

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

**Contributors**

Eton (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1940

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/bphm6t2w>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

ETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1940.To the Chairman and Members of the Eton Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1940, which in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health, has been restricted to essential matters, more particularly the compilation of figures for record purposes.

SECTION A.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, Mid Year 1940) - 4,286  
 Population (National Registration Officer's Estimate,  
 Mid Year, 1940) ... - 4,771

Vital Statistics.Live Births.

Total .....	36	Male	22	Female	14
Legitimate .....	34	"	21	"	13
Illegitimate .....	2	"	1	"	1

Birth Rate per 1000 Population .....	8.1
Birth Rate per 1000 - excluding Boys (1064) at Eton	
College .....	11.1
Birth Rate per 1000 England and Wales .....	14.6

Still Births.

Total .....	2	Male	2	Female	nil
Legitimate .....	2	"	2	"	nil
Illegitimate .....	nil	"	nil	"	nil

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population .....	0.46
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population (excluding boys	
(1064) at Eton College....	0.62
National rate .....	0.55

Deaths.

Total .....	33	Male	15	Female	18.
-------------	----	------	----	--------	-----

Death Rate per 1000 Population .....	7.7
Death Rate per 1000 (excluding Boys at Eton College .....	10.2
Corrected Death Rate for Age and Sex Distribution .....	9.24
(Death Rate per 1000 England and Wales .....	14.3
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth	nil
*Deaths of Infants under one year of age .. Male 3 Female 1.	
Infant Mortality Rate .....	111.1
National Rate .....	55
Deaths from Measles .....	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough .....	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea .....	nil

\*Causes of Deaths of Infants under one year:-

Prematurity - 2 - aged 5 days and one week.  
 Broncho-Pneumonia and Cretinism - 1 - aged 11 months  
 Broncho-Pneumonia - 1 - aged 8 months.





<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease	0	3	3
Diabetes	1	0	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	1	2	3
Heart disease	1	0	1
Other Circulatory diseases	2	9	11
Bronchitis	1	0	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	4
Digestive diseases	1	0	1
Premature birth	2	0	2
Violence, other than Suicide	1	1	2
All other causes	2	1	3
	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>33</u>

## SECTION B.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. Water is supplied throughout the District by the Windsor Corporation Waterworks which give a constant supply of good and wholesome water. The Water Company subject the water to monthly analysis.

Drainage and Sewerage. There has been an extension of the sewers, 400 yards in length to a small housing estate.

Owing to the war, the sewerage scheme is not yet working in the west ward. All sewers are laid, but the machinery requires to be fixed. At present in this Ward, the majority of the buildings drain into cesspools - houses without cesspools have pail closets, the contents of which are disposed of in the gardens.

The cesspools are emptied frequently by Contract. 627 visits to 137 cesspools were made during the year - the contents are dealt with at the sewage farm.

Rivers and Streams. The water from the River Thames was not analysed during the year. The public swimming pool in the district remained closed.

Closet Accommodation. With the exception of the West Ward and in outlying districts of the North Ward, all houses have the water carriage system. In the West Ward there are 138 cesspools and 24 pail closets. No conversions were carried out during the year.

Public Cleansing. The method of house refuse collection is by covered horse-drawn carts, each house being visited once weekly. In a number of cases two visits a week are made. The refuse is disposed of by incineration in the destructor at the Council's Sewage Pumping Station. In accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Supply, all salvageable articles have been collected and sold. The following articles have been collected:-

Waste Paper	49 tons	£113.
Scrap Iron	12 "	£24.
Baled tins	22 "	£24.
Bones	- " 5 cwts.	- 5s.
Manure	14 "	£7.
Rags	- " 1½ cwts.	- 13s. 6d.
Bottles, jars	- " 5 "	- 12s. 6d.





Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections made ... ..	9
Nuisances found ... ..	9
Nuisances remedied by service of informal notice ...	9
Nuisances remedied by Service of formal notice... ..	0

Shops. No inspections made.

Camping Sites.

Sites used for camping in 1940 ...	1
Sites used for camping which were licensed. ....	0
Estimated maximum number of campers at one time ...	20

Smoke Abatement. There was no nuisance from smoke during the year.

Swimming Pools. There are two open swimming pools on tributaries of the Thames, one private and the other public. In view of the condition of the water, mentioned in previous Reports, the public bath was not opened.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Council houses infested...	1
Other houses infested.....	0
Council houses disinfested	1
Other houses disinfested..	0

Messrs. Newton Chambers' "Zaldecide" was used for all cases of disinfection.

No investigation of tenants' belongings before taking Council houses was considered necessary.

Disinfection in private houses is carried out by private Contractor under supervision of the Council. The Sanitary Inspector advises and supervises to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

Miscellaneous Controlled Premises.

<u>Type</u>	<u>No. in District</u>	<u>Number Registered</u>	<u>No. of Inspections made.</u>
Bakehouses	9	9	4
Slaughterhouses	1	1	nil
Cowkeepers	8	8	3
Dairymen (including milk retailers)	14	14	3

Outworkers. The latest list of Outworkers contains 20 persons engaged with 4 firms on tailoring work.

Disinfection. Rooms in three houses were disinfected after cases of infectious disease.

# Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspection made ...  
 Notices issued ...  
 Notices issued by service of ...  
 Notices issued by service of ...  
 Notices issued by service of ...

## Summary.

### General Notes.

Notes made for sampling in 1940 ...  
 Notes made for sampling which were ...  
 Notes made for sampling which were ...  
 Notes made for sampling which were ...  
 Notes made for sampling which were ...

### Public Abolition.

There was no nuisance from works during the year.  
 Public Abolition. There are two open swimming pools on the site of the works, one private and the other public. In view of the condition of the water, mentioned in previous reports, the public bath was not opened.

### Production of Hot Water.

General Notes. The works are situated ...  
 General Notes. The works are situated ...  
 General Notes. The works are situated ...  
 General Notes. The works are situated ...  
 General Notes. The works are situated ...

No investigation of the water supply was made below the works. The water supply was found to be satisfactory. The water supply was found to be satisfactory. The water supply was found to be satisfactory. The water supply was found to be satisfactory. The water supply was found to be satisfactory.

### Sanitary Inspector's Findings.

Type	No. in District	Number of Sanitary Inspectors	No. of Sanitary Inspectors
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1
Sanitary Inspector	1	1	1

Sanitary Inspector. The latest list of Sanitary Inspectors contains 10 persons engaged with 1 firm on sanitary work.

Sanitary Inspector. There are three houses which are situated near the works.



Housing. During the year no houses have been built in the area. Owing to the large influx of evacuees and refugees the accommodation in the area has been considerably strained, and it is no longer possible for the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act to be maintained.

Milk Supply. There are 6 Supplementary milk licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936, in force within the District.

The Accredited milk supplied from the Council's Farm continues to be of good quality as shown by bacterial analysis.

The private cowsheds in the district are kept in a fair state of efficiency.

Meat and Other Foods. The meat consumed in the district is obtained from outside the district. 1 fowl, 154 lbs. beef, 28 lbs. herrings and 26 lbs. bacon were found unfit for human consumption. There were no killings within the district during the year.

Ice Cream and Preserved Foods. 21 Shops have registered for the sale and/or manufacture of ice cream and preserved foods as required by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

#### Details of Inspections.

##### Bakehouses.

Limewashing required	1
Dirty walls and floors	3

##### Cowsheds and Dairies.

Milk being supplied from a diseased cow	1
Inspection re isolation of milk from diseased cow	1
Dirty cowsheds	1

##### Drainage and Sewerage.

Connection to sewer	1
New Drainage	2
Blocked Drains	4
Defective sanitary arrangements	2
Defective W.C.	2
Defective sewer Ventilating shaft	1
Defective cesspools	3

##### Schools.

Defective sanitary arrangements	1
---------------------------------	---

##### Housing.

Dampness	6
Stair handrail required	1
Defective floors	1
Defective kitchen range	2
Defective roof	3
Defective ceiling	2
Defective windows	1

##### Miscellaneous.

Stagnant ditch	1
----------------	---



Housing. During the year no houses have been built in the area. Owing to the large influx of evicted and refugees the accommodation in the area has been considerably strained, and it is no longer possible for the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act to be maintained.

Milk Supply. There are 6 supplementary milk licenses issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936, in force within the District. The Accredited milk supplied from the Council's farms continues to be of good quality as shown by bacteriological analysis.

The private cowsheds in the district are kept in a fair state of efficiency.

Meat and Other Foods. The meat consumed in the district is obtained from outside the district. 7 tons, 154 lbs. beef, 28 lbs. mutton and 26 lbs. bacon were found unfit for human consumption. There were no killings within the district during the year.

Ice Cream and Preserved Foods. 31 shops have registered for the sale and manufacture of ice cream and preserved foods as required by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Table of Inspections

Factories

1	Inspection required
1	Dirty walls and floors
1	Overcrowding
1	Milk bottles supplied
1	From a diseased cow
1	Inspection to isolation
1	Dirty milk from diseased cow
1	Dirty cowsheds

Drainage and Sewerage

1	Connection to sewer
2	New Drainage
4	Blocked Drains
2	Defective sanitary arrangements
2	Defective W.C.
2	Defective sewers
2	Unsanitary earth
2	Defective cesspools

Schools

1	Defective sanitary arrangements
---	---------------------------------

Housing

2	Dampness
2	Wear and tear
2	Unsanitary
2	Defective drains
2	Defective roof
2	Defective walling
2	Defective windows

Miscellaneous

1	Stagnant ditch
---	----------------

SECTION C.

Notifiable Diseases during 1940  
(Other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted</u> <u>to Eton Joint</u> <u>Isolation Hospitals</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Small Pox	-	-	-
Diphtheria	3	3	-
Scarlet Fever	42	9	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	189	3	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	-

Of the 3 cases of Diphtheria, one was a "Carrier". The other two were faucial types. All were admitted to Hospital. Investigation failed to reveal the source of infection or any definite relationship between the three cases. Two were of school age and one under school age.

42 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. This is a high figure for the Urban District. Of these, 40 were boys from the College between the ages of 13 and 17, one was a maid in one of the Houses and one an evacuee from Eton Wick. The monthly incidence was as follows:- February - 5, March - 25, May - 1, June - 2, July - 2, September - 1, November - 3, December - 3. 9 were admitted to the Cippenham Isolation Hospital, consisting of the evacuee and the maid and 7 boys from the College. The remaining 33 were admitted to the College Sanatorium.

189 cases of Measles were notified during the year, of which 30 occurred in May and 159 in June and July. 185 were boys from the College, one was a baby aged 16 months and one a maid - both from College houses - two were children aged 4 and 12, one of which was an evacuee. 3 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Burnham.

Tuberculosis. During the year only one notification of Tuberculosis was received - a female pulmonary aged 27. One death was also recorded - a female non-pulmonary aged 16.

Bacteriological examinations. All laboratory work is now carried out at the Town Hall, Slough. During the year 20 swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli and 14 swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci were examined from the Eton Urban District.

Evacuation. The number of Official evacuees in the district in December 1940 was 403, consisting of 205 unaccompanied children, 57 mothers with 81 children, 11 teachers, 4 helpers and 45 other adults. Two evacuees were admitted to the Isolation Hospitals - with Scarlet Fever and Measles - and 35 to Fulmer Rise, as follows:-

Scabies 15, Chorea 1, Nits 2, Enuresis 11, Septic Sores 2, Behaviour Difficulties 2, Debility 2.

V.A.T. SPONG.

Medical Officer of Health.

Notifiable Diseases during 1940  
(Total from Tuberculosis)

Disease	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Eton Hospital	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital
Small Pox	1	-	-
Diphtheria	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	45	-	-
Epidemic Typhus	1	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-
Typhoid	1	-	-
Acute Rheumatism	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis	-	-	-
Measles	189	-	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	-

Of the 3 cases of Diphtheria, one was a "Carrier". The other two were typical types. All were admitted to Hospital. Investigation failed to reveal the source of infection or any definite relationship between the three cases. Two were of school age and one under school age.

45 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. This is a high figure for the Urban District. Of these, 33 were boys from the College between the ages of 12 and 17, the girls being in one of the Houses and one an evacuee from West Essex. The monthly incidence was as follows: - January - 7, March - 2, May - 1, June - 2, July - 2, September - 1, November - 3, December - 1. 9 were admitted to the Eton Hospital, 3 to the Isolation Hospital. The remaining 35 were admitted to the College. The remaining 35 were admitted to the College.

189 cases of Measles were notified during the year, of which 30 occurred in May and 159 in June and July. 187 were boys from the College, one was a baby aged 18 months and one a girl. Both Eton College houses - two were children aged 1 and 12, one of which was an evacuee. 3 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Burnham.

Tuberculosis. During the year only one notification of Tuberculosis was received - a female pulmonary aged 17. One death was also recorded - a female non-pulmonary aged 16.

Bacteriological examinations. All laboratory work is now carried out at the Town Hall, Slough. During the year 20 swabs for Diphtheria, 14 swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci were examined from the Eton Urban District.

Evacuation. The number of notified evacuees in the district in December 1940 was 407, consisting of 205 unaccompanied children, 27 mothers with 81 children, 11 teachers, 4 helpers and 4 other adults. Two evacuees were admitted to the Isolation Hospital - with Scarlet Fever and Measles - and 35 to Palmer River, as follows: -

Bodley 15, Charles 1, Wiles 2, Kinnear 11, Septic Bore 2, Behaviour 1, Lifford 2, Dobbin 2.

V.A.T. 2700.