

[Report 1945] / Medical Officer of Health, Whitstable U.D.C.

Contributors

Whitstable (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1945

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(3) WHITSTABLE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

WHITSTABLE.

July 1946.

To the Chairman and Members
of the WHITSTABLE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs Stanley and Gentlemen,

I have to present to you my sixteenth Annual Report as
Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Whitstable.

Area of Urban District	...	...	...	...	8,283 acres
" " " " (before 1934)	...	...	...	...	794 "
Population at Census 1931	...	...	...	...	10,820
" (estimated mid-1939)	...	...	...	...	15,620
" " mid-1944)	...	...	...	...	13,320
" " mid-1945)	...	...	...	...	14,330
Number of Houses 1931	...	...	...	...	3,466
" " Inhabited houses 1931	...	...	...	...	3,105
" " Houses 1945	...	...	...	...	5,855
" " Inhabited houses 1945 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	3,327
" " Families or Separate Occupiers (1931)	...	...	...	...	3,327
Rateable Value 1944	...	...	...	...	£138,676
Sum represented by a penny rate 1944	...	...	...	...	£520
Rateable Value 1945	...	...	...	...	£138,968
Sum represented by a penny rate 1945	...	...	...	...	£523

AREA - The area of the Urban district is 8,283 acres,
made up as follows:-

Old (Central Ward	...	...	...	78 acres
Urban (East Ward	...	...	...	422 "
Area (West Ward	...	...	...	294 "
Swalecliffe	...	...	...	927 "
Whitstable-cum-Seasalter	...	...	...	4,350 "
Dunkirk (part)	...	...	...	936 "
Graveney (part)	...	...	...	886 "
Hernhill (part)	...	...	...	390 "

TOTAL: 6,283 "

POPULATION The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-1945 is 14,330. For last year it was 13,320, an increase of 1,010. It is interesting to note that according to information from the local Food Office, population based on rationing statistics was at 31st December 1945, 15,496, a figure only slightly less than the Registrar-General's estimate for 1939. From this, it may be assumed that the population has now returned to normal.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Any reference to the general condition of the district has been omitted from reports of War years, since these were perforce static, but it is now evident that the district is once again progressing. A considerable amount of house property is changing hands; the demand far exceeds the supply, but the building trade is again getting into its stride. A not inconsiderable number of houses were in course of construction in the early months of 1946, having regard to the size of the area. Whitstable and its environs also had its fair share of visitors in the summer of 1945, with a moderate number going to the licensed camping grounds. There was a keen demand for the many empty shops and by the end of the year most of these were again occupied. Altogether the district discarded its war-time atmosphere and appearance more quickly than most people would have deemed possible.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1944.
<u>Live Births</u>	227	114	113	(266)

Legitimate	206	100	106	(249)
Illegitimate	21	14	7	(17)

<u>Still Births</u>	7	4	3	(6)

Legitimate	6	3	3	(6)
Illegitimate	1	1	-	(-)

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population is:-

			Rate for 1944
Live Births	...	15.8	(19.9)
Still Births	...	0.48	(0.45)

There has been a considerable drop in the number of births, but as last year's rate was something of a record, this is not surprising. Still births are normal, but an increase in the rate for illegitimate births. For most of the War years, the number of births have exceeded deaths, but in this year, the first after the War, deaths exceed births by 12. This was always the case in the pre-War years, owing to the aging character of the population.

<u>DEATHS</u>	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1944.
	239	99	140	(220)

The death rate per 1,000 population is:-

Crude death rate	...	16.6	Rate for 1944. (16.5)
(No comparability factor available for 1945)			

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1945:-

	Males.Females			Males.Females	
Diphtheria	-	-	Bronchitis	6	2
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	-	Pneumonia	1	1
Other forms of T.B.	1	-	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-
Influenza	-	-	Appendicitis	-	-
(Cancer of buc.cav) (and Oesophagus(M)	2	-	Other digestive diseases	1	3
(Uterus (F))	-	2	Nephritis	6	8
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	Puerpural & post-abort: sepsis	-	-
Cancer of Breast	-	6	Other Maternal Causes	-	-
Cancer of all other sites	8	8	Premature births	2	1
Intra-cran:vascular lesions	15	22	Congenital malformations.	1	2
Heart Disease	37	63	Suicide	-	2
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	6	Road Traffic accident	1	1
			Other violent causes	-	4
			All other causes	9	4

ALL CAUSES MALES 99 FEMALES 140

Year	Notifiable Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	Cancer	Heart and Circulatory	All Causes
1936	1	8	12	-	32	71	197
1937	-	10	9	8	30	75	195
1938	1	10	11	4	35	97	212
1939	-	8	11	13	64	110	269
1940	1	10	17	6	30	80	248
1941	1	7	19	3	46	62	237
1942	1	5	12	2	34	107	220
1943	-	7	16	10	33	106	222
1944	1	3	11	5	42	106	220
1945	-	4	10	-	32	145	239

The transferred deaths were:-

Inward 41 Outward ... 17

The age distribution of total deaths was:-

Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs	2-5 yrs	5-15 yrs	15-25 yrs	25-45 yrs	45-65 yrs	65 and upwards
7	1	2	Nil	Nil	7	33	189

Of the deaths over 65, 35 were between the ages of 65 and 70, 89 between 70 and 80, 59 between 80 and 90, and 6 over 90, one of which was at 100 years.

The Death Rate is little higher than for an average year, but there has been an increase of deaths among females. The rise in deaths due to heart and circulatory diseases in females is phenomenal. From the table giving main causes of death for the last ten years, it will be seen to be much higher than in any other year; it is in fact a record. Other points of interest are that there were no deaths during the year from influenza, maternal causes, infectious diseases, or infants under two years from diarrhoea.

MATERNAL MORTALITY There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis, or from other maternal causes.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year were as follows:-

	Total	Males	Females	Totals for 1944
Legitimate	6	3	3	(9)
Illegitimate	1	1	-	(-)

Infantile Mortality Rates are as follows:-

		(Rates for 1944)
All infants per 1000 live births	30.8	(33.8)
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	29.1	(36.1)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	47.6	(0.00)

The infantile mortality rate is slightly lower than for the year 1944, but is much lower than the average for the rest of the country.

The ages at and causes of deaths under one year were as follows:-

8 months	Congenital heart disease, acute otitis media
7 "	Infantile convulsions, acute bronchitis
1½ days	Prematurity
3 hours	Heart failure, prematurity
7 weeks	Acute intestinal obstruction (operation) Prematurity
1 day	Prematurity
15 hours	Atelectasis. Prematurity

There were no deaths among children under two years from diarrhoea and enteritis.

TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR
CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1945

	(1) W H I T S T A B L E	(2) England and Wales	(3) 126 County Boroughs & Great Towns Including London	(4) 148 Smaller Towns Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	(5) London Admin- istra- tive County
BIRTHS		Rates per 1000 Civilian Population			
Live	15.8	16.1	19.1	19.2	15.7
Still	0.48	0.46	0.58	0.53	0.40
DEATHS					
All Causes	16.6	11.4	13.5	12.3	13.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Influenza	0.00	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	0.00	--	--	--	--
Measles	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
NOTIFICATIONS:-					
Typhoid Fever	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.32	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
Whooping Cough	2.44	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
Diphtheria	0.13	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
Erysipelas	0.83	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	--	0.00
Measles	14.30	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
Pneumonia	0.90	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78
		Rates per 1000 Live Births			
Deaths under 1 yr of age	30.8	46	54	43	53
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	0.00	5.6	7.8	4.4	7.6

Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live & Still)

MATERNAL
MORTALITY.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.25)			
" without sepsis	0.00	0.08)			
Puerpural infections	0.00	0.24)	NOT AVAILABLE		
Other	0.00	1.22)			

Abortion (Mortality
per million women
aged 15 - 45)

With sepsis	Nil	18)	NOT AVAILABLE		
Without sepsis	Nil	6)			

NOTIFICATIONS:-

Puerpural Fever)					(3.60
" Pyrexia)	13.21	9.93	12.65	8.81	(15.87

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation
to Immunisation

Notifications			Deaths		
Age at date of notification.	No. of cases notified.	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.	Age at date of death	Number of deaths	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.
Under 1	-	-	Under 1	-	-
1	-	-	1	-	-
2	-	-	2	-	-
3	-	-	3	-	-
4	-	-	4	-	-
5 to 9	-	-	5 to 9	-	-
10 to 14	1	1	10 to 14	-	-
TOTALS:	1	1	TOTALS:	-	-

At June 30th 223 children under five were transferred to the 5 - 15 years group, 105 children were taken out of the 5 - 15 yrs group as being over 14 years of age.

At 31st December 43 children under five were transferred to the 5 - 15 years group. 29 children were taken out of the 5 - 15 years group as being over 14 years of age.

No. of children immunised in 1945:-

0 - 4 years	...	201	
5 - 15 years	...	12	Total: 213

Percentages on Registrar General's estimated mid-year child population 1945.

Under five	...	58.9%	5 - 15 years	...	59.1%
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During the year I held immunisation sessions at Church House F.A.Post, before its disbandment, for children of school age. Dr.Barker, working at the Child Welfare Clinic under the Welfare Authority, The County Council, carried out treatment for children under school age. A small number of children were immunised by private practitioners.

Of the two cases of diphtheria notified during the year, one had received immunisation, the other was an adult in the 45 - 65 years age group.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December 1945.

Age at 31/12/45. i.e. Born in year.	Under 1 1945.	1 1944	2 1943	3 1942	4 1941	5 to 9, 1936/1940.	10 to 14, 1931/1935.	Total under 15
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Number Immunised	2	168	185	156	107	498	560	1676
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Estimated mid-year population 1945.	1210	1790	3000
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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

The staff engaged on Public Health work at the end of 1945 consisted of myself, Medical Officer of Health, part-time; Mr.C.R.A.Martin, Chief Sanitary Inspector; Messrs.C.A.Tilley and P.K.Marsh, General Assistants, and Miss.V.Slingsbury, Clerk. In January 1946, Mr.Martin resigned owing to ill-health and Mr.F.W.I.Whitehouse was appointed to his place, and shortly afterwards, the Council discharged Mr.Tilley from his temporary war-time appointment of Assistant. The Staff, in addition to myself, is now Mr.Whitehouse, Chief Sanitary Inspector, with the post of Additional Sanitary Inspector vacant, Mr.P.K.Marsh, General Assistant, and Miss Slingsbury, Clerk.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Arrangements remain as described in previous reports. I should like to pay tribute to the services rendered by the County Public Health Laboratory. Despite war-time conditions, their work was carried on with speed and efficiency, as always. It has been of inestimable value to medical practitioners in this town.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

For the first half of 1945, the two town ambulances were operated under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, but with the disbandment of Civil Defence, the Council appointed one whole-time driver and transferred the work to the Surveyor's Department.

NURSING HOMES

The shortage of nursing home accommodation, particularly for maternity cases, has continued throughout the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

For a period during 1945, owing to difficulties which I understand concerned mostly domestic staff, the Joint Hospital could not receive Scarlet Fever patients, which in consequence had to be sent to Dartford. Fortunately, the district was singularly free from notifiable infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply in the area as a whole and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples of both sources of public supply, namely, the Canterbury Company and the Mid-Kent Water Company (for the Yorkletts area) have been taken periodically for chemical and bacteriological examination, and the results obtained have been satisfactory.

There still remain a number of areas in the rural part of the district where a piped supply of water is not available, and householders have to rely upon rain water supply; Radfall Ride and Yorkletts are examples of these areas, but the number of such houses is under a hundred. There are also within the built up part of the Urban District approximately ninety houses relying upon well supplies.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Although there were no serious floodings of sewers during 1945, the danger remains and with building development once again proceeding in various parts of the district, is the most vital problem which the Council has to face to-day. I have commented upon its urgency for a number of years now in each of my annual reports, and the late Chief Sanitary Inspector's reports on the subject go back many years further. A new chance to develop will be given to Whitstable in the next few years. Just how and to what extent that development proceeds depends very largely upon the sewerage question.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Mr. Martin, before he left the service of the Council, prepared a statement of the work of his department for the year 1945, his 22nd year as Sanitary Inspector for the Urban District. I have set it out below:-

1. GENERAL

Number	of	Inspections	...	...	2749	
"	"	Re-inspections...	...	...	1800	Total 4549
"	"	Complaints received	...	...		462
"	"	Notices served to execute works:-				
		Preliminary	...	...	215	
		Statutory	...	...	8	Total 223
"	"	Notices complied with by persons responsible (including those outstanding at end of 1944)				197
"	"	Notices complied with by Council in default				4

2. HOUSING NUISANCES

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	21
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed.	...	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	83
Floors ventilated...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sites concreted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	28
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stoves repaired and renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Brickwork repaired..	...	...	...	...	...	11
Yards paved and drained...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Overcrowding abated.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	30

3. DRAINS W.C's ETC

Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
" ventilated...	...	...	...	...	...	3
" cleared	...	...	...	...	...	59
" tested	...	...	...	...	...	33
Surface water drains laid.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rain water pipes disconnected from sewers...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Houses connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspools abolished.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
" constructed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Pail closets converted to W.C's.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Movable sink waste receptacles abolished	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
W.C's built	...	...	...	...	...	4
W.C's repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
W.C's provided with flushing apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Privies built	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Inspection chambers built.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dustbins provided...	...	...	...	...	...	38

4. BAKEHOUSES

Number on register..	...	...	...	...	...	15
" of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	36
" " defects found...	...	...	...	...	...	2
" " defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	2

5. COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Cowkeepers on Register	...	...	...	...	...	13
" " Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	5
" " Registered Retailers with Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	4
" " Registered Retailers with premises outside Urban District	...	...	...	...	...	1

5. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS (Contd)

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	118
" " Defects found	...	...	...	...	...	7
" " " remedied.	...	...	...	...	...	7

6. SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of premises registered or licensed before 1940.	...	...	...	...	...	7
" " Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	9

7. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number of Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	68
" " Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	27
" " Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	140
" " Defects found	...	...	...	...	...	3
" " Defects remedied.	...	...	...	...	...	3
" " Workplaces cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

8. WATER SUPPLIES

Number of Samples taken for analysis...	...	...	...	...	4
" " " reported unfit	...	...	...	...	Nil
" " Houses connected to mains...	...	...	...	...	21

VARIOUS

Inspection of Butchers', Grocers', Fish, Fruit,	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " Cream, etc., shops.	...	...	...	...	...	120
" " Van Dwellings, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1259
" " Schools	...	...	...	...	...	6
" " Stables	...	...	...	...	...	56
" " Air-Raid Shelters..	...	...	...	...	...	600
Visits to works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	330
Offensive accumulations removed..	...	...	...	...	...	51
Animals kept insanitary	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premises baited with rat poison..	...	...	...	...	...	24

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

Visits to Infected Houses..	...	...	...	...	...	95
Number of rooms disinfected following:-	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	22	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	4	...	...
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	9	...	...
Cancer	...	...	...	8	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	17	...	64

Four cases of Scarlet Fever, 3 Dysentery and 1 Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

AGE INCIDENCE, DISTRIBUTION, ETC., OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1945.

DISEASE	Cases notified in Each Ward										Cases Removed to Hospital
	East Ward	Central Ward	West Ward	Seasalter East	Seasalter West	Swalecliffe					
At all ages	3	7	3	3	2	1					4
Under 1 year	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
1 - 5 years	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
5 - 15 years	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
15 - 25 years	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
25 - 45 years	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
45 - 65 years	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
65 - and upwards	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
Scarlet Fever	19	2	1	1	1	1					4
Diphtheria	12	1	1	1	1	1					1
Erysipelae	4	1	1	1	1	1					1
Dysentery	9	1	1	1	1	1					1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	6	1	1	1	1	1					1
Tuberculosis (Other forms)	14	1	1	1	1	1					1
Pneumonia	205	10	79	107	11	6					1
Measles	35	2	21	11	1	1					1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
Para-typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1					1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1					1

Number of Articles Disinfected in Steam Disinfector:-

	<u>Whitstable.</u>		<u>Herne Bay and</u>
	<u>Civil</u>	<u>A.R.P.</u>	<u>Blean Institution.</u>
Beds	28	-	2
Mattresses	144	-	151
Pillows	211	-	319
Bolsters	44	-	8
Blankets	199	35	-
Sheets	54	-	-
Cushions	37	-	-
Quilts	25	-	2
Miscellaneous	<u>70</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>
	812	35	486

TOTAL: 1313

PUBLIC MORTUARY

	Males	Females
Number of bodies admitted - Resident	8	7
Non-resident	-	-
	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

Post-mortem exams	12
Inquests only	4

CAUSES OF DEATH:-

Natural Causes	...	11
Misadventure	...	1
Suicide	...	2
War deaths, British	...	1
Allied	...	-
Enemy..	...	-
		<u>15</u>

8.6. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:-
 (1) Number of houses demolished
 in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...

FOOD SUPPLY

The following table shows the amount of Unsound Food condemned during the year:-

Meat	...	...	491 lbs
Fish	...	...	3368 "
Cheese	...	...	52 "
Butter	...	...	45 "
Tinned Fish	...	...	54 "
Tinned Milk	...	...	162 "
Tinned Meat	...	...	1199 "
Jam	...	...	35 "
Miscellaneous..			493 "
TOTAL:-			5899 "

2 Tons 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

Total number of certificates issued: 246.

Slaughtering continues to be concentrated by the Ministry of Food in Canterbury. The total number of shops inspected during the year for the purpose of supervising the food supply was 120.

MILK SUPPLY

The number of cowkeepers and retail purveyors on Register remains the same, viz., eighteen and five. Three bottling licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk and one dealer's licence for Pasteurised Milk were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936.

62 samples were taken during 1945 with the following results:-

- (i) From Accredited Producers (7) - 36, of which 11 failed to reach the standard.
- (ii) From Tuberculin Tested Producers (3) - 18 of which one failed to reach the standard.
- (iii) From Ungraded Producers (8) - 8 of which 4 failed to reach the standard.

H O U S I N G

Number of Houses erected during the year:- NIL

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 213

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 213

(2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ... NIL

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose NIL

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... NIL

(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 ... 193

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... 172

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:- NIL

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 7

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

(a) By owners ... 6

(b) By local authority in default of owners NIL

3.C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... NIL

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... NIL

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:- NIL

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding:-

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	20
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	36
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	131
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	NIL
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved...	...	...	...	...	1

The particulars given in paragraph 4 of the Table do not reflect the real position with reference to overcrowding. This is assuming serious proportions owing to the return of men from the forces. In many cases soldiers wives were content to live in together, but on the return of their husbands they wish to begin to set up homes. The conditions under which many of these young families are living has its inevitable consequences of unhappiness and strife.

Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders

During the year one cottage (the other was still occupied) included in the Bogshole Clearance Order was repaired and permitted to be occupied by the Council for a limited period. No premises were demolished during the year and the position is, therefore, as follows:-

174 houses demolished, 19 buildings closed; total number of persons displaced thereby - 504.

Disinfection 16 houses were disinfected by my staff during the year, and fumigants etc., issued to owners or occupiers for the disinfection of a further 12 houses.

Scabies Cleansing . Owing to the closing of the Public Gas Cleansing Centre at the First-Aid Post, Cromwell Road North, no scabies cleansing was possible during the year. For a number of years I had worked closely with the Welfare Department for the purpose of cleansing persons and their clothing from scabies. Their absence now reveals that there is a very real need for such facilities.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The following particulars of house refuse collection and disposal are for the nine months ended 31st December 1945, from which date the work was transferred to the Surveyor to the Council, and consequently I am not able to give the usual financial data for the year.

Refuse Collection

The weekly collection of house and trade refuse has been maintained throughout the year with three S.D. freighters (years of make: BKK 227 - 1934. GKO 573 - 1940 and EKK 151 - 1937).

The Council authorised an additional loader per machine during the year.

Refuse Disposal

There was a serious fire at the Tip during the year, which was, I believe, an extension from the deliberate firing of the Tip by boys during the previous year. It was brought under control by the usual methods. A large accumulation of light scrap was flattened and disposed of, a contribution being received from the Ministry of Supply of £45 to meet labour costs.

The cesspool contents from the Council's motor emptiers continued to be received at the site, and also large quantities of iron etc., from the coast defence works, which have made rather a mess of the cleanly appearance of the Tip.

The total quantity of refuse collected and disposed of during the first nine months of the year was 1651 tons 15 cwts. made up as follows:-

House refuse 1598 tons 10 cwts, trade refuse 41 tons 15 cwts, street sweepings 11 tons 10 cwts.

Following is a table of material salvaged with financial receipts for the same period:-

Type	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Rags and Sacking	1	19	-	4	30.	2.	6.
Non-ferrous metal		2	2	6	3.	3.	9.
Bottles and Jars	376	dozen			9.12.		8.

Type	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
	Brought fwd:-				42.	18.	11.
Bones	1	9	3	24	7.	15.	8.
Paper	48	-	1	-	309.	16.	3.
Ferrous Metals	1	4	-	-	2.	2.	0.
Rubber	1	-	-	-	1.	0.	0.
Kitchen Waste	2	-	-	-	1.	10.	0.
Trade Refuse					38.	11.	0.
					<hr/>		
					£403.	13.	10.

A total of 1677 gallons of petrol was used by the three freighters and $10\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of oil. The total vehicle-hours worked was $3147\frac{3}{4}$.

(Petrol Control. I installed the first bulk storage tank and pump for petrol in 1927 at the Island Wall Depot, and was responsible for petrol issues until 31st December 1945 when this work was also taken over by the Surveyor's Department)

TOWN AMBULANCE SERVICE

My annual report for 1944 contained full details of the running of the Town Ambulance Service up to 31st March 1945. I continued running this Service with Civil Defence personnel until the disbandment of Civil Defence at the close of the European War, when considerable difficulties were experienced in staffing. Supervision of the work was taken over by the Surveyor's Department at the end of June 1945.

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NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of notifiable infectious disease cases during 1945.

	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
Scarlet Fever	19	19	23	28	26
Diphtheria	2	13	5	2	3
Enteric Fever	1	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	12	5	7	7	1
Pneumonia	14	15	21	11	12
Tuberculosis (Pul:)	9	9	9	11	7
" (other forms)	6	6	16	9	4
Dysentery	4	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-

(Contd)	<u>1945</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1941</u>
Puerperal Fever } Pyrexia }	3	2	-	2	-
Measles	205	70	32	248	15
Whooping Cough	35	44	23	8	37
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	1	-

The district had a minor epidemic of measles during the year, most cases being of a mild type. The incidence rate per 1000 of the population was higher than for the country as a whole. Four cases of Sonne's Dysentery were notified in one of the summer camps; it was impossible to trace the source.

TUBERCULOSIS

Now Cases and Mortality 1945.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 yrs	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 15 yrs	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 yrs	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 yrs	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 yrs	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 yrs	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 yrs	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 yrs and up	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL:	5	4	2	4	3	-	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS 1945

	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		TOTAL
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cases on Register at commencement of 1945	41	24	14	39	113
Cases notified during 1945	5	4	2	4	15
Cases restored to Register during 1945	3	1	-	1	5
Other additions	4	-	-	3	7
Cases removed from Register during 1945	5	1	2	7	15
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1945.	48	28	14	40	130

One death from pulmonary tuberculosis had not been previously notified. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from the disease in any particular occupations in the district.

The total number of cases on the Register is probably higher than it has ever been before, mostly for the reason of Service cases discharged and others who left the district for war work and have now been restored. The number of first notifications is not more than usual, and is balanced by the number of removals. Notifications of glandular infections in children appear to have been less in recent years.

CONCLUSION. The year has been free from any serious epidemic, but there has been an unusually large amount of minor illness. The end of the war found many people, especially the older ones, in a debilitated condition as a result of prolonged strain and monotony of rations - this especially affected women - children too have suffered to a considerable extent from diet insufficiencies. Skin troubles of various kinds have been very prevalent.

Now that Mr. Martin has resigned, I would like to express my grateful thanks to him for the great help he has given me during the past fifteen years that I have been associated with him. My relations with him were always most happy and cordial, and I deeply regret that ill health, caused to a great extent by the strain of work shouldered by him during the war years, has necessitated his resignation.

Once again may I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the courtesy they have invariably extended to me.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

Charles E. Etheridge, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health.

