis and allied disorders from B. coli. It is felt that the cost of pasteurising milk produced and sold for local consumption would be too much for the producer to bear alone and the suggestion is made that all milk might be pasteurised centrally possibly at one of the commercial plants in the district and bottled there prior to retailing.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Thirteen slaughterhouses are licensed in the Rural District and until the outbreak of War eleven of these were in use; since September slaughtering has been carried out at a central depot in the Urban District of Uttoxeter; nevertheless periodic inspections are made of all slaughterhouses to see that no nuisance exists. No official notices have been necessary in the year with regard to premises; regarding meat inspection, tuberculosis is the most frequent serious condition present; fuller details may be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

and the review of the year under review was completed but the review was not done in 1940.

[illegible]

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

This is administered by the County.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Twenty-one cases of Scarlet Fever, 14 of Diphtheria, 4 of Erysipelas 2 of pneumonia, 1 of Anterior poliomyelitis and 1 of puerperal pyrexia form the sum total of infectious diseases notified in 1939. Of the twentyone Scarlet Fever 12 occurred in and about Mayfield during the first half of the year, the remainder were scattered over the Rural District during the course of the year. Of the 14 cases of Diphtheria 10 occurred in Newborough during the first quarter of the year, with 1 death.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

This is a subject in which your Medical Officer is keenly interested. The scheme is worked in conjunction with the County Education and School Medical Departments, and immunisation is offered to all children attending elementary schools who are aged 5, 6 and 7. Acceptors are immunised by three fortnightly injections of T.A.F. In the case of children aged 2, 3 and 4 immunisation is carried out by injecting 0.1 and 0.5 c.c.A.P.T. at two weeks interval, and the injections are given when the local school is visited. In the year under review only a start in a small way was made at one school but at the time of compilation of this report (July, 1940) a complete tour has been made of all schools in the area, of which full figures will be given in the 1940 report. For 1939 the figures are as follows:

Leigh	18 school children were immunised - 80% of 5-7 age/	group
Marchington.	do.	do.
Woodlands 12	do.	- 50% do.

No pre-school children were immunised and it will take time for parents to realise that this group should be done even more than the school infants.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

No notifications were received under the 1939 regulations in the year under review, from practitioners. School teachers returns show that 18 cases of Measles occurred at Stanton in June, 1939. No request for convalescent serum was recorded. In the autumn there were numerous cases of Chicken-pox.

PNEUMONIA.

No request was received for typing of pneumococci or for serum, and chemo therapy is the method of choice locally, apparently. Facilities for typing are in existence at the County Laboratory. The usual summary of notifiable cases of infectious diseases is deferred.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was required under Public Health (prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to employment of tuberculous persons in the milk trade) or Section 172 Public Health Act, 1936 (Compulsory removal of Tuberculous persons to Hospital)

NEW CASES & MORTALITY.

The customary analysis of these is deferred. Nine fresh cases were notified and 5 deaths. The 3 male pulmonary cases were over 35, the 3 female were between 15-25, the 3 non pulmonary were children.

CONTD.....

carried out by injecting 0.5 ml of the suspension into the interval between the 10th and 11th ribs. In the case of child

(Contd.)

Our District thus reflects in little the general trend throughout the country: a later age of onset in males, an earlier age in females held by some authorities to be due to the entry of young girls into industrial life and the onset in childhood of non pulmonary tuberculosis similarly held to be due to drinking unsafe milk.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

The customary return on the Home Office form is omitted this year on instructions from the Ministry of Health. Reference to the local administration of the Act will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, the most important item being the installation of new fire escape at Mayfield Mill.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. Grant Nicol.

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UTTOXETER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,
Northgate,
Utttoxeter, Staffs.

To the Medical Officer of Health,
Utttoxeter Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

I beg to submit the Annual Report in connection with the work done, in the Public Health Department during the year 1939.
Sewage & Sewage Disposal.

Abbots Bromley. The sewage works consists of a Septic Tank and land irrigation. The farm is owned by the Council. There is a considerable volume of water continually running in the Brook, into which the effluent discharges. During the past year a large volume of storm water has been diverted directly into the brook; this has greatly relieved the sewers, and also the work of the Tanks.

Denstone. These works consist of Septic Tank, Bacteria Beds, and Revolving Sprinklers. The effluent is good. A fair amount of storm water gets into the sewers. The sewage is not of a strong character.

Ellastone. These works consist of Septic Tank and bacteria beds; the effluent empties into the River Dove.

Stramshall. A modern plant has recently been completed; a considerable number of Property has been connected.

Rocester. Part of the parish is thickly populated and more houses are being built. There is a Sewage system, but it is totally inadequate. A new Sewage Works is necessary.

There are no schemes in the remaining Rural Parishes; they are drained by means of Cesspools, and on the farms it is discharged on to the land.

Water Supply.

The water supplies throughout the district are being developed as far as possible. Where there is a piped supply, every effort is being made to have all property connected to the Main. Samples of water are taken for analysis, both chemical and bacteriological, and in the event of the report not being satisfactory, the owners are requested

to connect to the main. The response has been good. There is a great demand for a constant supply, especially amongst the farming community.

The parishes of Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Kingstone, Marchington and Draycott in the Clay are supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Leigh. This scheme is well in hand, but is severely handicapped on account of shortage of labour.

Newborough. The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company are now engaged on the work of laying mains in and around the village; the labour question is again retarding the progress of the work.

Ellastone. Negotiations are still continuing with the Uttoxeter Urban District Council with a view to obtaining a supply.

Wootton. No supply has yet been found for this Parish.

Mayfield. The Parish is supplied by a bore hole, and the water is pumped to a Reservoir in the higher reaches. Property continues to be built, but there is no sign of shortage.

The Parishes of Rocester, Denstone, Bramshall and Stramshall are supplied in bulk by the Uttoxeter Urban District Council.

The Parish of Croxden is supplied in bulk by the Cheadle R.D.C. All the above Parishes are well supplied en route. The whole of the villages throughout the Rural Area have greatly improved, and would have been well provided for, had the war not intervened.

Public Cleansing.

In the Parishes of Mayfield, Rocester, Denstone and Stramshall, refuse is collected (in bins). Paper etc is now being collected throughout the area.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is only one swimming bath in the Rural Area; this is at Denstone College. It is well kept, and there are no complaints.

Shops.

Shops have been inspected, and it has not been necessary to take action under the Shops Act 1934.

Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary during the past year.

Schools.

Schools generally are in a fair sanitary condition.

In some cases the water supply is poor, but these are improving as the water schemes develop.

Factories and Workshops.

These have been inspected and details have been given in the Factory Report. All factories are being fitted with necessary exits and steps so as to comply with the Fire Regulations.

Sanitary Inspection of Area.

Number of inspections made 143

Number of notices served during the year. 62

Result of service of such notices as above

Number abated 62

Housing. A. Inspection of dwelling-houses.

1. Total number of houses inspected for defects during the past twelve months, under the Public Health Acts and Housing Acts 121

2. Inspections made for the purpose 142

3. No of houses (included in sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 32

3.A. No of inspections made for the purpose 41

4. No of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil.

5. No of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to in the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 18.

B. Remedy of defects during the year without serving notices.

No of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 27

C. Action under statutory powers during the year:

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 20 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936

1. No of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil.

2. No of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.

A. By the Owners Nil.

B. By the Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

1. No of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. Up to the present only informal notices have been served, and have been included in previous parts of this Report.

2. No of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice

A. By the Owners (see remarks under item 1.) Nil.

B. By the Local Authority in default of Owners
(see remarks under item 1.) Nil.

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1. No of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

2. No of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order Nil.

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Undertaking given by the Owners not to re-occupy for human habitation Nil.

Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1936.

A. 1 - No of houses overcrowded at end of year 13

2 - No of families dwelling therein 13

3 - No of persons dwelling therein 93

B. 1 - No of cases of new overcrowding during the past year 1

C. 1 - No of cases of overcrowding relieved during the past year Nil.

2 - No of persons concerned in such cases Nil.

D. Particulars of any cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to abate overcrowding Nil.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The milk supply is still improving; there are isolated cases of poor sheds, but these are being put in order.

The supply generally is good.

Meat.

All meat for human consumption is killed at a central depot at Uttoxeter.

All suspected Tubercular Cattle from the Rural and Urban area are slaughtered at the Kingstone Knacker Yard.

Meat Inspection.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	629	-	71	3203	774
Number Inspected	No record kept at present				
All diseases, except tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	-
Per Cent of Number Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	Not Known				
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	60	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	35	-	-	-	-
Per Cent of Number Inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. E. Ingham,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

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