

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Deptford Borough].

Contributors

Deptford (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.

Publication/Creation

1946.

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HEALTH
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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF DEPTFORD
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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1945

Public Health Department,
 Central Clinic,
 Amersham Road,
 S. E. 14.



September, 1946.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
 of the Metropolitan Borough of Deptford.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following Report briefly indicates that the health standards were reasonably satisfactorily maintained during the year 1945.

GENERAL DATA

Area of Borough..... 1,564 acres
 Estimated Civilian Population..... 56,650

	<u>Deptford</u>	<u>Comparative figures for London</u>
Birth rate (per 1,000 living).....	19.6	15.7
Stillbirths (per 1,000 living).....	0.34	0.4
Death rate (per 1,000 living).....	16.8	13.8
Infantile Mortality rate(deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	48	53
		<u>Deptford</u>
Live births registered (adjusted for inward and outward transfers)		
Legitimate		1,009
Illegitimate		<u>100</u>
Total.....		<u>1,109</u>
Still births registered.....	(Legitimate	19
	(Illegitimate	-
	Total.....	<u>19</u>
Infant Deaths (under 1 year).....	(Legitimate	42
	(Illegitimate	<u>11</u>
	Total.....	<u>53</u>
Total deaths (adjusted for inward and outward transfers).....		<u>953</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	- cases	- deaths
Typhoid fever.....	1	1
Cerebro-spinal fever.....	87	-
Scarlet fever.....	43	1
Whooping Cough.....	22	3
Diphtheria.....	12	-
Erysipelas.....	-	-
Smallpox.....	241	3
Measles.....	71	42
Pneumonia.....	3	-
Puerperal fever.....	10	1
Puerperal pyrexia.....	357	-
Scabies.....	26	-
Dysentery.....	18	4
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).....	4	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	3	2
Malaria.....		

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The work of disinfection and disinfestation has continued to be carried out at the temporary Disinfecting Station and Bathing Centre at the South Eastern Hospital, the Council's establishments having been destroyed by Enemy Action in July, 1944.

Premises disinfected (infectious disease).....	413	Total articles disinfected in Steam Disinfector.....	13,332
Premises disinfected (requests).....	27	Books disinfected.....	90
Premises disinfected (verminous conditions).....	281	Articles destroyed at owners' request.....	178

BATHING CENTRE

No. of school children who received baths (other than for Scabies).....	1,108	Baths given to adult males (verminous conditions)...	376
Scabies baths to school children.....	1,758	Scabies baths given to adult males.....	480
Adult females and infants under school age who received baths (other than for Scabies).....	1,318		
Scabies baths to adult females and infants under school age.....	48		

MORTUARY & CORONER'S COURT.

Bodies received.....	536	Inquests held.....	-
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The Coroner's Court was not used for inquests during the year by reason of damage sustained by enemy action.

1907
1908

1909
1910

1911
1912
1913

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Visits paid by Health Visitors:-

To expectant mothers	First visits	840	Total visits	1,088
To children under 1 year	"	"	"	5,520
To children 1-5 years of age.....	"	1,049	"	6,572

Infant Welfare Centres.

Total children who attended.....	1,620
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Ante-natal Centres

Total number of women who attended.....	1,008
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Post-natal Centres

Total number of women who attended.....	218
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CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

Persons receiving children for reward (registered foster mothers)	10
Number of children involved.....	11
Total visits of Health Visitors.....	37

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

The work outlined in Ministry of Health Circular 2866 is undertaken by the Health Visiting Staff.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

During the year 1945 the births of 71 premature infants were notified; of these 15 occurred at home and 56 in hospitals.

Provision has been made in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 20/44 for the special services which may be required in this connection, such as the supply of cots and clothing, hot water bottles, expressed milk, and, where required, the provision of a home help.

GYNAECOLOGICAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Total women who attended.....	157
Re-visits.....	339
Total attendances.....	496

WAR TIME NURSERIES

At the end of the year 1945, three Nurseries were functioning under the direction of the Council.

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases notified for first time.....	(Pulmonary	115
	(Non-pulmonary	14
New cases coming to knowledge otherwise than by formal notification.....	(Pulmonary	16
	(Non-pulmonary	3

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY

Cases on Dispensary Register 31/12/45...488

Consultation between Practitioners and Tuberculosis Officer.....	290	Number of contacts examined.....	166
Visits of Tuberculosis Officer to homes.....	102	Total attendances of patients and contacts at Dispensary.....	2,136
Visits of Tuberculosis Health Visitors to homes - To Dispensary cases.....	3,415	X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary cases....	639
To other cases..	1,076	Total specimens of sputum examined at Dispensary.....	604.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

Cases recommended for institutional treatment referred to Care Committee ..	149
Visits paid by Secretary.....	755
Interviews.....	783
Cases dealt with by Care Committee.....	693
Sums raised by Christmas Seals (1945)....£149.11.1d. Expenses..£4.1.0d.	

SANITARY INSPECTION

Total primary inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.....	5,419
Total re-inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.....	13,410
Total number of Intimation Notices served.....	914
Total number of Statutory Notices served.....	134
Cases in which legal proceedings were instituted.....	1
Total visits to prefabricated houses and hutments.....	16,623

HOUSING

With the cessation of hostilities the repair work to war damaged property proceeded with greater celerity involving much supervisory work by the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with the repair or reinstatement of drainage and the investigation of complaints in respect of the more clamant nuisances, the abatement of which merited preferential attention.

During the year, one house was represented as being unfit for human habitation.

Similar supervisory work by the Sanitary Inspectors was necessary in connection with the construction of drainage for the prefabricated houses and hutments, involving 16,623 visits during the year.

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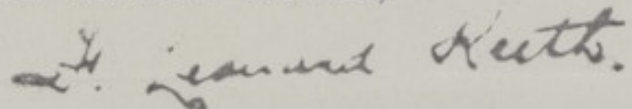
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

	<u>Milk</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>Total</u>
Samples taken.....	186	147	333
Number of adulterated or otherwise infringing the Act by reason of improper labelling or other irregularity.....	13	13	26
Instances in which proceedings were instituted.....	1	1	2

In addition to the analyses under the Food and Drugs Act, as specified above, three samples were examined under the Pharmacy and Medicines Act and twelve samples under various Orders and Regulations made by the Minister of Food.

My thanks are due to the staff, both permanent and temporary, for the able manner they have discharged their duties under conditions of exceptional difficulty.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.