

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

Contributors

Stoke Newington (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.

Publication/Creation

[1943]

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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the Year 1942.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, N.16.

1st August, 1943.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- (4) An abridged report concerning the health of the Borough during the year 1942, is herewith submitted.

Form 26 The health of the population has in general been good. The infantile mortality rate of 45.1 compares favourably with the average of 60 for London as a whole.

Although 362 cases of measles and 131 cases of whooping cough were notified, no deaths from these diseases were recorded.

Only two cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, evidence tending to shew that the intensive campaign waged by the Ministry of Health and by this Council for the immunisation of all children under 15 years of age, is now taking effect. At the end of the year it was estimated that 48% of children under 5 and 69% of children between 5 and 15 had been immunised against diphtheria.

A second war-time nursery, for 50 children, was opened at Woodberry Hall on the 24th August, 1942, and another was being erected at the end of the year.

The facilities provided by the war-time nurseries have been greatly appreciated by the mothers. In addition to routine medical inspections, the children are seen regularly by the dental surgeon at the Council's dental clinic, and facilities are also provided for artificial sunlight treatment where required.

There was a large increase in the number of expectant mothers and children under 5 attending the Welfare Centres, and it became necessary to increase the number of ante-natal, infant welfare, and dental clinics.

A considerable amount of attention has been paid to the control and treatment of scabies and verminous conditions which are still prevalent. This work is undertaken at Clissold First Aid Post and is one of the many public health duties undertaken by the Civil Defence medical services.

Arrangements were also made with the London County Council for the treatment of scabies and verminous conditions in school children, and on 12th January, 1942, the scheme was put into operation. This work was formerly undertaken in the Cleansing Station at Milton Grove, used for A.R.P. purpose since the outbreak of hostilities. By adopting this scheme, the family can be taken as a unit, thereby avoiding the difficulties of persons under 5 and over 14 being treated at one place and school children at another.

I have again to thank the Mayor, Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Maternity & Child Welfare Sub-Committees for the kindness and support which I have received from them.

The staff of the Public Health Department have worked well and the smoothness with which the department has functioned during the past year is largely due to their enthusiasm and efficiency.

S. KING.

Medical Officer of Health.

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

For the Year 1942.

AREA. 363 acres.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Legitimate.	524	272	252	} Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population - 16.6 mid 1942.
Illegitimate.	30	15	15	
	<u>554</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>267</u>	

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Legitimate.	31	10	11	} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 38.2
Illegitimate.	1	1	-	
	<u>22</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	

BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

Of the 470 Stoke Newington births, 336 occurred in institutions. There were 455 live and 15 still births.

<u>DEATHS.</u>	481	255	226	Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population 14.4.
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DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list).
Rate per 1,000
total (live and
still) births.

	Deaths.	
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis.	1	1.7
No. 30 Other puerperal causes.	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1.7</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births.	45.1
(The average for London is 60.0)	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	43.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	66.6

DEATHS FROM:

CANCER (all ages).....	82
MEASLES (all ages).....	-
WHOOPING COUGH (all ages).....	-
DIARRHOEA (under 2 years of age).....	4

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS.

The causes of deaths (481) were as follows:-

Influenza 5, Tuberculosis of Respiratory System 28, Other Tuberculous Diseases 3, Syphilis 6, Cancer 82, Diabetes 6, Heart Disease 119, Other circulatory Diseases 16, Bronchitis 42, Pneumonia 28, Other respiratory Diseases 1, Peptic Ulcer 10, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 4, Other Digestive Diseases 14, Acute and chronic Nephritis 13, Premature birth, Congenital Malformation, etc. 12, Suicide 7, Other violent causes 16, Other defined Diseases 69.

It is noteworthy that 54 per cent of all deaths occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

There were 25 deaths of infants under one year of age.

The causes of deaths were as follows :

Bronchitis 3, Diarrhoea 4, Other digestive diseases 1, Pneumonia 3, Premature birth 6, Congenital Malformation 5, Violent causes 1, All other causes 2.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was 1 death 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 124, of which 4 were positive to Tuberculosis, and 2 positive to Diphtheria.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Infants under 1 year made 7,378 attendances (540 new children) and children 1 to 5 years made 4,515 attendances (249 new children) at the Council's Welfare Centres.

FREE MILK SCHEME.

Wet and Dried Milk to the value of £30 17s. 10d. was provided free during the year to necessitous cases in the Borough, compared with £76 15s. 8d. in 1941, and £2,092 11s. 2d., in 1940. This indicates the extent to which since 1st July, 1940, the National Milk Scheme has affected the Council's scheme.

In addition, the Council supplied, free of charge to mothers and children attending the Centres, Virol, etc., valued at £126 0s. 10d. as compared with £81 9s. 3d., in 1941.

ISSUE OF CLOTHING COUPONS TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

During the year special clothing coupons were issued to 678 expectant mothers residing in the Borough.

PRE-NATAL CLINIC.

148 sessions were held and 320 mothers made 1,670 attendances.

DENTAL CLINIC.

59 Dental Sessions were held at which 197 mothers attended 716 times and 247 children attended 456 times. Gas anaesthetics were given at 27 sessions to 156 patients. 17 necessitous mothers were provided free of charge with dentures costing £61 15s. 0d. After deducting receipts for treatment and dentures, the dental service cost the Council £319 1s. 3d. for the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

1,056 patients attended for treatment on 2,648 occasions.

SCHOOL TREATMENT CENTRE.

At the Stoke Newington School Treatment Centre:-

13 children under the age of 5 years attended for treatment, making 49 attendances.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINICS.

During the year 102 children made 2,021 attendances for treatment and 3 mothers attended 35 times at the Mildmay Memorial Hospital Sunlight Clinic.

At the British Red Cross Clinic, Dalston Lane, Hackney, 47 children attended 1,153 times and were given 1,339 treatments.

STOKE NEWINGTON DISPENSARY.

5,271 patients were treated at the Stoke Newington Dispensary, making 11,884 attendances. In addition, 497 home visits were made.

HOME HELPS.

Services of Home Helps were used on 73 occasions at a cost to the Council of £247 12s. 6d.

INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER PROVISIONS FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

Grants were made by the Council as follows:-

£2 12s. 6d. in aid of the convalescent treatment of 2 children under school age.

£5 5s. 0d. for provision of Obstetric Consultant to 1 case.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The total number of visits made by the Health Visitors was 6,603.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

7 children in the care of 4 foster-mothers were visited on 114 occasions.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

11,296 inspections and re-inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. Included in this total number were 60 inspections after notification of Infectious Diseases, 750 upon complaint, 1,164 to Food Premises and 392 to Factories and Workshops.

1,419 Sanitary Defects were found and remedied.

513 Intimation Notices and 53 Statutory Notices were served.

DISINFECTION.

The following number of rooms have been disinfected after:-

Notifiable diseases.....	86
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	17
Deaths from Cancer.....	4
Vermin.....	56
Scabies.....	500
	663

At the Disinfecting Station a total of 15,297 textile articles were dealt with, and 57 books from the Public Library were fumigated with formalin vapour. In addition, mattresses, bedding, etc., used at the A.R.P. Depots and Rest Centres, totalling 1,366 articles, were Steam Disinfected.

HOUSING.

OVERCROWDING.

There were no cases of overcrowding in the Borough on 1st January, 1942. During the year, 2 new cases were reported and in both instances the overcrowding was abated by the families removing to premises with larger accommodation. Thus the number of cases of overcrowding in the Borough at the end of the year remained NIL.

13 Stoke Newington families obtained accommodation on the London County Council's Housing Estates.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

67 premises of purveyors resident in the Borough and 65 other purveyors operating in the area from premises registered elsewhere were on the register.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 60 visits to milk shops and dairy premises.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

1 licence to Pastourise, 7 licences and 23 Supplementary licences to sell designated milk were granted in 1942.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

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

FOOD PREMISES.

139 registered food premises were kept under observation by the Inspectors, who made 1,164 visits during 1942.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

111 formal and 54 informal samples of food and drugs were submitted for analysis. 1 informal sample (Lime Juice Cordial) and 6 formal samples (5 of Fruit drinks and 1 of Sausage Meat) were reported as adulterated.

Fines of £10 and £3 3s. 0d. costs were imposed on each of 9 summonses in respect of the Fruit drinks, and a warning letter was sent to the Vendor of the sample of Sausage Meat.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1942.

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to hospital.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	36	36
Diphtheria.	2	2
Puerperal Fever.	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	17	10
Pneumonia, Acute Primary and	20	10
Acute Influenzal.		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	4	1
Whooping Cough.	131	13
Measles.	382	52
Erysipelas.	16	9
Food Poisoning.	1	1
Dysentery.	2	1
Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis.	2	2
Paratyphoid.	-	-

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

No case of Smallpox was notified. Of the 80 births registered in Stoke Newington during 1941, 46 or 57.5 per cent were successfully vaccinated. (Figures for 1942 not yet available).

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were notified 40 new cases of pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The death rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.84 for pulmonary tuberculosis (23 deaths) and 0.09 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis (3 deaths).

TOTAL NUMBER OF TUBERCULOUS PERSONS LIVING IN THE BOROUGH.

The known tuberculous population increased from 235 to 250 during the year.

<u>No. 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 1942.	112	73	29	21	235
At the end of 1942.	114	87	30	19	250

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMO-THORAX TREATMENT, ETC.

The total cost borne by the Council for providing Artificial Pneumo-Thorax treatment to Stoke Newington patients was £82 8s. 6d. and £14 19s. 0d. for Pinson Light treatment.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

The total cost to the Council of providing extra nourishment to patients was £155 2s. 4d.

HOME VISITING.

The Tuberculosis Officer made 67 visits to patients in their homes, and the Health Visitor paid 628 home visits.

DISPENSARY CASES.

The total number of attendances at the Tuberculosis Dispensary was 796.

169 attendances were made at the X-Ray Department, and 10 at other Departments.

The number of new cases examined was 206 of which 64 were found to be tuberculous. 34 patients were sent to Sanatorium.

43 bacteriological examinations were made and in 13 instances tubercle bacilli were present.