

**[Report 1943] / Medical Officer of Health, Whittlesey U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WHITTLESEY.

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REPORT

- on the -

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Medical Officer of Health : W.A.D. Lawson, F.R.S.M., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.  
Sanitary Inspector : J. W. ...  
Health Inspector : ...  
Laboratory Services : ...  
Air Raid Precautions : ...  
Public Health Notices : ...

STATISTICS

Population : ...  
Infantile Mortality Rate : ...  
Males : ...  
Females : ...

W.A.D. LAWSON,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WHITTLESEY.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my first Annual Report which includes six months before my predecessor, Dr. J.F.Dawson, left. This report will be brief for obvious reasons.

I take this opportunity of expressing thanks for the friendly welcome and co-operation of all the members of the Council, and the assistance of their staff, with whom it has been every pleasure to work.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. D. LAWSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F.

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Medical Officer of Health :- | W.A.D.Lawson, M.D. B.Ch., D.P.H.                    |
| Sanitary Inspector :         | J.J.Beresford, Cert.San.I.E.B.,<br>A.R.San.Inst.    |
| Meat Inspector :             | J.H.Poles, M.R.C.V.S.                               |
| Laboratory Service :         | Emergency Public Health Laboratory,<br>Cambridge.   |
| Air Raid Precautions :       | A full-time Officer was appointed<br>in July, 1943. |
| Ambulance Facilities :       | These remain the same                               |

STATISTICS.

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Population :               | There is no great change.  |
| Infantile Mortality Rate : | This is very satisfactory being considerably lower than any since 1936, which was a low record. There were no deaths of illegitimate children born.                        |
| Death Rate :               | This is rather higher, but such a figure based on a few thousand head of population will tend to vary from year to year. Of these deaths 51.4% were over 70 years of age . |

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WHITBY

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my first Annual Report which includes six months before my predecessor, Dr. Dawson left. This report will be brief for obvious reasons. I take this opportunity of expressing thanks for the friendly welcome and co-operation of all the members of the Council, and the assistance of their staff with whom it has been every pleasure to work. I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,  
W. A. D. LAWSON,

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

- Medical Officer of Health :- W. A. D. Lawson M.D. B.Sc., D.P.H.
- Bacteriologist :- J. J. Battersford, B.Sc., B.I.B., A.R.S.M.I.M.S.
- Health Inspector :- J. H. Pollock, M.R.O.V.S.
- Laboratory Service :- Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge
- Air Raid Precautions :- A full-time Officer was appointed in July, 1941.
- Analysing Facilities :- These remain the same.

STATISTICS

Population : There is no great change.

Infantile Mortality Rate : This is very satisfactory being considerably lower than any since 1925, which was a low record. There were no deaths of illegitimate children born.

Death Rate : This is rather higher, but such a figure based on a few thousand head of population will tend to vary from year to year. Of these deaths 51% were over 70 years of age.



### MILK.

The wholesale collection of milk is dealt with at the Ministry of Food Model Dairy, Midland Road, Peterborough. Here the milk is bottled and some is pasteurized. Samples of milk are taken daily at the Model Dairy and periodically at the source of production.

Samples of milk are taken by the Food and Drugs Inspector at the premises of licenced "Accredited" milk producers.

Two more milk producers have been granted "Accredited" milk licences. There are now five "Accredited" milk producing farms.

There are 32 producing ordinary milk and three of these sell by retail. The Peterborough and District Co-operative Society Ltd., sell milk by retail in the district.

### OTHER FOODS.

The Sanitary Inspector condemned a number of tins of milk, meat products, fruit and fish, and also some wet fish.

The Meat Inspector condemned carcasses or parts of carcasses and offal at the slaughter houses, where emergency slaughtering is allowed.

### SEWERS.

There was no extension of the public sewers.

### CARAVANS.

One Camp was condemned by the Council and closed. The other three camps were granted licences. Generally the camp sites and the vans show improvement on previous years.

### HOUSING.

The conditions are the same as in 1942.

### SCHOOLS.

The Church of England Day Schools (West End Senior Girls' and Station Road Senior Boys') are still without modern drainage, although the public sewers run past each. Old fashioned pail-closets are in use, but pressure has been made by the Council for W.C's. to be installed.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

As a result of advertising again the facilities offered by the Council for the prevention of Diphtheria by immunisation, the number of children immunised in 1943, was 36 age 1-5, and 122 age 5-15, a total of 158. The figures for the previous year were 89 and 198 a total of 287.

MILK

The municipal collection of milk is done at the Municipal Dairy, 1100 North Broadway, where the milk is pasteurized and bottled. Samples of milk are taken daily at the Municipal Dairy and periodically at the homes of consumers.

Samples of milk are taken by the Food and Drug Inspector at the premises of licensed milk producers.

Two more milk producers have been granted "Approved" milk licenses. There are now five "Approved" milk producing farms.

There are 12 producing ordinary milk and three of these sell by retail. The Peterborough and Market Co-operative Society Ltd., sell milk by retail in the district.

OTHER FOODS

The Dairy Inspector conducted a number of visits of milk, meat products, fruit and fish and also other food.

The Dairy Inspector conducted courses or parts of courses and other at the slaughter houses, where emergency slaughtering is allowed.

SEWERS

There was no extension of the public sewers.

CAMPINGS

One camp was sanctioned by the Council and closed. The other three camps were granted licenses. Generally the camp sites and the vans show improvement on previous years.

HOUSING

The conditions are the same as in 1942.

SCHOOLS

The Board of England Day Schools, West End School, Girls' and British Road Senior Boys' were still without visitors. Although the public sewers were past each. Old fashioned ball-closets are in use, but pressure has been made by the Council for W.O.'s to be installed.

DIPHTHERIA INVESTIGATION

As a result of investigations again the facilities offered by the Council for the prevention of diphtheria by vaccination, the number of children immunized in 1947, was 30 age 1-5, and 122 age 5-15, a total of 152. The figures for the previous year were 69 and 128 a total of 197.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

An epidemic of Measles occurred from the beginning of the year to the end of June. There were 251 cases compared with 6 in 1942 and 93 in 1941.

Whooping cough 8 cases against 4 in 1942 and 83 in 1941.

A number of mild cases of Scarlet Fever occurred and of these 14.29% were removed to the Wisbech Joint Isolation Hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

A few cases occurred during 1943 and these may have been connected with Measles.

The death rate from Pneumonia is rather high, it is connected with the incidence of Measles in the low age groups and as a terminal complication at the other extremity of life. This is not the type of pneumonia usually represented in the notification statistics. Of the total number of deaths from pneumonia 28% were of people who died from a combination of pneumonia and other causes. They were not notified pneumonia cases. Their ages were from 57 to 89 years.

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