

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for St. Pancras, Metropolitan Borough].

Contributors

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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SAINT PANCRAS

ABRIDGED INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1939

MAITLAND RADFORD, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Metropolitan Borough of Saint Pancras.

6th December, 1940

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Report is the 83rd Annual Report that has been submitted and the sixth that I have had the honour to prepare.

In accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health it is an abridged report from which everything except essential statistical information has been excluded.

Comparison with the preceding years does not indicate that special comment is required in regard to health conditions either during the first part of the year or during the early months of the war.

The outbreak of war was not allowed to interrupt the work of the Welfare Centres or of the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and attendances were well maintained throughout the year.

My thanks are due to the members of the Public Health Committee, to the Group Representatives and to the Staff of the Public Health Department.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

MAITLAND RADFORD

Medical Officer of Health.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SAINT PANGRAS
ANNUAL (ABRIDGED INTERIM) REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1939

POPULATION Registrar General's estimate of

(a) resident population, mid 1939	177,900
(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	167,300

NOTE: Estimated population, 177,900, includes soldiers, sailors and airmen recruited from the borough, and it is inadvisable to use this figure in calculating the death rates of the civil population.

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	M	F		
Legitimate	1,922	990	932	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	12.29
Illegitimate	265	126	139		
Total	<u>2,187</u>	<u>1,116</u>	<u>1,071</u>		

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	54	27	27	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	26.70
Illegitimate	6	2	4		
Total	<u>60</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>31</u>		

<u>DEATHS</u>	2,170	1,171	999	Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	12.97
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DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	1	0.44
Other puerperal causes	2	0.89
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>1.33</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births	54
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	47
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	98

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

The total number of notified births, including still-births, from all sources was 1942. Of this number 1734 were notified by midwives.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS, WITH AGE DISTRIBUTION

AGES - BOTH SEXES

CAUSES OF DEATH	AGES - BOTH SEXES							S E X.	
	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	TOTALS	
								M	F
All causes	114	21	19	53	196	641	1126	1171	999
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
2. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
5. Diphthoria	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
6. Influenza	-	-	-	-	3	5	13	11	10
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
9. Tuberculosis (Pulm.)	-	-	-	17	45	42	14	80	38
10. Other Tuberculosis	-	2	1	-	5	2	2	8	4
11. Syphilis	1	-	-	-	1	9	4	9	6
12. General Paralysis of Insane, tabes doesalis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Cancer, Malignant dis.	-	-	-	4	32	150	173	182	177
14. Diabetes	-	-	-	-	1	11	28	15	25
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	-	-	-	-	3	23	53	38	41
16. Heart Disease	-	1	-	6	19	120	435	294	287
17. Aneurysm	-	-	-	-	4	6	3	9	4
18. Other Circulatory dis.	-	-	-	-	2	28	86	56	60
19. Bronchitis	3	1	-	-	3	31	46	49	36
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	15	5	1	2	7	47	69	89	57
21. Other Respiratory dis.	-	-	-	1	4	9	3	11	6
22. Peptic Ulcer	-	-	-	1	2	15	6	16	8
23. Diarrhoea	30	-	-	-	2	2	1	18	17
24. Appendicitis	-	1	2	2	1	6	2	7	7
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	-	-	1	6	2	8	1
26. Other diseases of Liver	-	-	-	-	-	3	12	7	8
27. Other digestive diseases	1	1	1	1	3	10	24	28	13
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	-	1	-	-	7	16	28	33	19
29. Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
30. Other Puerperal Causes	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	48	-	1	-	1	1	-	33	18
32. Senility	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	13	21
33. Suicide	-	-	-	4	15	18	7	32	12
34. Other Violence	1	2	7	5	11	17	29	44	28
35. Other Defined Diseases	8	4	4	9	19	56	50	70	80
36. Causes Ill-defined or unknown	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>
For Diphtheria Bacilli	43	1,032	1,075
Tubercle Bacilli	18	241	259
Haemolytic Streptococci	8	9	17
Dysentery, Food Poisoning, etc.	-	17	17
	<u>69</u>	<u>1,299</u>	<u>1,368</u>

NURSING IN THE HOME

The following District Nursing Associations undertake the nursing of cases of illness occurring in expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age.

An annual block grant is made to each Association in respect of such nursing of certain specified diseases:

	<u>Block Grant</u>	<u>Cases</u>
	£	
Hampstead	30	108
Metropolitan	250	272
North London	25	64

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Expectant Mothers</u>		<u>C h i l d r e n</u>			
	<u>Total Consultations</u>	<u>Total Attendances</u>	<u>Total Consultations</u>	<u>Attendances</u>		
				<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 - 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
St. Pancras School for Mothers Amphill Square.	12	124	158	3,047	1,991	5,038
Camden Town	35	437	249	4,875	3,674	8,549
Kentish Town	60	830	193	4,450	2,378	6,828
North St. Pancras School for Mothers Queen's Crescent	34	465	202	4,684	2,512	7,196
Somers Town	12	147	199	3,545	2,641	6,186
South Highgate	-	-	103	2,097	1,870	3,967
University College Hospital	157	2,229	102	596	252	863
Royal Free Hospital	<u>130</u>	<u>687</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>244</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>496</u>
TOTALS	<u>440</u>	<u>4,919</u>	<u>1,308</u>	<u>23,538</u>	<u>15,585</u>	<u>39,123</u>
Artificial Light treatment	-	-	<u>48</u>	-	-	<u>720</u>

HEALTH VISITORS

The total number of visits made by Health Visitors was:

	<u>Council's 17 Visitors</u>	<u>U. C. H. 2 Visitors</u>
To Expectant Mothers	3,664	102
Post Natal	197	2
Children	24,057	743
Child Life Protection	508	8
Infectious Diseases, etc.	<u>2,564</u>	<u>42</u>
	<u>30,990</u>	<u>897</u>

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

This is provided free for children between 1 and 13 years of age, whose parents are not earning more than £400 a year. 252 children received immunization under the scheme during the year.

GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC

The Gynaecological Clinic was opened on 11th July, 1939. Sessions were held weekly and 67 women received attention. Some of these patients attended on two or more occasions.

INVALID CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION

Assistance is rendered towards the cost of convalescence of children under 5 years of age, to a maximum of 50 children at 20/- each for any one year. (The grant has, since 1939, been increased to 30/-.)

DENTAL TREATMENT

	<u>Amphill Square</u>	<u>Camden Town</u>
Sessions	47	74
Attendances	288	1,136

The Borough Council also made a contribution of £53.14.6d towards the cost (£111.12.6d) of dentures supplied to nursing or expectant mothers.

SUPPLY OF MILK TO MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

The total quantity of milk supplied was as follows:

	<u>Pints</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Cost to Council</u>
Free	106,316	3,558)	£1,901.19.8d
Half Price	9,856	342)	

During the year grants were made in 3,894 cases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

During the year 53,201 visits and inspections (including reinspections) were made by the Council's Staff of 17 Inspectors. Of these, 5,938 were made by the two Food Inspectors, 7,007 by the two Factory Inspectors, and 2,447 by the Housing Inspector (who retired on the 31st March) and Assistant Housing Inspector.

3,070 intimation notices were served, including 196 by the Factory Inspectors. 1,378 Statutory Notices included 4 under the Shops Act.

20 prosecutions were undertaken in respect of general sanitary work, and 26 under the various Food and Drugs Acts and Regulations.

Defects found under the Factories Act numbered 377, of which 371 were remedied. There were no prosecutions.

DISINFECTION

During the year disinfections were carried out after infectious diseases, as follows:

Disease	No. of cases	No. of Houses	No. of rooms contents disinfected or destroyed.	No. of rooms sprayed and fumigated
Scarlet Fever	257	248	258	222
Diphtheria	144	143	142	141
Enteric Fever	6	6	5	4
Erysipelas	50	50	50	4
Crebro-spinal Meningitis	10	10	10	3
Measles	5	5	4	5
Malaria	1	1	1	-
Dysentery	5	5	5	1
Scabies	229	186	194	1
Tuberculosis	127	127	25	136
Vermin	502	501	384	218
Polio Myelitis	2	2	2	1
Other Diseases (not notifiable)	360	360	350	36
Continued Fever	1	1	1	1
<u>Totals</u>	<u>1,699</u>	<u>1,645</u>	<u>1,431</u>	<u>773</u>

The number of articles disinfected or destroyed on account of infectious disease or verminous conditions is as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Disinfected</u>
(a) Infectious Disease	246	21,175
(b) Verminous conditions	101	19,999

CLEANSING STATION

The number of attendances during the year was:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children under 15</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vermin	1,052	20	2,807	3,879
Scabies	201	227	1,653	2,081
	<u>1,253</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>5,960</u>

HOUSING

During the year two housing estates were completed by the Council, the following accommodation being provided:

	<u>1 rm. flats</u>	<u>2 rm. flats</u>	<u>3 rm. flats</u>	<u>4 rm. flats</u>	<u>5 rm. flats</u>	<u>Total</u>
Camelot House, Camden Park Road	-	3	10	67	15	95
Montague Tibbles House, Queen's Crescent	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>139</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>234</u>

There are now 14 estates under the control of the Council, comprising 1,254 flats.

The development of a further estate on the site of the Hampshire Street Clearance area has been delayed owing to the outbreak of war.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

Premises on the register at the end of the year:

Dairies	166
Itinerant purveyors	73
Sealed containers only	253

891 visits were made. 381 formal samples were taken and submitted for analysis, 13 (3.3 per cent.) of which fell below the limits required by the Board of Agriculture Regulations.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938

The number of licences and the samples taken for bacteriological examination were as follows. All samples complied with the standard.

	<u>Licences</u>	<u>Samples</u>
Tuberculin tested	36	10
Accredited	4	1
Pasteurised	109	67

7 samples of milk were tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and proved to be satisfactory.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

(1) Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924

Periodical visits of inspection were made as follows: