

[Report 1942] / Medical Officer of Health, Gainsborough U.D.C.

Contributors

Gainsborough (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1942

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**URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL
OF
GAINSBOROUGH**




ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
with that of the
Sanitary Inspector


**For the Year
1942**

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF
THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:
J. A. HACKETT, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin. Univ.)
(part time)

Sanitary Inspector:
WILLIAM W. JACKSON,
C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector:
L. SEARSON

Assistant Meat Inspector:
J. SMITHSON

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1942

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1942 in an abridged form.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. HACKETT,
M.B., Ch.B.

SECTION A.

I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Urban District	about 2,400 acres
Estimated population	17,280
Number of inhabited houses end 1942.....	4,927
Rateable Value.....	£89,624
Sum represented by 1d. Rate.....	£ 350/19/1.

The chief industries are Engineering, Timber, Milling and Malting.

II. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate
Live Births	325	173	152	18.8
Legitimate	303	158	145	
Illegitimate	22	15	7	
Still Births				
Legitimate	10	8	2	
Illegitimate	2	—	2	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births.....				

Deaths. 1942. All causes.

	Total	Male	Female	Death Rate
	214	108	106	12.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES (Headings 29 and 30).

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	46.1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	42.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	90.9

CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	—	1
Influenza ...	—	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	8	1	9
Other Tuberculosis ...	1	1	2
Cancer ...	17	14	31
Diabetes ...	1	3	4
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	9	19	28
Heart Disease ...	28	23	51
Other Circulatory Disease ...	5	1	6
Bronchitis ...	4	9	13
Pneumonia ...	7	2	9
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	—	1
Other Digestive Disease ...	3	3	6
Nephritis ...	1	6	7
Appendicitis ...	1	—	1
Premature Birth ...	—	1	1
Congenital Disease ...	3	—	3
Suicide ...	1	—	1
Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	2	3
Other Violent Causes ...	2	5	7
Diarrhoea, under 2 years ...	2	1	3
All other causes ...	11	11	22

COMPARATIVE TABLES

Births	Total	Male	Female	Rate
1942 ...	325	173	152	18.8
1941 ...	261	134	127	14.5
1940 ...	277	128	149	15.1
1939 ...	233	109	124	12.9
1938 ...	217	115	102	12.8

Deaths		Total	Male	Female	Rate
1942	...	214	108	106	12.3
1941	...	245	127	118	14.5
1940	...	244	130	114	15.1
1939	...	251	118	133	12.9
1938	...	246	134	112	12.8

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	8	5	13
Illegitimate	...	2	—	2

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS.

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	4
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1

COMPARATIVE TABLES

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality
England and Wales	... 15.8	11.6	49
126 Great Towns	... 17.3	13.3	59
148 Smaller Towns	... 18.4	12.1	46
London	... 14	13.9	60
Gainsborough	... 18.8	12.3	46

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

No important change has taken place during the year, except that further progress has been made with Diphtheria Immunization. The response of parents still leaves much to be desired.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Little can be done at present except urgent repairs and great difficulty has been met with in doing even these essential repairs.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, Etc.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year:—Scarlet Fever, 23 cases; Diphtheria, 5 cases notified, three of which proved not to be Diphtheria on bacteriological examination; Pneumonia, 46 cases; Erysipelas, 9 cases; Cerebro Spinal Fever, 3 cases; Whooping Cough, 29 cases; Measles, 13 cases; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1 case; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 2 cases.

TABLE I.

Disease	No. of cases notified	Removed to Hospital	Died
Scarlet Fever ...	... 23	15	—
Diphtheria ...	... 2	2	—
Pneumonia ...	... 46	?	9
Erysipelas ...	... 9	2	—
Whooping Cough ...	... 29	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	... 3	2	1
Measles ...	... 13	—	—

TABLE II.

DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS

Disease	North	South	Market	Central
Scarlet Fever	... 14	4	3	2
Diphtheria ...	... 1	—	1	—
Pneumonia ...	... 17	13	2	14
Erysipelas ...	... 2	5	2	—
Whooping Cough	... 20	5	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	1	—	—
Measles ...	... 5	5	—	3

TABLE III.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Ages	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles
0-1 ...	1	—	3	2	5
1-2 ...	1	—	4	4	3
2-3 ...	2	—	1	5	2
3-4 ...	1	—	1	4	1
4-5 ...	—	—	3	10	—
5-10 ...	10	1	5	4	1
10-15 ...	3	1	1	—	—
15-20 ...	2	—	—	—	—
20-35 ...	3	—	—	—	1
35 up ...	—	—	28	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

During the year 161 children between the ages of 5 to 15 and 63 children under the age of 5 years received the full course against Diphtheria. 174 children between the ages of 5 and 15, and 94 children under the age of 5 had the 1st injection only.

The immunization of the children took place at the Schools in the town, which had been placed at our disposal. The County Council also placed the use of one of their Health Visitors at our services.

Arrangements for appointments were made in the Health Department's Offices,

CANCER

There were 31 deaths from Cancer, compared with 39 last year.

The Sites of the disease were as follows:

Stomach	...	...	...	7
Lungs	...	...	...	4
Large Intestines and rectum	...	...	...	7
Breast	...	...	...	4
Oesophagus	...	...	...	1
Tongue	...	...	...	1
Abdomen	...	...	...	2
Uterus	...	...	...	2
Kidney, Bladder, etc.	...	...	...	3

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1942

TABLE I.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ...			1				1	
1—5 ...								
5—10 ...				1				
10—15 ...	2		3					
15—20 ...	1	1		2				
20—35 ...	7	1	3		2	1		1
35—45 ...	3	1			1			
45 up ...	4	2			5			
Totals ...	17	5	7	3	8	1	1	1

TABLE II

DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS

NEW CASES

North	South	Market	Central
8	8	7	9

DEATHS

North	South	Market	Central
2	1	3	5

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

for the year 1942

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my fourth annual report, covering the year 1942, in a very much abbreviated form. In spite of the heavy demands placed upon the Department, the Staff have once again carried out their duties in an efficient manner.

Following upon the damage by enemy action on April 30th, the Civilian War Deaths Squad composed of members of the Office and Cleansing Staff, carried out their very unpleasant duties in an exemplary manner.

A considerable amount of food stuffs were damaged in the various shops, but we were fortunately able to salvage the greater proportion of this.

The Noel Street Incident, on December 31st, also called upon the C.W.D. Services, who again responded in a creditable manner.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1937

The number of workshops on the register, including bakehouses, is 112.

44 visits have been paid to these premises.

There are 12 bakehouses on the register, and these have been visited on 47 occasions. Contraventions in six instances were found, and these were remedied.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

During the year, 197 visits were paid to the shops retailing food-stuffs, and nothing was found to complain of. No notices were served during the year. One sanitary convenience was erected.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The shops registered under the above Act have constantly been visited, and all were found to be clean and well kept. 187 visits were paid to these premises.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES and MILK SUPPLY

The number of Cowkeepers is 8, the number of Cowsheds 16, and the approximate number of Milch Cows is 90.

64 visits have been paid to these premises, and it was necessary to draw the attention of the Cowkeepers to contraventions in four instances, and these were remedied.

During the year, two unsatisfactory reports on the condition of the Milk were received; these were visited, and further reports showed a marked improvement in the condition of the Milk sampled.

On the register of Dairies are 23 Purveyors and 4 Dairymen, 11 Purveyors and 2 Dairymen reside outside the District. 21 small shops also retail bottled milk, brought into the town by the bottlers. 46 visits were paid to these premises, and 3 contraventions of the Regulations were found, and these were remedied.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES and MEAT and FOODS INSPECTION

The Slaughterhouse taken over by the Ministry of Food early 1940, was visited daily, and the Inspector given every assistance in the performance of his duties. The Slaughterhouse has been well kept.

The number of visits paid to the Slaughterhouse, Butchers' Shops and Market Stalls was 3,702, and the number of Carcases examined was:—Beast, 1,097; Cows, 369; Calves, 225; Sheep and Lambs, 7,520; and Pigs, 690, making a grand total of 9,901 carcases.

Other foodstuffs condemned during the year were:—

456 lbs. Beef, bruised, broken leg and abscess
10 lbs. Mutton, bruised
90 lbs. Pork, bruised and broken leg
10 lbs. Veal, broken leg
393 tins assorted sizes Preserved Meats
388 tins assorted sizes Fruit
215 tins assorted sizes Vegetables
130 tins assorted sizes Fish
1121 tins assorted sizes Milk
161 jars assorted Preserves
183 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Butter
83 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Margarine
110 lbs. Lard
308 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Bacon and Ham
121 lbs. Cheese
143 lbs. Sugar
66 lbs. Tea
61 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Cake, Biscuits and Bread
684 Shell eggs
501 lbs. Fish
2 ton Plums
13 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Dried Fruits
482 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Peas, Beans and other Cereals
41 Pkts. Breakfast Cereals
72 tinned and packet Soup Powders
165 blocks Ice Cream
14 lbs. Sweets
55 pkts. Cocoa
2 tins Coffee
37 pkts. Custard Powder
66 lbs. Flour and Self Raising Flour
164 Oxo Cubes

Appended table of Carcasses inspected is compiled from the Ministry of Health's Circular, 1738.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1097	369	225	7520	690
Number inspected	1097	369	225	7520	690
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	7	4	—	6	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	38	16	2	127	27
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	4.10	1.823	.88	1.768	4.34
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	11	6	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	92	36	1	—	75
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.839	11.38	.44	—	10.87

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The number of Trades on the Register is 4. 141 visits have been paid to these premises during the year, and on the whole they have been kept clean and free from nuisances. The Hide and Skin Company's trade has been satisfactorily carried on despite transport difficulties, especially during the hot weather. This Company's premises were out of use for some time after the Incident of April 29th, and every endeavour was made by us to get alternative accommodation for them away from the town Centre. Unfortunately, no suitable site could be found.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The collection and disposal of the Town's Refuse during the past year has been satisfactorily carried out, despite transport and other difficulties.

The Karrier "Colt" and "Bantam" were responsible for the collection of the refuse, with the exception of the "peak" periods of cleaning times, holidays and bad weather, when we had to engage additional transport.

It has not been possible to obtain relief transport and the waggons have therefore not been overhauled. The Colt is rapidly becoming worn out, and maintenance costs are mounting. Much delay and inconvenience is caused by breakdowns.

CONTROLLED TIPPING OF REFUSE.

The amount of refuse dealt with at the Controlled Tip was 4,461 Tons. These are estimated weights, and are for the financial year ending 31st March, 1943.

During the year we completed the tipping of Mr. Hewitt's fields and obtained a further site on the Marsh and by the Railway Embankment. The Railway have expressed their appreciation of the work so far.

The figures on the next page are for the financial year, ending March 31st, 1943.

SALVAGE

I am very pleased to be able to report a very satisfactory result from the Department's Salvage activities. Many methods of bringing the urgency of this matter to the notice of the public were employed. Lectures were given by your Sanitary Inspector to various bodies, and the Press gave very valuable support.

During the year, materials to the value of £1,704 were returned to Industry. This figure included 214 tons of Paper; 71 tons of Metals; 6 tons of Textiles; 84 tons of Kitchen Scraps, and many other smaller items.

When compared with other districts, these results are such as to give every satisfaction, and the Salvage Department of the Ministry of Supply have expressed their pleasure at the high returns obtained. We go forward to the next year with every confidence that the above figures will be improved upon.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Total cost of Collection and Disposal of the Town's Refuse
is as follows:—

	£	s	d
Household Refuse Collection	2931	3	7
Revenue	87	3	6
	2844	0	1
Disposal	2142	2	3
Revenue	1783	2	10
	358	19	5
	£3202 19 6		

Pop.	No. of Weekly Collections		Method of Collection	COLLECTION COSTS						DISPOSAL COSTS.						
	House	Trade		Total Tons (Est.)	Cost per Ton (Est.)	Cost per House	Cost per 1000 Houses	Cost per head of Popl'n	Cost 1000 hd. of Pop'n	Total Cost	Total Tons (Est.)	Cost per Ton (Est.)	Cost per House	Cost 1000 Houses	Cost per Head of Population	
17,280	1	1	2 Motors	4,425	12/10d.	11/6d.	£575	3/3½d.	£163/10	£359	4461	1/7½d.	1/5 ½d.	£72/13	5d. 1/5 ½d.	720/6/8 £72/13/0

Rate Represented for Collection and Disposal *9.12d.*

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year, 112 cases of Infectious Disease were admitted to the Foxby Hill Isolation Hospital. 48 cases were from the Urban District, 19 cases from the Gainsborough Rural, 33 from other Local Authority Areas and 12 Non-Civilian.

No deaths took place at the Hospital.

67 visits have been paid to premises during the year, and 27 rooms have been disinfected from Infectious Diseases, and 34 after Tuberculosis.

A considerable amount of Disinfection of Clothing and Bedding has been carried out for the Military Authorities.

Ambulance

The Morris Ambulance has been used as required in connection with the Isolation Hospital.

Disinfectants

The usual amount of Disinfectants has been issued to Householders during the summer months.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

There has been little progress in Housing since the outbreak of hostilities.

NEW BUILDINGS

No new houses have been erected during the year.

38 visits were paid to new buildings in the course of erection.

WATER CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There has been little change in this direction, and there are still 9 pail closets at outlying premises. Trough closets have about disappeared.

TOWN AMBULANCE

The Ford Ambulance continues to give satisfactory service in and around the District.

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

In connection with these, 263 repairs and nuisances were remedied.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Inspections and Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	1231
Slaughterhouses, etc.	...	...	...	...	3702
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	47
Workshops and Factories	...	...	...	...	44
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	117
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	187
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	110
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	141
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	48
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	...	45
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	67
New Buildings	...	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2342
Visits re Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	9
Visits re Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	41

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. S. Algar, the Water Engineer, for the following abridged report.

The water supply continues to be satisfactory both as regard quality and quantity.

Routine water analysis continues, and the results are reassuring.

DRAINAGE and SEWAGE

There is nothing of note to report as regards the drainage and sewage of the Town.

In conclusion of this Report, I am happy to record the good feelings existing between the various trades of the town and the Health Department in its activities.

My thanks are due to the Health Committee for their unstinted co-operation, and to the Medical Officer of Health, to Mr. Smithson, the Meat Inspector and the Cleansing and Disposal Staffs, who have co-operated to make the work of the Department to go well, and lastly, to my assistant, Mr. Searson, who has given invaluable help at all times.

I am,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. W. JACKSON.

