

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Enfield].

Contributors

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Urban District Council of Enfield

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

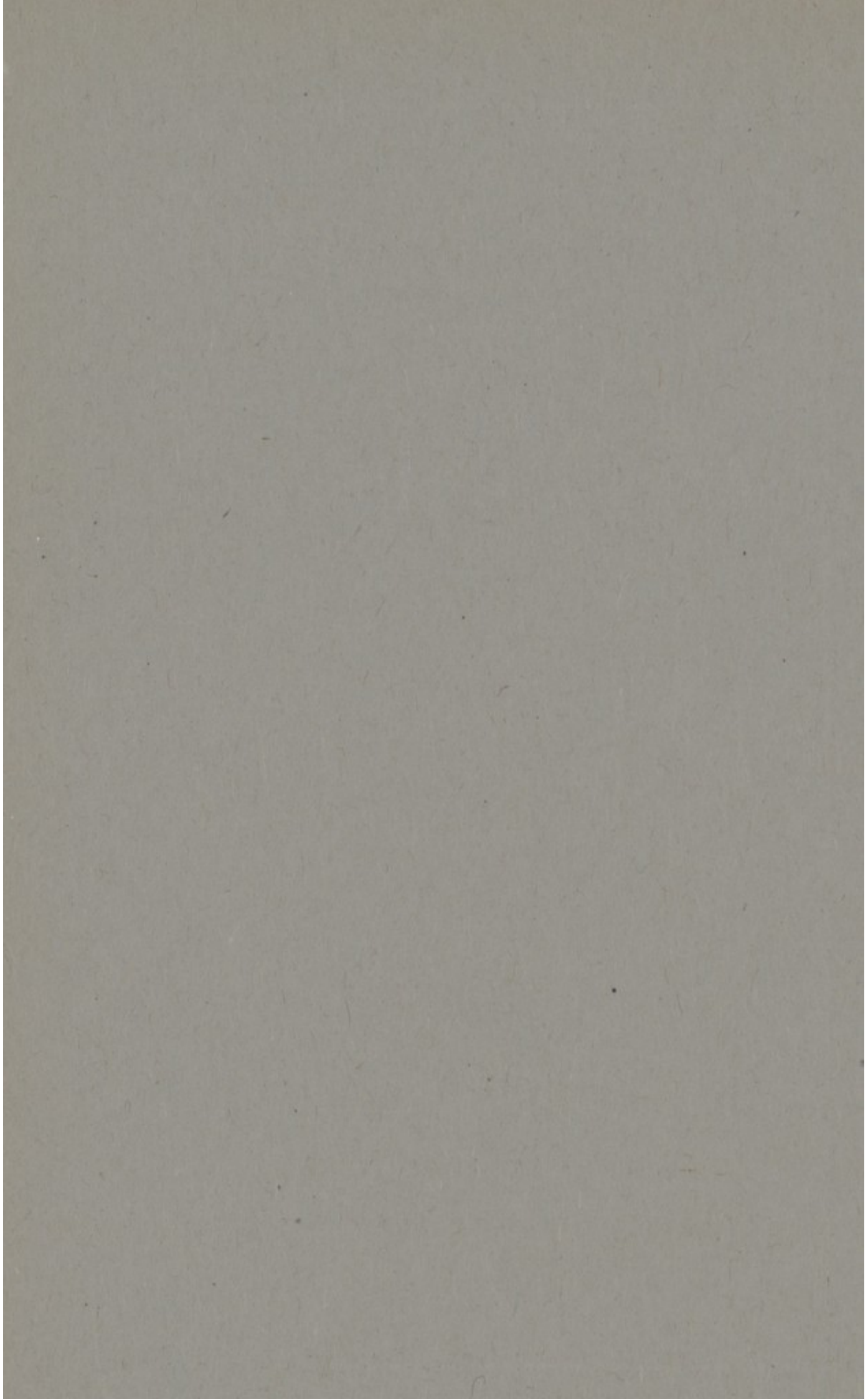
Medical Officer of Health and

School Medical Officer

(D. H. GEFFEN, M.D., D.P.H.)

FOR

1944



Urban District Council of Enfield

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer

(D. H. GEFFEN, M.D., D.P.H.)

FOR

1944

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ENFIELD.

E. S. STOCK, Esq., J.P. 	<i>Chairman</i>
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F. C. WATTS, Esq.	DEREK PARKER-BOWLES, Esq.
W. H. BISHOP, Esq.	H. D. HYDE, Esq.

† *Deceased.*

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

H. MUSPRATT, Esq., O.B.E. 	<i>Chairman</i>
also	

MRS. JAY, and MESSRS. BENNETT, BOWLES, BROWN, GREENWOOD, JOLLIE, KEMP and WATTS.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) 	12,400
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POPULATION.

The population as estimated by the Registrar General at the middle of the year was 92,760.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1944, according to the Rate Books, was 29,820.

The rateable value of the District is ..	£918,498
The net product (after allowing for cost of collection) of a penny rate is ..	£3,717 15s. 9d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The number of houses erected during the course of the year was 1.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births :—	Total	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	1,886	993	893
Illegitimate	65	35	30
Birth-rate—21.03 per 1,000 population.			

Still Births :—	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	30	14	16
Illegitimate	5	4	1
Rate per 1,000 total births—17.62.			

Deaths	Total.	Male.	Female.
	987	513	474
Death-rate—10.64 per 1,000 population.			

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births.
From Puerperal Sepsis ..	0	0.00
From other Puerperal causes	0	0.00
	—	—
	0	0.00
	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	29.21
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	28.10
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	61.53

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	150
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	8

The following table gives the birth-rate, recorded death-rate and infantile deaths for Enfield as compared with those for England and Wales, London, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) and 148 Smaller Towns :—

	Birth-rate.		Recorded Death-rate.	Infantile Death-rate.
	Live	Still		
England and Wales ..	17.6	0.50	11.6	46.00
London	15.0	0.42	15.7	61.00
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	20.3	0.64	13.7	52.00
148 Smaller Towns ..	20.9	0.61	12.4	44.00
ENFIELD	21.03	0.37	10.64	29.21

DEATHS.

Of the 987 deaths of Enfield residents during the course of the year 150 were due to malignant disease : 249 to heart disease : 43 to pneumonia (all forms), 49 to bronchitis ; 96 to Intra-cranial vascular lesions ; 47 to tuberculosis of the respiratory system ; and 50 to other diseases of the circulatory system.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Of the 57 infants who died before attaining the age of one year, 27 died within the first week of life. In 2 cases death was due to Pneumonia : in 11 to Congenital Malformation : in 16 to Premature Birth : in 2 to Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus and 9 to Enteritis.

INQUESTS.

Sixty-two inquests and sixty-nine P.M.'s without inquests were held on Enfield residents during the year. Out of these, 72 deaths were due to natural causes, 44 to accidental causes, 7 to suicide, 4 to misadventure, 3 to open verdict, and 1 to inattention at birth.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For infectious Cases : 239 patients were removed from Enfield during the year. 2,907 other patients were conveyed during the year to local hospitals.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following work was carried out in the Council's laboratory during the year.

Specimen.	No.	Positive.	Negative.	Percentage of Positives.
Swabs	625	7	618	1.12
Sputa	151	6	145	3.97
Totals	776	13	763	1.67

WATER SUPPLY.

There are seven premises in Enfield which receive their water supply other than from a public company ; these are under constant supervision.

SUB-LETTING IN COUNCIL HOUSES.

During the course of 1944 I have continued to deal with applications for sub-letting in Council houses.

The following work was carried out.

Total number of applications dealt with ..	31
Number granted permission to sub-let	30
Number refused permission	1
Number of visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND SCHOOLS.

Number of children notified to be absent from School due to suspected Infectious Disease ..	38
Number of children found to be suffering from Infectious Disease	25

This compares with the following figures for last year :—

Number of children notified to be absent from School due to suspected Infectious Disease	122
Number of children found to be suffering from Infectious Disease	94

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b))			1
	(i) By the Local Authority	..	..	Nil.
	(ii) By other Local Authorities	..	..	Nil.
	(iii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	1
(b)	With State Assistance under the Housing Act :			
	(i) By the Local Authority	..	..	Nil.
	(ii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	Nil.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses* :—

	No. of houses.	No. of in- spections.
(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and number of inspections made	1,792	5,987
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, and the number of inspections made..	Nil.	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation (The number here given is of houses where any insanitary conditions were found.)	..	782

2. *Remedy of Defects without service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	..	675
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	..	1
---	----	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owner	1

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	59
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	53
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	6

The number of house-to-house inspections made was :—
Under Housing Regulations, 1925 and 1932 Nil.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 and 1938.

There are 23 Purveyors of Milk who sell or distribute Pasteurised Milk in the district. Samples of milk have been taken and tested

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are eight slaughter-houses in Enfield, none of which is in use at present.

During the course of the year 192 carcasses were examined, and the surrender of 3 carcasses and 75 parcels of diseased organs were secured.

The weight of these carcasses and parcels was 1 ton 7 cwts. 1qtr. 7lbs.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 219, compared with 408 in 1942 :

of Diphtheria 11, as compared with 5 ;
of Pulmonary Tuberculosis 125, as compared with 126 ; and
of Pneumonia 50, as compared with 59.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria during the year, as was also the case in 1943.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever during the year, as was also the case in 1943.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	No.	Removed.	Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Cholera—Plague	—	—	—
Diphtheria (inc. Membranous Croup) ..	11	11	—
Diphtheria Carriers	—	—	—
Erysipelas	31	8	—
Scarlet Fever	219	160	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	13	1	1
Continued Fever }	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever }	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	5	5	3
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	125	—	47
Other forms of Tuberculosis	20	—	12
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	—
Malaria	1	1	—
Pneumonia	50	—	43
Dysentery	26	20	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—
Measles	212	4	—
Whooping Cough	357	18	4
Totals	1,079	232	110

The above figures are in respect of Civilians and Non-Civilians.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Through the services of the Council 1,538 individuals were immunised during 1944.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Middlesex County Council was the authority responsible for the operation of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 until 1st April, 1944. On that date the responsibility was delegated to the Enfield Urban District Council.

The Infestation Division of the Ministry of Food inaugurated a scheme of rodent control throughout the County, and the Council co-operated in every way. A publicity campaign launched towards the end of 1943 continued until April, 1944, and as a result very

many intimations of the presence of one or more rats were received. All these were investigated and appropriate action taken.

A survey of the district revealed very little serious or "major" rat-infestation.

The ridding of any premises of rats and mice is the legal responsibility of the occupier of the premises.

A scheme based on the recommendations of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Food, is in operation.

The Council employ a trained rat-catcher whose services are available on payment of the appropriate charges. This service has been fully used and has proved very efficient. Factories and industrial concerns have contracts with the Council for regular servicing of their works.

During the year 877 visits concerning rat-infestation have been made by the sanitary inspectors.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council houses found to be infested	27
Number of Council houses disinfested	27
Number of other houses found to be infested	47
Number of other houses disinfested	47

The marked increase in the numbers this year compared with 1943 is due to the fact that the present figures include many minor cases of infestation brought to light during the course of bomb-damage repairs.

The following report, in condensed form, gives details of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1944.

The total number of inspections made during the year for all purposes was 10,372.

NOTICES ISSUED.

Statutory	112
Informal	558
Other Notices	2,122
	<hr/>
Total	2,792
	<hr/>
Letters re Air Raid Precautions	920
Other Letters sent	7,375
Number of Certificates issued in connection with plans	6
Number of Certificates issued in connection with disinfection	23
Number of Certificates issued in connection with unsound foods	765

Result of Service of Statutory and Informal Notices :—

	Statutory	Informal
Number complied with	98	375
Number outstanding	14	183
	—	—
	112	558
	—	—

Twenty-eight visits were paid in respect of children excluded from elementary schools during the year, and the total number of inspections and visits for all purposes made by the staff of the Public Health Department was 10,372.

DISINFECTION.

Number of houses disinfected after infectious disease, Phthisis and verminous cases	481
Number of articles of clothing, bedding, etc., dis- infected	24,729
Number of Library Books disinfected	249

**FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, AND
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

Number of inspections	178
Number of defects found	25

HOMEWORK.

Twelve lists containing the names and addresses of 90 outworkers were received during the year. Six addresses of outworkers were forwarded to other districts.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Number of inspections	12
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OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Four offensive trade premises are established in the district and in connection with these, 2 inspections were made during the year.

MILK.

Number of Licences in force on 31st December, under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938	39
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PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Total number of carcasses examined	192
Number, or parts, found to be diseased	..	..	..	78
Weight of do. do.	1 ton	7 cwt.	1 qr.	7 lbs.
No. of Certificates issued	..	..	..	62

UNSOOUND MEAT AND FOODS.

Number of inspections made to Meat Depot, slaughter-houses, shops, stalls in markets and food-preparing shops	..	..	..	..	..	754
Total No. of articles etc. condemned	..	..	..	..	..	6,423
Total No. of Certificates issued	..	..	..	..	..	765
Total weight of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for food	8 tons 13 cwt. 0 qr. 27 lbs.					

CARAVANS.

Number of applications received for consent	..	..	..	Nil
Number of applications granted	..	..	..	Nil

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.**CESSPOOL EMPTYING.****SEWER FLUSHING.**

The above Services are under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The public mortuary is still maintained, but in view of staffing difficulties and convenience for post-mortem examinations use is made at present of a Hospital Mortuary.

MATERNITY
and
CHILD WELFARE
SECTION

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
COMMITTEE.

1944-45.

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MRS. M. M. HOWARD

MRS. S. M. LOWE

MRS. A. PERKINS

MRS. L. TURVEY

MISS N. HILL

W. C. BENNETT, ESQ.

D. PARKER-BOWLES, ESQ.

H. A. DESHBOROUGH BROWN, ESQ.

F. GREENWOOD, ESQ.

W. G. JOLLIE, ESQ.

A. R. KEMP, ESQ.

L. R. MORRIS, ESQ.

H. MUSPRATT, ESQ.

C. PARTINGTON, ESQ.

BIRTHS.

	1944	1943
Live births	1,951	1,908
Still births	35	57

INFANT MORTALITY.

Number of deaths of children under 1 year ..	57
The infant mortality rate was	29.21

Special investigations have been carried out concerning these deaths and of the 28 cases investigated the following were the conditions notified as the cause of death.

	Under one week.	Between 1 and 4 weeks.	Between 1 month and 12 months
Developmental malformation	3	3	1
Atelectasis	3	—	—
Prematurity	9	3	—
Toxaemia of pregnancy ..	1	—	—
Asphyxia	1	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	1	1	5
Misadventure	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	1	2
Uraemia	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	1
Intussusception	—	—	1

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year, four cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified, two of which were removed to Hospital.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one maternal death resulting from Pregnancy; the mother died in an Institution.

SUPERVISION OF NURSING HOMES.

The Nursing Homes in the district were inspected regularly by the Medical Officers.

During the year the Home for the reception of Maternity cases was closed down.

Proprietor.	Address.	Total No. of Beds.	No. of Maternity Beds.
Barker, Mrs. ..	238 & 240, Baker Street, Enfield.	10	—
Tughan, Dr. & Mrs.	29, Derby Road, Ponders End.	6	6

ADMINISTRATION OF MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902-1936.

At the end of the year 1944 there were fifteen Midwives practising in Enfield, all of whom were employed by the Council as whole time Municipal Midwives.

The Midwives were visited regularly by the Medical Officers and their records and equipment inspected.

The following table shows the cases attended during 1944 and 1943.

	1944.	1943.
MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.		
Cases attended as Midwives	616	678
Cases attended as Maternity Nurses	309	316
PRIVATE MIDWIVES.		
Cases attended as Midwives	29	108
Cases attended as Maternity Nurses	Nil	4

NOTIFICATIONS.

In accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board, the following notifications were received from Midwives :—

	1944	1943
Sending for Medical Aid	159	198
Still Births	4	9
Laying out of the Dead	—	4
Artificial Feeding	31	18
Liabilities to be a source of notification	8	9
Notification of death	3	4

The notifications in connection with Medical Aid can be classified as follows:—

During Pregnancy	..	..	..	..	..	18
During Labour	..	..	..	..	..	108
During Lying-in Period	..	..	..	..	..	13
Infant	..	..	..	..	..	20

HELP WITH COST OF MIDWIFE'S FEE.

During the year 214 cases were helped with the cost of their Midwife's fee, compared with 164 in 1943.

OBSTETRIC SPECIALIST.

On one occasion the Obstetric Specialist at the North Middlesex County Hospital was called in by an Enfield Practitioner for assistance in a difficult Midwifery case.

HOME HELPS.

This scheme ceased to function in August 1943, owing to the inability to obtain persons to do the work. The need for such a service was as great in 1944 as it was in 1943, but no help could be provided as it was still impossible to obtain persons to undertake his type of work.

BIRTH CONTROL.

During the year your Medical Officers have been prepared to give advice on this subject in accordance with the authority given by the Minister of Health in memorandum 153 M. and C.W. and Circulars 128 and 1408.

CIRCULATION OF BOOKLET ON REARING OF CHILDREN.

The booklet "To Mothers and Fathers" was circulated as heretofore.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

During the year 1,535 mothers attended the Enfield Ante-Natal Clinics. This number included some mothers whose confinement had not taken place by the end of the year.

POST-NATAL CLINICS.

During the course of the year, 422 mothers attended for examination after their confinement. This examination takes place by appointment six weeks after the confinement, and is an attempt to secure that complete recovery to normal health is made.

The appointments are given to every mother whose confinement has been conducted under the responsibility of one of the Council's Midwives, and also to every mother whose confinement takes place in the North Middlesex County Hospital. Appointments are not made where the confinement has been conducted by a Private Practitioner unless specially asked for by them.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The total number of children who made their first attendance at the Infant Welfare Clinics was 1,794.

VISITS.

The Council's Health Visitors paid 489 visits to Expectant Mothers, 3,266 to children under one year of age, and 5,822 to children between the ages of one and five years.

MILK AND ACCESSORY FOODS SUPPLIED.

The quantity of fresh and dried milk supplied free to necessitous cases under the Council's Milk Supply Scheme during the year was as follows:—

Fresh Milk	..	Nil.
Dried Milk	..	1,035 lbs. cost £90 3s. 0d.

In addition 266 lbs. of other food adjuncts were supplied in cases where the products supplied by the Ministry of Food were not satisfactory for the individual cases.

ROUTINE INSPECTION OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

The routine Medical Inspection of children under 5 years of age was carried out as heretofore.

The number of appointments kept during the year 1944 was 2035.

AURAL TREATMENT.

Mothers and children under 5 years of age suffering from aural defects were referred to the School Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1944.

- 51 Children and 6 mothers were referred for treatment.
- 3 Mothers were treated for deafness and discharged cured.
- 3 Mothers were referred to the Golden Square Hospital for treatment and discharged cured.
- 1 Mother was referred to the Golden Square Hospital for removal of Nasal Polypi. These were successfully removed.
- 9 Children were referred for removal of Tonsils and Adenoids.
- 6 Children were referred for removal of Adenoids.
- 33 Children referred for treatment of rhinitis and acute otorrhoea.
- 3 Children were found to have no abnormality.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

The scheme whereby Ante-Natal and Nursing Mothers and Children under 5 years of age, with eye defects, are referred to the School Ophthalmic Surgeon was continued.

The following are particulars of the cases referred during the year 1944 :

	Mothers.	Children.
Total attendances	22	145
New Cases	15	84
Glasses prescribed	8	24
No glasses required	4	5
Attendance other than for refractions	Nil	30
Referred to Hospital	Nil	8

SPEECH CLINIC.

Six children were referred to the Speech Clinic for treatment.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION—PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

At the end of 1944, ten persons in Enfield were receiving children for reward ; the total number of children concerned was 23. Each of these was visited at least monthly by the Infant Life Protection Visitors (Health Visitors).

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Five hundred and thirty-eight attendances were made at the Dental Clinic by Ante-Natal and Nursing Mothers and 180 children under the age of five years.

Dentures were provided to 68 mothers.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

Four children were sent away to Convalescent Homes.

EVACUATION OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

The London County Council scheme whereby expectant mothers are evacuated to the country because of air-raids, continued throughout the year, 137 mothers being registered for this purpose.

The scheme continued to work satisfactorily and the mothers appreciated the facilities afforded them.

SPECIAL EVACUATION OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS.

Owing to the increase in aerial activity during the summer months evacuation facilities for expectant mothers and children under 5 years of age were extended and a number of such mothers and children took advantage of the scheme.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

During the course of the year 6 children suffering from Orthopaedic defects received treatment either from your Medical Officers or as a result of reference to Hospital and 7 were re-examined.

The following are the conditions from which the six children suffered :

Knock-knees	1
Metatarsal Varus ..	2
Deformity of Toes ..	2
Webbed fingers ..	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The campaign for the immunisation of children against diphtheria continued throughout the year and 1133 children under the age of five years were so immunised.

On a child's first birthday, it is the practice to send him a birthday card and to invite him to attend at one of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, not only to be medically examined, but also to be immunised against diphtheria. It is pleasing to note that these invitations are accepted.

All children when reaching the age of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years are invited to attend a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic to be immunised or to receive a supplementary reinforcing dose.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

During the year 81 children under the age of 5 years were immunised against whooping cough.

DISTRIBUTION OF VITAMINS.

The distribution of Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin A Capsules to ante-natal and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age is carried out at each of the Council's six Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and at the Central Food Office and each of its two sub-offices. In this way it has been possible to secure adequate facilities for all the residents of the district.

During the course of the year, the following have been distributed through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres:

Orange Juice	76589 bottles.
Cod Liver Oil	8074 bottles.
Vitamin A Capsules ..	862 packets.

ILLEGITIMACY—CIRCULAR 2866.

In regard to this Circular a contract has now been made with the Middlesex County Council whereby women and babies are admitted to suitable Hostels.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATION ACT) 1939.

Under the above Act, the Health Visitors are responsible for the carrying out of this work.

Number of Persons who gave notice under Section 7 (3) during the year	3
Number of children in respect of whom notice was given under Section 7 (3)	3
Number of such children under supervision at the end of the year	3

During the year requests have been received from Adoption Societies that we should investigate homes at which persons are living who are desirous of adopting children. In all cases these homes have been visited by our Health Visitors and confidential reports submitted to the appropriate Association.

WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

At the end of 1944 there were four War-time Nurseries in Enfield.

Name of Nursery.	No. of Places.	Average Attendances.
Suffolks—Opened December, 1941	60	48
Green Street—Opened July, 1942	60	46
High Street—Opened July, 1943	60	50
Baker Street—Opened February, 1944	60	48

The children in the Nurseries have been immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough.

No case of diphtheria occurred but some children contracted whooping cough.

During the year the Senior Dental Surgeon inspected the teeth of all children aged 2-5 years.

PREMATURE BABIES.

Circular 20/1944 from the Ministry of Health was received during the year. Where the weight of a baby is $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less, this is recorded upon the birth notification and these babies receive special care and attention.

Where the birth occurs in Hospital a visit is paid by the Health Visitor immediately on discharge.

Consideration is being given to the provision of suitable equipment for the care of premature babies.

BABY BATHING DEMONSTRATIONS.

During the year the Health Visitors attended the Senior girls departments of the Elementary Schools, in order to demonstrate to the girls the bathing of a baby. On several occasions the Domestic Science Class from these schools has visited the Day Nurseries in order to receive further instruction.

PRIORITY DOCKETS FOR SHEETS.

The Scheme whereby Expectant Mothers obtain priority dockets in order to obtain sheets, came into force in November, 1944 and up to the end of December, 1944, 91 dockets had been issued.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the year ending 31st December, 1944

MEMBERS OF THE
ENFIELD EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

1944-45.

Chairman MR. H. A. DESHBOROUGH BROWN.

Vice-Chairman MR. S. G. ROWLANDSON, M.B.E., F.C.A., C.C.

Representative Members.

MRS. E. M. SQUIRE, C.C.

MR. W. C. BENNETT

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MR. S. G. ROWLANDSON, M.B.E., F.C.A., C.C.

MR. E. S. STOCK

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MR. A. J. CROFTS

MR. A. J. NEAVES

MR. B. D. BOWYER

MRS. H. B. HYDE

Director of Education.

E. PASCAL, ESQ., M.A.

**STAFF OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.**

School Medical Officer :

DENNIS H. GEFFEN, (Resigned 31.10.44.)
M.D., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant School Medical Officers :

BRENDA M. MAYES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
LILIAN RIVLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
DORA M. BUTLER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

School Dentists :

C. E. JAMES, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.).
H. MACKAY, L.D.S. (Resigned 31.8.44)
J. B. CRANSTON, L.D.S., (Resigned 31.12.44)

School Ophthalmic Surgeon :

S. MACKY, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S.

School Aural Surgeon :

J. C. HOGG, M.A., F.R.C.S. (Released)
F. POPPER, M.D. (Prague)

Speech Therapist :

MISS E. RICHNELL, L.R.A.M., A.S.S.T., M.A.S.T.

School Nurses :

I. FOWLER, S.R.N.
V. MURPHY, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.S.S.Ch.
E. HORGAN, S.R.N., C.M.B., (Resigned 10.9.44)
I. J. MUNCER, S.R.N., H.V.'s Cert. (Appointed 7.2.44)
M. ROGERS, S.R.N., (Appointed 4.12.44)

Dental Nurse :

F. ANDERSON, R.S.C.N.

Dental Attendants :

M. FREEMAN.
M. A. MORTER.

Clerks :

A. COOPER.
J. WINGFIELD (Appointed 8.5.44.)
P. ROBERTS (Appointed 5.10 44.)

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

	Jan.- June	Sep.- Dec.
Average number on books of Elementary Schools..	12,288	9,447
Average weekly attendance	10,334	7,927
Number of Schools	22	

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The total number of children examined during the year was 3,703. 76.6 per cent. of the children examined were accompanied by their parents, and 28.6 per cent. were vaccinated.

DEFECTS FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation.
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids ..	103	40
Enlarged tonsils only	3	97
Adenoids	6	5
Other nose and throat conditions	6	5
Conjunctivitis	7	—
Blepharitis	4	5
Other Eye Conditions	1	1
Enlarged Cervical Glands ..	1	11
Scabies	6	—
Impetigo	6	—
Other Skin Conditions	8	5
Defective Hearing	8	2
Otitis Media	3	1
Other Ear Conditions	12	2
Defective Speech	3	2
Defective Vision	305	123
Bronchitis	1	6
Asthma	1	1
Other Lung Conditions : Non-tu- berculous	—	38
Organic Heart Disease	1	2
Functional Heart Disease ..	2	11
Anaemia	1	4
Chorea	—	1
Epilepsy	—	1
Other Nerve Conditions	—	6
Spinal Curvature	7	4
Other Deformities	24	62
Other Diseases and Defects ..	14	58

Uncleanliness. Of 3,703 children examined 3 were found to have vermin in their heads, and 123 had nits, i.e., 3.4 per cent. were unclean

No cases of body vermin were found.

Nutrition. The following table shows the state of nutrition among the children examined :—

Number of children examined	..	..	..	..	3,703
Number of children classified " A "	..	..	..	..	462
Percentage of children classified " A "	..	..	..	..	12.5
Number of children classified " B "	..	..	..	..	2,753
Percentage of children classified " B "	..	..	..	..	74.3
Number of children classified " C "	..	..	..	..	458
Percentage of children classified " C "	..	..	..	..	12.4
Number of children classified " D "	..	..	..	..	30
Percentage of children classified " D "	..	..	..	..	.81
A	..	..	..	..	Excellent
B	..	..	..	..	Normal
C	..	..	..	..	Slightly sub-normal
D	..	..	..	..	Bad

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	128
German Measles	..	..	..	..	..	4
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	117
Chickenpox	..	..	..	..	..	16
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	146
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	1

THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES.

Number of home visits	..	..	..	..	..	1,602
Number of school visits	..	..	..	..	..	256
Number of school visits for routine examination of heads						135
Total number of heads examined	..	..	..	..	..	22,638
Number of individual children found unclean	..	..	..	..	..	396
Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken	..	..	..	..	..	—

TREATMENT CLINICS.

Tonsils and Adenoids :—

Number of cases seen at clinics	356
Number of cases operated under the Authority's Scheme	238

Ringworm.—Seventeen cases were seen and treated at the clinics.

Impetigo.—One hundred and ninety cases were treated at the clinics.

Scabies.—Forty-seven cases were seen.

Other Skin Diseases.—Sixty-seven cases were seen and treated at the clinics.

Eye Diseases.—Two hundred and two cases were treated.

Ear Diseases.—One hundred and twenty-eight cases were seen at the Minor Ailment Clinics.

Children examined after Scarlet Fever.—Seventy-eight children were seen.

The total number of children examined during the year, excluding those attending the Dental Department, was 7,746.

This number was made up as follows :—

Examined at Routine Medical Inspection ..	3,703
Examined at Minor Ailment Clinics	2,905
Examined at Ophthalmic Clinic	932
Examined at Aural Clinic	141
Examined under Juvenile Employment Bye-laws	17
Examined under Mental Deficiency Act.. ..	48

The following help was afforded to children who were found to require it :—

Six children were sent to residential schools for physically defective children.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

During the course of the year 21 children were found to be suffering from orthopaedic defects needing treatment or observation. The following cases were referred to a special clinic, held at a local hospital, where they were seen by an Orthopaedic Specialist :—

Curvature of Spine	5
Paralysis after poliomyelitis	1
Paralysis associated with mental deficiency	1
Genu Valgum	2
Pes Planus	3
Sherman's Disease	2
Hallux Valgus	6
Congenital deformity of foot	1

The Education Committee aided in the supply of six surgical appliances.

CARDIAC CLINIC.

Two sessions of this special clinic were held and eighteen children were seen. Of these, six were found to have no cardiac disease and were taken off the register. Five children had congenital lesions, in one case causing interference with normal life, in the others giving rise to no inconvenience at all. It is hoped to get the more seriously affected child away to a special school where her education will be continued while she is under medical supervision. Six children had rheumatic affections of the heart, and one had suffered from chorea, but all these children were making good progress and were able to lead a normal life.

SPEECH CLINIC.

During the year 30 children received treatment for various defects, being classified as follows :

Stammerers	10
Lispers	2
Cleft palate	1
Dyslalia	14
Dysarthria	1
Huskinness	1
Poor speech due to mental retardation	1

Of these :

- 4 were discharged cured.
- 3 were about to be discharged but final reports had not been received from Head Teachers.
- 3 left school—one was almost cured.
- 1 discontinued treatment on going to the County School.
- 1 was discharged as no progress had been made.
- 11 ceased to attend during the evacuation period.
- 7 required a further period of treatment.

DEATHS AMONGST SCHOOL CHILDREN.

There were twenty-one deaths among school children during the year. The causes were as follows :

- 6 Meningitis.
- 1 Asphyxia.
- 1 Sarcoma.
- 1 Heart failure.
- 1 Peritonitis.
- 1 Septicaemia.
- 1 Mastoid disease.
- 1 Uraemia.
- 1 Leukaemia.
- 3 Enemy action.
- 4 Accident. (1 burns ; 2 road ; 1 under anaesthetic.)

PROVISION OF MEALS.

Meals were provided for children at all the schools.

During 1944 24,826 dinners were provided free, and 567,478 were provided and paid for. 2,200,300 $\frac{1}{2}$ pint bottles of milk were provided and paid for, and 39,568 were provided free.

BLIND, DEAF, EPILEPTIC AND MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

There are three blind children in Enfield, two of whom are attending Residential Schools for the Blind.

Eight children are in attendance at Philip Lane School for the Deaf, Tottenham; these may be classified as follows:—

- 6 suffering from acquired deafness.
- 2 suffering from motor aphasia.

One deaf child is at a residential school and 2 deaf children are evacuated.

Forty-eight children were examined under the Mental Deficiency Act (1913) during 1944. These were scheduled as follows:

Dull and backward but capable of instruction in an elementary school	10
Mentally defective but capable of instruction in a special school	18
Incapable of further instruction in a special school	3
Imbecile	10
Not scheduled (to be seen again)	7

EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Average number on books of Junior Technical School ..	320
Average number on books of Grammar School	626
Average number on books of County School	520

The number of children examined in the course of Routine Medical Inspection at the secondary schools was as follows:—

Junior Technical School	121
Grammar School	294
County School	207

The classification of the nutrition of these children was as follows:—

School.	Classification.			
	" A "	" B "	" C "	" D "
Junior Technical ..	20	94	7	—
Grammar	60	203	31	—
County	52	147	8	—

The following defects were found:—

Defects.	School.		
	Jnr. Technical.	Grammar.	County.
Defective Vision	13	44	17
Defective Hearing	—	1	—
Functional Heart Disease	—	—	1
Kyphosis	—	1	4
Other Deformities	1	17	6
Blepharitis	—	1	1
Impetigo	—	—	—
Enlarged Tonsils	—	—	—
Enlarged Glands	—	—	—
Anaemia	—	1	—
Other Diseases and Defects	—	4	—
Dental Caries	5	5	2
Defective Speech	—	—	—
Organic Heart Disease ..	—	1	—

Five hundred and sixty-seven children were treated at the School Dental Clinic and one hundred and ninety-two at the School Ophthalmic Clinic during 1944.

SCHOOL DENTAL CLINICS.

	Elementary Schools.	Secondary Schools.
Number Inspected	6,089	1,237
Number Treated	3,083	567
Number of Fillings	3,979	893
Number of Extractions	4,055	177

SCHOOL OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

	Elementary Schools.	Secondary Schools.
Total attendance	1,530	329
New Cases	932	204
Prescriptions for glasses ..	276	79
Number not requiring glasses	160	11

Twelve children were referred to the Western Ophthalmic Hospital for operation for squint, and six children attended the hospital for investigation of other eye conditions.

SCHOOL ORTHOPTIC CLINIC.

Four sessions a week have been held since the opening of the Clinic on the 24th May, 1944 and 113 new cases of strabismus and heterophoria were seen. Of these:—

- 40 were seen for classification and are awaiting treatment.
- 34 underwent courses of occlusion.
- 8 were given homework exercises.
- 2 were unsuitable for treatment.
- 9 were evacuated.
- 20 were discharged with the following results:
 - 8 with good binocular vision.
 - 3 with partial binocular vision.
 - 2 improved.
 - 7 with cosmetic results.

The total attendances at the Clinic were 621.

SCHOOL AURAL CLINIC.

Number of cases dealt with	..	..	..	..	227
Number of new cases	..	..	..	..	141
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	625
Number of cases discharged cured	..	..	..	..	149
Number of cases of a recurrent nature requiring occasional treatment	..	..	..	..	5
Number of cases still under treatment	..	..	..	..	68
Number of cases who have refused treatment, or sought treatment elsewhere	..	..	..	..	10

Enfield :
STANLEY WOODFIELD
PRINTER
8-12 WINDMILL HILL

