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Contributors

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WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Winsford Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of placing before you my second Annual Report, being a report on the Health of your Town for the year ended 31st December, 1940. Ministry of Health Circular No. 2314 dated the 26th March, 1941 requires this report to be prepared on the lines of my last year's report, namely, that it should be confined to essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year.

SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	..	..	..	..	..	7,094 acres.
Population - Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-1940	..	..	..	..	..	11,340.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940)	..	..	..	..	..	3,321.
Rateable value	..	..	..	..	..	£47,728.
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	£199.

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	(Legitimate	173	90	83)	Birth rate per 1,000 of
	(Illegitimate	9	5	4)	the estimated resident
					population .. 16.04.
Stillbirths	(Legitimate	3	3	-)	Rate per 1,000 total
	(Illegitimate	-	-	-)	(live and still)
					births .. 16.21.
Deaths		177	98	79	Death rate per 1,000 of
					the estimated resident
					population .. 15.60.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil.	-
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	Nil.	-
Total	Nil.	-

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	60.43.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	..	57.80.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	..	111.1.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	25.
" " Measles (all ages)	..	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	-

CAUSES OF DEATHS - 1940.
(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	M.	F.	Total.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	1	-	1
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	-	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-
9. Influenza	3	3	6
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Ac:polio-myel: & polio-enceph:	-	-	-
12. Ac: inf: enceph:	1	-	1
13. Cancer of b:cav: & oesoph: (11) uterus (F).	-	2	2
14. Cancer of stomach or duodenum	2	2	4
15. Cancer of Breast	-	2	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	7	10	17
17. Diabetes	1	-	1
18. Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	10	10	20
19. Heart Diseases	21	19	40
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	1	3
21. Bronchitis	5	6	11
22. Pneumonia	4	5	9
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	-	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1	2
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis	-	-	-
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	3	4
28. Nephritis	5	1	6
29. Puerperal & post-abortion: Sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	-	-
31. Premature Birth	4	-	4
32. Congenital Debility & Malformations	2	-	2
33. Suicide	2	1	3
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	-	1
35. Other violent causes	7	2	9
36. All other causes	14	10	24
Totals	98	79	177

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There is no change to report under this heading.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water - Sundry minor extensions of mains etc., were carried out during the year and all sources of water were maintained in a satisfactory state and free from pollution as was shown by analyses of six samples taken during the year.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal - The war has held up projected extensions of the Council's Sewerage System, plans of which have been prepared for the sewerage of two parts of the area. The new Sewage Works at Meadowbank, it should be noted, give a very good effluent. The Town's main Sewage Disposal Works have been maintained in a satisfactory condition. In spite of damage from subsidence no evidence of river pollution exists.

Closet Accommodation - During the year the number of conversions to the water carriage system was 8 and the number of houses still on the old system in built-up areas is 108.

Public Cleansing - The routine work of refuse collection and disposal and the cleansing of pail closets etc. proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SANITARY OFFICERS' (OUTSIDE LONDON) REGULATIONS, 1935
ARTICLE 27 (18).

Statement of Inspections made and Notices issued.

Nature of Inspections made	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results of services of Notices			
		Statutory	Informal	Notice complied with	Remain- ing in hand	Prosecutions Insti- tuted	Pending
1. Dwelling Houses (General Inspection)	287	1	14	11	4	1	-
2. Cellar Dwellers.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Back-to-Back Houses	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Courts, Yards, Passages.	112	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Privy Middens (Nil)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earth Closets (Nil)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peat Pails, Cess- pool Privies	23	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Cesspools	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. House Drainage	84	1	4	5	-	-	-
9. Ditches, Water- courses, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Offensive Accum- ulations	6	-	3	3	-	-	-
11. Keeping of Animals	6	-	1	-	-	-	-
12. Offensive Trades	153	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. a) Slaughterhouses (Public) Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses (Private)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Regd.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Licensed	830	-	-	-	-	-	-
b) Other places where food is produced or sold	260	-	10	10	-	-	-
14. Piggeries	251	-	5	5	-	-	-
15. a) Dairies	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
b) Shippens	43	-	-	-	-	-	-
c) Milk Shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. a) Factories with mechanical power.	150	-	4	4	-	-	-
b) Factories without mechanical power	68	-	-	-	-	-	-
c) Other premises under the Act (including works of building)	6	-	1	1	-	-	-
d) Outworkers premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Ashbins	16	-	4	4	-	-	-
18. Bakehouses (overground)	160	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Houses let in Lodgings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21. Smoke Observations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. River Boats	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
23. Infectious Disease Inquiries & Revisits	114	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Miscellaneous	307	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2,902	2	47	44	4	1	-

FACTORIES INSPECTION.

Premises	No. of inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	150	4	-
Factories without mechanical power	68	-	-
Other premises	6	1	-
Totals	224	5	-

Defects found in Factories:-

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects		Number of offences referred in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	to H.M. Inspector (4)	(5)
Want of cleanliness	3	3	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-
(Insufficient Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes)	-	-	-	-
Other offences	1	1	-	-
Totals	5	5	-	-

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The main activities during the year can be summarized as follows:-

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)	..	..	..	..	287.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	..	392.
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	..	..	..	..	25.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	..	31.
(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 79.

11. - 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 193.

111. - 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 2.

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

(a) By owners Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 2.

- (c) Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. Nil.

- (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) Milk Supply - The routine examinations of farms and dairies has been continued during the year.

- (b) Meat and other Foods - The following, based upon a statement made by the Meat Inspectors, is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned during the year:-

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,650	135	88	11,153	79,139
Number inspected	2,650	135	88	11,153	79,139
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	3	1	23	49
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	545	40	2	515	3,217
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with Disease other than Tuberculosis	20.75%	31.85%	3.27%	4.82%	4.12%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	10	-	-	71
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	607	60	-	-	11,316
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	23.24%	51.85%	-	-	14.38%

One carcass was examined in connection with the operation of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, the entire carcass and organs were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

The Inspectors under the Diseases of Animals Act notified 4 suspected cases of Anthrax none of which were confirmed by the veterinary surgeons.

- (c) The inspection of premises in which other foods are prepared has been continued during the year.

SECTION F.PREVELANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.(1) Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

Apart from the occurrence of an outbreak of Measles the year 1940 passed off well. A substantial reduction in the number of cases of both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria is recorded in spite of the trials of war-time and the wholesale movements of troops and evacuated children into the District. The Isolation Hospital accommodation proved to be adequate to deal with all Infectious Diseases needing Institutional treatment during the year.

The end of 1940 saw a successful joint "drive" with the other three Mid-Cheshire Local Authorities against Diphtheria and thanks to the excellent help received from the Headmasters of Elementary and Secondary Schools in the District, the co-operation of the Medical Practitioners, the County Health Department and the local Press, excellent progress was made, and the actual protective treatment commenced on a big scale early in January, 1941. The fact that the Scheme was a joint effort serving the needs of four independent County Districts led to much economy of time and effort.

Specimens submitted for Bacteriological Examination.

Examined for	Number submitted	Result	
		Positive	Negative
Diphtheria Bacilli	16	6	10
Bacillus typhosus	1	1	-

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis), during the year 1940.

Disease	Total cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	26	26	-
Diphtheria	6	6	1
Enteric Fever	1	1	-
Pneumonia	15	1	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Erysipelas	5	2	-
Measles	162	-	-

(2) TUBERCULOSIS.

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1
5 - 15 "	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	-	5	3	2	-	1	1

Number of patients on register at 31.12.39 - 64.

Number of patients on register at 31.12.40 - 72.

15 Sputum specimens were examined at the County Council's Laboratory during the year; none were reported on as positive.

The practice of home disinfection in cases of Infectious Diseases (including Tuberculosis) and the eradication of Bed-Bugs was continued during the year. All the Schools in the Town were disinfected at least twice during the year and 9 houses were disinfested for Bed-Bugs.

I would like to say in closing this report how much I value and appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

November, 1941.

Medical Officer of Health.

