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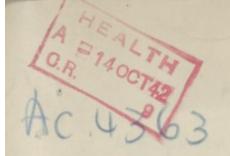
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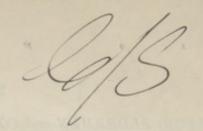
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SHOR 46

ABRIDGED REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY

AKIECONDING

OF THE

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH

IN THE COUNTY OF LONDON

FOR THE YEAR 1941

BY

E. H. R. SMITHARD, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Hea



AVERAGED TABULATED STATISTICS IN FIVE YEAR PERIODS

Years	Population	Density per acre	Persons per heredit- ament	Births	Birth- rate (per 1,000 pop.)	Deaths	Death rate (per 1,000 pop.)	Infant mortality rate (per1,000 live births)	tion rate	T.B. death rate (all forms) (per1,000 pop.)
893-1897	121,749	188	-	4,266	35-0	2,744	22-5	185		2.9
898-1902	118,835	185	3-6	4,029	33-8	2,646	22-3	196		2.8
903-1907	115,549	180	11.	3,810	32-1	2,324	20-1	170	-	3.0
908-1912	112,305	167	-	3,594	32.0	2,070	18-5	144	-	2.4
913-1917	101,341	156		3,032	29.9	2,002	19.8	145	6.3	2.9
918-1922	98,913	153	-	2,727	27-6	1,667	16.9	117	3.8	2.0
923-1927	105,640	164	-	2,538	24.0	1,372	13.0	79	2.5	1.4
928-1932	98,336	149	-	1,888	19-2	1,318	13-4	76	2.2	1.1
933-1937	88,044	133	6.6	1,347	15.3	1,104	12.5	68	1.7	0.9
938	80,360	122	5.7	1,181	14.7	915	11.4	64	1.5	0.7
939	77,280	117	5.5	1,113	14.4	942	12-9*	31	1.2*	1.1*
940	57,090	86	4.7	916	16.0	1,318	23-1	69	1.9	1.5
941	36,360	55	3.6	634	17.4	879	24.2	63	3.0	2.2

^{*} These rates are based on a population figure for deaths of 72,910

To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The report of the health department for 1941 is again an interim statement which records only the basic facts of the work done.

The number of births classified as belonging to the borough shows a further decrease from 916 for 1940 to 634 for 1941. The decrease, however, is not in proportion quite so great as the decrease in the population as estimated by the Registrar General, and therefore the rate (i.e., number of births per thousand population) has gone up slightly from 16:04 to 17:44.

The infant mortality rate for the year decreased a little—from 69 to 63—and can be regarded as not unsatisfactory having regard to local and general conditions. Altogether 32 babies died under one year of age. Seven of these deaths were due to "other violent causes," which include enemy action. By far the biggest cause of non-violent death in infants under one year of age was diarrhea and enteritis, from which 10 infants died. This is essentially a public health problem, and should be preventable. In spite of unremitting labour and care in this connection, many cases of diarrhea and enteritis occur, and the condition must remain in the forefront of our local battles. It should be noted that, by direction of the Registrar General, the infant and maternal mortality rates are calculated on a number of live births less than the actual number ascribed to the borough. This is because, during the war period, deaths are assigned to the area in which a mother may be temporarily residing as a result of the war. Ordinary death and notifiable disease rates are calculated for the civilian population, as estimates of the numbers and distribution of the non-civilian population are not available.

The home for toddlers at Mayfield was open throughout the year, except for two periods totalling three weeks, when it was closed through infectious disease.

The difficulties which were found in the evacuation of children under five years of age, both absolute through lack of places in the reception areas, and relative through some of the foster-homes being not in all respects satisfactory, encouraged the Council to approach the Ministry of Health in order to obtain permission for establishing an additional residential home of their own. This matter of a residential home in the country for general purposes has been in the Committee's and the Council's mind for many years, and the success of Mayfield has made them wish to expand this work to a degree which of course Mayfield is unable to satisfy. With this in mind as a post-war desirability and with the immediate requirement of a home for evacuees, contact was made with the medical officer of health of the East Sussex County Council. Through his good offices, various large houses were inspected in that area, but for one reason or another these were not suitable for our purposes. Eventually, however, a house at Copthorne, Surrey (just on the borders of Sussex) was reported, and this on inspection appeared to have satisfactory probabilities. As a result, a small deputation went to the Ministry of Health just before Christmas, and the rather cumbrous machinery of obtaining the house by buying the freehold was set in motion. Eventually (in August of this present year) the Borough Council completed the deal and obtained possession of the house. The house is in the triangle between Horley, East Grinstead and Crawley, about four or five miles from each, and after the war it should make a very useful residential home for young children, nursing mothers and possibly children suffering from certain specific affections, such as rheumatism. A fuller description of the work done and proposed to be done will be included in the annual report for 1942.

As an additional function in the care of the under-fives, active steps were in preparation by the end of the year for the re-establishment of a day nursery at the Sun Babies' Nursery, and the establishment of day nurseries elsewhere in the borough. The Sun Babies' Nursery premises were transferred during the year from the voluntary association heretofore responsible for them to trustees for the use of the Shoreditch Borough Council for child welfare purposes. Six trustees were appointed, one of whom (a life trustee) was Lady Reading, one of whom was Lady Cynthia Colville, and the other four of whom were members of the Borough Council—Mrs. Girling, Mrs. Higgins, Miss Kellett (Chairman of the Health Committee) and Mrs. Thurtle (who was subsequently elected chairman of the trustees).

With regard to *infectious disease*, in spite of the decreased population there was an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever, and a large increase in the number of cases of whooping cough. Apart from this, however, there is little to report on the infectious disease side except in relation to tuberculosis.

In my report for 1940, I stated that from the figures which were then available and from the conditions in the borough, tuberculosis gave cause for considerable concern. I included on the back page of the report a table setting out the position in the borough, adding a proviso that this should not be taken as giving a complete picture since other factors, especially the age distribution of the population, were not dealt with. The figures then estimated for 1941 were proved in the event to be substantially correct. In 1941, the notification rate for all cases of tuberculosis rose to 3.0 per thousand of the population, which rate had not previously been exceeded since the years immediately after the last war. The rate was some 60 per cent. higher than in 1940, but because of the smallness of the numbers involved, too much reliance should not be put on the actual figure. The tuberculosis death rate increased by nearly 50 per cent. With regard to notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis, here again figures appear to indicate that the girl between 15 and 25 is especially liable. As I pointed out in my last report, the problem is a national as well as a local one and it involves many factors.

During the year the Ministry of Health provided us with a special "Millbank" hot air disinfector, which was installed in the playground of one of the schools at which we have a first aid post. The disinfector was used at irregular intervals until the end of June, but it was used regularly throughout the rest of the year. Altogether, some 36,000 articles were treated. At the same time, various alternative methods of spraying and treating shelters and bedding were used, and after a little anxiety in the heat of the summer, it appeared that the problem of verminous infestation of shelters was under control. By that time, however, the number of shelterers had somewhat diminished and therefore, should the shelters again become full in summer weather, anxiety may again be felt. Two motor vans were purchased at the end of the year to help with civil defence disinfections.

Civil Defence general work expanded still further during the year, and bearing in mind its ramifications, it is sometimes very difficult to tell what is really public health work and what is more properly labelled civil defence. War nurseries, for example, although primarily set up to make available more woman-power for the national effort, are so much an essential part of any scheme for looking after the under-fives that they are equally important in the public health welfare of the community. It is wise, therefore, where possible to take the long view, and in addition to filling the needs of the present emergency, to try and lay solid foundations for the work which will be needed in the post-war period.

CAUSES OF DEATH WITH AGE DISTRIBUTION

	beginst and one	778						A	GES							S	EX	due to
	CAUSES OF DEATH														rds			
		Under	I to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	85 and Upwards	Male	Female	Total deaths
1	Typhoid and para-																	
2	typhoid fevers Cerebro-spinal fever	_			_				T				_	1		1	1	2
3	Scarlet fever		=										_	-		-	_	-
4	Whooping cough	_	2	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	1	2
5	Diphtheria	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	10000	-	-	10000	-	1	-	1
6	Tuberculosis of respira-		-				-	,		17			-				21	72
7	Other tuberculosis	1	2		-	_	5 2	6	14	17	14	8	3		-	3	21	72
8	Syphilitic diseases	T		10.0			_	-	-	1	2	4	T			7	2	9
9	Influenza	-	1	-	-	-	1	-		_	_	2	_	-	-	- 3	Ī	4
10	Measles	1	1	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
11	Ac. poliomyelitis and																	
12	polioencephalitis Ac. inf. encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	(lethargic)	_	_	_		1	_	100	_	_	_	_	_		_	1	_	1
13	Cancer of buccal cavity														177		100	1
	and œsophagus (M.)																	
	uterus (F.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	6	2	-	9	6	15
4	Cancer stomach and duodenum									2	2	6	7	2		7	12	19
15	Cancer breast										_	_	í				1	l 'í
16	Cancer, all other sites		_	_	_	1	_	-	1	4	7	18	22	11	_	42	22	64
7	Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
8	Intra-cranial vascular											-	15	10	2	21	20	1 41
9	lesions Heart diseases	1	=		_	1	1	1	5	5	4	7 22	15	12	2	69	20	150
20	Other circulatory dis-		-		-	1	100	1	3	,	0	22	10	77	11	07	01	100
	eases		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	13	2	16	13	29
15	Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	8	14	22	19	3	55	16	71
22	Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	19	-	-	-	1	1	4	2	11	17	14	5	35	25	60
23	Other respiratory dis- eases		1	List		1 191	1			1-22	120	4	2	3	1	8	3	11
24	Ulcer, stomach and	1			100	13				-	1	7	-	3	1	0	3	1
	duodenum	-	-	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	2	4	1	_	6	1	7
2.5	Diarrhœa (under 2 yrs.)	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	10
26	Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6 7	-	15
27	Other digestive diseases Nephritis				130				T	2	6	2 2	4 7	3 2		7	9 7	14
9	Puerperal and post-	_			-			Ti	100	-		-	1	-		1	1	
	abortive sepsis	_	-	_	-	_	_	-	1	_	-	_	_	-	-	-	1	1
10	Other maternal causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Premature birth	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
2	Congenital malforma-										103						199	
	tions, birth inj., inf. dis	4	_	_		_	_	_	_	1		_	2	_	-	3	2	5
3	Suicide	_	-	-	_	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2
34	Road traffic accidents	-	_	1	-	1	-	-	_	-	2	I	2	2	-	7	2	9
35	Other violent causes	7	-	3	6	7	41	9	27	22	31	16	22	11	1	100	103	203
36	All other causes	1	_	-	-		-		4	3	6	6	11	9	4	32	14	46
	Total deaths (all causes)	32	9	8	8	12	52	19	57	66	90	139	202	156	29	499	380	879

GENERAL DATA

Area of Borough	·	TV.		1023			662 acres
Average height above sea-level		111					60 feet
Estimated number of houses (including separately	y-rated	flats)					10,190 X
Number of families (1931 census)							25,156
Rateable value		***				£7	00,000
Sum represented by a penny rate					***		€2,333
			SHOR	EDITCH		LON	NDON
				Average	•		Average
Birth rate (rate per 1,000 living)			1941 17-44	1931-194 15-62	10	1941	1931-1940 13·74
Still births (rate per 1,000 total births)			29-92	32-79			32-28
Death rate (deaths per 1,000 living)			24-17	13-49			12.71
Marriage rate (persons married per 1,000 living)			35-31	22-19			21-52
Infantile mortality rate—			12	,,		<u>e</u>	
(deaths under I year per I,000 births)	. 35		63	66		Not available	59
Maternal mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live birt	hs)		1.96	2.19		143	2.47
Death rate from pneumonia and bronchitis			3.60	1.76		t a	
" " " cancer			2.07	1.65		ž	1.75
" " ,, diarrhæa and enteritis (under 2 y	ears) pe	er 1,000					
births			18-93	14-83			11.24
" " " pulmonary tuberculosis			1.98	1.01			0.75
Notifications of tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)		3.03	1-65			1-59
† Fig	ures no	t availabl	le.				

PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICAL INFORMATION

VITAL STATISTICS

Populati	on,	estimated at midsummer,	1941			36,360	0
Number	of	births registered			634	Birth rate (per 1,000 population) 17-4	4
,	,,	still births registered			19	Still birth rate (per 1,000 live births) 29-93	2
"	,,	infant deaths registered			32	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births) † 63	3
,,	,,	deaths registered			879*	Death rate (per 1,000 population) 24-17	7
"	,,	maternal deaths registere	d		1	Maternal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) † 1-96	5
		*1	nclude	s 203	due to "	other violent causes."	

⁺ Calculated on 509 live births—see paragraph 3 on page 2.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(I) Infectious Diseases	(2) Cases notified	(3) Re- moved to hospital	(4) Deaths regis- tered	(I) Infectious Diseases	(2) Cases notified	(3) Re- moved to hospital	(4) Deaths regis- tered
Scarlet fever	65	64	-	Measles		178	2 2
Diphtheria, membranous croup Enteric (including paratyphoid) Acute primary or influenzal	61	61	2	Whooping cough Ophthalmia neonatorum . Puerperal fever	. 4	136	- 1
pneumonia Erysipelas	36 28	12 19	60	Puerperal pyrexia Cerebro spinal fever	. 4	4	
Acute poliomyelitis Dysentery Tuberculosis—pulmonary other forms	12 97 13	<u> </u>	72 7				

DISINFECTION

Steam: No. of houses dealt with No. of rooms dealt with No. of articles disinfected Hot air: No. of articles treated Phenol vapourisers: No. of treatments No. of articles treated	1,635 1,173 19,090 35,932 436 40,250	clea	nsed : Fo	ons (exclu or vermin or scables	ding scho		37
	VACCIN	NATION		Take to	1379		N. P. Diller
Number of names received in birth lists Certificates of successful vaccination received ,, postponement received	448 38 8	Certific Statuto	ates of ins	susceptible stions of	lity receiv	ved s receive	d 55
NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY OF TAXABLE PARTY.				The same		San San	
TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY			TUBER	CULOSIS	CARE	WORK	Secure
No. of cases on Borough register on I-I-41 " " , added in 1941 " " , deleted in 1941 " " on Borough register on 31-12-41 " new cases (excluding contacts) " contacts Total attendances Patients admitted to institutions Specimens of sputum examined X-ray examinations Domiciliary visits by medical officer " " T.B. visitors	1,022 148 179 991 165 121 1,949 105 434 397 125 3,299	Cases r	ses and re ecciving e iven mon- iven othe eferred el	extra nour etary help r help	rishment		. 72 . 75 . 67
MEDICAL	AND DE	NTAL TI			ILIR :		
(1)	(2) No. of		New	Cases		(7)	(8) Total
Service	sessions held	(3) 0–5	(4) 5–15	(5) 15+	(6) Total	Re- visits	attend- ances
General medical clinic	31 53 376 91 562	- 7 321 72	— 6 693 228	97 153 279 9 1,032	97 153 292 1,023 1,332	237 297 2,496 2,540 3,319	334 450 2,788 3,563 4,651
FOOD,	SHOPS, F	FACTORI	ES, ETC.				1
Samples of food taken for investigation Initial and routine inspections of shops under Shops Acts	612 361 21 102 550	Other I	,, wo	n-mechan orkplaces tworkers Act inspec	ical factor ' premises	ries	. 143 . 24 . 122
SANITARY	INSPECTI	ON AND	HOUSI	NG	ala (terris	hespe	
Number of complaints received ,, ,, intimation notices served ,, ,, nuisance notices served ,, ,, premises under sanitary notice Letters written to owners and others	861 575 193 2,254 575	Total vi		spections es served inspectio	under se	ction 9	8,133

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STATISTICAL INFORMATION

HEALTH VISITING

(1)	(2) Ist Visits	(3) Total	(1)	(2) Ist Visits	(3) Total
Expectant mothers Infants Children aged 1–5 Interviews Futile visits	499 556 333	1,194 2,811 6,910 2,551 2,491	Ophthalmia neonatorum, etc Puerperal fever Puerperal pyrexia Child life protection	13 4	21 - 6 3
		2,171	Still birth visits	5	5

CLINIC ATTENDANCES

(1)	(2)		Chi	ldren		(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
(1)	(2)	0—1		1—5		(1)	(0)	Total	H. V.'s Attendances
Centre	No. of Sessions	(3) (4) Seen by Total		(5) (6) Seen by Total		Ante- natal	Miscel- laneous		
Model Welfare Centre Herbert Grove	509 286	1,126 1,099	2,804 2,109	1,083 712	2,436 1,492	1,672 339	3,240 555	10,152 4,495	1,012 489
Total	795	2,225	4,913	1,795	3,928	2,011	3,795	14,647	1,501

MISCELLANEOUS ATTENDANCES (INCLUDED ABOVE)

(1)	(2) First	(3) Total	(1)	(2) First	(3) Total
Toddlers' clinic Post-natal clinic Mothers without children	348 40 —	690 40 1,308	Artificial sunlight—Mothers, Children Housewifery classes	70	44 742 1,021

DINING CENTRE, 210, KINGSLAND ROAD

(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
Ordinary dinners served to mothers ,, ,, ,, lying-in mothers Dinners served to toddlers	475 — 774	Mothers on register at end of period Toddlers on register at end of period	 3 5

MISCELLANEOUS

1ayfield: Admissions		147	Minimum free milk allowa Maximum free milk allow	ances	1.C.W.))	40
Admissions to other convalescent homes	248	12	Free milk recipients (C.M.	.5.)—			
isits under otorrhæa scheme		211	End of 1st Quarter	***			591
Home help cases		50	End of 2nd Quarter				605
1idwifery cases : Council	***	43	End of 3rd Quarter				493
St. Bart's			End of 4th Quarter				712
Anti-natal visits		860	Reduced cost milk recipie	nts (C.	M.S.)-		
faternity dressings		61	End of 1st Ouarter				836
•			End of 2nd Quarter				956
			End of 3rd Quarter				844
			End of 4th Quarter				1.035

GENERAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION

District nursing associati				12	Number of common lodging houses	254
Cases visited				62	Public mortuary—bodies received	254
Total visits		***		888	,, ,, post-mortem examinations	250
Child life protection :-					Food and Drugs Acts :	
Children received				-	Number of informal samples taken	505
Cases on register		***	****	-	" " " adulterated	35
Total visits		***		7	" " formal samples taken …	95
Total bacteriological and	d patholo	gical e	xam-		,, ,, adulterated	8
inations made		***		1,001	Legal proceedings taken	4
Persons receiving domic	iliary rel	ief :-			Total legal proceedings taken (One dismissed)	20
at end of 1st quarter		***	***	452		
,, ,, ,, 2nd ,,	***	***	****	427		
,, ,, ,, 3rd ,,			***	394		
, ., 4th ,,				396		

TUBERCULOSIS IN SHOREDITCH

	(2)	(3) Total notifications	(4) Notifi- cation rate	Pulmonary Notifications									
				(5)	(6)	(7)	(8	3)	(9)	(10)	1 (H)
Year	Pop. (nearest '000)			0—5	5—15	15—25 M. F.		25—35 M. F.		35+	Total	Percentage of M & F in col. (7) M. F.	
1913	109	905	8-3	28	88	109		494			719		
1914	108	604	5.6	18	46	55		359		478			
1915	102	559	5.5	17	38	61 52		313		429			
1916	99	538	5.4	15	38			-7	265		370	rr.	45
1917	88 87	577 480	6·6 5·5	10	47 58	46	38	57 46	35 45	221 199	454 435	55 58	45 42
1919	98	503	5-1	6	39	31	36	44	40	201	397	46	54
1920	101	303	3-0		24	33	24	28	23	128	268	58	42
1921	104	265	2.5	5 5	23	19	19	23	23	109	221	50	50
1922	105	287	2.7	5	17	26	30	28	23	105	234	46	54
1923-	104	271	0.5	-	14	22	20	21	10	110	210	12	
1927	106	271	2.5	3	14	22	28	21	19	110	219	44	56
1932	98	215	2.2	2	14	25	30	17	17	72	176	45	55
1933-	,,	215					-		.,		1,0	13	33
1937	88	147	1.7	2 3	8 4	15	20	12	11	53	121	43	57
1938	80	118	1.5	3	4	15	18	4	6	46	96	45	55
1939	77	91	1.2	1	3	18	17	6	6	22	73	51	49
1940	57 36	109	3.0	2 3	6 4	15	22	12	6 7	30 42	93 97	40	60

* Averaged.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, OLD STREET, E.C.I. 19th August, 1942. E. H. R. SMITHARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

