[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Castleford U.D.C.

Contributors

Castleford (England). Urban District Council.

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CASTLEPORD ODE



URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT.

YEAR ENDED 31st, DECEMBER, 1940.

Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare Service: WM. KEMP, M.B., C.M.Edin.

Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing & Transport Superintendent: T. E. BIRTWISLE, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLEFORD.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Castleford Wrban District Council.

I have the honour of placing before you my twentyseventh Annual Report, being a report on the health of your District for the year ended 31st December, 1940.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Health the report is greatly curtailed, and is restricted to dealing with matters which I regard as being of primary importance. Complete records are however being kept for inclusion in a comprehensive report after the termination of the war.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940 est.) 11,140
Rateable Value£181,921
Sum represented by a Penny Rate£683
Density of population 9.39 persons per acre.

I am unable to understand, having regard to the known circumstances of the District, the reason for the R.G. Estimate of population being lower than that for the previous year.

Vital Statistics.

Births (for	calculating Bir	th Rate)		
		M.	F.	TOTAL.
Live Births	- Legitimate	353	335	688
	Illegitimate Total	369	14 349	30 718

Birth Rate 17.40 per 1,000 of population (Legit.16.67) Birth Rate for England and Wales 14.6 per 1,000 of population.

Births (for calculating Infant and Maternal Mortalities) м. F. TOTAL. 355 Live Births - Legitimate 335 690 Illegitimate 14 720 371 Total 349 F. TOTAL. M. Still Births- Legitimate 8 14 22 Illegitimate 3 25 1 16 Total 9

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and stiml) births 33.56.

Deaths. Total-553 M-299 F-254. Grude Death Rate 13.43 per 1,000 of population.

A.C.F. adjusted Death Rate 16.38. Death Rate for England and Wales 14.3.

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

Deaths from puerperal causes -Other maternal causes Total

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 77.78 Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 75.36 Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 133.33 Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 live births - 55.

Principal Causes of Death - 1940.

Heart Disease 124, and other circulatory diseases 15. Bronchitis 67, Pneumonia 23, other respiratory diseases 5. Intra cran: vasc: lesions. Cancer: all forms. Tuberculosis: Pulmonary 33, other forms 9. Convulsions, Premature Birth etc. Suicide 3. Accidents and other Violent Causes 25.

General Provision of Health Services.

These services in respect of laboratory, ambulances, nursing, hospitals (infectious disease and general) midwifery, and Maternity Home, are being fully maintained.

An extensive part time Ambulance Service in connection with Civil Defence is in operation.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity Home.

The value of the Home to our people was again fully proved.

Owing to lack of accommodation we had to refuse admission to cases during the year, as in previous years.

Notwithstanding the difficulties arising out of war-time conditions I consider that I must again call your attention to the urgent need for improved and additional accommodation, and trust that something may be done in this direction at an early date.

The admissions during the year were:-

Castleford Cases Pontefract Borough Rothwell U.D. (Methley) W.R.C.C.	186 13 2 61
Total	262

Medical Aid was summoned in 112 cases of which number 8 were removed to Hospital on account of complications.

Cases sent to Institutions not previously admitted to our Home numbered 53.

> P.T.O. (2)

Clinics.

Health Visitors.

The work at the Clinics has proceeded in a satisfactory manner, as has also the work of the Health Visitors.

Details of services above mentioned have already been supplied to the Ministry of Health on Forms MCW 96 and 96 A.

The arrangements for Dental and Orthopaedic services remain as before.

The Sanitary Circumstances of the Area are fully dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

The following table shews the incidence of various diseases, together with the number of patients removed to Hospital, and the number of deaths.

Diphtheria Immunization clinics are held fortnightly with success, at our Sagar Street rooms.

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SHEWN IN AGE GROUPS.

-	Hospital Deaths	: 9	. 0	. 23	0	. 0	. ^	70	N	N	Ö	0	38
	Cases removed to	104	. 0	0	N	4	0	0	0	0	0	20	160
	Over 65	0	0	Н	٥	0	0	0	0	0	0	01	Н
	45-65	3	00	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	14
O.S.	35-45	7	2	ч	0	Н	0	0	0	7	0	0	9
1	20-35	10	0	70	0	80	0	2	0	٦	1	4	32
Notified.	15-20	6	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	16
100	10-15	31	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	1	0	14	52
al Cases	5-10	32	0	9	0	0	0	319	2	1	0	24	382
Total	4-5	75	0	н	0	0	0	190	1	Н	0	4	202
	3-4	7	0	2	0	0	0	152	0	0	0	9	165
	2-3	2	0	0	0	0	0	114	٦	0	0	0	120
	1-2	2	0	0	0	0	0	110	3	5	0.	89	119
	Under 1 yr.	0	0	0	0	0	1	47	2	0	0	7	51
	At all ages	104	10	16	2	6	г	942	10	7	7	58	1160
	NOTIFIED DISEASES.	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro Spinal	Acute Poliomyelitis	Scarlet Fever	TOTAL

Tuberculosis.

The following tables show the number of new cases and mortality together with the number of cases shown on the register at the beginning and the end of the year.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pu	Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
No. of cases on the register on the lst January, 1940.	151	83	55	59	348
New cases notified during the year.	17	25	11	6	59
Totals	168	108	66	65	407
Removed from register during the year	. 49	40	14	7	110
Remaining on register 31st December, 1940.	119	68	52	58	297

1.	Ne	w Cas			Deaths.				
Notifications 59	Pulmonary.		Non- Pulm	onary.	Pulm			on- Lmonary.	
	· M	F	M	F	_11	F	M	F	
At all ages.	17	25	11	6	18	15	7	2	
Under 1 year	þ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1-5 years	1	0	6	1	0	0	1	0	
5-15	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	
15-25	3	10	1	1	3	7	2	1	
25-35	2	8	0	0	4	4	1	0	
35-45	3	3	1	1	3	2	-	-	
45-55	7	1	0	1	5	2	1	0	
55-65	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Over 65	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	

Conclusion.

This report has been written when our country is at war, and in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health, is of an abbreviated character. All the usual statistics have however been kept for future use if required.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

Town Hall, Castleford. 22nd July,1941. 431.70.7/41.S.I.

WM. KEMP. M.B., C.M. Edin.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector, Year ended 31st. December, 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

I beg to place before you my twenty-eighth Annual Report.

War conditions have again required the activities of the Dopartment being devoted to a considerable extent to work in connection with Air Raid Precautions and Civil Defence. The reason for the omission of many of the usual particulars will therefore be appreciated.

The precaution has been taken however of keeping necessary records, with a view to the preparation of a comprehensive report at the close of hostilities.

Housing

It is recognised that the provision of new housing and the work in connection with Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses must largely be suspended during the war.

The district being a "neutral" area, it is likely that evacuees would wish to be billeted here or to reside with friends.

I understand from the Billeting Officer that some 250 evacuees have been registered in the district, and it is known that a number of others have taken up residence.

These circumstances must have some effect on the housing accommodation of the District.

Necessary housing repairs are being carried out as well as conditions permit.

Particulars of action are given below: -

Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action of Local Authority or their officers 23

- (a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 17
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) By owners 9

433.35.7/41.S.I.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners-nil.

(b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation 14
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demoltion Orders were made 2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 12
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners:
(a) To render houses fit for human habitation 1
(b) As to usage other than human habitation 5
The following is a summary of the action taken under the Housing Acts, 1930-36, and the position at the 31st.March 1941:-
Part I of the Act. Clearance Areas -
No. of unfit dwelling-houses demolished 68 No. of persons displaced 243
Part II of the Act. Individual Unfit Houses -
No. of dwelling-houses demolished - formal action
No. of dwelling-houses closed 26
Parts of buildings closed 7
No. of persons displaced from above 587
No. of dwelling-houses made fit - formal action 151 informal action 896
Inspection and Supervision of Food.
Milk Supply.
Particulars as to milk purveyors and producers, dairies etc., are given below:-
No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk on the Register 6
No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on the Register 51
Total number of Cowsheds in the District 6
Total number of Milk Cows 96
Total number of Dairy and Cowshed Inspections 45
434.35.7/41.5.1 No. of "Accredited" Producers Nil

There were two licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, to sell Milk as Pasteurised, one of which is a supplementary licence.

As previously reported, there is one dairy in the District where pasteurisation of milk is carried on. In addition to the milk brought to this dairy for pasteurisation, the greater part of the raw milk produced outside the area, and brought into the District for sale by retail, is distributed from this dairy.

For the purpose of bacteriological examination, 24 samples of milk were taken, 18 of ordinary milk and 6 of pasteurised milk. They were submitted to the County Bacteriologist at County Hall, Wakefield, and the results of examination are given below.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Number of samples taken of Ordinary Milk ... 18 Number of samples which satisfied the

Methylene blue test for Accredited Milk

Number of samples taken of Pasteurised Milk

Number which satisfied the Plate Count Test

All the above samples were further subjected to a biological test, and the following results were obtained:-

Ordinary Milk found to be Tuberculous ...

Pasteurised Milk found to be Tuberculous ...Nil

With reference to the sample found to be tuberculous, I am informed by the Public Health Dapartment of the County Council, that this was traced back to the farm by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, where a tuberculous cow was discovered and slaughtered. The herd in question was cleared in due course.

It is worthy of note that again we had only one sample of milk found to be tuberculous out of 24 submitted, and that this resulted in the discovery of the affected cow.

In addition to the foregoing one sample of milk was taken from a cow slaughtered at the Castleford Slaughter-house and found to be affected with Generalized Tuberculosis. No evidence of tuberculosis was found in this sample.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling.

Total number of samples taken:

Informal Formal 113 Total 114

Description Milk: informal formal Butter "	Number 1 54 6	Description Number Sausages: formal 10 Rice " 4 Dripping " 1
Margarine*	5	Coffee " 4
Lard "	8	Treacle " 1
Baking		Potted Meat " 5
Powder "	6	Brawn " 1
Lemon		Poloney " 1
Cheese "	2	Yeast " 1
Custard		Tartaric Acid" 1
Powder "	1	
Jam "	1	435.35,7/41.S.I.
Lemon Curd "	1	
		(3) P.T.O.

Four of the above samples were reported upon as below by the Public Analyst, as being adulterated; the remainder were found to be genuine.

Sample No.	Description	Action taken
39. 45. 81. 90.	Potted Meat Baking Powder Potted Meat Potted Meat	Vendor warned. do. Legal proceedings. Vendor warned.

In respect of No.81 this was found to contain 47.7% of meat, and 17.1% of dry meat solids; it contained 9.52% of starch.

Information was laid against the vendor retailer, and against the wholesaler under Section 3, Food and Drugs Act, 1938. A penalty of £5 including costs was imposed, upon the vendor retailer; the charge against the wholesaler was dismissed on grounds of insufficient evidence.

In respect of milk samples, these generally gave excellent results.

Meat and Other Foods.

All slaughtering is now done at centralized premises in the occupation of the Ministry of Food. Inspection of all animals and carcases is carried out by a qualified member of the staff of the Department.

The number of slaughtermen licensed is 18.

One case of tuberculous imported beef was discovered and the attention of the Wholesale Meat Suppliers' Association was called to it. The source of the supply was not discovered.

Figures relating to meat inspection are given below:-

Carcases Inspected and Condemned							
	Cattle excl'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs		
No. killed (if known)	1521	417	21	9872	2028		
Number inspected	1521	417	21	9872	2028		
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned	Nil	. 1	Nil	7	4		
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	105	32	Nil	162	28		
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned	6	14	Nil	Nil	6		
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	112	114	1	Nil	96		

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption were as follows:-

Beef - Pork -	254 lbs 128 lbs
Bacon -	273½ lbs
Mutton -	79 lbs
Pressed brisket of	77 108
Beef -	44 lbs
Rabbits -	58
do	56 tins
Sausages -	30 lbs
Ox Tongue -	24 lbs
Pork Tongue	2 lbs
Jellied Veal	6 lbs
Fish fillets	91 lbs
Cod fillets	20 boxes
Sardines, etc.	6 tins
Steak & Kidney	16 1bs
Chicken & Ham	6 lbs
Calves Livers	10 cases (248 1bs)
Mussels -	10 bags
Fruit -	33 tins
Peas -	2 tins
Cake, etc	71 lbs

All food found to be unfit for human consumption is removed and converted for use in industrial processes.

Contamination of Food by War Gases.

Steps have been taken by the Department to deal with this matter.

A scheme of decontamination has been prepared, including necessary premises, equipment, transport and personnel, and this has been submitted to the Ministry of Food.

The four Sanitary Inspectors in the Department have all been appointed as Gas Contamination Officers and have attended courses of lectures for the purpose.

Voluntary personnel have been recruited from the Food trades in the area and these have received instruction by means of lectures given by my Deputy, Mr. E.J. Winfield, who holds the A.R.P.S. Instructors' Special Certificate.

Fish Frying

The trade or business of fish fryer was declared an offensive trade by your Council in 1927.

There are 59 fish frying establishments on the register.

Water Supply

437 .

The results of sampling are shewn below.

Bacteriological Examination

No.	Date	Sample taken from	No. of Presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml. of water	Remarks
2. 6. 7. 8. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14.	3. 4. 40 24. 9. 40 24. 9. 40 8. 10.40 21. 10.40 21. 10.40 21. 10.40 21. 10.40 7. 11.40	Town Hall do. Beech Grove Town Hall Town Hall Report Centre Healdfield Rd. Town Hall do.	None 16 1 50 3 None None	Satisfacty Unsatisfacty Unsatisfacty Unsatisfacty Doubtful Satisfacty do. Doubtful do.

No.	Date		No. of Presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml. of water	Remarks
16. 7. 17. 7. 18. 19. 19. 19. 20. 19. 22. 19. 23. 19. 24. 19. 25. 19. 26. 2. 27. 2. 28. 2.	11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 11. 40 12. 40 12. 40 12. 40 12. 40	Town Hall do. Healdfield Rd. Town Hall do. do. Healdfield Rd. do Town Hall Report Centre Redhill Reservoi Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Healdfield Rd.	Less than 1 do. do. None l	do. do. do. do. do. Doubtful

		Public Swimming Baths	-	
No.	Date	Presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml of water	p.H. Value.	Free Chlorin in 1,000,000 parts of water
1. 3 3. 16 4. 7 5. 24 9. 8	4. 40 7. 40 8. 40 9. 40	None 1	7.0 6.8 6.0 6.2 6.2	None None None None None

Public Cleansing and Transport

All figures given under this heading refer to the year ended 31st.March, 1941.

The recovery of waste material for re-use in war supplies and mentioned in the last Annual Report, has been intensified throughout the year, both at the point of collection and the point of disposal, the results of the year's work showing considerable success.

A notable feature in the year's activities is the commencement of tipping at the Healdfield Road Quarry. The clay-workings of the quarry were of considerable depth and a large quantity of water had accumulated. In order to carry out the tipping without creating nuisance, and also to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, it was necessary partly to excavate and to construct a roadway of suitable gradient to allow us to reach the bottom., and also to provide pumping apparatus for the removal of the water. This work was done, which included the provision of an electric pumping plant; the water being pumped into our surface water sewer. Tipping was commenced in October and has been in continuous operation since that time. When completed, this will permit of the reclamation of a considerable area of land which is intended to be used for recreational purposes in connection with the Grammar School.

Refuse Collection and Disposal Costings.

Refuse collected during the year was as follows:-

Ashbins and Ashpits Shop Refuse Cesspools			Cwts 5 6 0
	Total	24,643	11

The cost of this was £7435. 19. 3d.

The refuse was received and disposed of partly at the destructor, but mainly at the tips. From the material collected, re-usable materials were extracted and returned to industry. The estimated quantity of material disposed of was:-

		Tons	Cwts
At the At the	Tips Destructor	22094 4191	7 4
	Total	26,285	11

From this 700 tons of re-usable material was salvaged. The cost of this work was as follows:-

Cost of Tips (including work at - £1226. 17. 11d. Healdfield Road)

Gross Expenditure £1843. 16. 1d. Income £2165. 19.11d

Profit <u>£322.</u> 3. 10d. Nett cost of £1424. 10. 5d. Disposal.

	Collection		D	Disposal		Total			
	£	S	<u>d</u>	£	s	d	£	8	d
Nett Expenditure	7,435.	19.	3						
A. Cost as rate in the pound.	0.	0.	11.03	0.	0.	2.11	0.	1.	1.1
B.(i) Cost per ton	0.	6.	0.4	0.	1.	1.	0.	7.	1.4
(ii)Cost per 1000 popul.(Est.41,260 (iii)Cost per 1000	180.	0.	4	34.	10.	6	214.	10.	10
premises. (Est. 12,000)	619.	13.	2	118.	14.	2	738.	7.	4

Street Cleansing

Street Sweeping and Gulley Cleansing.

The cost of work done under this head during the present year amounted to £4636. 14. 6d. Of this the West Riding County Council constributed the sum of £447 in respect of work performed on County Roads.

Street Gritting and Snow Removal.

Once again the winter conditions proved severe, and expenditure was accordingly high.

The total cost of gritting was £794. lo. 5d and of snow removal £2077. 4. 9d. of which the County Council refunded £513. 16. 7d and £120. 14. Od. respectively.

Transport Work.

Work done by Motor Lorries.

Hours worked - 30,191 Loads hauled - 23,666 giving an estimated tonnage of 35,027 and an estimated mileage of 77,736. During the period 15,269 gallons of petrol and 3532 pints of oil were consumed.

Motor Vans

Work done by these two vehicles (Ford van and Dodge van) is as follows:-

Hours worked - 1010 Journeys made - 2163 giving an estimated mileage of 7,312. During the period 732 gallons of petrol and 177 pints of oil were consumed.

Gulley Emptiers

Work done by these two vehicles was as follows:-

Hours worked - 3,316 Gullies cleansed - 16,420 Other material removed - 5062 tons Mileage - 6,732. During the period 1,619 gallons of petrol and 320 pints of oil were consumed.

The total expenditure for all services including overhead charges and running costs was £5095. 8. 9d, with an income of £1096. 16. 5d, leaving a net expenditure of £3998. 12. 4d. This does not include drivers wages. The net expenditure was charged out proportionately to the various services of the Council.

Motor Ambulance Service

Number of Calls 1880

Miles travelled 20417

Add for standing charges, proportion of rates and taxes, lights, etc.

40. 0. 0d

Total £607.11. 7d

The cost per mile was 7.14d.

A.R.P. Services

By arrangements with the West Riding County Council, petrol has since the outbreak of the war, been distributed to the various services, from the Council's storage tanks, and re-charged to County Council.

Nearly all the workmen of the Department have been trained in Decontamination work, and are fit to cope with such emergency in this connection as may arise. The majority of these men have also been trained in Rescue work so as to be available if required.

The augmented ambulance service, together with cars for First Aid Parties and Sitting Casualties, has been organized by the staff of the Department. They have also co-operated with the Medical Officer of Health in the general organization of casualty services.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

The steam disinfector installed some years ago is of a type which is now obsolete, and should be replaced by one of modern design, when circumstances permit.

House disinfection was done by means of spraying, and fumigation with formalin vapour.

Disinfection of schools by spraying was done from time to time as deemed necessary.

The furniture and effects of 17 families were disinfested before removal to Council owned houses.

In addition to the work done, in respect of families so transferred, attention was given to other occupied dwellings. In this connection 15 Council owned houses and 24 privately owned houses were subjected to disinfestation.

Public Conveniences.

The expenditure and income were as follows:-

Gross expenditure..... £534. 8. 9d. Less Income...... £109. 8. 0d. Net expenditure..... £425. 0. 9d

All the public urinals in the town were cleansed twice daily at the least.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sanitary Alterations

Works carried out during the year 1940 are summarised below:-

Privies abolished (redundant) Privies converted into water closets	Nil 49
Slop closets converted into water closets	6
Water closets abolished	6 3 12
Water closets (additional)	12
provided to existing buildings.	
Water closets provided to	,
new buildings. Drains and water closets	6
reconstructed or repaired.	37
Drains, water closets, etc.,	31
opened or cleansed.	173
Ashpits (wet) abolished	27 68
Ashpits (dry) abolished	68
Ashbins provided in substitution for ashbits.	107
Chemical closets (new)	197 Nil
Ashbins provided to new buildings.	6
Ashbins abolished.	Nil

Air Pollution

Sootfall.

The total sootfall for the year as shown by analysis of the deposit passing through our soot-gauge, was found to be at the rate of 177.13 tons per sq. mile. The amount of tar deposited to the sq. mile was 14.68 tons, and that of sulphur compounds was 15.48 tons.

Sulphur Estimation.

Town hall..... 4.30 milligrammes of SO₃ per day. Maternity Home... 4.31 milligrammes of SO₃ per day.

Petroleum Storage.

There were issued during the year 55 licences for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium; the quantity allowed to be stored under licence was 456767 gallons of petroleum spirit and 3146 lbs of carbide of calcium.

Statement of Sanitary Defects or Nuisances found and Results of Action.

Total number of inspections for nuisances		(premises)		
Notices issued. Informal notices Statutory notices	192 289	Complied do.	with do.	186

In conclusion, I again desire to express my appreciation of the continued confidence the Council repose in me, and again to thank my staff for their loyalty and good work during the year.

I beg to remain,
Yours faithfully,

T.E.BIRTWISLE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector. Cleansing and Transport Superintendent.

Town Hall, Castleford. 22nd.July,1941. TO BE STATE OF THE SECRET OF THE PARTY OF TH



