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HEALTH
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE.

ANNUAL REPORT

for 1942 on the

HEALTH OF EASTBOURNE

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Circumstances, &c.

JOHN FENTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Whole time Officers.

Medical Officer of Health.	John Fenton, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.	* Greta Lowe, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., D.T.H.
Sanitary Inspectors.	Arthur Lindfield, Cert. R.S.I. (Senior) F.T. Rippin, Cert. R.S.I. L.J. Shepherd, Cert. R.S.I. G.N. Richards, Cert. R.S.I. L.R. Godfrey, Cert. R.S.I. (to 13th October, 1942.)
Health Visitors.	Miss O. Mack (Superintendent) Miss E. Ward (to 23rd July, 1942) Miss A. Wilcock Mrs. L. Foster (returned from Reception Area 1st January, 1942) Miss I.K. Baillie (to 31st October, 1942) Miss B. Brewer (from 15th June, 1942) Miss I.M. Rainey (from 7th December, 1942)
Clerical Staff.	H.T. Hounsom (Lay Administrative Officer) A.H. Hookham, F.R. Met. Soc. W.L. Peck (to 6th May, 1942) * R. Putland * K.N. Dean (from 15th June, 1942) * Miss E. Waters * Miss J. Robinson (to 16th December, 1942) * Miss D.M. Larkin (from 28th October, 1942) * Mrs. R.G. Hempstock (from 14th December, 1942)

* Temporary

The following permanent members of the Staff are serving in
H.M. Forces :-

Deputy Medical Officer of Health.	Theodore H. Parkman, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Dental Surgeon.	M.G. Berry, L.D.S.
Sanitary Inspector.	L.R. Godfrey
Clerical Staff.	W.L. Peck
" "	C.A. Hemsley
" "	R. Hoad

August, 1943.

To His Worship the Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Eastbourne.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report, the fifty-first in the Series, and in the approved war-time abbreviated form, on the Health of Eastbourne for the year 1942.

For the fourth time during this war it is indeed pleasing to be able to state that the Public Health in our Borough continues to be satisfactory.

The Birth and Death Rates both show an increase as compared with previous years but in view of population movement and the tendency, for many reasons, for the proportion of aged persons in the population to increase it is difficult to arrive at any very definite conclusions from local war-time figures. It is, however, greatly to be hoped that the tendency shown in recent years for the Birth Rate to increase will continue.

It is gratifying in the extreme to record that there was no maternal death from any cause associated with pregnancy or child birth.

The numbers of unmarried mothers and their children brought to the notice of the Department showed an increase on previous years. Every effort was made to help these girls and, despite many difficulties, satisfactory arrangements were in every case made for both mother and child. The work done by the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association, and in Eastbourne, by their local organiser, Miss J.E. Hales, who co-operates to the full with the Public Health Department, on behalf of these girls and their children is most praiseworthy.

With many doubts and after much investigation as to probable need and demand, a War-time Nursery for children from 0 to 5 years was opened in July at the request of the Ministries of Health and Labour and National Service. The premises have proved in practice to be very suitable for the purpose and the Staff has dealt most admirably with this, for them, rather unaccustomed work. The accommodation has at no time been taxed to the full but I feel it can be stated that the Nursery has met a need and justified its existence. The admissions of children under one year have fortunately been few as it is felt children of that tender age and even up to 2 years are far better off in their own homes. Indeed our experience in this connection only supports what I believe to be now the general view that while nurseries for children from two to five may in general be desirable, they must be regarded as adjuncts to the home and family life and in no way as Institutions which take over parental responsibility and replace the home.

The position in regard to Infectious Disease gave little cause for concern. There was one death from Cerebro Spinal Fever and one from Encephalitis. The one case of Acute Anterior Polio Myelitis resulted in a fairly extensive degree of paralysis. Of the four cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum only two were found on investigation to be due to gonococcal infection. No impairment of vision resulted in any case.

Of the 47 notifications of Tuberculosis received, 32 were pulmonary cases and of that number the disease occurred in 20 persons aged 15 to 45 years.

With the approval of the Ministry of Health, the Council during the year, adopted a Scheme for the granting of a special scale of allowances to Tuberculous persons and their dependents whilst the breadwinner is undergoing treatment. The Ministry of Health has recently introduced a National Scheme for persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis on somewhat similar lines.

Cases of Scabies continued to be brought to our notice. Arrangements were made for all uncomplicated cases to be treated as Out-patients at the Sanatorium and this scheme has worked most satisfactorily. The families concerned co-operated to the full and in no case was it necessary for formal action to be taken under the Scabies Order 1941, which Order gives the Medical Officer of Health certain powers in dealing with cases of Scabies, suspected cases, contacts and premises.

The position with regard to the incidence of Venereal Disease was again carefully followed. There was an increase in the total number of attendances at our Clinics but less than half the thirty-four new cases reported were in fact found to be suffering from Venereal Disease.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign was furthered in every way possible and the results continued to be satisfactory.

Under the Cancer Act, 1939, the Council's Interim Scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Health. Under this Scheme, arrangements are made by the Local Authority for sending as in-patients or out-patients to the Westminster Hospital, London, cases or suspected cases of cancer for both diagnosis and treatment when the local facilities are not adequate. In addition to having every facility for diagnosis the Westminster Hospital is staffed and equipped to provide any and every form of modern treatment. The Scheme also provides for the admission of advanced cases to All Saints Hospital, Eastbourne.

Many problems arose with regard to housing persons who for various reasons had to leave their homes. The difficulties were, in the main of a temporary character, and most cases were ultimately dealt with satisfactorily.

A Health Department is at all times much concerned with the quality of the food available for human consumption and the conditions under which it is prepared. It will be readily admitted that all concerned with the production and distribution of food during this war, locally as well as nationally, have done a splendid job. Ample supplies of essential foods have at all times been available and the arrangements for priority supplies of special foods and vitamin preparations for children, expectant mothers and invalids are most praiseworthy. In the year under review, some 199,895 meals - in addition to the 26,548 supplied to school children - were supplied at the 11 British Restaurants functioning in the town.

It speaks well for the quality and methods of handling of the food that no cases of food poisoning occurred but the Officers of the Department lose no opportunity of bringing the importance of cleanliness, the suitability of premises and the paramount need for a high standard of personal hygiene before all persons engaged in the preparation of food. Cases are however, from time to time brought to our notice where the standards are not all that could be desired, even allowing for war-time difficulties.

Apart from the benefit to the war effort, and the financial saving accruing to the individual, the production of food by residents - and there are some 3,500 allotments in the Borough, apart from private gardens producing food - is to be encouraged on public health grounds by reason of the fact that fresh supplies of essential vegetables are available throughout the greater part of the year and what greater healthgiving exercise is there than the cultivation of land be it on farm, allotment or garden?

The centralised slaughtering of animals for human consumption at the Ministry of Food Slaughter House, Langney, makes a 100 per cent inspection of carcasses less difficult than in peace time when a number of slaughterhouses were functioning in different parts of the town. In this connection a rather disturbing factor is the number of cows found to be affected with tuberculosis, the percentage for recent years remaining at the high figure of over forty. In only one instance however, of 18 samples tested, was the tubercle bacillus found in milk produced on farms supplying milk in the Borough. Over 70 per cent of the milk sold was Pasteurised under licence.

The Department continued to be responsible for the organisation and training of all Branches of the Civil Defence Casualties Services. I cannot speak too highly of the keenness and devotion to duty of the Officers and Members in every section, both paid and unpaid. A high degree of efficiency was maintained and they were at all times ready for any demands made on them.

The Emergency Hospital Scheme continued to function most satisfactorily. The arrangements made for the reception of casualties and the standard of treatment given continued to be of the highest order. My colleagues in Medical Practice whether working in Hospitals, at First Aid Posts or at "Incidents" were always prepared for any emergency and I would like to take this

opportunity of thanking them for the help they have always so generously given to me in the organisation of the various Emergency Medical Services.

The difficulties in finding sufficient and suitable nursing staff for our hospitals continued to be great but fortunately we were able to keep occupied beds at a reasonably low figure for the greater part of the year. Nursing in the Home, so efficiently organised by the Eastbourne & District Nursing and other Associations again helped very considerably in reducing the demands on our Hospital Beds.

What of the future? There is at the present time, much discussion on Post-war Policy and Reconstruction in many fields, and in none more than the medical world. It will be well that Public Health Committees and their officers should devote some little time to looking into and thinking of the problems to be faced in the era, the dawn of which we believe can already be seen about to break.

The views of Central Government on Hospital Policy and the Medical Services in general are eagerly awaited. Until, however, some indication of future policy is given it will be futile for a Medical Officer of Health to place any views on local problems he may possess before his Committee.

The tendency, apparent before the war, at least in County Boroughs for the administration of many Social Services to be placed in Public Health Departments has unquestionably become accelerated in the last few years. In consequence the responsibilities and duties of the Medical Officer of Health have continued to increase and the nature of his work has in many ways altered, resulting in his being compelled to devote even more of his time to administrative and social problems, at the expense, alas! of much of his contact with Clinical Medicine.

The great need for many changes, making for more efficient services, cutting out needless expenditure, and avoiding overlapping and competition as between voluntary enterprise and private medical practice and Municipal undertakings, cries aloud for abatement.

The opportunity appears now to be about to present itself when with the goodwill and co-operation of all parties concerned, both locally and centrally, the best that Medical Science can offer will be made available to every member of the community.

Once again, I record with pleasure my indebtedness to every member of my Staff for their loyalty and co-operation in the year 1942.

To you, Mr. Mayor, to the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary and Public Health Committee and to the Members of the Council, I tender my best thanks for your continued consideration and help.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

John Fenton
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Eastbourne</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Birth rate per 1,000	14.95	15.8
Death rate per 1,000	19.31	11.6
Nett Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births	43.15	49.
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:		
Puerperal Sepsis	0.	
Other accidents of pregnancy and child birth	0.	

Death rates of infants under 1 year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	43.19
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	45.67
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	21.27

Principal Causes of Death:

No. of Deaths

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	187
Apoplexy	84
Cancer	82
Tuberculosis (pulmonary 19; non pulmonary 4)	23
Respiratory Diseases (Pneumonia 19)	44
Diseases of the Kidney	22
Violence	55
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Influenza (all ages)	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

METEOROLOGY.

Shortage of Staff, coupled with double Summer Time, which makes the hours of observation 11 a.m., 7 p.m., and 11 p.m., compelled us to discontinue taking meteorological observations. Eastbourne has held an unbroken record of observations from the year 1887 and the decision to discontinue readings was taken with much regret.

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL SCHEME.

The following hospitals continued to be available for the reception and treatment of the sick and wounded.

	<u>Normal Capacity</u>	<u>Maximum Capacity</u>
St. Mary's Municipal Hospital	252	412
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital	120	155
All Saints Convalescent Hospital	259	298
Leaf Homeopathic Hospital	31	31

The London Homeopathic Hospital Convalescent Home - 17 beds was withdrawn from the Scheme on February 27th.

Esperance Nursing Home (21 beds) continued to be "suspended".

St. Mary's Hospital. The hospital continued to function as a complete Training School. Of the three student nurses who sat for the final examination of the General Nursing Council, 1 was successful: twelve student nurses sat for the preliminary examination, and 4 were successful.

Difficulties were again experienced in finding nursing staff, and at the end of the year there were on the permanent staff:

Matron	1. (1)	Deputy Matron	1. (1)
Sister Tutor and Theatre Sister	1. (1)	Night Sister	1. (1)
Ward Sisters	4. (6)	Staff Nurses	1. (8)
Student Nurses	24. (39)	Male Nurse	1. (1)
Masseuse	1. (1)	Assistant Nurses	2. (2)

(Figures in brackets denote the pre-war establishment for 252 beds).

The Civil Nursing Reserve again helped to some extent in making up the deficiency, 3 trained nurses, 2 assistant nurses and 15 nursing auxiliaries being employed at December 31st.

The following are statistics for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1942, viz:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
In Hospital on 1st January, 1942.	44	79	16	139
Admissions	773	536	268	1577
Discharges	656	403	255	1314
Deaths	104	104	13	221
Remaining in Hospital on 31.12.42.	57	108	16	181
Total "patient" days spent in the hospital by the above cases				62270
Average number of beds occupied during the year				171
Highest number of beds occupied				201
Lowest number of beds occupied				144
Number of surgical operations in operating theatre				258
Number of abdominal sections				60
Total number of patients seen in out-patient department				390
Total number of attendances at out-patient department				4524
Blood Transfusions (Whole Blood)				11
Total number of cases (all classes) for whom Government responsible				577
Number of women confined in hospital				43
X-ray examinations				651
Pathological examinations				95

Thirty-four Indian cases for whom the Authority is responsible were still accommodated at All Saints Hospital on December 31st, as compared with 45 cases on January 1st.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The deaths of infants under 1 year were 20 as compared with 16 in 1941. The causes of death were: Prematurity 7: Diarrhoea 1: Pneumonia 3: Congenital malformations 4: Other causes 5.

There were no deaths of women from causes associated with pregnancy or child birth (1 in 1941 and 4 in 1940).

The Government Evacuation Scheme for the evacuation of expectant mothers continued to function most satisfactorily: 98 were sent to East Grinstead and 4 to Woking.

The two District Midwives who reside at 2 Birling Street, continued to do domiciliary midwifery, and arrangements were made for any abnormal cases to be dealt with at St. Mary's Hospital. Ante-Natal Clinics were held as usual throughout the year at the Maternity Home.

(a) Ante-Natal Clinics. Held at the Municipal Maternity Home (twice weekly) and at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Number of expectant mothers attending ...	431
Number of attendances	1284

(b) Dental Work. Arrangements were continued whereby a local dental practitioner carried out the dental work. Dental treatment was arranged for in 34 cases and in 21 of these dentures were provided.

(c) Maternity Home. The Home at 9 Upperton Road remained closed.

(d) Municipal Midwives. The Midwives attended 193 cases; acting as maternity nurses in 65 cases; 1284 ante-natal visits were made at the patients' own homes, and patients made 1918 ante-natal attendances at the Maternity Home. Four hundred and seventy-four visits were made during labour and 3053 during puerperium.

(e) Midwives. Of the 17 Midwives who notified their intention to practise, 9 were employed at St. Mary's Hospital.

(f) St. Mary's Hospital. Forty-three confinements took place at this hospital.

(g) Unmarried Mothers. Provision of institutional treatment was made at the expense of the Local Authority during the year for the ante and post natal care and confinement of 10 unmarried mothers and their babies. Arrangements were also made under the Government Evacuation Scheme for the evacuation of 10 unmarried expectant mothers to East Grinstead and 1 to Woking for their confinements. Of the other 22 unmarried expectant mothers brought to the notice of the Department, 11 made their own arrangements for confinement, 6 were attended by the Municipal Midwives and 5 were admitted to St. Mary's Hospital. The House of the Good Shepherd was very helpful in accommodating some cases for whom there was difficulty in finding suitable ante and post natal accommodation.

(h) Medical Assistance. Medical assistance was sought by midwives (apart from Institutional cases) in 92 cases, viz. Municipal Midwives 74, and private midwives 18.

(i) Infant Welfare Centres were held weekly at Hampden Park Hall, the Crypt of St. Elizabeth's Church, Seaside (St. Anthony's Hall until May and then at Acacia Villa) at Eversley Court until the end of September and afterwards at Torfield Court. The following are the statistics relating to these Clinics.

Attendances of children under 5	...	...	4969
Attendances of mothers	...	...	1046
Attendances of expectant mothers	...	...	77
Number of children under 1 year of age	...	...	241
Number of children 1-5 years	...	...	616

(j) Home Visiting. The Health Visitors paid the following visits :-

To expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	650
To infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	2620
To children 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	4158

(k) Food. Special issues of foods other than National Dried Milk, were made on medical recommendation in certain cases.

(l) Orthopaedic Treatment. The Orthopaedic Surgeon resumed his visits to Eastbourne in May and came thereafter in alternate months. In the early part of the year 7 of our cases were seen by him at the Brighton Clinic and 58 at the Eastbourne Clinic from May onwards. Fifty-eight of our orthopaedic cases received electrical and other forms of treatment as out-patients at St. Mary's Hospital, the number of attendances being 1012.

(m) Infant Life Protection. At the end of the year 14 foster mothers were receiving 19 children for fee or reward.

(n) Boarding Out. At the end of the year, 8 children were boarded out by the Local Authority.

(o) Children in Institutions. At the end of the year there was one child in a residential institution at the cost of the Authority.

(p) Cottage Homes. (at Pinchurst, Heathfield). The number of cases dealt with in these Homes during the year was as follows :-

In Homes on 1st January, 1942.	...	...	19
Admitted during the year	...	...	57
Discharged or evacuated during the year	...	...	55
Remaining in Homes on 31st December, 1942.	...	...	21

(q) War Time Nursery. A War Time Nursery was opened on the 27th July, 1942 at St. Faith's Nursery attached to the Bell Hostel, Salehurst Road, the premises being requisitioned. Up to the end of the year 11 children under 2 made 431 attendances and 28 children between the ages of 2 and 5, 817 attendances. The average daily attendance was in Children under 2, 3.2: Children aged 2-5, .6.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The third Annual Report of the Eastbourne District Nursing Association for the year ending 31st March, 1942, shows that some 8300 visits were paid by the Association's four nurses (one part-time) to 377 patients, of whom many were chronic cases. The numbers of new members enrolled was regarded as satisfactory. The nurse employed by the Hampden Park District Nursing Association paid 1655 visits during the year: the nurse of the Westham and District Nursing Association paid 198 visits to Eastbourne cases, and the nurse of the St. Andrew's Parish paid 2196 visits.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. Thirty-eight bacteriological and nine chemical samples of water from the public supply were examined by the Eastbourne Water Company's Analyst, the Public Analyst and the Clinical Research Association. The results showed that the water continues to be of a high degree of bacterial and chemical purity and eminently suitable for a public supply.

Inspections and Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Houses inspected	174	Other food stores	671
Complaints investigated ...	237	Bakehouses	83
Re-inspections	1338	Factories	79
Visits for sundry purposes ...	2322	Workplaces	49
Schools inspected	113	Shops Act	277
Piggeries, stables, etc. ...	248	Food and Drugs Act	136
Slaughterhouses	1577	Smoke Observations	1
Cowsheds	205	Drains and Soil pipes tested ..	81
Dairies	391	Disinfections	226
Fruiterers shops	187	Public Baths	65
Fish shops	115	Air Raid Shelters	621
Butchers shops	316	Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act .	299
Visits in connection with infectious diseases, scabies or vermin	222		

The above summary and the following observations together with those included under the sections on Housing and Supervision of food give an indication of the many duties carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

1. Inspections for the Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	Inspections.	No. of written notices.	Occupiers Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power.	53	-	-
Factories without mechanical power.	21	-	-
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering but not including outworkers premises).	2	-	-
Total.	79	-	-

2. Defects found.

Particulars	Number of defects			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecu- tions
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	19	19	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Section 4)	2	2	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7):				
Insufficient	1	1	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	-	-	-	-
Total.	26	26	-	-

Basement Bakehouses. The certificates of suitability continued to apply in respect of 5 basement bakehouses but only 4 were in use during the year. Regular inspections were made.

Outworkers Premises. No instance of outworkers in unwholesome premises were found.

Shops Acts. The Sanitary Inspectors carry out, as a war time measure, the office of Shops Act Inspectors, in addition to the normal duties appertaining to the health and comfort of shop workers required by Section 10 of the Act of 1934. No formal action was necessary during the year.

Smoke Abatement. Smoke is not a serious problem in Eastbourne. Routine visits were made to boiler plants during the year and in all cases the best practicable means were applied to prevent excess smoke.

Places of Public Entertainment. Regular visits were made with regard to sanitation, ventilation and general cleanliness. In spite of the shortage of labour a high standard was maintained at each of the premises.

Public Baths. (a) Swimming Baths. Only one public swimming bath, that at Devonshire Baths, was open during the year. This is a sea water bath with a turn over on the continuous flow and filter system with chlorine and ammonia added during the turnover. A free chlorine content of 0.5 parts per million is aimed at and having regard to the fluctuation of the load an adequate free chlorine content was maintained.

Frequent samples taken at irregular times and intervals, all found the water satisfactory for swimming bath use.

(b) Slipper Baths. The accommodation at the Seaside Baths comprises 30 slipper baths, 15 for men and 15 for women. The numbers using these baths were 56,075 (70,618 in 1941 and 42,338 in 1940). The accommodation at the Old Town Baths provides for 12 males and 3 females and was used by 18,869 (25,921 in 1941 and 18,623 in 1940).

Air Raid Shelters. A total of 621 visits were made during the year to the 74 basement and surface shelters and all were found to be kept in a clean condition. A nightly record, of the number of persons sleeping in the shelters showed an average of 26 persons per night for the whole area, five basement shelters being used for the purpose. Periodical spraying with a germicide was carried out in the shelters occupied by night.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act. All complaints of these pests were investigated and advice and baits given and having regard to the urgent necessity in war time to secure the destruction of rats and mice the public were invited to report promptly all cases of rodent visitation. The war on rats and mice is waged continuously and the rodents dealt with before they increase in number. In view of the unusual conditions the Council, at the end of the year, appointed a part-time rat catcher who now devotes eight hours regularly every week to this work. Sewers are regularly baited.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year but the advice of Prof. Wilson of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, was sought in two cases of suspect food. In one case the suspicion proved to be groundless and the second case resulted in a quantity of machine skimmed milk being withdrawn from sale and destroyed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling. (Section 3). A total of 37 formal and 5 informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, viz:

	<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>Returned as:</u>	
		<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Adulterated</u>
Milk	14	14	-
Samples other than milk ...	28	28	-

Unsound Food. (Section 9). The following meat and other foods on being found to be unfit were surrendered.

Bacon	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Fruit tarts & puddings	99
Beef	215 lbs.	Jam	156 lbs.
Beans and vegetables	240 tons	Lard	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Biscuits	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Margarine	10 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Bread rolls	87	Meat - 6 lb. tins	119 tins
Bread	68 lbs.	Meat & meat products	93 tins
Buns and cakes ...	359	Milk canned	468 tins
Butter	19 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Oats	13 lbs.
Cheese	35 lbs.	Paste	28 jars
Cornflakes	53 pkts.	Pearl Barley	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.
Cocoa	18 lbs.	Pickles	69 jars
Coffee, bottles & cartons	54	Pork	211 lbs.
Condiments and spice	123 lbs.	Potatoes	17 cwt.
Custard Powder ...	62 lbs.	Rice	3 cwt. 98 lbs.
Eggs	22	Sausages	50 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish	752 lbs.	Sugar	72 lbs.
Fish (canned)	133 tins	Soup	26 tins
Flour	367 lbs.	Sweets	83 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Fruit, fresh & dried	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Tea	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Fruit (canned)	125 tins		

The examination of food from premises damaged by enemy action placed additional duties upon the Inspectors. Immediately following a raid all damaged food premises were visited and the trader advised which goods could be sold. Doubtful goods were put aside until a more detailed examination could be made.

A considerable quantity of food was recovered and found on examination to be fit for consumption, often from premises completely destroyed. Food, found to be unfit, was passed to the Salvage Officers of the Ministry of Food for processing or to be utilised for animal feeding.

Precautions against Contamination of Food (Section 13). The necessity for thorough cleanliness and care by persons handling food is constantly stressed and at all visits to food premises attention is paid to the precautions necessary to prevent contamination.

Slaughter Houses (Section 57). The livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order continued to operate with the result that all slaughtering of food animals for Eastbourne and surrounding districts was carried out at the Ministry of Food Selected Slaughterhouse. The Sanitary Inspectors carried out a 100% inspection of all carcasses and organs including casualties brought in for immediate slaughter at odd times.

Carcasses inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1680	897	1768	7831	717
Number inspected	1680	897	1768	7831	717
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	3	-	31	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	37	99	1	190	42
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2.2	11.3	0.05	2.8	6.5
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	41	-	-	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	195	346	2	-	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	11.7	43.1	0.11	-	4.3

Knackers Yard (Section 57). Animals slaughtered at this yard are destined primarily for cat and dog meat. All carcasses and organs are inspected and tuberculosis and cystic meat rejected. Daily visits were paid by the Inspectors. The premises were kept in a clean condition and the regulations regarding humane slaughtering and the staining of meat with naphthalene green as required by the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) (No. 2) Order were complied with on all occasions.

Milk and Dairies Orders 1926 to 1938.

Milk Producers and Wholesale Traders on Register ... 16
Milk Retailers on Register (34 of these retailed 64
Milk in sealed bottles only)

Shortage of labour and an increase in arable farming had some effect on the milk production as shown by the results of milk submitted for methylene blue and coli tests but except in one case repeat samples proved to be up to the prescribed standard. One Accredited Producer's licence was suspended during the year. Samples of raw ungraded and Accredited milk were examined for Tubercle Bacilli. Of the samples from 18 producers submitted, the Tubercle Bacillus was found in one sample and 17 proved negative.

Licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Order as follows :-

Producers Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" 1
Producers Licence to use the designation "Accredited" 10
Pasteurisers Licence 2
Dealers Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" 4
Dealers Licence to use the designation "Pasteurised" 8
Supplementary Licence 1

Forty-nine samples of designated milk were submitted for examination, viz:

	<u>Examined</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested	2	2	-
Accredited	36	22	14
Pasteurised	11	11	-

No milk was retailed in the Borough as "Accredited" and all Pasteurised Milk is treated by the "Holder" method. No short time high temperature plants are in operation.

HOUSING.

The only formal action taken, under the Housing Act, 1936, during the year, was in connection with 2 unfit parts of buildings used separately as dwellings. Closing Orders were made. Considerable damage to property occurred and the number of dwellings was still further reduced by demolition. The housing position was generally unsettled and it is not possible to give any definite information as to overcrowding.

Number of dwelling houses inspected during the year (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	174
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation (Section 12) ...	2
Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	43
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action ...	41
Formal notices served under Section 9 Housing Act, 1936. ...	-
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notice:	
1. By owners ...	-
2. By Local Authority ...	-
Formal notices served under Public Health Act ...	4
Number of houses in which defects were remedied:	
1. By owners ...	4
2. By Local Authority ...	-
Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	-
Number of houses demolished (Section 11) ...	-
Number of Closing Orders made in respect of parts of buildings ...	2
Number of Closing Orders determined, the underground rooms having been made fit ...	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One hundred and forty-nine cases of infectious diseases were notified to the Department as compared with 65 in 1941, and 413 in 1940. There were 73 admissions of cases resident in the Borough to the Sanatorium. (36 in 1941 and 367 in 1940).

Scarlet Fever. Thirty-nine cases were notified, of whom 5 were adults. Thirteen were classified as being mild cases, 20 average and 6 of the severe type.

Diphtheria. Three children were notified as suffering from Diphtheria.

	<u>Mild</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Severe</u>
Faucial ...	-	1	2

Puerperal Pyrexia. The causes of Pyrexia in the 14 cases notified were:

Pyelitis ...	2
Influenza ...	1
Anaemia and Albuminuria ...	1
Caesarean Section - Lung embolism ...	1
Caesarean Section - Cause for Pyrexia unknown .	1
Cystitis ...	1
Breast Infection ...	6
Septic absorption ...	1

Summary of Notifications.

	Males	Females	Total	Admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	21	18	39	39	-
Diphtheria	2	1	3	3	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	14	14	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	26	12	38	1	6
Erysipelas	4	1	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	19	15	34	3	-
Measles	6	1	7	1	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	-	1	-	1
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	1	2	3	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	2	2	-	2
Acute-Polio Myelitis ...	-	1	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	4	1	-
Malaria	1	-	1	-	-
Total	84	68	152	49	8

Monthly Summary of Notifications.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Acute Primary Pneumonia	Influenzal Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Acute Polio Myelitis	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria	Total
January	-	-	2	-	2	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
February	-	1	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	9
March	-	-	2	-	-	-	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	14
April	2	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	10
May	1	-	5	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
June	2	-	11	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	16
July	2	-	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	10
August	3	1	3	4	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	15
September	12	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	17
October	7	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	13
November	5	-	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	12
December	5	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	11
Total	39	3	34	7	5	14	38	3	2	1	1	4	1	152

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Cases admitted from the Borough.

	In Hosp. 1st Jan.	Admitted	Discharged	Died	In Hosp. 31st Dec.
Scarlet Fever	-	39	32	-	7
Diphtheria	-	3	2	-	1
Diphtheria Carriers	-	1	1	-	-
Measles	-	1	1	-	-
Mumps	1	4	4	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	2	3	-	-
Observation	-	9	9	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	1	1	-	-
Nil - Mother with Baby	-	1	1	-	-
Tonsillitis	-	1	1	-	-
German Measles	-	2	2	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	3	3	-	-
Scarlet Fever Contacts	-	3	3	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1	1	-	-
Verminous	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Polio Myelitis	-	1	1	-	-
Total	1	73	66	-	8

Cases Admitted from the Rural District of Hailsham.

	In Hosp. 1st Jan.	Admitted	Discharged	Died	In Hosp. 31st Dec.
Scarlet Fever	3	18	18	-	3
Observation	1	5	5	1	-
Mumps	-	3	3	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1	2	-	-
Septic Throat	-	1	1	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	-	2	2	-	-
Total	5	30	31	1	3

Scabies. The number of cases brought to the notice of the Department was 150 (127 in 1941). It will be seen from the following that 121 of the cases received either in or out patient hospital treatment.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Children</u>
St. Mary's Hospital (In-patients)	5	21	66
Borough Sanatorium (Out-patients)	1	8	20
At Home	1	7	21
	7	36	107

Small Pox - Hospital Accommodation. As no accommodation has been available for Small Pox cases in the Borough since the closure of our own hospital in 1940, an agreement which operates from 1st October, 1942 was made with the Hastings Corporation and the East Sussex Western Joint Small Pox Board to receive any such cases into their Brede or Sedgwick Hospitals.

Diphtheria Immunisation. Four hundred and eighty-three children (under 5) and 612 children of school age (5-15) were immunised by the Staff of the Department during 1942. (252 and 654 in 1941 and 16 and 183 in 1940). Since immunisation

was commenced in Eastbourne in December 1939, 2444 children have been immunised through the School Clinics and Welfare Centres to the end of the year 1942. It is estimated that of the child population at the end of the year under 5 years of age, 51.29 per cent has been immunised and 79.37 of those between 5 and 15 years. If those in the age group 0-1 are excluded (immunisation is not done under 1 year), it is estimated that of the population 1-5, 64.12 per cent had been immunised.

Laboratory Services.

Bacteriological Examinations in the Medical Officer of Health's Laboratory (1st January to 30th April, 1942.)

<u>Diphtheria Swabs:</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>
For Practitioners	-	27	27
For Isolation Hospital	5	56	61
For Clinics (including contacts) ...	-	39	39
For St. Mary's Hospital	-	5	5
	5	127	132

Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli:

For Practitioners	2	13	15
For T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium.	5	11	16
For Dispensary	2	10	12
For St. Mary's Hospital	-	8	8
	9	42	51

Other Bacteriological and Pathological Examinations carried out on behalf of the Local Authority.

By Dr. A.G. Shera (Public Health)	2
Ditto (St. Mary's Hospital)	95
By The Clinical Research Association	22

Arrangements were made with the Medical Research Council for all Public Health Bacteriology to come under the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service from the 1st May 1942. In accordance with this arrangement, Dr. A.G. Shera has carried out the bacteriological examinations at his laboratory at the Princess Alice Hospital. The following are details to the end of the year :-

<u>Diphtheria Swabs:</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>
For Practitioners	16	84	100
For Isolation Hospital	16	92	108
For Clinics (including Contacts) ...	3	14	17
For St. Mary's Hospital	1	5	6
	36	195	231

Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli:

For Practitioners	8	49	57
For T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium.	33	15	48
For Dispensary	19	32	51
For St. Mary's Hospital	-	10	10
	60	106	166

Other Examinations ... 33.

X-Ray Examinations

The following X-Ray examinations were carried out at St. Mary's Hospital :-

Chest:

For Tuberculosis Dispensary	101
For T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium ...	22

123.

Maternity & Child Welfare:

For diagnosis	2
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2.

Orthopaedic:

School Medical Cases	8
Maternity & Child Welfare Cases	2
Tuberculosis	6

16.

Total 141.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of this disease on the Eastbourne register at the close of 1942 was 193, or 20 in excess of the number at the commencement of the year. Of these, 143 were pulmonary and 50 non pulmonary cases.

A Pavilion was adapted at the Infectious Diseases Hospital in the previous year to provide accommodation for 17 male patients. On the 9th April, 1942, certain screening was completed to provide accommodation for 9 males and 8 females. During 1942, 26 males and 11 females received treatment at this Hospital.

Notifications during 1942.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Under 1 year.	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years.	-	-	1	1	1	1
5 - 10 years.	-	-	2	1	2	1
10 - 15 years.	1	-	-	1	1	1
15 - 20 years.	1	2	2	1	3	3
20 - 25 years.	2	1	2	-	4	1
25 - 35 years.	2	7	1	-	3	7
35 - 45 years.	4	3	1	1	5	4
45 - 55 years.	2	-	-	1	2	1
55 - 65 years.	5	-	-	-	5	-
Over 65 years.	1	1	-	-	1	1
	18	14	9	6	27	20

Of the cases notified during 1942, 70 per cent of the pulmonary and 50 per cent of the non pulmonary cases received institutional treatment.

Of the 47 cases notified, 20 pulmonary and 14 non pulmonary were new cases not previously notified in any other district. Of these 47 cases, institutional treatment was provided by the Local Authority for 18 pulmonary and 2 non pulmonary cases. In addition, 1 pulmonary and 8 non pulmonary cases notified during the year received institutional treatment through other sources.

Notification Register - Number of Cases on Register.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
On 1st January, 1942.	81	54	18	20	99	74
Add:						
Notifications 1942.	12	9	7	6	19	15
Transfers from other areas	6	5	2	-	8	5
Returned to Eastbourne	5	5	1	2	6	7
	104	73	28	28	132	101

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Less:						
Deaths.	13	8	4	-	17	8
Left the Town.	6	7	1	1	7	8
	19	15	5	1	24	16
On register 31st December, 1942.	85	58	23	27	108	85

Dispensary - Cases on Dispensary Register at commencement and end of 1942.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>				<u>Non Pulmonary</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>Adults</u>		<u>Children</u>		<u>Adults</u>		<u>Children</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
On January 1st.1942.	69	37	2	-	1	5	6	8	128
Add:									
Transfers from other areas.	4	8	-	-	1	2	-	-	15
Returned to Eastbourne.	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	7
New Cases.	10	8	2	-	2	-	1	1	24
	86	54	4	-	5	7	8	10	174
Less:									
Fatal.	12	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	21
Left the Town.	4	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	10
	16	13	-	-	1	1	-	-	31
On register 31st December, 1942.	70	41	4	-	4	6	8	10	143

Dispensary Cases attending during 1942.

	<u>Adults</u>		<u>Children</u>	
	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Attendances</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Attendances</u>
Pulmonary	56	193	-	-
Non Pulmonary	5	12	3	38
Contacts	15	17	9	9
Observation	40	55	1	1
	116	277	13	48

Institution Treatment.

	<u>T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium.</u>			<u>Other Institutions</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>C.</u>	
In Hospital, 1st January, 1942.	9	-	-	2	9	5	25
Admitted during the year.	16	11	1	9	11	2	50
Discharged.	13	5	-	7	13	4	42
Died.	8	1	-	-	4	-	13
In Hospital, 31st December, 1942.	4	5	-	4	3	3	20

Extra Nourishment.

Seven thousand eight hundred and five pints of Milk were supplied free to 27 females, and nine thousand six hundred and seventy-three pints to 34 males.

CANCER ACT, 1939.

During the year an Interim Scheme under this Act for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer was submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval, and was approved by the Ministry on the 18th March, 1943.

The scheme provided for Out-patient and In-patient treatment at the Westminster Hospital, and also for the admission of advanced patients to All Saints Hospital, Eastbourne. Two female cases attended as Out-patients and subsequently as In-patients at the Westminster Hospital.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The total attendances at the Clinic were 567, an increase on the previous year's figures of 46. The following are details of the cases treated :-

	Males		Females		Total		Grand Total
	Old Cases	New Cases	Old Cases	New Cases	Males	Females	
Syphilis	25 (26)	2 (1)	4 (17)	4 (1)	27 (27)	8 (18)	35 (45)
Gonorrhoea	20 (48)	9 (2)	5 (1)	7 (1)	29 (50)	12 (2)	41 (52)
Soft Chancre	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Other conditions	- (-)	13 (21)	- (-)	29 (16)	13 (21)	29 (16)	42 (37)
Total	45 (74)	24 (24)	9 (18)	40 (18)	69 (98)	49 (36)	118 (134)

Pathological Work. Eight hundred and ninety-nine (899) specimens in connection with venereal disease were examined at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital Laboratory by Dr. A.G. Shera, who is also Medical Officer of the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

CIVIL DEFENCE.

The five combined First Aid Party and Ambulance Depots at Upperton, Hampden Park, Seaside, Dacre Road and Wish Road were maintained and staffed as in the previous year. The two Fixed Posts continued to function at Avenue House Clinic and St. Mary's Hospital. Two Mobile First Aid Posts were based on and staffed from Avenue House Fixed Post, with the addition during the year of a Light Mobile Unit which is a motor car with a certain amount of first aid equipment for quickly conveying a doctor and nurse to the scene of an incident where their services are urgently required.

At the end of June the whole-time personnel of the Public Gas Cleansing Centres was reduced from 33 to 2 men to act as caretakers. To replace the whole-time personnel, 10 men and 10 women were enrolled for part-time service at these Centres. At the beginning of the year the whole-time personnel in the First Aid Post Service consisted of 5 men and 15 women, but by December, in accordance with the instructions contained in Home Security Circular No. 88/1942 the personnel was reduced to 2 men and 8 women. The whole-time personnel of the First Aid Party Service was maintained at a strength of 25 whilst that of the Ambulance Service was 16. These figures include 1 First Aid Party Superintendent and 1 Ambulance Depot Superintendent. On December 31st the figure for the total "effective" part-time personnel strength of the Casualty Services stood at 195.

Competition training was a marked feature of the first three months of the year and the combined First Aid Party and First Aid Post team which represented Eastbourne in the Semi-Final of the Regional First Aid Competition at Bexhill, was accorded second place. At each Post and Depot all members attended for training on a given night each week. This was in addition to their turn of stand-by duty. In addition a number of combined exercises with other branches of the Civil Defence Service were arranged at various times.

BLIND PERSONS.

Of the 77 blind persons on the register at the end of 1941, 2 died and 4 left Eastbourne. Nineteen persons were added to the register, bringing the total at the end of the year to 90, viz. 37 males and 53 females.

Domiciliary assistance was afforded to blind persons during the year through the Department, weekly allowances being granted to 36 cases involving an expenditure of £809.19.0.

Mrs. D.E. Leach, Home Teacher, resigned on 31st March and it was not found possible to replace her.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

Mental Defectives. Four males and 3 females were certified and 1 male transferred from another area and added to the Register. One male and 2 females were removed from the register, 1 male and 3 females died, 2 females were transferred to other areas, and 1 male and 1 female were certified under the Lunacy Acts. The total on the register at the end of the year was 79 males and 77 females. Of these, 58 were in Institutions, 10 on licence from Institutions, 8 under Guardianship, and 80 under supervision.

Domiciliary assistance to mental defectives was dealt with through the Department, 21 cases receiving a total of £653.7.6. through weekly payments.

Nervous Diseases. The Clinic for Nervous Diseases was held weekly at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital under the direction of Dr. B. Reid. There were 45 new cases, of whom 2 were admitted to mental hospitals, 8 to other Institutions or referred for further treatment and 1 removed from Eastbourne. The remainder were treated at the Clinic and 7 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The attendances numbered 164.

Miss S.C. Sinfield carries out the visiting of patients discharged from the East Sussex Mental Hospital and Miss Wright is the Social Worker for cases discharged from Haywards Heath Mental Hospital.
