

**[Report 1919] / Medical Officer of Health, Weymouth R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

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To the RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WEYMOUTH.

2nd August, 1920.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you my Report for the year 1919.

The Area of the Rural District is 29008 acres, and the Population estimated to the middle of 1914 is 8425.

DEATH RATE is 12.5 for every 1,000 persons living in the district; that for England and Wales being 13.8

BIRTH RATE is 17.4 children born for every 1,000 persons living in the district; that for England and Wales being 18.5.

INFANT MORTALITY. Eleven children died under the age of one year, this would give a mortality of 76 for every 1,000 children born, that for England and Wales being 89.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE is .2, which is only a decimal fraction, but of course it should be nil, as we were able to report last year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. 40 Cases of Infectious Diseases were notified.

LIST OF NOTIFICATIONS.

Diphtheria	6
Influenza & Pneumonia	4
Scarlet Fever	3
Chicken Pox	3
Measles	8
Malaria	2
Erysipelas	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Dysentery	1
Tuberculosis	11
Total -	40

Of the Diphtheria cases, 5 were at Abbotsbury, and the first of these started in a house where there had previously been a case of Erysipelas, and here the Closet was found to be in a very insanitary condition, which probably was the beginning of the outbreak.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL, this is found very useful in treating infectious complaints; 4 cases of Diphtheria and 3 of Scarlet Fever were removed to this Institution.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT:

No. of Inspections	692
No. of Informal Notices	73
No. of Statutory Notices	Nil.

WORKS FOUND NECESSARY AND CARRIED OUT:

Limewashing of premises	14
General repairs	7
Drains stopped	11
Drains repaired	5
Redrainage	2
New W.C.'s	2
Vaults cleared & E.C.'s provided	9
in lieu thereof	







In addition to the above the work of and supervision of the removal of Night-soil from the Camps within the district was undertaken by the Council, this work was entirely under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and every satisfaction was given to the Military Authorities.

#### HOUSING. 1909 ACT.

Inspections	21
Representation with view to repair	2
Closing Order	2
Repairs carried out	5
Premises disinfected after Infectious )	37
Disease and other causes )	
New Housing Schemes proposed	2
Number of Houses	20

Many inspections have been made by your Inspector and myself under the Housing Act; at Preston and Sutton new houses are required and a scheme has been decided on; at Osmington some of the cottages are being practically rebuilt. In the west of the district there is no increase of Population, and the present supply of houses is sufficient for the demand.

WATER SUPPLIES. The whole of the villages have efficient water supplies, in most of them the supply is more than sufficient, 7 of the Villages have piped supplies from the Weymouth Company's Main.

DRAINAGE. The only Village with a modern Drainage Scheme with Disposal works is that of Wyke Regis, this scheme is most satisfactory and during the war the two large Military Camps were connected up to the Sewers for drainage. The other Villages are drained by means of Cesspools, and Earth Closets are general throughout same.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE. This work is undertaken only in the village of Wyke Regis, the work is let off to a Contractor who collects and disposes of the refuse on his farm about 2½ miles away - from the village.

The disposal of refuse in the other villages is carried out by the occupiers of the various premises, who use the refuse for garden purposes.

Throughout the whole of the district Building By-laws are in force, these by-laws were approved by the Local Government Board before adoption.

The Schools within the district are satisfactory and well kept, the sanitary arrangements and water supplies are sufficient for the requirements of the district, with the exception of Owermoigne which requires water laid on. In cases of Infectious Disease breaking out in any of the villages, the Schools are specially inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector and if necessary the premises are disinfected by the Council.

MILK SUPPLIES. This trade may be considered satisfactory throughout the district, and the quality of the milk produced very good. The Cowsheds are fairly satisfactory and have in many cases been considerably improved of late years, during the period of the War with shortage of labour the buildings did not receive adequate attention in regard to repairs, but now that this trouble is somewhat removed sundry work is being done to several of the premises. There are 53 Registered Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk in the district.



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HOUSING. 1908 ACT.

Inspections	21
Representation with view to repair	2
Order	2
Repairs carried out	2
Premises disinfected after inspection	27
Diseases and other causes	2
New Housing Schemes proposed	2
Number of Houses	80

Many inspections have been made by your Inspector and under the Housing Act, at Preston and Sutton new houses are required and a scheme has been decided on; at Camington some of the cottages are being practically rebuilt. In the west of the district there is no increase of population, and the present supply of houses is sufficient for the demand.

WATER SUPPLIES. The whole of the villages have efficient water supplies, in most of them the supply is more than sufficient, of the villages have piped supplies from the Weymouth Company's main.

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REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE. This work is undertaken only in the village of Wyke Regis, the work is let out to a contractor who collects and disposes of the refuse on his farm about 2 1/2 miles away from the village.

The disposal of refuse in the other villages is carried out by the owners of the various premises, who use the refuse for garden purposes.

Throughout the whole of the district Building By-laws are in force, these By-laws were approved by the Local Government Board before adoption.

The schools within the district are satisfactory and well kept, the sanitary arrangements and water supplies are sufficient for the requirements of the district, with the exception of Oswestry which requires water laid on. In cases of infectious diseases breaking out in any of the villages, the schools are specially inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector and if necessary the premises are disinfected by the Council.

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MEAT SUPPLIES. There are 8 Slaughter Houses in the district, these premises are subject to very frequent inspection, and during the past year 2 carcasses of meat and the offal therefrom have been condemned and destroyed.

The premises are well kept and the regulations as to cleansing and limewashing are well carried out.

With the exception of the housing question this has been a fairly uneventful year.

The outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Osmington and also that of Diphtheria at Abbotsbury threatened to be troublesome, but thanks to the Isolation Hospital they soon quieted down.

I do not think there is anything more of importance to refer to, and have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*Wm Hawkins.*

M. O. H.

To/

H. A. G. Stevens, Esq.,  
Clerk to the  
Rural District Council,  
WEYMOUTH.



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With the exception of the housing question this has been a fairly uneventful year.

The outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Oamington and also that of Diphtheria at Abbotshurst threatened to be troublesome, but thanks to the isolation Hospital they soon quieted down.

I do not think there is anything more of importance to refer to, and have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*Wm. J. J. J.*

M. O. H.

To  
R. A. G. Stevens, Esq.,  
Clerk to the  
Rural District Council,  
WYOMOUTH.