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Borough of Banbury.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

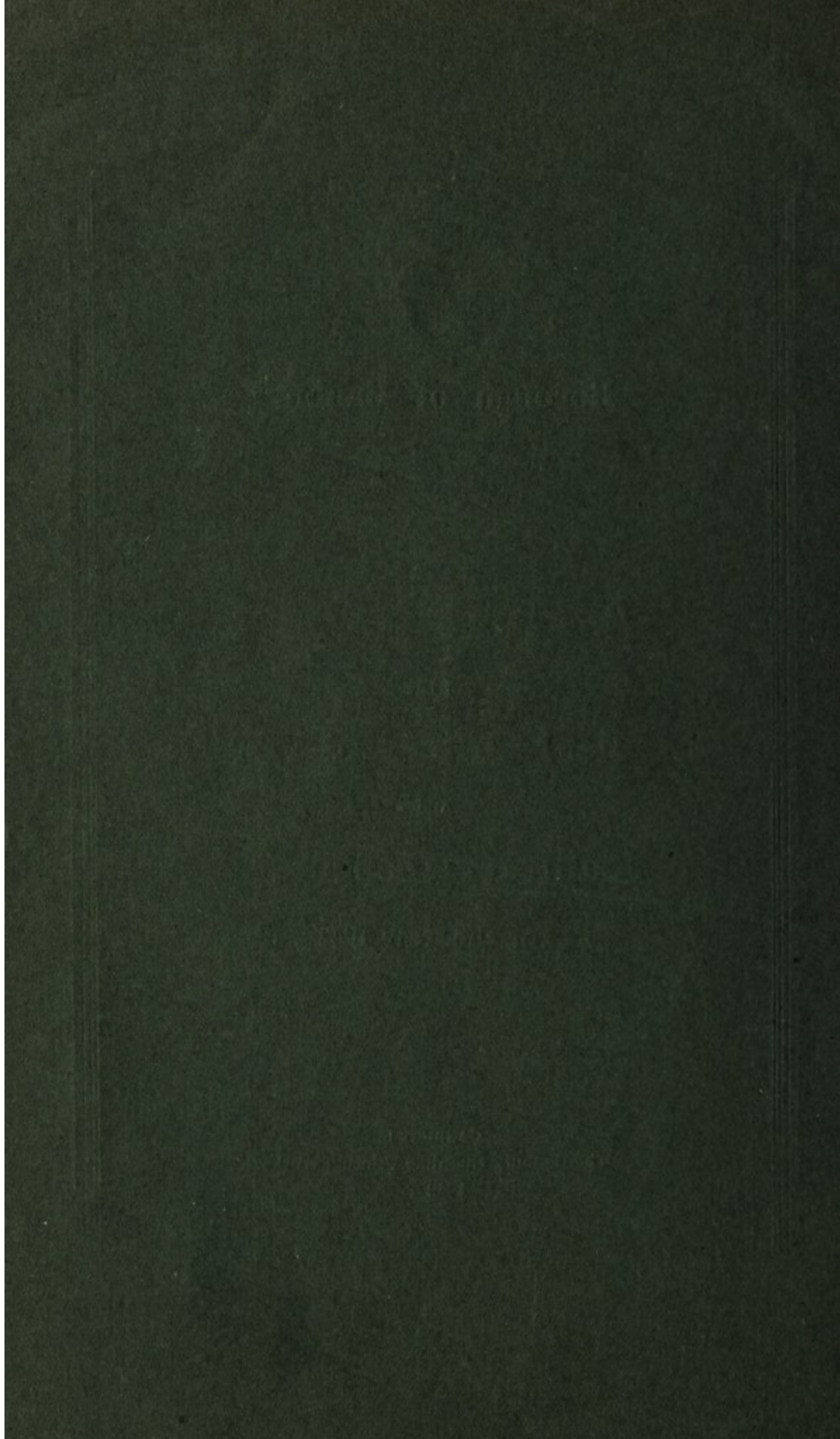
Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1942

BANBURY :

The Banbury Guardian Printing Works

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BOROUGH OF BANBURY.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc. (Oxon), M.D. (St.And.), 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., M.S.I.A.

Clerk : R. THOMAS.

Health Visitors :

MISS WHITEWAY, MISS ARBON, MISS IRWIN.

Clerk (Clinic) :

MISS CLIFTON.

Disinfectors : W. J. E. HAYNES.

Part-time Medical Officers.

Ante-Natal Clinic :

MARY FRASER, M.D. (Lond.), D.R.C.O.G., Oxford.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

E. L. HOWELL JONES, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)
Leamington Spa.

Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital :

W. H. PHILLIPPS, B.A. (Camb.), M.B. B.Ch., M.R.C.S.
(Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).



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 during 1941.

In accordance with the requirements of Circular 2773 issued by the Ministry of Health on March 10th, 1942, and Circular 2067 of July, 1940, the report is confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected public health during the year.

There was a considerable increase in the number of cases of Diphtheria during 1941; this can to some extent be attributed to the overcrowding now existing in many parts of the town. The disease affected mainly the young adult population, and the incidence in school children was relatively low. Over 80 per cent. of the school children and nearly 50 per cent of the children under 5 have now been immunised.

The Infant Mortality (36 per 1,000), though slightly increased from last year may still be regarded as satisfactory.

The Death Rate (8.54 per 1,000) is the lowest so far recorded in the Borough.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate is lower and is still below the average for England and Wales.

The incidence of Scabies has diminished to nearly half the number of cases in 1941.

In conclusion I should like to thank Professor G. S. Wilson, Dr. A. Q. Wells and the staff of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory for their valuable assistance in connection with the Diphtheria and Dysentery outbreaks.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,

10th August, 1943.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS—				Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	167	149	316
Illegitimate	...	...	...	8	3	11
Totals				175	152	327
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the Estimated Population						16.83
England and Wales						15.8
STILLBIRTHS—				Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	8	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals				1	9	10
RATE PER 1,000 (LIVE AND STILL) BIRTHS						29.67
DEATHS				Males.	Females.	Total.
...	...	...	...	89	77	166
DEATH RATE per 1,000 Estimated Population						8.54
England and Wales						11.6

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

	Number.	Rate.
All Infants per 1,000 live births	12	36.70
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	10	31.65
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	2	181.82
England and Wales	49	

Age at which Death Occurred.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year	6	6	12
1 and under 2 years	1	2	3
2 and under 5 years	1	1	2
5 and under 15 years	1	1	2
15 and under 25 years	1	2	3
25 and under 45 years	7	8	15
45 and under 65 years	30	9	39
65 and upwards, including :—			
	M.	F.	Ttl.
65 and under 70 years	7	8	15
70 and under 75 years	12	11	23
75 and under 80 years	10	9	19
80 and under 85 years	9	14	23
85 and under 90 years	4	5	9
90 and under 95 years	—	1	1
95 years and upwards	—	—	—
Totals			
...	89	77	166

Deaths from Cancer	24
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

Causes of Death during 1942.

	Males	Females.	Total.
4. Whooping Cough	1	—	1
5. Diphtheria	2	1	3
5. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	4	7
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
8. Syphilitic diseases	1	—	1
12. Acute infective encephalitis	1	1	2
13. Cancer of Mouth and oesophagus (male) and uterus (female)	—	1	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
15. Cancer of breast	—	3	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	10	8	18
17. Diabetes	—	2	2
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	7	7	14
19. Heart disease	31	22	53
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	3	—	3
21. Bronchitis	2	2	4
22. Pneumonia	4	6	10
23. Other respiratory diseases... ..	1	—	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	—	2
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	1	—	1
26. Appendicitis	—	1	1
27. Other digestive diseases	4	1	5
28. Nephritis	3	2	5
30. Other maternal causes	—	1	1
31. Premature birth	3	1	4
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury, &c.	—	6	6
33. Suicide	—	1	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	2	—	2
35. Other violent causes	2	1	3
36. All other causes	4	4	8
Totals	89	77	166

Causes of Death Under One Year of Age.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Premature birth	3	1	4
Marasmus	—	2	2
Tuberculous meningitis	1	—	1
Broncho-pneumonia and whooping cough	1	—	1
Malformation, birth injury, etc.	—	3	3
Dehydratun, diarrhoeas and vomiting... ..	1	—	1
Totals	6	6	12

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Number of Births notified—307.

(a) Live Births 296. (b) Stillbirths 11.

Notified by Midwives By doctors

There are three Health Visitors.

No of visits (1) To Expectant Mothers, first visits—55. Total 86.

(2) To Children under 1 year, first visits—288. Total 1247

(3) To children between 1 and 5 years—1499.

Number of Children attending Child Welfare Clinic for first time :—

(1) Under 1 year 316 (including 7 Evacuees).

(2) Between 1 and 5 years 250 (including 13 Evacuees).

Total number of Children attending Child Welfare Clinic at end of year

(1) Under 1 year 185

(2) Over 1 year 250 (including 13 Evacuees).

Day Nurseries.

There are three War-Time Nurseries now functioning in the Borough—one at Horton View, one in the People's Park and one in Middleton Road. The People's Park and Middleton Road Nurseries each accommodate 40 children, while at the Horton View Nursery the accommodation is for 30. Medical Inspections are carried out at frequent intervals. Practically all the children are immunised for Diphtheria either before or shortly after admission.

Up to the present on account of the shortage of Dentists in the Borough it has not been possible to arrange for a Dental Service for the Day Nurseries.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following is Dr. Mary Fraser's report for 1942 :—

It gives me pleasure to submit my report on the working of the Ante-Natal Clinic for 1942. The number of attendances continues to be satisfactory. They are :—

New Cases...185 Subsequent attendances...595 Total...780.

This makes an average of 16 patients per clinic and an average attendance of 4.2 per patient.

There is still a poor attendance of post-natal cases—only seven reporting during 1942.

As regards details of the subsequent histories of the cases, these are difficult to obtain, since a significantly increasing number of women are being confined in Warwick Road Hospital and it is not always easy to contact the District Midwives. As any details I might be able to give would be quite inexact, I have not attempted an account of them.

There is one matter to which I would like to draw attention. There is a slight but noticeable increase in the attendance of single girls recently at the Clinic and in almost all such cases venereal disease must be suspected and the necessary investigations carried out. This involves the expenditure of time and the Clinic is not staffed to do this on a large scale, should any further increase occur. Eleven investigations of this kind, including the taking of blood for serological tests and cervical and urethral swabs and smears have been performed—so far four have been positive ; this is a fairly high percentage.

Maternity Hospital.

The question of the provision of a Maternity Hospital in Banbury is becoming an increasingly urgent problem. At present the only Maternity Beds in the Borough are 6 beds at the Public Assistance Institution, Warwick Road ; there were formerly two nursing homes in the Borough taking Maternity cases, but these have now closed down. There is so much over-crowding in the Borough that it is difficult for normal confinements to take place at home. Complicated cases are dealt with either in the Maternity Department at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, or at the Horton General Hospital, although there is no Maternity Department at the latter hospital.

The most satisfactory solution of the problem would be the provision of a Maternity Department at the Horton General Hospital, and this could be available for cases from the surrounding district, i.e. from the County Councils of Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire as well as for the Borough of Banbury. This is unlikely however to take place during the War.

Investigations are still being actively carried out and every possible avenue is being explored in order to solve the problem.

Maternal Deaths.

One maternal death occurred during the year, the cause being Post-partum Hemorrhage ; the case was investigated in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Total—Maternal Death Rate.....	2.9
England and Wales.....	2.01
Puerperal Infection Nil Other Causes 	2.9
England and Wales 0.42 England and Wales	1.59

Home Helps.

It is difficult to obtain a suitable supply of home helps in the Borough, but Circular 2729 of the Ministry of Health on this subject has been considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and efforts are being made to obtain women suitable for this work.

Supervision of Midwives.

This is carried out by the Oxfordshire County Council, which is the local supervising authority under the Midwives Act, 1902-1936.

Dental Treatment for Expectant Mothers.

On account of the shortage of dentists in the Borough, it has been so far difficult to arrange this, but a scheme has been prepared and is being considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

During the year, owing to the departure of Mr. J. C. Scott, F.R.C.S. (Eng.) on service with the R.A.F., it has been unfortunately necessary to discontinue the surgeon's visit at Banbury. Cases may be seen by appointment by Mr. Foley at the Radcliffe Infirmary on Mondays or by Professor Seddon at the Wingfield Hospital on Tuesdays.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

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

Six samples of water were taken during the year for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination, and the reports of the Public Analyst shewed that the water was, in each case, safe for use as a public supply.

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

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the
Year 1942
(Civilians only).

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to		Total Deaths
		Isolation Hospital	Other Hospitals	
Scarlet Fever	26	22	—	—
Diphtheria	56	55	—	3
Measles	6	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	35	1	—	1
Erysipelas	2	—	1	—
Pneumonia	8	—	5	10
Cerebro-spinal Fever.....	2	2	—	—
Dysentery	9	3	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	—	—
Totals	145	84	6	14

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Age over Disease and under	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
Scarlet Fever...	—	1	2	1	—	13	3	2	2	—	—
Diphtheria	1	2	1	2	5	12	4	13	14	1	1
Measles	1	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	4	6	5	10	6	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	3	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	7	7	11	10	16	35	8	17	21	5	6

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-six cases were notified during the year; 22 were removed to the Isolation Hospital and four cases isolated at home. Sixteen occurred in children of school age, four under school age and six in adults.

Diphtheria.

Fifty-six cases occurred. Fifty-five were removed to hospital. Eleven cases occurred in children under school age, nine cases occurred in school children; 30 cases occurred in adults. In six cases the diagnosis was not confirmed.

It is interesting to note that the age distribution has altered following immunisation of the school population and that in this outbreak the disease mainly effected young adults.

Two mild cases occurred in immunised children.

There were three deaths—two of them under two and the third age four, all unimmunised children.

In all cases the home contacts were swabbed and in some instances carriers were detected and isolated in hospital.

The outbreak began in March in a factory where there were three cases. The entire day and night staff were swabbed with the assistance of Dr. A. O. Wells and Dr. B. Moore, of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Oxford. Five carriers of the Gravis Type were detected and isolated in hospital. Combined Active and Passive Immunisation was offered to the remainder of the staff. Following this the outbreak as far as that particular factory was concerned came to an end.

A case later occurred in another factory; there the staff were swabbed and one carrier was detected. Another case occurred in the domestic staff of a private nursing home. Patients and staff were swabbed with negative results.

Towards the end of the year five cases occurred in Grimsbury Council School. In this instance all the unimmunised children were offered combined active and passive immunisation; the majority accepted and were immunised by Dr. A. O. Wells; the few who refused were excluded until the outbreak had ceased.

There is no doubt that the continuance of the outbreak was in a large measure due to the overcrowding in the Borough due to war conditions.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held at the School Clinic, Warwick Road, on the first Wednesday of each month at 10.15 a.m.

The following are the numbers immunised :—

Estimated School Population	...	...	3500
Number immunised	...	...	2836
Percentage ...	...	...	80.1
Estimated Population under 5	...	...	1500
Number immunised	...	...	711
Percentage ...	...	...	47.4

During the year 836 school children and 240 children under five were immunised.

Dysentery.

Nine cases occurred. Four were of the Flexner type, the remainder Sonne. Four cases of Flexner dysentery occurred at the Horton General Hospital, one in a patient, and three in members of the nursing staff. The outbreak was investigated by Professor G. S. Wilson; faeces of all the contacts, patients and staff were examined at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory with negative results.

An outbreak of Sonne dystentery also occurred during the year. Five cases were notified, but it is probable that many more cases actually occurred and that in many instances symptoms were so mild that a doctor was not called.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Both patients were isolated at Oxford City Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths.

Measles.

Six cases were notified as compared with 48 in 1941.

Whooping Cough.

Thirty-five cases occurred as compared with 98 in 1941. There was one death in a child under one year; this patient was removed to hospital.

Isolation Hospital.

There is now a total of 31 beds in the hospital. The old block consists of 10 beds. The new cubicle block which was opened in 1938 consists of six cubicle beds. In 1941 a hutted ward was added by the Ministry of Health. This consists of 15 beds, six of which are in two-bedded cubicle wards, the remaining nine in one ward. Local authorities other than the Borough of Banbury and the Banbury Rural District may send patients to this ward provided accommodation is available.

The question of staffing has been a great difficulty during the year.

At the present moment however there are in addition to the Matron one trained nurse and two assistant nurses. The problem of domestic staff is still difficult, however.

Dr. W. H. Phillipps has recently been appointed part-time Medical Superintendent.

Isolation Hospital.

The following are the number of cases dealt with during the year :—

Disease.	Banbury Boro.		Banbury R.D.	Other Areas.	Total.
	Boro.	Evacs.			
Scarlet Fever	20	1	3	—	24
Diphtheria	50	5	6	—	61
Diphtheria Carriers...	25	—	1	2	28
Measles	—	2	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas... ..	—	—	2	—	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever Encephalitis	2	—	—	—	2
Lethargica ...	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery... ..	4	—	—	4	8
Scabies	3	6	2	2	13
Impetigo	—	1	—	1	2
Chickenpox	1	4	—	1	6
Mumps	—	—	—	4	4
Influenza	—	—	—	1	1
Tonsillitis	—	—	—	4	4
Gastric Enteritis ...	—	—	—	8	8
Ringworm	—	—	—	1	1
Pediculosis	—	—	—	1	1
Stomatitis... ..	—	—	—	1	1
Vincent's Angina ...	—	—	—	1	1
Catarrhal Jaundice...	—	—	—	1	1
Quinsey	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	107	19	14	33	173

Two deaths from diphtheria occurred in the Hospital during the year ; one, a child of 1½ years of age who died 35 hours after admission, and a child of four years of age who died 25 days after admission.

Included in the above figures are the following patients which were removed to the Isolation Hospital, Oxford, for treatment :—

Diphtheria...4 Dysentery...3 Cerebro-spinal Fever...2

Laboratory Work.

All public health laboratory work with the exception of water examinations is carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford. Water examinations (chemical and bacteriological) are carried out by Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, of Birmingham.

The following work was carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory during the year.

SWABS	Number examined	772
	Positive for Diphtheria	81
	Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	81
	Positive for Vincent's Angina ...	15
FAECES	Number examined	252
	Positive for Flexner Bacillus ...	3
	Positive for Sonne Bacillus ...	18
	Positive for Giardia Lamblia ...	2
	Negative	229
OTHER EXAMINATIONS	Pus	28
	Sputum	4
	Pleural Fluid	2
	Cerebro-spinal Fluid	7
	Urine	40
	Widal Reactions	6
	Blood Examinations	6
FROM BANBURY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.		
	Number of Swabs examined ...	371
	Positive for Diphtheria	102
	Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	17
	Positive for Vincent's Angina ...	2
	Faeces (all negative)	9

Scabies.

The treatment of Scabies at the Clinic was continued during the year 1942, and patients were also treated as in-patients in the Infectious Diseases Hospital. The following tables give particulars of the numbers of patients (differentiating between Borough and Evacuee Patients) and the number of treatments given :—

(a) Scabies Clinic.

	Borough.	Evacuees.	Total.
Number of patients receiving treatment at 1st January, 1942 ...	13	2	15
Number of Patients admitted 1942 :—			
New Patients	104	27	131
Re-infected Patients	35	15	50
Discharges during the year 1942 :—			
Cured	126	40	166
Transferred to Hospitals, etc. ...	2	1	3
Ceased attending, left town, etc....	6	1	7
Number of patients receiving treatment at 31st December, 1942 ...	18	2	20
Number of Treatments given	2158	614	2772
Analysis of Patients, 1942 :—			
Under School Age	6	3	9
School Age	109	36	145
Over School Age (including Adults)	37	5	42
Number of patients in respect of which bedding was disinfected by steam			35

(b) Infectious Diseases Hospital. (In-Patients).

	Borough.	Evacuees.	Others.
Number of Patients admitted with Scabies	3	6	4
Total Days	13	101	33
Average number of days per patient ...	4.3	16.8	8.25

Tuberculosis.

	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1 ...	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
1— 5 ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
5—15 ...	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
15—25 ...	5	5	0	0	0	1	0	0
25—35 ...	4	2	0	1	1	1	0	0
35—45 ...	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
45—55 ...	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
55—65 ...	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
65— ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	14	9	2	2	3	4	1	1

Included in the Tuberculosis deaths are two deaths from Tuberculous Meningitis. Three of the seven deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis died within 3 months of notification.

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Death Rate per 1,000 from Tuberculosis...	.360	.103
England and Wales ... ..	.542	.115

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR for the Year 1940

MY MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—

My Report for the year 1942, as in previous years, is curtailed in response to instructions issued by the Ministry of Health, and I have therefore confined myself to public health matters.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

(a) Meat Inspection.

During the year 1942, the carcasses, parts or carcasses and offal detailed in the following Table, were certified as unfit for human consumption :—

	Cattle	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
Total number of animals slaughtered	2415	15426	760	2047
Carcasses condemned :—				
Tuberculosis	37	—	—	—
Other Causes	3	10	—	1
Parts of Carcasses, Organs and Offal condemned :—				
Forequarters	2	—	—	—
Hindquarters	2	—	—	—
Legs	—	1	—	—
Livers	185	126	9	—
Heads and Tongues ...	15	1	—	—
Lungs	15	—	—	—
Hearts	4	—	—	—
Spleens	4	—	—	—
Tripe	2	—	—	—
Udders.....	—	2	—	—
Plucks	—	3	3	—
Meat (in lbs.)	604	188	6	—

(b) Other Foods.

The following list gives the amount of food (excluding meat) condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

CANNED FOODS.

Corned Beef (6lbs. each)	115 tins.
Luncheon Meat (ditto)	108 „
Tang	18 „
Chopped Ham (6lbs. each)	6 „
Sausage Meat	16 „
Tongue	4 „
Rabbit	1 „
Condensed Milk	331 „
Evaporated Milk	129 „
Soups	31 „
Herrings	15 „
Salmon	19 „
Lobster	5 „
Pilchards	37 „
Sardines	9 „
Crayfish	3 „
Vegetables (mixed)	21 „
Peas	68 „
Beans	58 „
Tomatoes	47 „
Carrots	9 „
Beetroot	1 „
Fruits	120 „
Jams, Marmalades and Syrup	20 „

WET FISH.

Cod	8 stone.
Witches	2 „
Hake	2 „
Whiting	2 „
Kippers	1 „

SUNDRIES.

Bacon	22 lbs.
Tea	10 „
Butter	58 „
Cheese	63 „
Sugar	83 „
Figs	57 „
Sweets	42 „
Sauce	1 bottle.
Fish Paste	2 jars.
Wheat Flakes	1 packet.



