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BOROUGH OF GOSPORT.

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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FOR THE YEAR 1940 (War Edition)

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G. W. FLEMING

L.R.C.P. & S., Edin.  
L.R.F.P. & S. Glas. D.P.H. Leeds

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1.

BOROUGH OF GOSPORT.  
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Gosport.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my tenth  
Annual Report on the health and sanitary  
circumstances of the Borough for the year ended  
31st December, 1940, on the lines indicated in  
Ministry of Health Circular 2067 dated 19th July,  
1940.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G. W. FLEMING,

Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,  
"Rostellan,"  
Stoke Road,  
GOSPORT.

4th November, 1941.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1940-41

## THE MAYOR

Chairman: Councillor WHEELER

Vice-Chairman: Councillor E.H. SMITH

Aldermen: MAIN (Mrs.) SILVER, WILLIAMS

Councillors: ABEL, AUSTIN, AYLING, NICHOLSON,  
NOBES, TURNER, WILLIAMS (Mrs.)STAFFMedical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and  
Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital:G. W. FLEMING, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.)  
D.P.H. (Leeds)

Chief Sanitary Inspector

T. E. OWENS (a, b, c, d, e and f)

Additional Sanitary Inspector

H. R. DUKE (a and b)

Chief Clerk

H.J. MOORE.

Assistant Clerks:

Miss J. C. FISHER

K. WILLIAMSON (Military Service from August, 1939)

Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant:

E. G. COLES

Mosquito Sprayer

C. GIDDY

Veterinary Surgeon (Part Time):

M. Bridgeman, M.R.C.V.S.

- (a) Sanitary Inspectors Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board
- (b) Meat and Food Inspectors Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
- (c) Sanitary Science Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
- (d) Fellowship Certificate Institute of Sanitary Engineers.
- (e) Smoke Inspectors Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute
- (f) Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate in Advanced knowledge of Sanitary Inspectors Duties.

N.B. The Sanitary Inspectors devoted an average of 25 hours per week to A.R.P. work in addition to their ordinary duties.



SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA1. General Statistics

Area in acres (land and inland water)	6227
Registrar General's estimate of Population	37300
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to Rate Books	13300 (Increase 400)
Rateable Value	2406582 (Increase £1130)
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1500
Total Rainfall 29.33 inches 1939 - 28.75 inches)	
Hours of sunshine 1861.3 (1939 - 1772.8)	
Mean Annual Temperature 51.3 degrees Fahr. (1939 - 52.2)	

2. Vital Statistics

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Live	(Legitimate	<u>831</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>396</u>
Births	(Illegitimate	<u>39</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>18</u>
	Total	<u>870</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>414</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population -  
23.32  
(1939 - 19.77)

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Still	(Legitimate	<u>25</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
Births	(Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Total	<u>25</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 27.93  
(1939 - 29.86)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Deaths	<u>531</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>236</u>

Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated average population 14.95  
(1939 - 10.96)

Deaths from puerperal causes:-

	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 total (Live and still) births</u>
Puerperal Sepsis	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Other Puerperal causes	<u>4</u>	<u>4.47</u>
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>4.47</u>

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1000 live births 35.63 (1939 44.66)  
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 36.10  
(1939 45.76)  
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live  
births 25.64 (1939 22.73)

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 66  
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 66  
Deaths from Measles (all Ages) - Nil  
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) - Nil  
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - 3

There has been no specially noteworthy cause of sickness  
in the area during the year.

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Developments or changes in the services provided in the area under the following heads:-

- (a) Laboratory Facilities - No change.
- (b) Ambulance Facilities - No change
- (c) Nursing in the Home - No change.
- (d) Clinic and Treatment Centres - No change.
- (e) Hospitals: Public and Voluntary - No change.

SECTION C.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWater

The main supply is a typical chalk water remaining practically constant in quality.

During the year 17 samples of the water were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination and all were reported satisfactory.

One sample taken from a private well was reported unsatisfactory and the use of this water for drinking and domestic purposes was discontinued.

Extensions etc. to Public Supply

1. New Reservoir at Shedfield, capacity  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons
2. Old steam pumping plant replaced by electrically driven plant capable of pumping 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons per day.
3. New Emergency Borehole constructed near main Soberton works and yields 14,000 gallons per hour.
4. The Gosport Water Company's Parliamentary Bill, which received the Royal Assent on the 10th July, 1940, authorised the construction of new well works, pumping mains etc. in the Parish of Bishop's Waltham. It is hoped that the summer yield of this new source of supply will be at least  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons per day.

No mains were damaged by enemy action during the year and it has not been necessary to take any action in regard to any form of contamination of the supply.

Drainage and Sewerage - No important extensions.

Rivers and Streams - There was no pollution in the area requiring any action.

Closest Accommodation

Number of water closets	13322
Number of pail closets	22
Number of privies	1

Pail closets are emptied by lorry weekly and the privy by tumbler cart.

Public Cleansing - No change





Summary of Sanitary Work Carried out.Houses

Roofs	68
Walls (External)	40
Chimneys and Stacks	12
Rainwater Pipes	12
Eaves Guttering	24
Yards and Passages	5
Coalhouses	1
Dampness Abated	51
Wallplaster	56
Ceilings	23
Floors	19
Windows	55
Sashcords	43
Additional Ventilation	4
Doors	17
Cleansed	15
Woodwork	1
Fireplaces	17
Cooking Ranges	6
Coppers	5
Sinks (Provision of)	16
Sinks (Repair and Renewal)	4
Sink Waste Pipes	9
Interior Water Supplies Provided	16
Repairs to Water Supplies	22
Food Stores	5
Overcrowding Abated	6
Main Water Supply Provided	2
Miscellaneous	33

Drainage

Drains Cleared	74
Drains Repaired	9
New Drains	4
Other Defects	17
Drains Tested	13

Water Closets

Cleared	2
Repaired	55
Cleansed	1

Dustbins

New provided	29
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Miscellaneous

Offensive Accumulations	24
Verminous Houses	41
Stagnant Water	6

Contraventions

Slaughter-houses	7
Houses let in Lodgings	2
Common Lodging Houses	6
Dairies and Milkshops	3
Butchers' Premises	4
Cowsheds	1
Food Premises	16
Piggeries	1
Stables and Stable Yards	2
Factories	17
Meat Van	1
Shops Acts	17
Fried Fish Shops	2

Total Defects Remedied 928



Summary of Sanitary Work Carried out. (Cont.)Notices ServedInformal Notices:

Public Health Acts	316
Shops Acts	3

Statutory Notices

Public Health Acts	36
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Number of Notices Complied with 342

Action taken under the Shops Act, 1934, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938.

452 visits were made

3 Informal Notices were complied with and various minor contraventions rectified without notices being served.

Camping Sites - No change

Smoke Abatement - No action required

Swimming Baths and Pools - No change

Eradication of Bed Bugs

The following action was taken during the year:-

	<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>Other Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. No of houses found to be infested	14	18	32
2. No. of houses disinfested	14	18	32

Mosquito Control

No change in the arrangements but effective control was impossible owing to flooding of wide areas for defence purposes.

During the year 600 gallons of wasteoil, 180 gallons of larvicide and 700 gallons of paraffin were used for this purpose. The cost to the Corporation for wages, larvicide, paraffin and haulage etc. was £211.7s 7d.

Premises Subject to Control by the Local Authority

Houses let in lodgings	4
Common Lodging Houses	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds	4
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	141
Slaughter-houses	9
Hawkers' Premises	12

FACTORIES ACT, 19371. Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to Health

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	82	-	-
Factories without " "	40	-	-
Other Premises under the Act	-	-	-
	122	-	-

2. Defects Found

Particulars	No. of Defects				No of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	3	3	-		-
Overcrowding (s.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)					
Inadequate Ventilation (s.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors					
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7)					
Insufficient					
Unsuitable or defective	11	11	-		-
Not separate for sexes			-		-
Other offences	3	3	-		-
Total	17	17	-		-

SECTION D.1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

1. (a) Total Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts.) 320
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 468
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above,) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. Nil
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose Nil
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 320

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.

271



3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

## A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- |     |
| (a) By Owners  | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners  | Nil |

## B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 23  |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-         |     |
| (a) By Owners   | 28  |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners   | Nil |

## C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made                                   | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders                                      | 2   |
| 3. Number of dwelling houses rendered fit for human habitation in accordance with undertakings given by owners | 1   |

4. Housing Act, 1936, - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | 6   |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein   | 6   |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein   | 50  |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | Nil |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year   | 6   |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases   | 41  |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |

Slum Clearance - Position at 31st December, 1940

Total number of Houses demolished	382
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SECTION EInspection and Supervision of FoodMilk Supply

39 samples of milk were taken for examination and 3 were reported positive T.B. 18 of the 39 samples were submitted to the Phosphatase Test and 5 were reported unsatisfactory. There were 12 inspections of the farms in the Borough and 113 inspections of dairies and milkshops.

The number of licences issued by the Local Authority in 1940 to producers and distributors of special milk were as follows:-

	<u>Producers</u>	<u>Distributors</u>
Tuberculin Tested	-	5

Four licences to produce Milk were issued.

Meat and other Foods

The total animals slaughtered in the Borough during the year and the number of carcasses examined were:-

	<u>Slaughtered</u>	<u>Inspected</u>
Beasts	790	784
Sheep	4026	3990
Pigs	98	98
Others	488	488
Total	<u>5402</u>	<u>5360</u>

According to the above figures 99.2 per cent of the total animals slaughtered were inspected. Only one of the slaughterhouses in the borough was in use during 1940 and it was under Government control.

The surrender of unsound meat and other foods within the borough during the year were as follows:-

<u>Tuberculosis:-</u>	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whole Carcasses and organs	6	-	-	8
Forequarters	9	-	-	9
Hindquarters	5	-	-	5
Various Parts and organs	433	9	-	442
<u>Other Diseases:-</u>	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hindquarters	3	-	-	3
Various Parts and organs	188	3	21	212
Carcasses of unborn calves	-	2	-	2
Beef (bruised)	-	57 lbs.	-	57 lbs.
Briskets of Beef	-	7	-	7
Mutton (bruised)	-	-	27 lbs.	27 lbs.

Meat and Other Foods (Cont.)

<u>Decomposition etc.</u>		<u>War Damage</u>	
Bacon	52 lbs.	Apples	4 boxes
Butter	11 lbs.	Bacon	40 lbs
Cheese	38½ doz x ¼ lb.boxes	Butter	9 lbs.
Eggs	8 cases	Cooking Fat	10 lbs.
Fish	4 boxes	Corn Flakes	10 pkts
Cod	8 stone	Flour	¼ lb.
Herrings	10 stone	Lettuce	1 doz.
Kippers	19 boxes	Margarine	19 lbs.
Mackerel	80 stone	Parsnips	½ cwt.
Hams	2	Peas	16 lbs.
Ham (tinned)	1 tin	Rice	118 lbs.
Plums (tinned)	17 doz tins	Rolled Oats	28 lbs.
Sugar		Sugar	72 lbs.
(Contaminated		Sprouts	1 box
by Red Lead)	134 lbs.	Sweets	3 boxes
Sausages	4 boxes	Shredded Wheat	12 pkts.
Tongue (tinned)	1 tin	Sundries	1 box
Turnip Tops	38 bags	Turnips	½ cwt.
		Tomatoes	7 lbs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Samples taken by the Inspectors during the year:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Total</u>
Milk	48	1	49
Other Foods	63	3	66
Drugs	12	2	14
Total	123	6	129

In each of the 6 cases of unsatisfactory samples the vendor was warned.

SUMMARY FPrevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other DiseasesImmunisation against Organisms of the Typhoid Group

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2230, dated 7th December, 1940, facilities for free treatment were provided and inoculations commenced on the 16th December, 1940. Mixed Typhoid and Paratyphoid Vaccine supplied by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service was used. The following table shows the number of inoculations from the 16th December to the end of the year:-

	<u>ADULTS</u> (over 18 yrs.)		<u>CHILDREN</u> (3-18 yrs incl)				<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>3-5</u>	<u>6-12</u>	<u>13-15</u>	<u>16-18</u>	
First Injections	26	38	-	-	1	8	73 *
Second Injections	13	16	-	-	-	2	31 *

Immunisation against Diphtheria

371 children from 1 - 15 yrs of age were immunised against diphtheria during the year. Approximately 14% of our children under 5 yrs and 39% of those over 5 and under 15 have now been immunised since the scheme started in 1938.



Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases (Cont.)

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the Year 1940

	Total Cases Notified	Total cases Admitted to:		Total Deaths
		Blake	Other	
		Isolation Hospital	Hospitals	
Scarlet Fever	48	1	2	-
Diphtheria	20	20	1	2
Enteric Fever	2	2	-	-
Pneumonia	70	-	3	20
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	14	12	2	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	3	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	-	-	-
Erysipelas	12	-	-	-
Measles	63	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	9	-	-	-
Totals	246	35	8	25

Tuberculosis (New Cases and Mortality during 1940)

	NEW CASES - 39				DEATHS - 26			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Undr. 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 yrs.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 yrs	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	5	4	-	1	3	5	-	-
25 - 35 "	4	6	1	1	5	3	-	-
35 - 45 "	3	3	1	-	2	1	-	-
45 - 55 "	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 & up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	17	15	3	4	13	10	-	3

Ratio of Non-notified deaths to total deaths - 5 : 26

Twenty-one of the 26 deaths were notified. There was no instance of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

Tuberculosis Dispensary

Number of patients under supervision or treatment  
at the Dispensary 113

Number admitted to Sanatoria or as in-patients  
to any Hospital 25



CAUSES OF DEATH IN COSPORT DURING 1940

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	2	3
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	2	2
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	13	10	23
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	3	3
8. Syphilitic Diseases	4	-	4
9. Influenza	8	4	12
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	-	1	1
12. Acute Inf. Encephalitis	-	2	2
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)	3	4	7
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	10	5	15
15. Cancer of Breast	-	7	7
16. Cancer of all Other Sites	23	14	37
17. Diabetes	3	4	7
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	27	28	55
19. Heart Disease	51	45	96
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	8	18
21. Bronchitis	19	14	33
22. Pneumonia	14	6	20
23. Other Respiratory	7	1	8
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	-	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	3	-	3
26. Appendicitis	2	2	4
27. Other Digestive Diseases	9	1	10
28. Nephritis	10	9	19
29. Puerperal & Post-Abortive Sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes	-	4	4
31. Premature Birth	4	4	8
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury) Infantile Disease )	10	2	12
33. Suicide	3	1	4
34. Road Traffic Accidents	4	2	6
35. Other Violent Causes	34	29	63
36. All Other Causes	22	22	44
Totals	295	236	531

## Death of Infants under 1 year:

Legitimate	23	7	30
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Totals	24	7	31

## BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY

## MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, and CASE-RATES for certain

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES in the year 1940.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Administrative County	GOSPORT.
Rates per 1,000 population					
<u>Births</u>					
Live	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7	23.32
Still	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44	0.67
<u>Deaths</u>					
All Causes	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8	14.95
Typhoid and )					
Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	-
Diphtheria	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01	0.05
Influenza	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18	0.32
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	-
<u>Notifications</u>					
Enteric Fever	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06	0.05
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.37
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82	1.29
Whooping Cough	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22	0.24
Diphtheria	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61	0.54
Erysipelas	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35	0.32
Smallpox	0.00	-	-	-	-
Measles	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78	1.69
Pneumonia	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87	1.87
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 yr. of age	55	61	54	50	35.63
Deaths from Diarrhoea) and Enteritis under) 2 years of age	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8	3.45
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
<u>Maternal Mortality (Excluding Abortion)</u>					
Puerperal Infection	0.52)				-
Others	1.64)	Not Available			4.47
Total	2.16)				4.47
<u>Notifications</u>					
Puerperal Fever )	11.96	13.90	9.73	(3.34)	4.47
Puerperal Pyrexia )				(9.96)	

