#### [Report 1939-1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Horsham R.D.C.

#### **Contributors**

Horsham (West Sussex, England). Rural District Council.

#### **Publication/Creation**

1940

#### **Persistent URL**

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/szrrmvdv

#### 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.



1939 & 1940

TRIBLIN REPORT

and their

THE REAL PROPERTY.

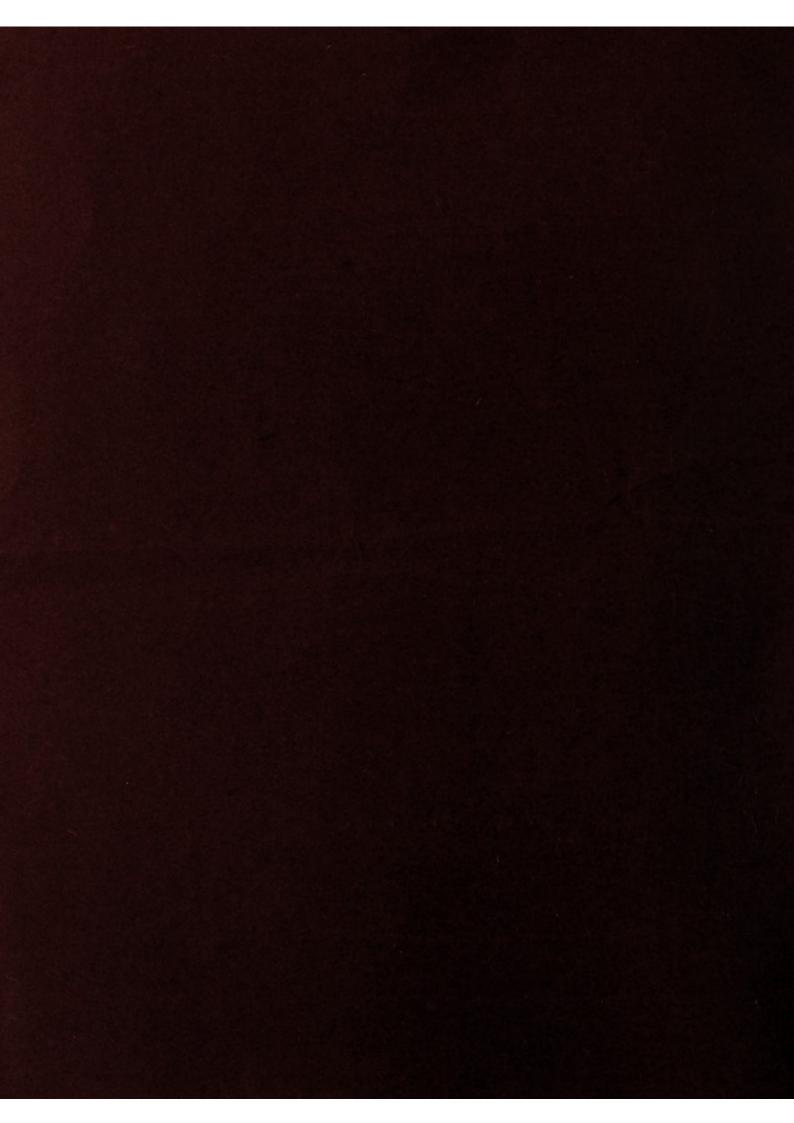
(Forth-Eastern Combined

her the

Marian Officer of Real to

THE R. L. LANSING

BR. D. P. D. P. R.



Health Department,

Comewell House,

North Street,

Horsham.

July, 1942.

# To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Horsham Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Laughton and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herewith a short Interim Report on the health of the District and the work of the Health Department. It will be appreciated that, owing to war conditions, the work of the Department has increased materially and for this reason there has been considerable delay in collecting the necessary figures for the completion of this report. I have therefore taken the unusual course of preparing a report to cover the years 1939 and 1940, figures for each year being shown separately. By this means a saving in both time and paper has been effected. It will be noted that, in the interests of economy, the report has not been printed as in previous years.

The outstanding events of the period under review were the outbreak of war and the intensive Air Raid Precautions work which preceded it. The district was scheduled as a Reception Area under the Government Evacuation Scheme, and early in September 1939, 2,299 members of the priority classes were received in the Urban District. The Chief Sanitary Inspector had been appointed by the Council as Billeting Officer, and these circumstances necessitated serious curtailment of routine Public Health work such as house inspection etc.

The Council, in co-operation with the Horsham Rural District Council, had established an Evacuation Hospital at Kilnwood, Faygate, where accommodation was provided for 36 children, cases of scabies, impetigo, measles, whooping-cough etc. being admitted for treatment. As a result of hard work by a number of voluntary helpers the premises, which had been unoccupied for several years and were in a neglected state, were prepared and stood ready to receive patients when evacuation commenced. The total

the second secon SI THE STATE OF TH 

## (Cont).

number of patients admitted between September 1939 and October 1940 was 154, and at no time did the number under treatment exceed 24. Owing to the drift-back of evacuees, it proved unnecessary to retain this hospital in active use, and on account of expense and staffing difficulties it was decided to transfer the work to Tan Cottage, Horsham, in October 1940. Although this is a smaller house, the accommodation has proved adequate to meet all needs.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee with whom my work is particularly connected, and to acknowledge the loyal assistance of all members of the Health Department, and the co-operation of the Chief Officers of the Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH N. MAWSON

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA, 1939.
Area (Acres)
Population at Census, 1931
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1939) for calculation of birth rate
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Books
Rateable Value
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £508
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.
Live Births(Legitimate $194$ $87$ $107$ ) Birth Rate (Illegitimate $8$ $3$ $5$ ) $13.38$
Still Births
Deaths 184 96 88 Death Rate 11.6
England & Wales Birth Rate 15.0 Death Rate 12.1
West Sussex Urban Districts Birth Rate13.53 Death Rate 13.32
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:- Deaths - Rate per 1.000 Total Births
Puerperal Sepsis0 0.00 Other Puerperal Causes0 0.00 Total0 0.00
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births

STATISTICS AND SOUTAL COMPITIONS OF THE AREA, 1979.
Area (Acres) 1,863
Registrar-General's Letimate of Resident
Population (mid-1939)
Odd-CI
Hetesble Value £132,660
Constant and James Color and Annual Color
SAME STATES AND STATISTICS OF THE VEAR.
TO THE PARTY.
Live Births (Legitimate 194 87 107) Birth Rate
Still Births 9 3 6 ) Rate per 1,000
Deaths
West Susses Urban Districts Sirth Rate 13.53 Death Rate 13.32
Deaths from Poerperal Camest-
Destins - Rate per 1,000 Total Births
Pusmeral Sepsiannessian 0.00
Other Fuerperal Canasaa O 0.00

Deaths	from	Cancer (all ages)	32
Deaths	from	Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths	from	Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths	from	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
The chi	lef ca	auses of death were:-	
Ca	ncer.	Disease	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA, 1940.
Area (Acres)
Population at Census, 1931 13,550
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1940)
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1940) according to Rate Books
Rateable Value
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £532
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.
Live Births(Legitimate 201 $\frac{\text{Total}}{92}$ $\frac{\text{M}}{92}$ $\frac{\text{F}}{92}$ $\frac{\text{M}}{92}$ $\frac{\text{F}}{109}$ ) Birth Rate (Illegitimate 7 4 3) 12.63
Still Births
Deaths 256 143 113 Death Rate 15.47
England & Wales Birth Rate 14.6 Death Rate 14.3
West Sussex Urban Districts Birth Rate11.57 Death Rate 14.99
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-  Deaths. Rate per 1,000 Total Births.  Puerperal Sepsis 0 0.00 Other Puerperal Causes. 1 4.58 Total 1 4.58
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL COMPITIONS OF THE AREA. 1940.
Area (Acres)
Population at Census, 1931
Registran-General's Setimpts of Resident 16,540
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1940) according to reduce to the Socker
Hatesple Value
Sun represented by a Penny Resemble of TFD. VI.E.
Live Births (D. Sitings 201 . 92 109 ) Barth Rete (Lillegitings 7 . 4 3 ) 12.63
Still Sirths 11 6 5) Retail Sirths 50.2
Deaths
England a Welse Birth Mate., 14.6 Peath Bate 14.3
West Sussex Orben Districts Sirth Rate 11.57 Death Rate 14.99
Puerporal Sepata 0 .000  Puerporal Sepata 0 .000  Other Puerporal Gades. 1 4.56  Total
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-
All Infants per 1,000 Live Eirths50.23 Legitumate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Eirths54.7 Illegitimate Live Births. 0.00

Deaths	from Cancer (all ages)	34
Deaths	from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths	from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths	from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
The chi	ief causes of death were:-	
Ca Ca Pr	eart Disease	

of infactions diseases, community proved groundless .

. - 9 -

																10							
	*		45																				

#### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases were notif	Tied during:-	1939	1940.
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Pneumonia Puerperal Pyrexia C.S.M Dysentery Erysipelas Measles Whooping Cough Phemphigus Neonatorum. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.		15951 2 英	15 1 2 3(1 M). 1(M). 1 143
¥ = Not notifiable.	M. = Militar	y Case.	

It will be noted that no epidemics of any kind occurred. Fears which had been expressed that the transfer of population in connection with the Evacuation Scheme, with the resultant mixing of urban and rural dwellers, would lead to a spread of infectious diseases, fortunately proved groundless.

Measles and Whooping Cough were added to the list of notifiable infectious diseases by the Provisional Regulations dated October 1939, which were superseded by the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1940. Unfortunately many children suffering from these diseases do not receive medical attention, owing to the mistaken idea, commonly held by parents, that they are trivial complaints. Thus the notification rate does not necessarily indicate the true incidence of these diseases.

The Council make an annual grant to the local Nursing Association towards the provision of nursing for Measles and Pneumonia.

## MOTTETABLE PLANCETOUS DISEASES.

. 0498		
51.		
	Pycaxia	
. 3(1 11).		
I		

The will be noted that the that the transfer of population of the transfer of population to the time transfer of population to the transfer of the transfer of

is the list of being of the provided to the list of and interiors of the provided to the list of and interiors of the provided to the list of the true list of the the true list of the list of the true list of the list of the true list of the list

paleroll food and of strong lauren as also lioused and seed sometime for Merelson and Present for Merelson and Merelson

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

1939.			
a). The number of cases notified duri b). The number of cases added to than by for	ng the Regist	year er other	
Pulmonary Males Females	( <u>a</u> ).	( <u>b</u> ).	
	3	3	

There were six deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis; two Male and four Female.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the 31st December, 1939 was 93.

1940.

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	
The number of cases added	to the Register during the year 15
Pulmonary Males 6 Females 5	Non-Pulmonary Males 1 Females 3
11	4

There were four deaths from Tuberculosis; 3 pulmonary (1 Male, 2 Female); 1 non-pulmonary (Female).

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the 31st December, 1940 was 96.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

TOTAL
a). The number of cases notified for first tame and .(a)  (b). The number of cases added to deplater other  (c). The number of cases added to deplater other  (c)
Pulmonery Lales 3 Ton-Fulmonary Heles

There were four deaths from Tubercplosie; } policonery (I Hale

The minder of cases of Tederoulosis on the Register at

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

Prior to the outbreak of War, an Emergency Laboratory Service was organised by the Medical Research Council, in consultation with the Ministry of Health, in order to augment the existing facilities for bacteriological diagnostic work for Public Health purposes. One of the Emergency Laboratories under this scheme was established at Christ's Hospital, and work was undertaken, in the first place, without charge. This service, whereby reports could be obtained without loss of time due to postal delays, proved of the greatest possible assistance in the early days of the War, and doubtless contributed to the low incidence of outbreaks in the district. only were specimens received at any hour, but Dr. Cruickshank, the Officer in Charge, made his services available to the Department and to Practitioners in doubtful cases, and rendered considerable assistance in epidemological enquiries and in field bacteriology.

Under the agreement between the District Council and the Medical Research Council commencing 1st September, 1940, all routine bacteriological work for the District (including the examination of swabs, specimens of blood and faeces, routine water samples, etc.), is now carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory and an agreed block payment made by the District Council. No limit is made to the number of specimens which may be submitted, and the scheme generally has been found of the greatest possible assistance to the Department.

The following table reveals the extent of the work carried out:- Nose &

					Throat	Swabs.	Faeces.	Blood.	Sputum.	2
	Sept.		Dec.	1939.	76		6	-	3	
-	Jan.	-	Mar.	1940.	54		2	4	4	
1	April	-	June	1940.	10		3	4		
1	July	-	Sept	1940.	61		5	4	-	
1	Oct.		Dec.	1940.	19		4	6	-	

#### PACTURE COLOCIONAL SECTION SE

Consultation with the admistry of He lin, in order to suggest the stant the emisting treatities for heating in order to suggest the emisting treatities for heating process of the day and the emisting treatities for heating process. One of the satisfact west for heating treating the emisting the emission of the emisting the emisting the emisting the emisting the emisting the emission of the

Character the serespent between the District Council and the Pedical Research Council command mg lat Deptember 1940, all routine Dastariol Council work for the District (including the examination of seable, specimens of blood and fasces, routine water samples, etc.), is now cornied out at the Dastario Council No limit is made by the District Council No limit is made to the mumber of speciment send that the Dastario of the greatest possible samples to the Department.

The following table reveals the extent of the verk

Bacteriological Specimens (Cont).

	Waters.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
Sept Dec. 1939.	3	15	103
Jan March. 1940.	1	10	75 }
April - June. 1940.	14	21	52 )
July - Sept. 1940.	25	27	122
Oct Dec. 1940.	9	20	58 5

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

#### Accommodation for Infectious Disease.

There has been no change in the arrangements whereby patients are admitted to Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing. By agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Worthing, seven beds are reserved for cases from the Horsham Urban. . District.

The following cases of infectious disease were admitted during the periods ending 31st December, 1939 & 1940:-

	1939	1940.
Scarlet Fever	13	11
Diphtheria	8	1
C.S.M	-	1
Measles	-	1
	21	14

75 )		Jan March. 1940.
52 200	AL.	
122		
58 )		

## CEMERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

# Accommodation for Infertous Discess.

There is a been so change in the errangements whereby partients are camitated to avendent Isodation Hourital Worthing, by saves out with the Corporation of the Rorough of Worthing, seven beds are reserved for cases from the Rorsham Urban.

The following the parteds ending 31st December, 1939 & 1940:-

TOVET		

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a). The Morris Ambulance, jointly owned by the Urban and Rural District Councils, and used for the conveyance of patients suffering from infectious diseases, was purchased in 1927.

Although maintained in fairly good running order, the vehicle is rather out of date.

The Caretaker to the Council Offices acts as attendant for this ambulance. It is therefore necessary on occasions to arrange for the Swandean Hospital Ambulance, with a nurse in attendance, to collect cases where the patient is a woman, or a child acutely ill.

(b). For the collection and transfer of cases of non-infectious sickness and accident, the Horsham Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade maintains a vehicle at their Headquarters in Park Street, a resident driver being employed. The duties of attendant are undertaken by the Nursing Division of the Brigade. No grant is made by the Council in connection with this work.

In addition there is a Police Ambulance, the gift of Councillor Mrs. Laughton J.P., which is used as a reserve vehicle.

#### AUSGLANCE PACILITIES.

The Morris Ambulance, jointly owned by the Urben and Hural District Councils, and used for the conveyance of patients suffering from infectious diseases, was purchased in 1927.
Although maintained in fairly good running order, the vehicle is rather out of date.

The Caretaker to the Council Offices acts as attendent for this ambulance. It is therefore ascessary on occasions to arrange for the Swandeen Hospital Ambulance, with a nurse in title a water the patient is a vegen, or a child sourcely ill.

For the collection and transfer of cases of non-infectious sickness and socident, the Horsh a Division of the bt. John Ambalance Bulgade meintains a venicle at their Haga-querters in Park Street, a resident driver being employed. The duties of attendent or endertes and the Harsing Division of the Brigade. He made by the Council

In addition there is a Police ambulance, the gift of Councillor Mrs. Laughton J.F., which is used as a reserve vehicle.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water.

The outbreak of War gave cause for considerable anxiety in connection with the Water Scheme, in view of the fact that all water was pumped by electrical energy, thereby making the supply dependent upon the integrity of the "Grid System".

As a result of a Special Report to the Public Health Committee in June, 1940, the matter was considered, and Dr. Suckling asked to visit and report on the question of the present source and possible alternative sources of supply. He attended a Conference in July 1940 at which the Regional Mater Engineer was present, and presented a report making certain recommendations. Up to the end of the period under review, no further steps had been taken in this matter.

Regular sampling of main water is carried out by the Health Department, samples being taken weekly for bacteriological examination, and monthly for full chemical and bacteriological reports. The satisfactory bacteriological reports obtained indicate that sterilization is effective, rendering the water safe from the bacteriological standpoint. The chemical analyses, however, are less satisfactory, and reveal the presence of siliceous matter together with iron and manganese, which cause discolouration and deposit. It is very desirable that, as soon as circumstances permit, the necessary reaction and settlement tanks should be installed in order to effect a removal of all suspended matter.

## Housing.

In spite of the considerable amount of extra work required of the Sanitary Inspectors as a result of War conditions, this work has proceeded, 268 visits being made in 1939 and 351 in 1940. Action was taken in a number of instances under the Statutory Powers granted by the Public Health Acts, and the Housing Act, 1936.

Although not included in this abbreviated report, full details of the work are always available.

## Inspection & Supervision of Food.

Regular visits have been made to Dairies and Cowsheds, and sampling has proceeded as in previous years. Inspection of bakehouses, stores and places where food is prepared have

#### SANITARY CIRCUISTANCES OF THE AFFA.

#### 2223W

The outbreak of War gave deuse for considerable smalety in connection with the Water Doheme, in view of the fact that apply dependent upon the sherrity of the "Grid System".

As a result of a Special Report to the Public Mealth Committee in June, 1940, the m tter was considered, and Dr. Sucklang taked to visit and report on the question of the present source out possible alternative sources of supply. He attended a Conference in July 1940 at which the Regional ater Engineer was present, and presented a report making certain recommendations. Up to the end of the partod under review, no forther ereps had been taken

Health Department, samples being taken is carried out by the health Department, samples being taken woully for fall chemical bacteriological reports. The satisfactory bacterio- logical reports obtained indicate that starillasticn is effective, rendering the vater sale from the bacteriological standpoint. The chemical analyses, however, are less testisfactory, and reveal the presence of siliceous matter together with from and namenaes, which cause discolouration and deposit. It is very destrable that, as soon as circumstances penuit, the necessary resortion and sattlement all suspended natter.

## Houstne.

In spite of the considerable enount of extra work required of the Sanitary Inspectors as a result of war conditions, this work has proceeded, 268 visits being made in 1939 and 351 in 1940. Action was taken in a musber of instances under the Statutory Fowers granted by the Public Health Acts, and the Housing Act; 1936.

Libi , Juoqen bereiverede eins of bebulent son demonst.

## Inspection & Supervision of Food.

Regular visits have been made to Dairies and Cowsheds, and sampling has proceeded as in previous years. Inspection of bekenouses, stores and pieces where food is prepared have

been carried out. Full details of this work are available for reference.

In January 1940, a Central Slaughter House was opened in Horsham by the Ministry of Food. This resulted in a very considerable increase in the work of the Sanitary Inspectors, as slaughtering was proceeding during long hours each day. It was therefore agreed that assistance should be rendered by an Inspector from the Horsham Rural District, in view of the fact that this work had now ceased in the surrounding rural areas.

## Factories Act 1937.

Regular visits have been paid as required. Details are available in the Department.

## Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

In connection with the above, 140 visits were paid in 1939 and 134 in 1940. Many baits have been laid, and structural work carried out as required.

## Government Evacuation Scheme.

In March 1939, the Senier Sanitary Inspector was appointed Chief Billeting Officer under the Government Evacuation Scheme. The original Survey of accommodation was carried out by the Department, assisted by members of the Townswomen's Guild. The preparation of the Scheme in its various phases involved a considerable amount of work which naturally curtailed the time available for ordinary Sanitary duties.

In January the Ministry of Food. This resulted in a very considerable inotesses in the work of the Sanitary very considerable increase in the work of the Sanitary Impectors, as slawghtering was proceeding during long hours each day. It was therefore agreed that are sanitance should be rendered by an Inspector from the Morenan Baral Blatitot, in view of the fact that that work had now ceased in the surrounding rural areas.

## TERLIA SELICET

Regular visite have been paid as required. Details are available in the Department.

# Rate & Mise (Pastruction) Act, 1919.

In commoston with the above, 140 visits were paid in 1939 and 134 in 1940. Many balts have been laid, and structural work damied out as required.

## sasass astassava trenarevol

In large the Sender Santtary Inspector was appointed the Covernment Evernment Evernment Evernment of Senders of Second Senders of Second Senders of Service of Second Senders of the Department, assisted by members of the Townswomen's Guild. The preparation of the Scheme the Townswomen's Guild. The preparation of the Scheme work of the Senders of Sende

# INDEX.

	Page.
Ambulance Facilities	3 & 5
Births & Birth-Rate  Bacteriological Specimens	3 & 5 9 & 10
Deaths & Death Rate	3,4,5 & 6 7 & 10
Evacuation, Govt. Ev. Scheme	13
Factories Act, 1937 Food, Inspection and Supervision of	
Hospitals Houses (Inhabited) Housing	3 & 5
Infantile Mortality Infectious Diseases	3 & 5 7,9 & 10
Measles Meat and Other Foods Milk	12 & 13
Population	3 & 5
Rateable Value	
Scarlet Fever	
Tuberculosis	4 & 8
Vital Statistics	3 & 5
Water Whooping Cough	4,6 & 7



#### XEGHI

Carrenses 3 ac	
	Deaths a Death Sate
61	Partorses Act. 1937
	Modeling
or or ball	
Simple	
2 8 E	
3 3 4	



