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Contributors

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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF FORMBY.

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1942.



Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres - 7,308

Population (Census 1931) - 7,957 Registrar-General's estimate of
(middle 1942) - 9,852 population.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) - 1,955.

Number of inhabited houses end of year 1942, according to Rate Book -
2,740.

Rateable Value, £80,091.0.0. Sum represented by a penny rate, £326.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

Smallpox and Other Infectious Diseases. - There is no Infectious Diseases Hospital in the district. Under the Local Government Act, 1929, Section 63 the Council have entered into a joint agreement between the Urban District Councils of Formby and Litherland on the one part and the Borough of Bootle on the other part. This agreement provides for the reservation of sixteen beds for infectious diseases other than smallpox at the Isolatic Hospital, Linacre Lane, Bootle. In the case of smallpox the agreement provides for the reservation of one bed for each ten thousand of the population with a minimum of five beds at the Liverpool Corporation Smallpox Hospital, Sparrow Hall, Fazackerley. In both cases additional beds are to be provided subject to the necessary accommodation being available.

Details of charges under the agreement with Bootle Corporation for all Notifiable Diseases other than smallpox and for smallpox, are as follows

Retaining Fee (Smallpox) £2 per thousand of the population with a minimum of £10. Fee paid for the year 1942, £16.0.0.

Maintenance in Hospital (Smallpox) £4.4.0. per week plus cost of conveyance at the rate of 2/6d per mile calculated according to the distance travelled after the ambulance leaves the Liverpool Corporation Depot until its return thereto.

Retaining Fee (Other Infectious Diseases) £90 per annum based upon the capital cost of Bootle Hospital less the capital cost of the Tuberculosis section.

Maintenance in Hospital is £2.2.0. per week, plus cost of conveyance as given below.

Removal of patients any week day except Saturday, between the hours of 7 a.m., and 3 p.m., and on Saturday, between the hours of 7 a.m., and 11 a.m. - £1.5.0. per journey.

Removal of patients at any time other than stated above - £1.17.6. per journey.

Tuberculosis - Administered by the County Council. Tuberculosis Dispensary Ellesmere, Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

Maternity - There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool Hospitals are available.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious cases, Bootle Corporation Motor Ambulance.

(b) For non-infectious cases - provided by Hospital or the Local Authority. For accidents and sudden illness on the street - provided by the Local Authority.

The ambulance services for all purposes, infectious and non-infectious cases, also accidents, are very satisfactory.

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Professional Nursing in the Home - The Local Authority has not provided any home nursing. There are two District Nurses who work under the District Nursing Association. They are not subsidised by the Local Authority.

The District Nurses' address is - 23, Halsall Lane, Formby.

Midwives - The number of midwives practising in the district and on the County Register, 31/12/42, is four.

Public Assistance Institutions - There are no Public Assistance Institution situated in the District. The District of Formby is in the area provided for by the Lancashire County Council Public Assistance Institution and Infirmary, Ormskirk.

Nursing Homes - There are two Nursing Homes in the District registered under the Public Health Act, 1936:-

Ivy Bank Nursing Home, Elson Road, Formby.

Lynwood, Church Road, Formby.

After the outbreak of War the above provisions had in some instances to be changed.

For a short period all notifiable infectious cases were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Ormskirk. Later arrangements were made by the Bootle Corporation with whom the Council were under contract for cases to be received into the Liverpool Hospitals. Maintenance charges £3.3.0. per week plus cost of removal at the rate of 2/6d per mile were charged.

Due to the curtailment of hospital accommodation no diphtheria suspects were removed to hospital, only those cases where swabs had proved Positive.

Scarlet Fever cases were, if possible, nursed in the home. These arrangements did not apply to evacuees. Evacuees were in every instance removed to hospital.

To deal with minor infectious cases among evacuees, a house known as Cairnie House, Victoria Road, Formby, was taken over and equipped for this purpose.

Below I give the number of cases notified:-

		<u>Removed to Hospital</u>
Scarlet Fever	10	5
Diphtheria	22	22
Measles	232	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Pneumonia	12	-
Erysipelas	5	-
	<u>281</u>	<u>27</u>

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1942.

	<u>New Cases</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	11	3	14	5	-	5
Non-Pulmonary	1	2	3	2	2	4
	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of cases notified during the year including Measles and Whooping Cough was slightly lower than the previous year and was quite normal. The increase in diphtheria cases was due to an outbreak at a Children's Convalescent Home.

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases.

During the year 81 houses and 3 schools were disinfected. All articles (bedding, clothing, etc.) exposed to infection are disinfected at the Council's Disinfecting Station.

No. of articles treated - 1864

No. of articles destroyed at request of owners - 7.

Disinfection on Charge - Houses 3, Bedding, Clothing, etc. -

No. of articles - 148.

Articles destroyed - 11.

Disinfection carried out for Cairnie House Minor Infectious Diseases Hospital:- Rooms 21, Bedding, Clothing, etc. No. of Articles, 12528
 Disinfection for A.R.P. - Blankets etc. No. - 15, Rooms - 2.
 Disinfection after evacuees - Rooms 15, Bedding, etc. No. of Articles - 37.
 Blankets etc., for Military - 7.
 National Fire Service - Bedding etc. No. of articles - 60.
 Fire Guard Officer - Bedding etc. No. of articles - 71.

Immunization.

All new residents at St. Peter's College and St. George's Industrial School are immunized against diphtheria.

The Council have now in operation an Immunization Scheme for diphtheria.

<u>Number immunized -</u>	<u>Pre-School Children</u>	<u>School Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
Diphtheria	158	149	307

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Diphtheria 85, Water 2.

Diphtheria Antitoxin - A supply is maintained at the Local Chemists. The supply is satisfactory and prompt use has been made in all cases.

Disinfestation

One house disinfested - Method employed, Cimex Fumigation.

Water Supply

The source of supply is the Southport and District Water Board. The supply is very satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.
 Bacteriological Examination - 2, Results - Excellent.
 Chemical Analyses - 2, Results - Excellent.

Drainage, Sewage and Closet Accommodation.

2 cesspools abolished and drains connected to public sewer.
 Privy middens - 27. No. of closets attached to these middens - 27.
 No. of moveable ashbins - 2447. No. of houses on water carriage system - 2285.
 No. of fresh water closets - 2499.

Conversions.

Privy closets to pails - Nil. Pails to fresh W.Cs. - 1.
 Moveable ashbins substituted for fixed receptacles - 4.

Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited - 266.
 Defects or nuisances:- No. discovered, 55. No. abated, 47.
 No. of Notices served - Informal 55. Statutory 1.

Shops and Offices.

Periodical inspection - action taken in respect of one defective sanitary fitting.

Camping Sites

No camps allowed during the War.

Housing

12 houses were inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts. Notices served in 5 instances and repairs effected.

Overcrowding

Due to the War there has been slight overcrowding. Steps have been taken to relieve the position.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Cowsheds & Dairies.- All cowsheds, etc. were visited regularly and the conditions are fairly good. No. of inspections, 62.
 No. of samples submitted for Biological Test for Tuberculosis - 14.
 Result - Positive, Nil. Negative, 14.
 No. of samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination - 16.
 Result - Satisfactory, 12. Unsatisfactory, 4.

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No. of sediment tests, 18. Satisfactory, 14. Unsatisfactory, 4.

Meat, etc. - All shops, etc. have been inspected regularly. 61 lbs. of unsound meat and 47 tins of tinned foods condemned.

Diseases of Animals Acts.

The following particulars have been forwarded by the County Police: No proceedings were instituted under the above Acts.

Factory Act, 1937.

Periodical inspections have been made and in one instance Notice was served. Total No. of Inspections - 23. Defects found - Want of cleanliness - 1..

Maternity & Child Welfare.

Child Welfare - The Formby Child Welfare Centre is administered by the County Council in conjunction with a Local Ladies' Committee. The premises are situated at 25, Chapel Lane, and a clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., for children under 5 years of age.

The Superintendent attends weekly and the Medical Officer fortnightly.

An ante-natal clinic is held on alternate Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

During the year a number of additional clinics were held for evacuees.

Medical Officer - Dr. Elsie Catlow, Assistant County M.O.H.

Superintendent - Nurse Murray, Health Visitor and School Nurse for the District.

Consultant Obstetrician - Dr. Mackintosh Marshall.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Ladies' Committee - Mrs. Brander, Hosketh Lodge, Brows Lane, Formby.

M.G. GARRY,

L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.

Medical Officer of Health.