

[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Weymouth R.D.C.

Contributors

Weymouth (Dorset, England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1925

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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH AND
SANITARY
CONDITIONS
OF THE
RURAL DISTRICT
OF WEYMOUTH
FOR THE YEAR 1925.

By
J. A. PRIDHAM, M.C., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report for the Year 1925.

“ Hillfield,”
Broadway,
Weymouth.
June, 1926.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Sixth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

This Report is a Survey Report as distinct from an Ordinary one, and I have to review the past five years as well as the year 1925.

I am satisfied with the control of the Notifiable Infectious Diseases. Scarlet Fever is now a mild disease, and rarely accompanied by complications. There has been no serious epidemic.

Diphtheria has become a rare disease.

Only one case of Typhoid or Para-Typhoid Fever has been notified during the whole five years and this was contracted outside the District.

There has been no extensive outbreak of Infantile Diarrhoea and there have been no deaths from this disease during the past four years.

The position as regards Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases is not so satisfactory.

Measles, Whooping Cough and Influenza have appeared in epidemic form and have caused serious illness and death.

Influenza cannot of course be combated locally.

The other two diseases can be controlled to a large extent in the schools. The Regulations were altered some time ago, and practically all power to close the Schools was removed from my hands. I consider that these regulations did not work satisfactorily and early in 1926 they were once more amended, and I hope that now I shall be able to control these infections more successfully.

I have noticed that many female children suffer from goitre and I hope that the School Medical Service will take steps to advise and provide preventive treatment by the administration of iodine.

There are four points to which I must especially draw the attention of the Council.

- (1) The lack of trained nurses and trained midwives in the Parishes of Preston and Osmington, Portesham and Abbotsbury.

There is a trained midwife practising privately at Abbotsbury.

- (2) The importance of extending the scavenging service to the Parishes of Upway, Broadway, and Preston.

These Parishes are becoming suburban in character and frequent complaints are made to me about the lack of means for refuse disposal, and as a consequence it is dumped in most unsuitable places and cause a nuisance.

I believe that this trouble could be remedied easily and cheaply.

- (3) The importance of the production of clean milk in this area which produces so much milk for export to the towns.

The cowsheds are slowly being improved and very few exist which require extensive alteration. Concrete floors are being laid down in greater numbers.

To produce clean milk depends to a very great extent on attention to detail. There is still much to be done in this respect.

The points to which I direct special attention when inspecting are:—

- (a) The cows must be reasonably well groomed and free from mud and manure.
- (b) As a corollary the yards and approaches to the sheds must be in good order or the cows will be dirty.
- (c) The cows' udders must be wiped before milking.
- (d) Milkers must wear aprons and wash their hands before commencing to milk and after milking each cow.
- (e) The milk pails when filled must be removed immediately from the shed.

There are of course numerous other points, such as the cleansing of receptacles, straining cloths, etc. But the above are those which I find to be neglected most often.

(4) The provision of more working-class houses.
 [This is a duty that has been laid upon local authorities by Parliament.

I have alluded to this subject so often that I am sick and tired of it.

Ever since 1919 this Council has refused to do anything to provide cottages.

It has fought tooth and nail every effort to make it do so.

It has gloried in this as saving the ratepayers from any increase of the rates.

No one has estimated the cost to the rates of those evils which are caused by bad housing conditions.]B

Lack of proper housing encourages tuberculosis and increases the liability to infection.

It prevents marriage, and thus keeps down the birth rate and encourages illegitimacy.

Many couples have to start married life in lodgings and often far from the husband's work. Thus too large a proportion of a slender income is spent on rent and travelling expenses, and too little on food and clothes.

It means that babies are born in cramped quarters and hence a much greater liability to maternal and infantile disease and mortality.

I know that the population of the District is increasing but slowly, but on the other hand the number of available cottages is decreasing. Many are in a bad state of repair, and it is impossible to take strong steps to make owners put them in good condition on account of the shortage, in addition there are many that should be closed.

The 1923 and 1924 Housing Acts have never been considered by the Council, and I doubt if any member understands them. I believe that cottages can be built under the 1924 Act that would not cost the rates a penny, and that could be let at a rent that workingmen can pay and are now paying for a couple of rooms.

After repeated reports by me the Council consented to apply for the Government Subsidy and some houses have been built in the District with this assistance. But they do not meet the real need and are not as a rule occupied by working men.

The Council has in this matter shown an obstinacy which may be in accordance with British tradition but is not in correspondence with the enlightenment that the Education Acts of the last century were supposed to confer.

It is my sincere hope that the ratepayers will interest themselves in the matter and will insist that their Representatives give adequate reasons for their inaction.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. PRIDHAM.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Weymouth Rural District is a strip of country extending for about 15 miles along the South Dorset coast from Ringstead in the East to Abbotsbury in the West. Its average breadth is about 5 miles. Except where the Borough of Weymouth intervenes the southern boundary is the sea. The district is mostly downland and grazing country, and is sparsely wooded. The downs run roughly parallel to the sea coast and reach heights of 500---600 feet. The sub-soil is chiefly clay. The majority of the population is engaged in agriculture.

STATISTICS.

Area	29,008 acres.
Population Census, 1921	8,720
,, Estimated, 1925	8,848
Number of inhabited houses 1921	3,461 approximately
Number of families or separate occupiers 1921 ...	3,500 do.
Rateable value	£42,750
Sum represented by a penny rate	£178
Amount of Poor Law relief during 1925	£2,544

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1925.

Births:	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	58	87	145	} Birth rate 16.9
Illegitimate	1	4	5	
Deaths	35	49	84	Death rate 9.5

The Birth and Death Rates for the whole country
are given on another page. .

Number of women dying in consequence of childbirth:

From Sepsis 1. From other causes nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000
births:

Legitimate ... 46. Illegitimate ... 7. Total ... 53

There were no deaths caused by Measles, Whooping
Cough or Diarrhoea. Influenza caused 4 as compared with
15 last year.

TABLE X.—**Birth-rate, Death-rate & Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.**

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
		Ill Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	18.3	1.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.8	1.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.03	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	18.3	1.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.8	7.6	74	93.6	5.9	1.1
London	18.0	1.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.3	67	91.1	8.9	0.0
Weymouth R.D.	16.9	9.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.11	0.00	53			

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by this Authority or by the County Council.

- (1) Tuberculosis. Cases suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis are sent to one of two Sanatoria provided by the County Council, one at Warminster, Wilts, and the other at Bournemouth. Cases of Surgical Tuberculosis are sent to beds in either the Dorchester or Weymouth General Hospitals under the County Council Scheme.
- (2) Maternity. Beds are available under the County Council Scheme at the Weymouth and Dorchester General Hospitals. These have been sufficient hitherto to meet the needs of this district.
- (3) Children. There are no special arrangements for children except in connection with the Elementary Schools.
- (4) Fever. This Authority provides a Fever Hospital within the District at Coldharbour, Radipole. Accommodation 22 beds.

The Weymouth Borough Isolation Hospital is also situated in this District.

- (5) Small-pox. A small hut capable of taking 3 beds has been erected by this Authority at Snipegates near Langton Herring.

The Guardians of the Weymouth Union provide an Institution and Infirmary at Weymouth into which unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children from this District may be taken. They will also in special cases make arrangements for them to be treated at or admitted to the Weymouth General Hospital.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (1) Infectious cases. The motor ambulance of the Weymouth Corporation is used.

(2) Non-infectious and accident cases. As above and there is a motor ambulance at Dorchester Hospital and a small one at Weymouth in private hands that can be hired.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are no Maternity or Child Welfare Centres.

The County Council Medical Officers periodically inspect the children at the Elementary Schools.

There is a Tuberculosis Dispensary at Weymouth provided by the County Council which is available for inhabitants of this District.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease are provided by the County Council at the Port Sanitary Hospital, Wyke Regis which is within this District and also at the Dorchester Hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THIS AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health. Part-time. J. A. Pridham, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Also District Medical Officer to the Weymouth Union.

G. A. Andrews, Assoc. Royal Sanitary Institute, Fellow Inst. San. Engineers and Mem. Royal Inst. Public Health. Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor. Part time.

W. G. Senior, M.R.C.V.S., Inspector under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924. Part time.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is provided in some Parishes by Voluntary Local Nursing Associations. These receive some support from the County Nursing Association, but for the most part depend on private subscriptions.

The Wyke Association provides a trained nurse mid-wife for Wyke.

The Chickerell Association does the same for Chickerell, Fleet, Langton Herring and District.

The Upwey and Broadway provides one in those Parishes and also for Nottingham and Bincombe.

The Parish of Poxwell is in the area of an Association that is mainly outside the District.

Other Parishes i.e. Abbotsbury, Portesham, Radipole, Preston, Osmington and Owermoigne are without any provision for home nursing, but there is a mid-wife practising privately in Abbotsbury.

The County Council arranges for Health Visitors throughout the District. These are either members of the County Staff, or the nurses employed by the Nursing Associations.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Byelaws and Local Regulations are in force:—

Building Byelaws for Wyke Regis.

Building Byelaws for the remainder of the District.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889.

Byelaws for Prevention of Nuisances arising from Snow in Wyke Regis.

Byelaws with respect to the drainage of existing buildings in the Rural District.

Regulations for the Rural District in respect of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Byelaws with respect to Slaughter Houses in the Rural District

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

There is no deficiency in the water supply except in respect of 6 houses at Bincombe, and steps are being taken to remedy this.

There is no evidence of water borne disease.

In the Parishes of Broadway, Upway, Preston and Wyke there is a constant supply of water provided by two companies. All but a small fraction of the population in these villages receive water from this source.

Since 1921 a supply has been extended to four small holdings in Upway.

With the exception as regards Bincombe no new supplies are at present contemplated.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No pollution occurs as far as is known, but probably some residents in the neighbourhood of the Wey occasionally throw the contents of their soil buckets into it.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Parish of Wyke Regis has a good and sufficient drainage system, with a sewage farm.

With a few exceptions all the houses in the Parish are connected with the main drainage. During the ensuing year the remaining houses will be connected.

Throughout the rest of the District earth closets or privy pits and in a few cases septic tanks are in use.

No new drainage schemes are being prepared.

The present arrangements are fairly satisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

WATER CLOSETS.

Approximately 900. Pail Closets and Privy Pits 2,231 approximately. All owners are urged to substitute Pail Closets for Privy Pits.

SCAVENGING.

There are regular collections of refuse in Wyke Regis and in Chickerell.

Arrangements were made to extend this valuable service to Upway but it was stopped at the request of the Parish Council.

The Parishes of Broadway and Upway require some scavenging arrangements, and I hope that this will be done in the future.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1925.

Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	654
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complaints received and attended to	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Premises limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
General repairs effected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains put in order	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
W.C.'s supplied with water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Premises redrained	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cesspools emptied after notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Privies ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ditches cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Premises generally cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ditto overcrowding and abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughter Houses in District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Notices to Limewash, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Removal of manure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cowsheds in District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of Dairymen and Cowkeepers on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195
Notices to Limewash Cowsheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
New water supplies to premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Sewage disposal schemes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Premises disinfected after Infectious diseases and for other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37

Scavenging is undertaken by the Council in the Parishes of Wyke Regis and Chickerell regularly and in one other Parish as necessary from time to time.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year	21
With State Assistance under the Housing Acts 1919 and 1923.	
By Local Authority	0
By Private enterprise	12

Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Number inspected for defects (under Public Health of Housing Act)	58
Number recorded under Housing Regulations 1910	22
Number found to be unfit for Habitation	3
Number found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for occupation	15

Action under Statutory Powers.

Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

Number of dwellings in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	12
Number rendered fit by owners	12
Ditto Local Authority	0
Number of Houses in which the Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration of Owner's intention to close	2

Proceedings under Public Health Acts, etc.

Number of Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	12
Number complied with by Owners	8
By Local Authority	0
At the time of preparing this report the others are in hand.	

Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning Acts, 1909.

Number of representations made with a view for Closing Orders	3
Number of Orders made	3
Number of Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the premises having been made fit ...	2
Tenants of No. 3 not yet out of occupation.	
Demolition order made	Nil
Number demolished	Nil

The Town Council of Weymouth have erected and completed approximately 80 new houses under their Housing Scheme within the area of the Weymouth Rural District.

During the past year one new Cowshed was erected to replace a defective building, several other sheds have had attention in respect to floors and minor alterations necessary to improve premises, numerous inspections have been made with the M.O.H. and very satisfactory results have been found after such visits, considerable improvement is noted in respect to the Cleanliness of the persons engaged in this trade and with the utensils used and the cleansing of same.

Bakehouses.—In the district are 7, these are well kept and little complaint can be found with the manner in which they are managed.

Grade A. Milk is now on sale in the district by One Cowkeeper registered in the area of the Council.

GEORGE A. W. ANDREWS,

Assoc. Royal San. Inst., Fel. Inst. San. Engs.,
and Mem. R. Inst. Public Health.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor,

Weymouth, R.D. Council.

SCHOOLS.

Except in Wyke all the schools have Pail Closets. Nearly all have a water supply.

As regards action taken to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease, the whole situation has been changed by the Memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1925.

All action is now taken by the County Medical Officer of Health. The District M.O.H. receives notices from the Schools of the prevalence of any disease, but as he has no power of closure these notices are of no value.

This has been again altered in 1926.

Housing.

(1) General Housing Conditions in the area.

There is a shortage of working class houses in several Parishes. In addition many cottages that should be closed are still occupied as there is nowhere for the tenants to go.

(2) (a) Extent of shortage.

The Parishes of Wyke Regis, Upway, Broadway, and Preston are those mainly affected.

I estimate the present needs as requiring 30 cottages to be satisfied. This allows for closing down some at present occupied.

(b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any change

The Council have taken up subsidies under the 1923 Act in respect of about 20 houses, and are prepared to do so for 50 more.

Unfortunately this does not entirely solve the problem. A large percentage of those whom I consider require cottages will not get them in this way.

(3) Overcrowding.

This exists to a certain extent and is caused by the general shortage.

(4) Fitness of Houses.

A considerable number of houses are found to have defects. It is probable that there are many more as many tenants prefer to endure them rather than call the attention of the Local Authority and thus incur the Landlord's displeasure.

The general shortage puts great power in the hands of the owners, as they may refuse to carry out repairs, stating that the house can be closed, but it is difficult to put closing orders into force as there is nowhere for the unfortunate tenants to go.

The defects found are leaky roofs and windows, faulty ceilings, inadequate light, and ventilation. The defects are almost entirely due to the owners.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	21
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons	12

1. Unfit dwelling-houses.

Inspection---(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	58
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	22
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	15

2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 12

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.---Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair 12

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:---

(a) By owners 12

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 2

Tenants of No. 3 not yet out.

B.---Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 12

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:---

(a) By owners 8

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

C.---Proceedings under sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... 3

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 3

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | 2 |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (5) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The District contains a large number of producers of milk. Their milk is not only retailed locally but sent in bulk to the neighbouring towns and to London.

There has been some improvement in the general standard of cleanliness of the producers but there is still room for a great deal of improvement all round.

The cowsheds are being improved gradually. As a rule light and ventilation are adequate. Concrete floors are present in a fair proportion of sheds and more are being put down.

In the vast majority of cases utensils, cans, strainers, etc., are scrupulously clean.

All milk that is to be sent away is cooled.

A very large number of milkers wear aprons, and try to keep their hands clean.

All milkers are asked to wipe the cows udders before milking and some do so. A great many are very reluctant, and though they promise to do so, it is doubtful whether this is carried out to any extent.

Recent samples of milk taken show a great deal of dirt including manure. The samples were taken from a number of different producers.

This shows that the standard of cleanliness must be raised, and it can only be done by education of all those engaged in handling milk. It is not primarily a matter of concrete floors, whitewash and aprons. In the best surroundings a dirty milker can spoil all the milk he handles.

When everybody who has anything to do with milk realises the importance of cleanliness and care in every detail, then and then only will milk be clean. This process of education is unfortunately very slow.

There is one producer to whom the County Council have granted a License for Grade A. milk.

(b) MEAT.

During the year a Meat Inspector was appointed by this Council. His report is below. He regularly inspects the slaughter houses and butchers shops.

There are no Public Slaughter Houses in the area.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN USE.

	In 1920	In Jan. 1925.	In Dec. 1925.
Registered	... 10	... 10	... 9
Licensed	... 0	... 0	... 0
Total	... 10	... 10	... 9

MEAT INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

"Hillfield,"

167, Dorchester Road,
Weymouth.

Tel. Wey. "197."

March 26th, 1926.

Dr. Pridham, Medical Officer of Health, Weymouth Rural District Council.

During the year 1925 I have made 714 visits and inspections of the Rural District Council's Slaughter Houses and Shops in my District.

With very few exceptions I have found the Slaughter Houses and Shops in a satisfactory and clean condition, also instruments used.

Meat.—I have had condemned and destroyed 17 sides of beef, 2 pigs and 6 sheep as unfit for consumption as human food.

W. G. SENIOR, M.R.C.V.S.,

Inspector under the Public Health and Meat Regulations.

OTHER FOODS.

Bakehouses in the area have all been found to be satisfactory.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

ADMINISTRATION OF SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

WEYMOUTH RURAL DISTRICT.

Year ended 31st December, 1925.

Dear Sir,

The following is a statement of the Samples taken in your District during the past year:—

SAMPLE.	...	No.	If adulterated.
Blancmange	...	1	—
Castor Oil	...	1	Yes.
Cheese	...	1	—
Dripping	...	1	—
Plain Flour	...	1	—
Lard	...	1	—
Milk	...	4	(2) Yes.
Pepper	...	1	—
Rice	...	1	—
Sago	...	1	Yes.
Salmon Tinned	...	1	—
Sponge Cake	...	1	—
Shredded Suet	...	2	—
Sugar	...	1	—
Tapioca	...	1	—
Tea	...	2	—

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

ACTION TAKEN.

Castor Oil	Vendors Cautioned, and advised to withdraw present stock from sale.
Milk	Vendor Cautioned.
Milk	Prosecution. Case dismissed on payment of costs.
Sago	Vendor Cautioned.

Yours faithfully,

J. ELLIOTT ROBINSON.
County Medical Officer.

Prevalence and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

With the exception of Influenza this District has been remarkably free from outbreaks of Infectious Disease since 1920.

There has been only one case of Enteric Fever notified in 5 years and this was certainly contracted outside the area.

There have been a few sporadic cases of Diphtheria and also some small local outbreaks of Scarlet Fever of a mild type. With one exception all the cases were of a very mild type, with no unpleasant sequelae. There were no cases showing nephritis or otitis media.

The one exception was a child who died, and in this case the disease developed while it was suffering from Influenza, and this factor probably accounted for the severe type of the disease.

There have been no "Return Cases."

There have been a few sporadic cases of Encephalitis Lethargica and one or two of Malaria and Dysentery in the past 5 years. In the years 1921, 1922 and 1923 there were outbreaks of whooping cough and when these occurred during the prevalence of Influenza many cases developed broncho-pneumonia and some died.

Arrangements have been made and notified to local medical practitioners for this Authority to pay for certain Pathological Tests e.g. the Widal Test in suspected Typhoid and for the examination of throat swabs in cases of suspected Diphtheria.

The County Council also has made arrangements for examination of material in suspected Venereal Disease, for hairs for Ringworm and of Sputum for the Tubercle Bacillus.

Anti-Diphtheria Toxin can be obtained from the Medical Officer of Health.

The County Council supply Anti-Tetanic Serum.

As the cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been sporadic and mild it has not been thought necessary to make use of the Schick or Dick Tests or of any methods of Immunisation.

It is perhaps convenient to point out here that there are a considerable number of female children in the area who at the onset of puberty and after develop goitre. In view of the recent work suggesting that this is due to a lack of Iodine in the food or water it is hoped that the County School Medical Officers will take steps to deal with this.

No Vaccinations or Revaccinations have been performed by the M.O.H. under the P.H. Regulations 1917.

The number of children vaccinated is still very small.

Influenza has been the most serious Epidemic Disease in the past 5 years. The worst year was 1924 when there were 15 deaths directly attributed to it and there were 6 of Pneumonia some of which probably were due to Influenza

In 1925 there were 4 deaths due to Influenza.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1925.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	10	10	Nil
Diphtheria	1	1	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	8		
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1		
Acute Poliomyelitis	1		

CASE RATE PER 100 LIVING.

	England and Wales.	Weymouth R.D.
Small-pox	0.14	0.00
Scarlet Fever	2.36	1.13
Diphtheria	1.23	0.11
Enteric Fever	0.07	0.00
Puerperal Fever	0.06	0.00
Erysipelas	0.39	0.00

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1925.

Age Periods.					New Cases.				Deaths.			
					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...				
1	...	...	...	...				
5	...	...	...	...				
10	...	...	...	...		1						
15	...	...	...	...	1	1	1					
20	...	...	...	...		2						
25	...	...	...	...	1	1						
35	...	...	...	...	1							
45	...	...	...	...	1	1						
55	...	...	...	...				
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...				
Totals	...	...	...	...	4	6	1	0	3	4	0	0

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

I—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.)

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	41	2	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	41	2	Nil
Total			

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of cleanliness	1	1	Nil	Nil
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary Accommodation:—				
Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or defective				
Not separate for sexes				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil