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Contributors

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BOROUGH OF BANBURY

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

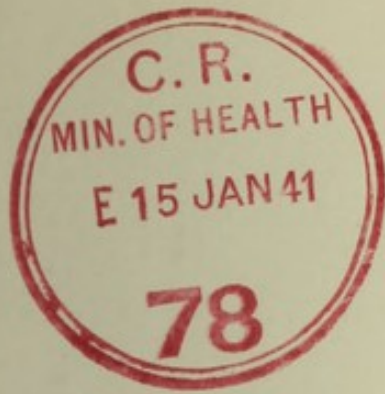
FOR THE YEAR 1939

BANBURY 4

"The Banbury Guardian" Printing Works

1940





BOROUGH OF BANBURY

Annual Report

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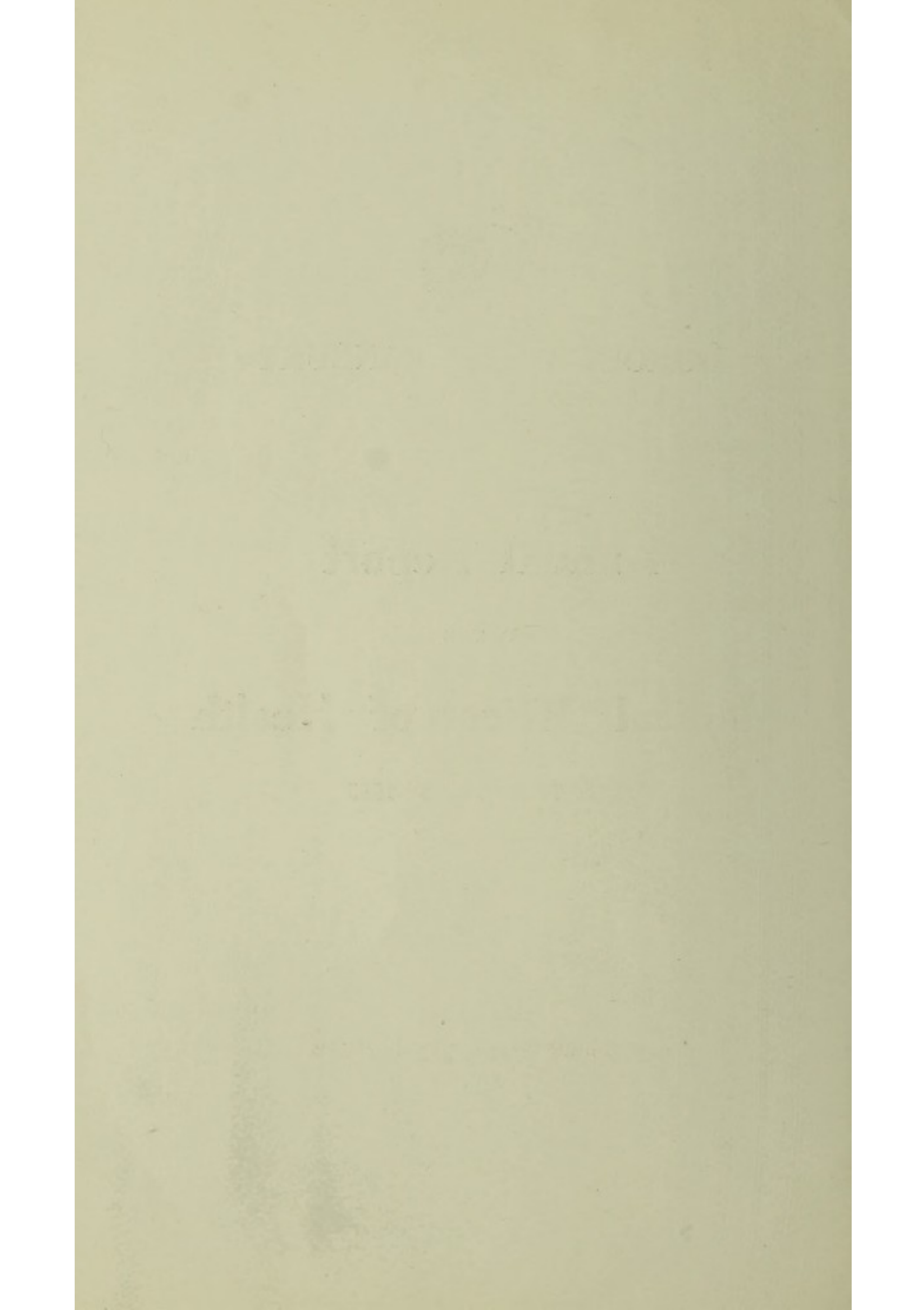
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1939

BANBURY :

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To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Banbury.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services
of the Borough for 1939.

In accordance with the provisions of Circular 2067, issued by the
Ministry of Health in July 1940, with regard to Annual Reports of
Medical Officers of Health for 1939, the report has been very much
curtailed and confined to essential facts and statistics, dealing only
with urgent matters which have affected Public Health during the
year.

During 1939, in spite of the increased population owing to
evacuation at the outbreak of war in September, there was a particu-
larly low incidence of the notifiable diseases, and the general health
of the Borough as reflected by the Vital Statistics was maintained at
a satisfactory level.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)—5,051.

Population (Census 1931)—13,953.

ESTIMATED POPULATION 1939 :

(a) For calculation of Birth Rates..... 16,010

(b) For calculation of Death Rates, etc. 16,510

Number of inhabited houses 1939—4,734.

Rateable Value £105,832. Product of Penny Rate £405.

Social Conditions of the Area.

The chief industries carried on in the Area are as follows :—

Aluminium Workers.
Distributive Trades.
Building.
Agriculture.

Employment in the Borough during 1939 maintained a good level.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS 1939.

	M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	124	121	245
Illegitimate	8	4	12
Total	132	125	257

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated

Population 14.05

STILLBIRTHS—Legitimate	4	8	12
Illegitimate	—	2	2
Total	4	10	14

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) 51.66

DEATHS 1939.

	M.	F.	Total.
DEATHS	90	100	190

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average

Population 11.51

Local adjusted Death Rate 10.36

(Comparability Factor—0.90).

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1939.

	Males.	Females	Total.
5 Diphtheria	—	1	1
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	1
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	5	7	12
10 Other Tuberculosis	1	1	2
11 Syphilis	—	1	1
13 Cancer	6	17	23
14 Diabetes	1	3	4
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	5	2	7
16 Heart Disease	19	26	45
18 Other Circulatory Diseases... ..	6	3	9
19 Bronchitis	3	3	6
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	8	8	16
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	—	2	2
22 Peptic Ulcer... ..	—	1	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
26 Other liver diseases	1	—	1
27 Other digestive diseases	—	2	2
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	2	4
31 Congenital debility, premature birth etc.	4	7	11
32 Senility	6	4	10
33 Suicide	2	—	2
34 Other violence	10	2	12
35 Other defined diseases	7	8	15
36 Ill defined diseases	1	—	1
37 Diarrhoea, 2 years and over	1	—	1
Totals	90	100	190

Thus the chief causes of death in order of frequency are :—

Heart Disease, 45; Cancer, 23; Pneumonia, 16; and Tuberculosis 14.

Causes of Death under One Year.

Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc. ...	11
Pneumonia (all forms)	2
Marasmus	1
Total	14

Deaths from Special Causes.

	M.	F.	Total.
Cancer (all ages)	6	17	23

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

	Number	Rate.
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	14	54.05
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	13	52.63
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegiti- mate live births	1	83.33

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**Staff of the Public Health Department—**

Medical Officer of Health	— A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector and Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods—	F. G. COBBETT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	— R. UPTON, A.R.San.I.
Clerk	— R. THOMAS.
Health Visitors	— MISS WHITEWAY. MISS WOOTON. MISS JENKINS.
Clerk (Clinic)	— MISS F. EDWARDS.
Disinfectors	— W. J. E. HAYNES.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Number of Births notified	259
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The Child Welfare Clinic is held on Tuesdays, from 2.45 to 4 p.m., attended by the Health Visitors, and assistance is given by voluntary workers.

Number of children attending—Evacuees	84	...	...
Borough	566	...	650
Number of attendances	Evacuees 1100	...	...
Borough	4290	...	5,390
Number under 1 year of age seen by Medical Officer	...	...	135
Number of attendances	...	...	312
Number aged 1-5 years seen by Medical Officer	...	...	117
Number of attendances	...	...	181

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The Clinic is held on Thursdays at 1 p.m. at the Horton General Hospital. The Surgeon, Mr. W. Foley, F.R.C.S. (Eng.) attends on the first Thursday of each month. Children under School age are seen as well as school children.

Number of children attending, 5-14 years of age	...	34
Number of attendances	... ..	211
Number of children attending, under 5 years of age	...	16
Number of attendances	... ..	52

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water is taken from the River Cherwell and during the year the supply was constant and sufficient. It is treated by sand and mechanical filters and as an additional safeguard is chlorinated.

During the year under review, nine samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination, and, with the exception of the samples taken in October, the results showed that the water was safe for use as a public supply.

The unfit samples contained a considerable amount of fresh organic matter accompanied by bacteria which were mainly of soil origin; there was practically no free chlorine, and the Public Analyst was of the opinion that the water was not in a suitable condition for use as a public supply.

This condition was mainly due to the existence of serious flooding in the vicinity of the river and it was practically impossible at this time for the water to be adequately treated at the works, particularly in view of the greatly increased consumption of water brought about by the erection of additional houses, and the increase in population as a result of the Government Evacuation Scheme.

It was therefore decided, in collaboration with the Public Analyst, that the Water Company be required to ensure that the water, as delivered to the consumer, must contain not less than a certain stipulated excess of chlorine. This arrangement to serve as a temporary measure to ensure the safety of the water until such time that the new water works at Bodicote, now nearing completion, are put into operation, when the existing supply will be augmented by water from Sor Brook.

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

**1. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) Notified during the
year 1939.**

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to		Total Deaths.
		I.D. Hospital	Others	
Scarlet Fever ...	15	11	4	—
Diphtheria ...	4	4	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	4	—
Pneumonia ...	6	—	6	16
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	32	16	14	18

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Disease	Age over	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
	and under	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	1	7	4	1	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	—	—	1	—	2	8	4	2	7	1	5	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL REPORT.

The Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital provides accommodation for 18 patients (including two small observation wards and a six-cubicle block, the latter being put into use during the year). A full time Matron resides on the premises and additional nurses are obtained as required. The Hospital receives patients suffering from infectious diseases from the Borough and from the Rural District.

Particulars of the Borough Cases admitted to the Hospital during the year 1939, are given in the following Table :—

	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria.	Erysi- pelas.	Tonsil- litis.	Chick- enpox	Total.
Number of Patients in Hospital at 1-1-39	3	3	—	—	—	6
Number admitted during 1939	11	4	1	1	1	18
Number discharged during 1939 ...	14	7	1	1	1	24
Number of Patients in Hospital at 31-12-39	—	—	—	—	—	—

Two deaths from diphtheria occurred in the Hospital during the year, one occurring 19 days after admission, and the second within a few hours after admission.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1939.

The following are the particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the diseases in the Borough during 1939 :—

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	1
15 and under 25	—	5	—	—	2	2	—	—
25 and under 35	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
35 and under 45	—	2	—	1	1	4	—	—
45 and under 55	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 and under 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	9	3	2	5	7	1	1

