

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Stoke Newington, The Metropolitan Borough].

Contributors

Stoke Newington (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.

Publication/Creation

[1942]

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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOKE NEWINGTON.

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ANNUAL (ABRIDGED) REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the year 1941.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, N.16.

12th August, 1942.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Metropolitan Borough of Stoke Newington.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

An abridged report concerning the health of the Borough during the year 1941 is herewith submitted.

Although the health of the population has in general been good, there has been a marked increase in the infantile and maternal mortality rates. In an area with a relatively small population, as is the case in Stoke Newington, vital statistics are greatly influenced by a small variation in any of the factors concerned.

An increase in the number of deaths of infants under one year of age from 16 in 1940, to 23 in 1941, has raised the infantile mortality rate from 28.1 in 1940, to 62.5 in 1941. This rise is partly due to an increase in the number of premature births, the majority of which occurred during the intensive bombing of London.

In August, 1941, arrangements were made for the treatment of scabies in the cleansing section of Clissold Aid Post under the supervision of a Medical Officer and a scheme elaborated by which all home contacts of the cases of scabies were examined. By these means it was found possible to keep this disease, which was on the increase, under control.

A War-time Day Nursery was opened at St. Anne's Home, Manor Road, in November, 1941, for children whose mothers were in full-time employment. This nursery was designed to accommodate 50 children. It was subsequently extended to take 75 children. It is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The year has seen a great increase in the number of children immunised against diphtheria; the result of a combined national and local campaign. In 1941, 961 children attended for immunisation compared with the figure of 137 for 1940.

I have again to thank the Mayor and members of the Emergency Committee for their support and encouragement during the past year.

The Public Health staff, both permanent and temporary, have worked well and by their keenness have maintained the efficiency of the services controlled by the Public Health Department.

S. KING.

Medical Officer of Health.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOKE NEWINGTON.

ANNUAL (INTERIM). REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the year 1941.

AREA. 863 acres.

LIVE BIRTHS. TOTAL. M. F.

Legitimate.	409.	203.	206.	} Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population - 14.0 mid 1941. over 65 years
Illegitimate.	30.	15.	15.	
	439.	218.	221.	

STILL BIRTHS. TOTAL. M. F.

Legitimate.	12.	8.	4.	} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 33.0
Illegitimate.	3.	1.	2.	
	15.	9.	6.	

BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

Of the 260 Stoke Newington births, 183 occurred in institutions. There were 250 live and 10 still births.

<u>DEATHS.</u>	479.	224.	255.	Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population 15.22.
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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.	1.	2.6
No. 30 Other puerperal causes.	1.	2.6

2.

5.2

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births 62.5
(The average for London is 68.0)

Legitimate infants per 1,000
legitimate live births. 61.6

Illegitimate infants per 1,000
illegitimate live births. 37.0

DEATHS FROM:-

CANCER (all ages)	56.
MEASLES (all ages)	-
WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	2.
DIARRHOEA (under 2 years of age)	1.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS.

The causes of deaths (479) were as follows:-

Influenza 5, Tuberculosis of Respiratory System 28, Other Tuberculous Diseases 6, Syphilis 8, Cancer 56, Diabetes 2, Heart Disease 139, Other circulatory Diseases 14, Bronchitis 39, Pneumonia 16, Other respiratory Diseases 5, Peptic Ulcer 6, Other digestive Diseases 12, Acute and chronic Nephritis 14, Congenital Debility, Premature birth, Malformation etc., 12, Suicide 4, Other violent causes 80, Other defined Diseases 33.

It is noteworthy that 55 per cent of all deaths occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 23 deaths of infants under one year of age.

The causes of deaths were as follows:-

Pneumonia 5, Congenital debility, Premature birth, Malformation etc., 12, Whooping Cough 2, Other defined diseases 4.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were 2 deaths during the year attributed to complications of pregnancy or childbirth.

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The total number of bacteriological and other examinations carried out was 193, of which 4 were positive to Tuberculosis, 20 positive to Diphtheria and 1 positive to Vincents Organisms.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Infants under 1 year made 4463 attendances (383 new children) and children 1 to 5 years made 3257 attendances (177 new children) at the Council's Welfare Centres. Wet and Dried milk amounting to £832. 7s. 11d. was distributed during the year to necessitous cases.

PRE-NATAL CLINIC.

65 sessions were held and 195 mothers made 895 attendances.

DENTAL CLINIC.

52 Dental Sessions were held at which 135 mothers attended 485 times and 115 children attended 280 times. Gas anaesthetics were given at 25 sessions to 112 patients. 15 necessitous mothers were provided free of charge with dentures costing £44. 12s. 0d. After deducting receipts for treatment and dentures, the dental service cost the Council £212. 9s. 0d. for the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

961 patients attended for treatment on 3005 occasions.

SCHOOL TREATMENT CENTRE.

At the Stoke Newington School Treatment Centre:-

31 children under the age of 5 years attended for treatment, making 205 attendances.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINICS.

During the year 88 children made 1688 attendances for treatment and 1 mother attended 19 times at the Mildmay Memorial Hospital Sunlight Clinic.

The British Red Cross Clinic, Dalston Lane, Hackney, was closed from September, 1940, to July, 1941. Since that date to the end of the year, 11 children attended 47 times and were given 65 treatments.

STOKE NEWINGTON DISPENSARY.

4174 patients were treated at the Stoke Newington Dispensary, making 9318 attendances. In addition, 391 home visits were made.

HOME HELPS.

Services of Home Helps were used on 30 occasions at a cost to the Council of £105. 0s. 0d.

INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER PROVISIONS FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

Grants were made by the Council as follows:-

£12. 3s. 0d. in aid of the convalescent treatment of eight children under school age.

£10. 10s. 0d. for provision of Obstetric Consultant to two cases.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The total number of visits made by the Health Visitors was 5884.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

8 children in the care of 7 foster mothers were visited on 63 occasions.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

8071 inspections and re-inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. Included in this total number were 70 inspections after notification of Infectious Diseases, 433 upon complaint, 954 to Food Premises and 130 to Factories and Workshops.

1345 Sanitary Defects were found and remedied.

255 Intimation Notices and 57 Statutory Notices were served.

DISINFECTION.

The following number of rooms have been disinfected after:-

Notifiable diseases	96.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14.
Deaths from Cancer	2.
Vermin	1.
Scabies	11.

At the Disinfecting Station a total of 974 textile articles were dealt with, and 71 books from the Public Library were frigated with formalin vapour. In addition, mattresses, bedding, etc., used at the A.R.P. Depots and Rest Centres, totalling 1921 articles, were Steam Disinfected.

OVERCROWDING.

On 1st January, 1941, 1 family was living in overcrowded conditions and 1 family was found to be overcrowded during the year. Both these families moved to other accommodation. Thus the number of cases of overcrowding was reduced to nil at the end of the year.

24 Stoke Newington families obtained accommodation on the L.C.C. Housing Estates.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.MILK.

74 premises of purveyors resident in the Borough and 64 other purveyors operating in the area from premises registered elsewhere were on the register.

The San. Inspectors made 78 visits to dairy premises.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

1 licence to Pasteurise, 7 licences and 23 Supplementary licences to sell designated milk were granted in 1941.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

1 Slaughter House was licensed during the year. No inspection was made by Inspectors.

FOOD PREMISES.

139 food premises were registered and kept under observation by the Inspectors. The Inspectors visited 954 food premises during 1941.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

89 formal and 52 informal samples of food and drugs were submitted for analysis. 1 sample of milk was reported as adulterated and one sample of meat certified to be horseflesh, all other samples as genuine.

Subsequent sample of milk from vendor of adulterated sample found to be genuine.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND OTHER DISEASES.NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1941.DISEASE.

	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to hospital.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	27.	23.
Diphtheria.	28.	28.
Puerperal Fever.	2.	2.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	11.	10.
Pneumonia Acute Primary.	12.	7.
Pneumonia Acute Influenzal.	2.	--
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	--	--
Whooping Cough.	101.	21.
Measles.	120.	15.
Erysipelas.	19.	10.
Food Poisoning.	1.	--
Dysentery.	3.	3.
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	6.	5.
Paratyphoid.	2.	2.

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

No case of Smallpox was notified. Of the 178 births registered in Stoke Newington during 1940, 63 or 35.3 per cent were successfully vaccinated. (Figures for 1941 not yet available.)

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were notified 52 new cases of pulmonary and 9 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The death rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.89 for pulmonary tuberculosis (28 deaths), and 0.19 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis (6 deaths.)

TOTAL NUMBER OF TUBERCULOUS PERSONS LIVING IN THE BOROUGH.

The known tuberculous population increased from 206 to 235 during the year.

<u>Number of Cases on Register.</u>	<u>PULMONARY.</u>		<u>NON-PULMONARY.</u>		<u>TOTAL.</u>
	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	
At the beginning of 1941.	99.	59.	31.	17.	206.
At the end of 1941.	112.	73.	29.	21.	235.

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMO-THORAX TREATMENT ETC.

The total cost borne by the Council for providing Artificial Pneumo-Thorax treatment to Stoke Newington patients was £56. 14s. 0d. and £7. 9s. 0d. for Finsen Light treatment.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

The total cost to the Council of providing extra nourishment to patients was £108. 13s. 11d.

HOME VISITING.

The Tuberculosis Officer made 43 visits to patients in their homes, and the Health Visitor paid 372 home visits.

DISPENSARY CASES.

The total number of attendances at the Tuberculosis Dispensary was 627. 128 attendances were made at the X-Ray Department, and 4 at other Departments.

The number of new cases examined was 174, of which 49 were found to be tuberculous. 31 patients were sent to Sanatorium.

97 bacteriological examinations were made and in 37 instances tubercle bacilli were present.