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**Contributors**

Yeovil (England). Urban District Council.

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# Deobil Rural District Council.

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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF

**The Medical Officer of Health,**

**1919.**

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Population of the District: 15707.

Geological Features of the District: Northern Portion, Lower Lias; Central Portion, Lias Marlstone and Midford Sands; Southern Portion, Fuller's Earth formation, with outcrops of Inferior Oolite and Midford Sands.

Local Industries: Agriculture, Glove-making, Sail Cloth, Rope, Matting, Tent and Flax Factories, Stone Quarrying and Building, Iron Foundries, Factories for Dairy Goods and Cattle Fodder, Saw Mills and Poultry Appliance Factory.

### STAFF.

The Staff of the Health Department of the Local Authority consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

A Mechanic works the Council's Steam Disinfector under the direction of the Sanitary Inspector.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Births: Number registered, 269. Birth rate, 16.4. Rate of Infantile Mortality, 89.2.

|                             |   |                       |                                   |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Deaths<br>under<br>one year | } | Under one week, 8.    | One to four weeks (inclusive), 6. |
|                             |   | One to six months, 8. | Six to twelve months, 2.          |
|                             |   | Total, 24.            |                                   |

Remarks *re* Infant Mortality—Causes of: Premature Birth, 8; Broncho-Pneumonia, 3; Diarrhoea, 1; Bronchitis, 2; Marasmus, 2; Catarrhal Jaundice, 1; Congenital complete cleft palate, 1; Influenza, 3; Convulsions, 2; Purpura Haemorrhagica, 1.

Deaths: Deaths from all causes and at all ages registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district, 162—equal to a death rate of 10.3.

Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to the district, but occurring outside, 31. Deaths corrected for transfers, 193. Corrected death rate, 12.2.



ENTERIC FEVER :—Two deaths. Both of these were Residents from the District in the Somerset and Bath Asylum, Cotford, and therefore they do not appear amongst the notifications.

DIPHTHERIA :—One death. This case was lost owing to the Doctor being called in too late to administer Antitoxin soon enough to prevent the onset of fatal Cardiac Paralysis.

EPIDEMIC CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS :—One death. This was the only case that occurred in the district during the year, and the infection was brought by a soldier staying in the house. Bacteriological evidence was positive. Two contacts were positive, but ultimately cleared.

SCARLET FEVER :—One fatal case (transfer). This death occurred in Yeovil Isolation Hospital. An outbreak of this disease at Stoke-under-Ham was found very difficult to control, owing to the absence of any Isolation Hospital provision.

TUBERCULOSIS :—Twelve deaths. Five of these were amongst inmates of the Somerset and Bath Asylum, Cotford, whose homes were in the Rural District. They were therefore not notified in this district.

INFLUENZA was very prevalent during the year. Fifteen deaths were directly attributable to this disease, 16 to Bronchitis, and 11 to Pneumonia.

CANCER. Fifteen deaths occurred during the year. Ages at death : 25 and under 45 years, 1. 45 and under 65 years, 6. 65 years and upwards, 8.

| <i>Infectious Diseases.</i>              | <i>Cases Notified.</i> |     |     |    |     | <i>Deaths.</i> |     |    |     |     | <i>Removed to Hospital.</i> |     |   |     |     |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|----------------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-----|---|-----|-----|
| Small Pox...                             | ...                    | ... | ... | 0  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Diphtheria                               | ...                    | ... | ... | 4  | ... | ...            | ... | 1  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Erysipelas...                            | ...                    | ... | ... | 1  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Scarlet Fever                            | ...                    | ... | ... | 25 | ... | ...            | ... | 1  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Enteric Fever                            | ...                    | ... | ... | 1  | ... | ...            | ... | 2  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Puerperal Fever...                       | ...                    | ... | ... | 0  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Typhus, Relapsing }<br>Continued Fever } | ...                    | ... | ... | 0  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Poliomyelitis                            | ...                    | ... | ... | 1  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis                | ...                    | ... | ... | 1  | ... | ...            | ... | 1  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum...                 | ...                    | ... | ... | 2  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Measles                                  | ...                    | ... | ... | 23 | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| German Measles                           | ...                    | ... | ... | 0  | ... | ...            | ... | 0  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis                   | ...                    | ... | ... | 18 | ... | ...            | ... | 10 | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 6 | ... | ... |
| Other Tuberculosis                       | ...                    | ... | ... | 5  | ... | ...            | ... | 2  | ... | ... | ...                         | ... | 0 | ... | ... |

Disinfection is done by the Sanitary Inspector by means of Izal Spray and by use of Thresh's Steam Disinfector. The walls and ceilings of infected houses are stripped when necessary, lime-washed and distempered.

Bacteriological examinations are made in all cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Dysentery, and Tuberculosis at the County Laboratories.

Diphtheria Antitoxic Serum is supplied gratuitously by the Council to medical men practising in the district and is in general use.

Tetanus Antitoxic Serum and Anti-meningococcus Serum is supplied through the County Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

(1). DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND RIVER POLLUTION.

Regularly inspected. Improvements to Martock Works referred to Engineer. Other works generally satisfactory. Complaint during the summer made to Crewkerne U.D.C. of River Pollution.

(2). WATER SUPPLY.

Analysis of public supplies obtained and found satisfactory. Three private supplies questionable. Loans for Barwick, Marston Magna, Rimpton, Chilton Cantelo. Mudford schemes being applied for. Supply for Stoke-under-Ham under consideration of Engineer. Supply for Yeovil Marsh under consideration.

(3). SCAVENGING.

Scavenging carried out at Martock and South Petherton, but not in other parishes. There is no provision for destruction of refuse.

(4). MILK SUPPLY.

Dairies and Cow Stalls inspected.

(5). SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Inspected and improvements effected in three. Four cases of unsound meat dealt with.

(6). FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Inspected.

(7). HOUSING.

Special Report on Housing in the District prepared for the Ministry of Health.

Number of inhabited houses 4260.

New houses erected during the year. None completed.

|                                                                          |   |                                                         |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Houses specially inspected under the Housing Act, 1909, during the year. | } | Reported unfit for habitation ... ..                    | 6  |
|                                                                          |   | Defective, but not sufficient to report as unfit ... .. | 31 |
|                                                                          |   | Without recorded defects ... ..                         | 24 |
| Houses reported as unfit during the year.                                | } | Closing Order made ... ..                               | 0  |
|                                                                          |   | Made fit without Closing Order ... ..                   | 3  |
|                                                                          |   | Still occupied but not made fit ... ..                  | 2  |
|                                                                          |   | Empty ... ..                                            | 1  |

Cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year, 2—both these were remedied.

**S. C. CLAPHAM, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,**

*Medical Officer of Health,  
Yeovil Rural District Council.*



# YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT.

## Report on Housing Schemes for the Year 1919.

| PARISHES.                   | No. of Proposed Houses. | Provisional Agreement arranged. | Site Approved. | PLANS.          |           | TENDERS.           |                        | Buildings Commenced. | Buildings Commenced in 1920. | REMARKS.                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                             |                         |                                 |                | In Preparation. | Approved. | Awaiting Approval. | Acceptance Authorised. |                      |                              |                                                                                                                                    |
|                             |                         | 1                               | 2              | 3               | 4         | 5                  | 6                      | 7                    | 8                            |                                                                                                                                    |
| Barwick ...                 | 6                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | 6                    | ...                          | Since approaching completion.                                                                                                      |
| Tintinhull ...              | 5                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | 5                    | ...                          | Approaching completion.                                                                                                            |
| Yeovil Without (Westland) } | 26                      | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | 26                   | ...                          | Part approaching completion.                                                                                                       |
| Martock ...                 | 10                      | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | 10                   | ...                          | Commenced September.                                                                                                               |
| Mudford ...                 | 6                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | 6                    | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Montacute ...               | 12                      | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | 12                 | ...                    | ...                  | 12                           |                                                                                                                                    |
| Norton-sub-Hamdon           | 10                      | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | 10                 | ...                    | ...                  | 10                           |                                                                                                                                    |
| South Petherton ...         | 16                      | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | 16                 | ...                    | ...                  | 16                           |                                                                                                                                    |
| East Coker ...              | 8                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | 8         | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | 8                            |                                                                                                                                    |
| Marston Magna ...           | 12                      | ...                             | 12             | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          | { Plans since submitted and approved.                                                                                              |
| Preston Plucknett ...       | 20                      | ...                             | ...            | 20              | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Stoke-under-Ham ...         | 12                      | ...                             | ...            | 12              | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| West Coker ...              | 16                      | ...                             | ...            | 16              | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Chilthorne Domer ...        | 6                       | ...                             | 6              | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Martock ...                 | 10                      | ...                             | 10             | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Long Load ...               | 6                       | 6                               | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| West Camel...               | 12                      | 12                              | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Chiselborough ...           | 6                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          | { 1st site fell through, another since selected.<br>Delayed on account of water difficulties.<br>Scheme for restoration abandoned. |
| Yeovil Marsh ...            | 6                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| West Chinnock ...           | 2                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Limington ...               | 4                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          | Site fell through.                                                                                                                 |
| Podymore ...                | 4                       | ...                             | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          | In abeyance.                                                                                                                       |
| Ash ...                     | 6                       | 6                               | ...            | ...             | ...       | ...                | ...                    | ...                  | ...                          | { Legal difficulties delayed progress.                                                                                             |
| (23)                        | 221                     | 24                              | 28             | 48              | 8         | 38                 | ...                    | 53                   | 46                           |                                                                                                                                    |

Cols. 1 to 7 show the respective stages reached to end of 1919.

Col. 8 shows the Schemes for which Building was commenced between January and May, 1920.

# YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT.

## Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1919.

### RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING.

|                                                              |     |     |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 53 in course of erection December, 1919. Since commenced, 46 | ... | ... | 99              |
| Plans in preparation                                         | ... | ... | 48              |
| Sites approved, 28. Provisional Agreements made, 24          | ... | ... | 52              |
| Sites being arranged for                                     | ... | ... | 22              |
|                                                              |     |     | <hr/> 221 <hr/> |

PRIVATE HOUSING. Plans approved. 3

### GENERAL HOUSING.

Prepared Report on Housing throughout the District for Ministry of Health.

### DEFECTIVE HOUSES.

|                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No examined            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |
| Defective              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| Defects remedied       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Overcrowding prevented | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |

### DISINFECTION.

|                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Houses after infectious diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Schools                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |

DRAINS. New, 12. Repaired, 7 ... 19

### WATER SUPPLY. Samples submitted for analysis.

|                                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Public Supplies and Proposed Building Sites | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| Private Wells                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Supplies laid on                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |

### NUISANCES.

|                                           |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Complaints received                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Abated (including Inspector's complaints) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Pigs removed (cases of)                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES. (18.)

|                                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Improved floors and wall surfaces | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Unsound meat cases dealt with     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS. 180 Registered. Inspected.

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. (102.)

|                                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Sanitary accommodation provided for both sexes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Other defects remedied                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

BAKEHOUSES. (32.) Inspected periodically.

### HOMEWORKERS. (700.)

|                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Disinfected after infection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

### PETROLEUM.

|                    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Premises inspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

April, 1920.

N. G. FISH.

