

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

Contributors

Holborn (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.

Publication/Creation

[1945]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/dhuj7epp>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HOLBORN

Abridged Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1944.

RESIDENT POPULATION. Estimated to middle of 1944 (as supplied by the Registrar General) for birth and death rates ... 18020.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Legitimate	171	84	87	Birth rate per 1000 estimated
Illegitimate	36	21	15	population 11.49.

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>	8	3	5	Rate per 1000 (Live and still births) 37.21.
---------------------	---	---	---	--

<u>DEATHS</u>	302	163	139	Death rate per 1000 estimated population 16.76.
---------------	-----	-----	-----	---

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1944.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	53.14
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	46.78
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	83.33

NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS

The total number of births, including stillbirths, notified as occurring in the Borough was 31. Of this number, 1 was notified by a Medical Practitioner, 27 by Midwives and 3 by other persons.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS.

The causes of deaths (302) were as follows:-

Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	12	Bronchitis	20
Other forms of T.B.	3	Pneumonia	21
Syphilitic disease	9	Ulceration of stomach or duodenum	4
Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus	3	Diarrhoea	3
		Appendicitis	1

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HOLBORN

Abridged Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1944.

RESIDENT POPULATION. Estimated to middle of 1944 (as supplied by the Registrar General) for birth and death rates 18,020.

LIVE BIRTHS		Total		F.	
Legitimate	171	84	87	1000 estimated	Birth rate per
Illegitimate	36	21	15	population 11.49.	
STILLBIRTHS.		8	3	5	Rate per 1000
					(Live and still
					births) 37.21.
DEATHS		302	163	139	Death rate per
					1000 estimated
					population 16.76.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1944.

BIRTH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	53.14
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	48.78
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	83.33

NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS

The total number of births, including stillbirths, notified as occurring in the Borough was 21. Of this number, 1 was notified by a Medical Practitioner, 27 by Midwives and 3 by other persons.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS.

The causes of deaths (302) were as follows:-

2	of cavity & oesophagus	3	Appendicitis	20	Bronchitis
1	Cancer of breast	3	Diarrhoea	21	Pneumonia
1	Syphilitic disease	3	or duodenum	4	Ulceration of stomach
1	Other forms of T.B.	3		1	
1	Respiratory system	12			
1	Tuberculosis of the				

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS (CONTD)

Cancer of uterus	3	Other digestive diseases	10
Cancer of stomach & duodenum	5	Nephritis	10
Cancer of breast	7	Congenital malforms.	
Cancer of all other sites	32	Birth injury, Inf.	
Diabetes	3	diseases	3
Intra-cranial Vascular disease	18	Suicide	5
Heart disease	75	Other violent causes	24
Other diseases of the circulatory system	10	All other causes	21

INFANT MORTALITY

There were eleven deaths of infants under one year of age, three of whom were illegitimate. The causes of deaths were as follows:-

Pneumonia 4, Diarrhoea 3, Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disease 2. All other causes 2.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

No major changes in the health services provided in the Borough occurred during 1944. Details of the services may be seen on reference to previous annual reports.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE. WORK.

The total number of visits made by the Health Visitors was 2,774. The number of attendances of children at the Infant Welfare Centres was 4,519. The number of attendances at the Ante-natal clinics was 464.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two day nurseries in the Borough, one of which was taken over by the Council as a War-time Nursery on 1st June, 1943. This latter provides places for 45 children. The other one is still continuing as a voluntary nursery for 50 children.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND ADMINISTRATION.

During the year 20,599 inspections (including re-inspections) were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. Included in this total number were 50 inspections on complaints of nuisance, and 321 with reference to infectious disease.

The number of inspections of factories, workshops and workplaces was 369. Defects were found and remedied in 23 instances.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND ADMINISTRATION (CONTD).

116 Intimation Notices, 5 Statutory Notices under the Public Health (London) Act 1936, and 183 notices under the Bylaws as to Houses-let-in-lodgings were served during the year.

No legal proceedings were necessary during the year to secure compliance with notices served under the Public Health (London) Act 1936.

DISINFECTION

During the year 317 rooms were disinfected after cases of infectious or other disease. Of these, 8 were rooms which had been occupied by tuberculous persons. In addition, 249 rooms of private dwellings were disinfested of vermin. At the Disinfecting Station 5,525 articles of bedding, clothing, etc., 209 books and 15 toys were disinfested.

CLEANSING STATION.

The number of verminous persons resident in Holborn cleansed during the year was 106 men and 14 women.

HOUSING

The number of house-to-house inspections and the number of inspections of houses after complaints or the occurrence of infectious disease was 1,698. The number of Intimation Notices served was 77, and the number of Statutory Notices 5. In one case an undertaking to close one house was accepted by the Council from the owners until it has been rendered fit for human habitation under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK - The number of milk premises on the register is 67 (18 dairies; 14 restaurants; 30 general shops; 5 wholesale dealers). These premises were all inspected as occasion required during the year. In addition, 35 retailers were registered for itinerant sale of milk from premises in the areas of other Local Authorities.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

4 licences to sell "Pasteurised" milk, and 6 supplementary licences, 3 to sell "Pasteurised" milk and 3 to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, were granted during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS.

390 inspections of butchers' shops and market stalls were made during the year.

INSPECTION OF OTHER PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED OR OFFERED FOR SALE.

Under this head are included the following premises:-

Bakehouses; kitchens of hotels, restaurants and other eating houses; butchers' shops; tripe, offal and other meat shops; fried fish, eel and other fish shops.

826 inspections were made of these premises during the year. 23 Notices under the Food and Drugs Act 1938, were served requiring defects to be remedied.

UNSOUND FOOD.

4 tons 13 cwt. 2 qtrs. of tinned meat, fish and other foods were surrendered and destroyed, or disposed of otherwise.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

During the year 600 formal samples were submitted to the Borough Analyst for analysis; of these one was adulterated, viz:-

Milk 4.0% added water.

Legal proceedings were taken in this instance. The summons was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act, and the defendant was ordered to pay £5. 5s. 0d. costs.

WATER.

1. The water supply in this area has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. There have been no complaints received.

2. There is a piped supply, and bacteriological examinations of the raw water are made by the Metropolitan Water Board, who also perform chemical analyses.

3. The water is not known to have any plumbo-solvent action.

4. No action has been necessary in respect of contamination.

WATER (CONTD).

5. All dwelling houses are supplied direct from the mains, and stand-pipes are normally used only in cases of emergency such as repair of mains. There was no case during 1944 in which the use of stand-pipes was necessary owing to bomb damage.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notifications received during the year was 280 as follows:-

Diphtheria	5	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4
Scarlet Fever	20	Enteric Fever	1
Puerperal Fever	2	Whooping Cough	30
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	Measles	33
Pneumonia	14	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	41
Dysentery	13	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9
Erysipelas	8	Scabies	99

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC

94 new cases attended the Clinic during the year. It is estimated that at the end of the year, of the child population of the Borough, 65% of children under 5 years of age and 60% of children between the ages of 5 and 15 were immunised.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION CLINIC

The Council established in October 1939 a Clinic for active immunisation against whooping cough, at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre No.10 John Street. The Clinic is held on Wednesday afternoon of each week.

The outstanding feature of our experience is the absence of reaction in nearly every case. 84 children attended the Clinic during the year.

SCABIES

During the year 99 cases were notified by medical practitioners. Arrangements were made with the Middlesex Hospital for the treatment of scabies in October 1942. During the year 1944, 403 attendances were made by Holborn residents at the Hospital Clinic. In addition 30 children were treated at the London County Council School Clinics, held at this Council's Cleansing Station. Disinfection of patients' clothing was carried out during treatment. Homes were visited by the Health Visitor who arranged for disinfection.

SCABIES (CONTD)

of bedding etc.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1930.

The total number of notified cases of tuberculosis in the Borough on the Notification Register on 31st December 1944, was 328 (pulmonary - males 171, females 87; non-pulmonary - males 30, females 40).

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The number of new cases examined was 107; 31 of these were definitely tuberculous (27 pulmonary and 12 non-pulmonary) 60 non-tuberculous and 8 doubtful. 20 contacts were also examined, 4 were suffering from tuberculosis (2 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary), 15 were non-tuberculous and 1 doubtful. The number of attendances was 596; and 403 visits to the homes of patients were made by the Dispensary Visitor. The total number of cases on the register on the 31st December was 310. In view of the war-time movement of the population, a revision of the Register is being undertaken.

Allowances for Tuberculous Patients undergoing treatment.

During the year 1944, forty-two patients received allowances. Thirty-four new applications were received, twenty-four of which were granted. Twenty-three patients have now removed or resumed work, or have died. The allowances were made up as follows:-

Maintenance allowances	32
Special allowances	14
Discretionary allowances	12

The amount disbursed during the year was £1,260. 6s. 8d.

Artificial Pneumothorax Treatment.

19 patients received treatment. The total cost, £70, was borne by the Council.

Extra Nourishment

19 cases received extra nourishment. The total cost, £85, was borne by the Council.

Dentures.

2 patients were supplied with dentures during the year, and the total cost of £7. 5s. Od. was borne by the Council.

(Sgd) J.A. STRUTHERS, M.D., M.R.C.
Medical Officer of Health. D.P.H.

