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Contributors

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LISKEARD RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the Year 1946.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LISKEARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

Dr. E. S. TOOGOOD ... Golden Bank, Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part - time
District Medical Officers and/or as Public Vaccinators—

Dr. A. G. AITKEN	...	...	...	Callington.
Dr. W. H. KING	...	...	...	Fowey.
Dr. BAKER	...	...	...	Polperro.
Dr. B. B. METCALFE	...	...	...	Liskeard.
Dr. M. COOPER	...	...	...	Looe.
Dr. O. R. SMALE	...	...	...	Pensilva.

Sanitary Inspector
Meat and Food Inspector
Milk and Dairy Inspector
Building Surveyor

Mr. G. ROGERS, M.R.S.I.,
M.S.I.A., Liskeard.

LISKEARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH For the Year 1946.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Liskeard Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1946. The year can be regarded as very satisfactory from the public health point of view.

The number of notifiable Infectious Diseases was very much lower than the previous year—about 1/5th number—*i.e.* 81 as compared with 390. There was no epidemic and the health of the School Children was good over the whole district.

The Liskeard Division of the St. John Ambulance Association has more than maintained its already high standard of proficiency.

All accidents and emergencies have received prompt attention, and the Ambulance has always been ready to undertake any call. The Members are all Voluntary, and keep themselves proficient in First Aid and Home Nursing by weekly practices and yearly re-examinations. It is a privilege to have their services, and the whole district is indebted to them.

The work of the District Nurses in a Rural district is always arduous, but the high standard shown in the past has been maintained fully in spite of all sorts of conditions and weathers. Everyone should support the Local Nursing Association by becoming members. The Passmore Edwards Cottage Hospital received for treatment patients from many parts of the Rural

District. Our thanks are due to the Nursing Staff for their efficient work often carried out under great strain from lack of domestic staff.

The immunisation of Children against Diptheria has proceeded satisfactorily during the year.

Arrangements have been made with the County Council for the use of a room and bath at Lamellion House, Liskeard, for the treatment of Scabies.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area of the District	...	...	104,851 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population (Midsummer, 1946)	...	...	13860
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1946			
according to Rate Books	...	...	4534
Rateable Value of the District	...	...	£54400
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£200

Social Conditions.

There are no industries in the Rural District which are prejudicial to public health. Agriculture and Dairy farming are carried on extensively, and both these ensure a healthy outdoor life for those engaged in them.

Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS—		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	... ..	198	91	107
Illegitimate	... ..	22	9	13
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	15.8		
Birth-rate for England and Wales		19.1		
STILL BIRTHS—		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	... ..	3	—	3
Illegitimate	... ..	1	1	—
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births			17.8	
		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
DEATHS—	... ..	169	71	98
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	12.12		
Death-rate for England and Wales		11.5		
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES—				
Puerperal Sepsis	... ..	}	Nil.	
Other Puerperal causes	... ..		

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	54.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate			
Live Births	...	...	40.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate			
Live Births	...	...	181.8
DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)	...	...	27
" " Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1

Chief Causes of Death.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Influenza	2	—	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	2	3
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	—
Diabetes	2	—	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	13	4	9
Heart Disease	56	23	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	6	1
Bronchitis	10	7	3
Pneumonia	2	—	2
Other Respiratory Disease	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	6	2	4
Nephritis	6	3	3
Premature Birth	3	2	1
Conjenital Birth Injuries	5	2	3
Suicide	2	2	0
Road Traffic Accidents	2	1	1
Other Violent Causes	3	1	2
All other Causes	14	4	10

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

Dr. E. S. TOOGOOD ... Golden Bank, Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part-time District Medical Officers and/or as Public Vaccinators.

Dr. A. G. AITKEN	...	...	...	Callington.
Dr. W. H. KING	...	...	...	Fowey.
Dr. BAKER	...	...	...	Polperro.
Dr. B. B. METCALFE	...	...	...	Liskeard.
Dr. M. COOPER	...	...	...	Looe.
Dr. O. R. SMALE	...	...	...	Pensilva.

Dr. E. Wordley, of Plymouth, undertakes the pathological examination of material submitted.

The County Tuberculosis Officer has his offices at the County Hall, Truro.

(b)

Sanitary Inspector	}	Mr. G. ROGERS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Liskeard.
Meat and Food Inspector		
Milk and Dairy Inspector		
Building Surveyor		

PUBLIC ANALYSTS OF WATER.

CHEMICAL—Messrs. Benedict Kitto & Sons, London.

BACTERIOLOGICAL—Mr. Wm. Partridge, Holborn,
London.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

There was a very marked decrease in the number of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during the year. The number being roughly one-fifth of the previous year.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified.</i>		<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	18	nil.
Whooping Cough	28	nil.
Measles	10	nil.
Pneumonia	14	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	nil.
Erysipelas	4	nil.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	nil.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of Blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, (relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

The County Tuberculosis Officer is always available for consultation with the doctor concerned. Pathological specimens are examined and a diagnostic X-Ray plant is in use at Tehidy Sanatorium. The County Tuberculosis Officer attends each month at Lamellion House, Liskeard, for a periodic survey of cases in the area.

A. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

No change has been made in the arrangements for for the examination and analysis of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs. Milk and pathological examinations are carried out by Dr. E. Wordley, Plymouth. Foodstuffs by the County Analyst.

B. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

These are perfectly satisfactory and adequate. The Ambulance is staffed and driven by members of the Liskeard Division of the St. John Ambulance Association. They undertake the removal of non-infectious cases, accident and maternity cases. The total number of cases dealt with during 1946 was 175, including 13 road accidents and 12 maternity cases, and a total mileage of 5,712 miles was covered.

One or more members of the Women's Division accompany the Ambulance when female cases are being removed. The work of both the men and women of this organisation is excellent and it is impossible to over-praise their gratuitous work.

Nursing in the Home.

C. GENERAL AND MATERNITY.

Local Nursing Associations provide Nurses who are Certified Midwives in co-operation with the Cornwall County Council. Practically the whole of the Rural District is covered by the work of these local associations.

Membership of a local association costs only a small sum each year. I recommend very strongly all those in the Rural District who are not already members to approach either the Nurse or local secretary with a view to joining their local branch.

It is with pleasure that I record the very excellent work carried out by the District Nurses in the area.

INFECTIOUS.

The District Nurses are forbidden to undertake the nursing of infectious diseases. When necessary these are treated at the Isolation Hospital, Truro. Minor infectious diseases are treated at the County Council's Hospital at Newquay, when necessary.

D. CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

No new Clinic or Treatment Centres have been opened in the Rural District during 1946.

E. HOSPITALS.

PUBLIC—The Public Assistance Hospital, situated in the Borough of Liskeard, receives cases from the Rural District of Liskeard and elsewhere.

VOLUNTARY—The Passmore Edwards Cottage Hospital, also situated in the Borough of Liskeard, has been used extensively by the inhabitants of the Rural District. This Hospital contains 27 beds (12 general—8 female and 4 male), 5 private wards, 3 emergency beds and 7 cots.

174 patients were treated during 1946 and there were 264 out-patients. 80 operations were carried out under anæsthetics.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The supply of water throughout the District during 1946, was generally satisfactory. Even at Polruan there was no shortage, due to the rather high rainfall during the early part of the year. No case of contamination of piped water supplies has been discovered—the springs in use being adequately protected at the source. No water treatment plants have been installed. The water supplying Tremar Village has a plumbo solvent action, but to obviate this the mains are of cement asbestos and the service pipes are of copper, tin lined.

Whilst there is a piped water supply in several parishes, there still remains a large percentage of houses relying entirely on well water, some regarded as doubtful quality, and some, a considerable distance from the houses. There is a pressing need for a district scheme which could be made to serve every village and hamlet in the area and every effort should be made to provide this amenity.

The following shows the supply in each Parish where a piped water supply is provided.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Pop. of Parish.</i>	<i>Pop. supplied direct to houses.</i>	<i>Number supplied from stand Pipes.</i>
Broad oak	209	40	nil.
St. Cleer	1485	850	37
Lansallos	1424	1237	nil.
Lanteglos	1320	1000	150
Linkinhorne	1139	30	50
Liskeard	922	nil.	300
St. Martin	283	100	nil.
Menheniot	1089	200	50
Morval	530	10	nil.
St. Neot	918	140	100

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During 1946, the existing sewerage systems have generally functioned satisfactorily with the exception of the disposal works at Pelynt where a complete overhaul has been necessary. Delay has been caused by difficulty in obtaining new filter bed spraying tubes and it is not expected that the work will be completed until 1947.

No new systems or extensions to existing ones have been made during the year.

HOUSING.

The Council's post war housing scheme commenced during 1946, and the first group consisted of ten Swedish Timber Houses. Four of these were type "A," or two storied House type, and six were type "D" or Bungalow type. They were built in five pairs and sited in different parts of the District. The first pair, at Pelynt, were finished before the end of the year and the remainder have made good progress. In addition a further 12 traditional type houses were well in hand by the end of 1946.

I am, Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

E. S. TOOGOOD, M.A. OXON. M.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Golden Bank, Liskeard.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>M/c line No.</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	68	22	nil.	nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies					
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938†	2	17	14	nil.	nil.
(b) Others	3	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act† (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	85	36	nil.	nil.	nil.

Cases in which defects were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>M/c line No.</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found.</i>					<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
		<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>			
				<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	6	6	—	—		—
Overcrowding (S.2)	6	—	—	—	—		—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	7	—	—	—	—		—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	8	—	—	—	—		—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	9	—	—	—	—		—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	10	2	2	—	—		—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	—	—	—	—		—
(c) Not separate for sexes	12	—	—	—	—		—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home-work)	13	—	—	—	—		—
TOTAL	60	8	8	—	—		—

* e.g. Metropolitan Borough, County Borough, Borough, Urban District,

† S.R. & O. 1938 No. 488.

‡ i.e. Works of Building and Engineering Construction, Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.



