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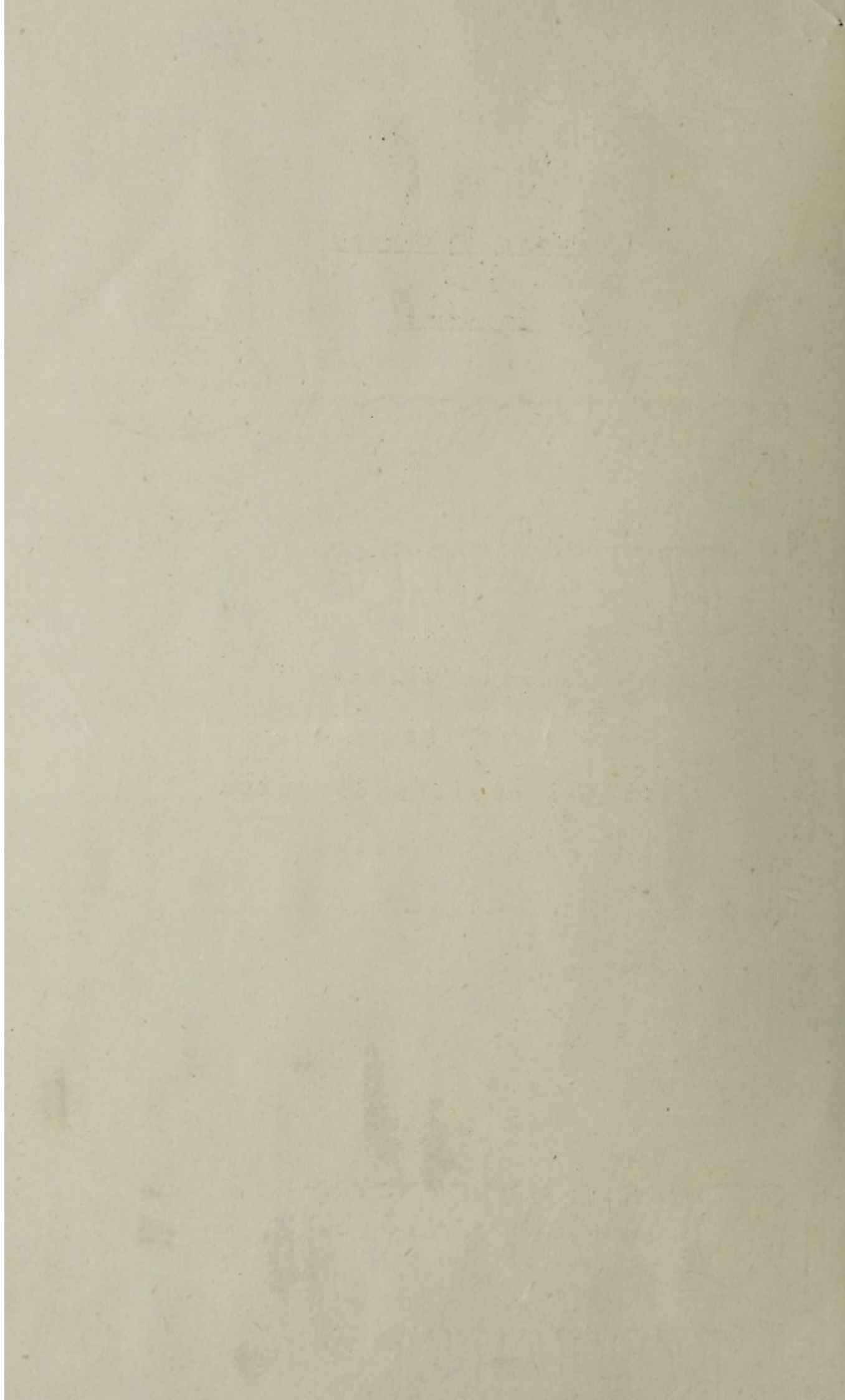
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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MIDHURST.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1942.



Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Midhurst.

September, 1943.

To The Chairman and Members
of the MIDHURST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report on the Health of the Midhurst Rural District and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1942. The Report is the 69th in the series.

Owing to war conditions, the Minister of Health has given instructions that the present Report should be curtailed, and that for security reasons all reference to local populations and activities in connection with war-time, industrial, military, or other important developments such as extensions of water supply sewerage works, or other public utility undertakings, should be omitted.

In spite of the increased pressure of war conditions there is no apparent deterioration in the general health of the community, and there has been no notable feature regarding the prevalence of infectious or other diseases in the district during the year.

The birth rate, 14.67 per 1,000 population, shows a considerable increase over that of the previous year, whilst the death rate of 11.24 per 1,000 population has remained almost stationary. The increase in birth rate is due in part to an actual increase in the number of births and in part to a lowering by 950 of the Registrar General's estimate of the District's population at Mid 1942.

The diphtheria immunisation campaign has been continued throughout the year, it being estimated that at the end of the year 39% of children under five years and 87% of children aged five to fifteen years had received a course of protective inoculations. The percentage of children under five years who have been immunised is still disappointing and an intensive campaign to improve this position is at present in progress.

In spite of the heavy additional duties which have been placed on the Senior Sanitary Inspector, including those of Local Fuel Overseer and Food Decontamination Officer, and the absence of the Assistant Inspector on service with H.M. Forces, the general work of the Department has been well maintained. Progress has been made regarding the improvement of insanitary dwellings, but housing conditions in many parts of the District are still far from satisfactory. Unfortunately owing to the shortage of labour and materials only essential works can be carried out at the present time. Two of the most pressing needs of the District are the provision of a public main water supply and the construction of a sewerage scheme in those populous parts of the District which are at present without these essential public services.

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to the members of the Council for their continued support, and to Mr. T.G. Henry for his loyal co-operation and assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC WARD.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

J.L. Newman, M.D.(Cantab.) M.R.C.P.(Lond.)D.P.H.
(to 10th January, 1942)

Eric Ward, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(from 11th January, 1942)

Senior Sanitary Inspector

T.G.Henry - A.R.S.I.
Cert. S.I.J.B
Cert. R.S.I (Meat & other Foods)
Inspector under Petroleum Consolidation Acts
Local Fuel Overseer.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector

L.Newnham - Cert. S.I.J.B
(On Active Service)

Clerical Staff

A. Greenfield

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	66,892
Rateable Value (31st December, 1942)	£108,189
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1943)	£441

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:	14.67
Still birth rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births:	23.47
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:	11.24
Maternal Mortality Rate:	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:	
All Infants per 1,000 live births:	45.98
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	50
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:	Nil

Section 1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

There have been no marked changes in the natural and social conditions of the district, apart from those brought about by the war which affect the country as a whole. The staple industry of the district is agriculture.

Although this district is still officially a reception area, the number of evacuees accommodated has gradually fallen. At the end of the year there were 982 persons officially billeted in the area as compared with a total of 1,744 at the end of the previous year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The BIRTH RATE is 14.67 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 10.77 for the previous year, 15.8 for England and Wales, and 15.70 and 16.76 for the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The illegitimate live births numbered 21, an increase of 14 on the previous year.

After adjustment for transfers, 6 stillbirths were registered during the year, as compared with 8 for the previous year.

The DEATH RATE is 11.24 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 11.15 for the previous year, 11.6 for England and Wales, and 16.50 and 12.76 for the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The following were the chief causes of death in order of frequency :-

1. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system
2. Intra-cranial vascular lesions
3. Cancer
4. Respiratory Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis
5. Suicide and other forms of violence
6. All forms of Tuberculosis

These six causes accounted for 79% of the total deaths. Compared with the previous year there has been a decrease of 17 in the deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, with an increase of 14 in the deaths due to intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin. Cancer with 23 deaths, a decrease of 8 for the previous year falls to the third place in order of frequency. Deaths due to respiratory diseases, excluding Tuberculosis show a decrease of 8 compared with the previous year, and occupies the fourth place in order of frequency.

Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis were 6, the same figure as for the previous year.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality.

As in the previous year no deaths were registered as due to pregnancy or child bearing. The Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales is 2.01 per 1,000 live births, and 3.2 for the Urban Districts of West Sussex.

Infantile Mortality.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 45.98 per 1,000 births, as compared with 30.77 for the previous year, 49 for England and Wales, and 40 and 42 for the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 50 as compared with 30.77 for the year 1941.

As in the previous year there were no deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age.

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

Full particulars of the Staff of the Department are given at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities.

During the year the Council agreed to make a grant to the Medical Research Council for services provided under the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Scheme. This arrangement has been found to be eminently satisfactory. The Laboratories to which pathological specimens are forwarded are The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Christ's Hospital, Horsham, and the associated laboratories of the West Sussex County Council and the Royal West Sussex Hospital.

Details of examinations made during the year are given in the following table :-

Nature of Specimen	Emergency Public Health Laboratory Horsham		West Sussex County Council Laboratory	
	Number examined	Number positive	Number examined	Number positive
Nose and throat swabs for diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Nose and throat swabs for other conditions	494	99	-	-
Urine and stools for enteric organisms	-	-	-	-
Other examinations	-	-	-	-
Water examinations	-	-	90	-
Milk examinations	-	-	89	-
	494	99	179	-

Ambulance Facilities.

The following arrangements are in operation in the district :-

(a) Cases of Infectious Disease. The Infectious Disease Ambulance of the Chichester Corporation is used for the removal to Hospital of all cases of infectious disease.

(b) Cases of sickness and accident. Ambulances belonging to the following bodies are available for use in the Rural District.

(i) An efficient ambulance service is provided for the Central portion of the district by the Midhurst Detachment of the British Red Cross Society, the ambulance used having been presented to the Detachment by the Council some 6 years ago.

(ii) Haslemere Urban District Council. This Authority's Ambulance serves the northern portion of the district, and the Midhurst Rural District Council undertakes the payment of charges incurred in removing patients to Hospital. Efforts are made to recover the mileage costs from the patients conveyed, but in necessitous cases the charges are borne by the Rural District Council.

(iii) Petworth Rural District Council. An agreement between the Midhurst and Petworth Rural District Councils makes possible the use of the Ambulance owned by the latter Authority in the Parishes of Tillington, Lodsworth, Greffham and East Lavington. The same arrangements regarding charges are in operation as for the use of the Ambulance owned by the Haslemere Urban District Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

General: Home Nursing is undertaken by the District Nurses employed by the Local Nursing Associations. There are in the District 11 Local Nursing Associations, who employ 13 District Nurses.

Infectious Diseases: The arrangements made with the West Sussex County Nursing Association for the nursing of cases of Measles, Pneumonia and German Measles have been continued.

Midwifery: There are 15 practising midwives resident in the District, 13 of these being Nurse-Midwives, the remainder being Independent Midwives. In addition, two Midwives resident in adjoining districts take cases in the Rural District.

Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals.

The following list summarizes the various Health and Welfare Services available for residents of the Rural District :-

Infant Welfare Centres - held at Camelsdale, Midhurst, Milland and Rake, Northchapel and Petworth.

Ante-natal Clinics - held at Camelsdale, Midhurst, Milland and Rake, Northchapel and Petworth.

School Clinics (Minor Ailments) - held at Chichester.

Eye Clinic - held at Chichester.

Aural Clinic - held at Chichester.

Orthopaedic Clinic - held at Chichester.

Speech Therapy Clinic - held at Chichester.

Tuberculosis Dispensary - held at Chichester.

Venereal Diseases Clinics - held at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth and The Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

(a) Hospitals - provided or maintained by the Midhurst Rural District Council :-

(1) Infectious Diseases :- (a) The arrangement for the reservation of four beds at the City of Chichester Isolation Hospital has been continued.

(2) Minor Ailments :- (a) Canavan Auxiliary Hospital, Cocking.

(b) Hospitals - provided or maintained by the West Sussex County Council :-

(1) General Hospitals :- (a) St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
(b) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.

(2) Tuberculosis :- (a) Aldingbourne House Sanatorium
(b) Worthing Isolation Hospital
(c) Worthing Hospital.

(3) Maternity :-

- (a) Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester
- (b) Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
- (c) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
- (d) Worthing Hospital
- (e) Improvised Maternity Homes at Haslemere and Hindhead.

(4) Sick Children :-

- (a) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
- (b) St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

(5) Smallpox :-

- (a) Brighton Smallpox Hospital, Fulking, by arrangement with the West Sussex County Council and Brighton Corporation.

(c) Voluntary Hospitals serving the District :-

- (a) Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester
- (b) Passbourne Cottage Hospital
- (c) Petworth Cottage Hospital
- (d) Haslemere Hospital
- (e) Petersfield Hospital

Ganavan Sick Bay, Cocking.

The Sick Bay re-established at Ganavan, Cocking, under the Government Evacuation Scheme during October, 1941, has continued to be available for the reception of cases of minor infectious and contagious diseases occurring among evacuated children resident in the Rural District. With the closure of a number of Sick Bays in the areas of the adjoining local authorities, evacuated children from six areas outside the Rural District were admitted during the year, and as a whole the Sick Bay at Ganavan has in consequence been fairly well occupied. During the year a total of 202 children were admitted from the following areas :-

Midhurst Rural District	- 111
Bognor Regis Urban District	- 38
Patworth Rural District	- 29
Chichester Rural District	- 9
Chichester City	- 3
Horsham Rural District	- 1
Worthing Rural District	- 11
Total	202

Of the 202 children admitted, 107 were suffering from Scabies, whilst a further 38 children were received who were affected with Impetigo and other skin affections. A further 42 children received treatment for infectious diseases peculiar to infancy, the principal causes being Mumps, Chickenpox, Measles and Whooping Cough. The total number of patient days during the year was 3,667, whilst the greatest number of children resident on any one day was 20. The arrangement for the attendance of local Medical Practitioners has continued during the year with satisfactory result, and it is desired to place on record the untiring efforts of the Matron and her Nursing Staff whose services have in no small measure contributed to the efficient running of the Sick Bay under varying and sometimes difficult conditions.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

Water is supplied to certain areas in the Rural District by three statutory water undertakers, viz. the Midhurst Rural District Council, whose sources of supply are situate at Rotherfield and Henley, serving the Parishes of Midhurst, Easebourne and West Lavington, the Wey Valley Water Company serving the Parishes of Fernhurst, Linchmere, North Ambersham and to a slight extent north Iping and Trotton, the Petersfield Rural District Council supplying the Parish of Rogate. With the exception of the Council's supply at Henley, the water supplied by the above mentioned undertakers is chlorinated. All supplies have been satisfactory throughout the year both as regards quality and quantity.

Midhurst Rural District Council Water Undertaking.

I understand from the Council's Waterworks Manager, Mr.S.E.Stratford, that no major alterations have been made at the Waterworks, and no extensions to existing water mains have been carried out during the year.

Water Samples.

During the year, a total of six samples were taken from the Council's sources of supply, 3 being taken from Rotherfield, 2 from the reserve reservoir at Knightsfield, the remaining sample being from the Henley supply. With one exception the samples were reported to be of satisfactory bacterial purity; one sample submitted from the Knightsfield Reservoir was found to be slightly contaminated.

Wey Valley Water Company's Undertaking.

During the year reports on 12 samples of water taken from the rising main from the Company's well at Hindhead and from the outlet filters at Tilford Meads have been received. The report was that all the samples were found to be of satisfactory bacterial purity.

In addition, reports have been received on four samples which were submitted for chemical analysis, all of which indicate that the samples were satisfactory for all dietetic purposes.

Petersfield Rural District Council Water Undertaking.

One report on a sample of water taken from this supply was received during the year. The report shows the sample to be of satisfactory bacterial purity.

No extension to mains was carried out during the year.

Other Supplies.

Samples of water were taken throughout the year from 16 private estate wells and distribution mains. Reports on these samples show in a number of cases considerable fluctuation in the quality of the water from one or two sources, whilst from others the supplies were found to be of doubtful quality. One Estate supply was found to be persistently unsatisfactory throughout the year, four of the five samples taken being reported upon as having a high degree of bacterial impurity. The most satisfactory manner of dealing with these conditions is the installation of small chlorination plants at the various sources of supply, and the owners of three private estate undertakings provided suitable plants during the year. In the case of one small estate supply, trouble was experienced on account of sand gaining access to the service pipes.

After investigation the difficulty was overcome by renewing part of the distribution main. Two samples taken at the end of the year from an Estate supply at Tillington were found to have a high degree of bacterial impurity, although investigation at the source of the supply failed to reveal any evidence of pollution. Subsequent samples have been taken which were found to be satisfactory.

It was necessary to close the village pump at Harting during the year as samples taken from this supply were found to be persistently unsatisfactory.

In all, a total of 53 samples were taken for bacteriological examination from private estate undertakings during the year. Of these, 2 were satisfactory, 14 were suspicious, whilst the remaining 10 samples were unsatisfactory.

Private individual supplies.

During the year a total of 31 samples were taken from private individual supplies, mainly from wells, and of these, 8 were found to be satisfactory, 7 revealed bacterial contamination probably from soil, whilst the remaining 16 samples were reported as having a high degree of bacterial impurity. Of those instances where adverse reports were received, the wells supplying water to 13 cottages were condemned, and the owners requested to provide wholesome supplies from available mains. Three properties were connected to such mains, and it is anticipated similar supplies will be laid to the remaining properties during the coming year.

A number of well and spring supplies in various parts of the district continued to give trouble, which can only be remedied by the provision of main supplies. This matter is one that should receive energetic attention at the end of the present hostilities in conjunction with the post-war housing programme.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No extensions of sewers have been carried out during the year, but a total of 11 premises were connected to the existing sewers situate in the Parishes of Fernhurst and Linchmere.

Rivers and Streams.

No action has been taken during the year to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

Public Cleansing.

Mr.S.E.Stratford the Council's Waterworks and Housing Manager is responsible for the Public Cleansing services of the district, and I am indebted to him for the following notes :-

1. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The work of Public Scavenging is partly undertaken by direct labour employed under the direction of Mr.S.E.Stratford and in part by contractors. Details of the services in the various parishes are as follows :-

(a) Collection by Direct Labour

<u>Parishes</u>	<u>Interval between collections</u>
Midhurst	Collection twice weekly
Easebourne	-do- once weekly
West Lavington	-do- -do-
Harting	-do- -do-
Rogate	-do- once monthly
Tillington	-do- every two months

A steel lined covered scavenging lorry is used for the collection of household refuse.

(b) By Contractor

<u>Parishes</u>	<u>Interval between collections</u>
Camelsdale area of Linchmere	Collection weekly
Other part of Linchmere	-do- every fortnight
Camelsdale part of Fernhurst	-do- weekly
Other part of Fernhurst	-do- every fortnight

The whole of the refuse collected is deposited on tips situate at Hammer, West Harting and Pisham, Near Midhurst. When inspected the tips have always been found to be kept in good order and no sign of rat infestation was seen.

2. Cesspool Emptying Service.

In view of the length of time that had elapsed following the completion of the Fernhurst and Linchmere sewerage schemes, it was decided by resolution of the Council to discontinue in January, 1943, the cesspool emptying service which had previously been operated in these Parishes, except for those properties that are unable to be connected to the public sewers.

The prospect of the discontinuation of the emptying service in the near future resulted in the majority of the properties not previously connected to the sewer being connected. The emptying service provided for those properties in the unsewered portions of Fernhurst and Linchmere is carried out by Contractor.

3. Pail Closet Emptying Service.

The pail closet emptying service is provided for properties which cannot be connected to the public sewer in the Parishes of Fernhurst and Linchmere, and also for the whole of the dwelling houses in the Parish of Harting provided with pail closets. The work is carried out by a Contractor employed by the Council, and night soil is collected twice weekly.

Five dwellings in Fernhurst, 14 in Linchmere, and 125 in Harting receive this service.

Shops Act, 1934.

During the year 22 visits and inspections were made to Shops and Offices. One shop was provided with additional sanitary arrangements for females, together with suitable cloakroom and washing facilities.

Smoke Abatement.

There has been no need for action in this matter.

Factories Act, 1937.

A total of 65 inspections of establishments coming within the scope of the Factories Act, 1937, were made during the year, 18 to premises having mechanical power, and 47 to premises not provided with mechanical power.

Arising out of these inspections 7 defects were found, all of which were remedied following the service of written notices. The defects found were (a) want of cleanliness 4, and (b) insufficient sanitary conveniences 3.

No notifications were received in respect of persons resident in the district employed as outworkers.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public Swimming Baths or Pools situate in the district.

Camping Sites.

The following Licences were granted during the year by the District Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 :-

- | | |
|---|----|
| (a) Licences to erect or station and use moveable dwellings | 15 |
| (b) Licences authorising use of land as site for moveable dwellings | 1 |

During the year 54 visits were made in connection with moveable dwellings and similar structures situate in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Four premises were found to be infested with Bed Bugs during the year. The vermin were exterminated in each case by the use of Zaldecide and the application of a blow lamp flame.

Rats and Mice.

Farmers, Estate Agents, Land occupiers and others, were advised on anti-rat measures and a considerable quantity of poison was issued. No major infestations have been found.

Mosquitoes.

No complaints were received in respect of mosquitoes.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Schools.

There are 19 Public Elementary Schools in the district, of which 7 are provided with a water supply from public mains, whilst the remainder obtain supplies from wells, private estate supplies or other sources. No structural alterations were carried out at any School during the year, nor were any closed on account of infectious disease.

Arrangements were in progress during the year for the legal transfer of the non-provided School at Wardley, known as Hollycombe to the West Sussex County Council Education Committee.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Complaints received	98
Informal Notices served	138
Informal Notices Complied with	135
Statutory Notices, Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936	7
Statutory Notices, -do- -do- complied with	5

Visits made :

Housing - first visits	267
Housing - revisits	260
Overcrowding	28
Drainage and Sanitary Conveniences	665
Water Supplies	664

Visits made (contd).

Sewerage	3
Privies, Cesspools, Ditches	219
Stables and Piggeries	4
Refuse and Accumulations	7
Verminous Premises	34
Schools	19
Moveable Dwellings	54
Infectious Diseases	148
Miscellaneous	94
Total number of inspections made for all purposes	4,044

Section IV.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance.

No action has been taken during the year with regard to slum clearance.

Housing Statistics.

No new houses have been erected during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	269
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	529
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	4
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	8
(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.	114

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal notice :-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	73
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3. Remedying of defects during the year with service of formal notice :-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the Local Authority or their officers	Nil
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	Nil
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B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

(1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-	
(a) By Owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. HOUSING ACT 1936 - Overcrowding.

(a) i. No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	12
ii. No. of families dwelling therein	14
iii. No. of persons dwelling therein	81
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) i. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
ii. No. of persons concerned in such cases	37
(d) No. of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of Farms in the District registered for milk production	158
No. of Farms producing Designated Milk	
(a) Tuberculin Tested	15
(b) Accredited	73
No. of farms producing Non-Designated Milk	70
No. of Dairymen (cowkeepers and milk sellers) etc.	173
No. of these registered as wholesalers	135
No. registered as Retailers	38
No. of Dairymen in the District exempt from registration by reason of not keeping cows for sale of milk	Nil

Cowsheds and Milkshops:

No. of inspections made	921
No. of contraventions of the Regulations found	79

Number of premises found to require :-

(a) Cleansing	51
(b) Structural or sanitary improvements	25
(c) Other contraventions	3

Number of these requirements carried out :-

(a) Cleansing	47
(b) Structural	21
(c) Other contraventions abated	3

<u>Water supply to Dairy Premises</u>	<u>Public Supply</u>	<u>Bores, wells and springs etc.</u>	<u>Private Estate Reservoirs</u>
Cowsheds and Dairies	19	92	49

Milk Sampling.

Much interest has been taken in this matter in various Official quarters during the year. Milk sampling is carried out by the Rural District and County Council Officials, the County Council being responsible under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders for producers holding licences to produce Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk.

Prior to the appointment of a County Sanitary Officer in 1941, very little sampling of Designated Milks had been carried out by the County Council Officials since the outbreak of War. Following such appointment and also that of two Assistant Sampling Officers, a regular system of bi-monthly sampling of all Designated Producers together with the taking of intermediate follow up samples where the routine samples prove unsatisfactory, was instituted by the County Council.

Whilst there are no legal tests for cleanliness of milk laid down in any of the Milk & Dairies Regulations, the Methylene Blue Test as applied to Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milks under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, is a cheap, rapid, and convenient method of assessing the cleanliness of milk. The basis of the test is the power of bacteria to decolourise Methylene Blue, the rate of decolourisation depending on the number of bacteria present in the milk. A milk sample is considered satisfactory if it is not decolourised in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours in summer and $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours in winter. This standard of cleanliness can be obtained if reasonable care is taken in methods of milking and cleanliness of utensils.

Although the number of samples of undesignated milk taken during the year by the Senior Sanitary Inspector shows an increase on the previous year, they average only one per producer per year. In spite of the fact that the results of examinations show that the cleanliness of undesignated milk produced in the district is better than in many other districts and is in fact better than that of the Designated Producers in the district, it is desirable that a regular system of at least quarterly sampling of all undesignated producers, with follow up samples, as required, should be adopted as soon as circumstances permit. Such a scheme would involve the taking of 350 samples annually, an impossible task whilst the staff consists only of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

During the year 68 samples of undesignated milk were submitted for the Methylene Blue Test at the County Laboratory, the reports on which showed that 55 or 81% were equal to the standard required for Accredited Milk. A further 20 samples of undesignated milk were submitted to the coliform test, of which 16, or 80% were satisfactory. In addition, one sample of Accredited Milk was submitted for biological examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli with negative result.

From inspections made of cowsheds and dairies the prescribed standards of cleanliness were fairly well maintained throughout the year in spite of the difficulties which producers are experiencing in obtaining the skilled labour for this important branch of their work. Owing to war-time conditions, the process of reconditioning of cowshed and dairy premises has been slow.

Cleanliness of production, however, is no safeguard against Tuberculosis or Contagious Abortion in the cows, and Tuberculin Tested or Accredited Milk is just as exposed as ungraded milk to infection from human sources. Though the ultimate ideal may be clean milk produced from disease-free herds and protected from human contamination, there is no other immediate practical solution to the problem of supplying safe milk to the public but by pasteurization.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1942.

The following Licences have been granted during the year :-

(a) By Midhurst Rural District Council :-

Tuberculin Tested Milk

(1) Dealers Licences	1
(2) Supplementary Licences	Nil

Pasteurised Milk

(1) Supplementary Licences	Nil
----------------------------	-----

(b) By West Sussex County Council :-

Producer's Licences :-

(1) Tuberculin Tested	15 (1)
(2) Accredited	73 (6)

The figures in brackets denote the number of Producers who also hold Licences to bottle milk. No Producer's Licences were revoked during the year. Two Tuberculin Tested and three accredited Licences were relinquished by Producers during the year.

During the year, 318 samples of Designated Milks were examined at the County Laboratory by the Methylene Blue Test. Of these samples, 316 were collected by the staff of the West Sussex County Health Department, the remaining two samples being collected by this Council's Sanitary Inspector.

The following table shows details of the 318 samples examined :-

Designation	No. of samples	No.satisfactory	%	No.unsatisfactory	%
Tuberculin Tested	55	44	80	11	20
Accredited	262	197	75	65	25
Pasteurised	1	1	100	-	-
	318	242	-	76	-

In addition a further 9 samples collected by the County Sanitary Officer were submitted for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, all with negative result. Seven of the 9 samples were taken from supplies to Schools, 1 from a supply to a Hospital in the district, and one from a designated farm.

Legal Proceedings.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Orders and Regulations during the year.

Meat and Other Foods.

No regular slaughtering has been carried out at any of the Slaughter Houses in the district, all of which have been closed throughout the year by virtue of the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940. All meat for sale in the district is slaughtered elsewhere, supplies for consumption in the district being delivered from Chichester and Worthing to a central meat depot at Midhurst for distribution to the various butchers. Inspection of Butcher's Shops, vehicles and carts has continued. There are 8 Butcher's Shops in the district, and 8 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale for human consumption.

A total of 421 visits were made to Slaughterhouses, Butcher's Shops and to other premises upon which food is prepared for human consumption, and 5 informal notices were served, all of which were complied with.

During the year, the carcasses of 3 Sheep and 6 Pigs slaughtered in the district either as a result of an emergency or for part sale to butcher's were inspected.

The following list gives details of meat condemned in butcher's shops during the year :-

<u>Foodstuff</u>	<u>Weight in lbs.</u>
1 Pig's Lungs	2
1 Sheep's Lungs	2
1 Sheep's Liver	3
1 Forequarter Cowbeef	18
1 Sheep's carcass and organs	120
1 Hindquarter boneless imported beef	85
9 tins Corned Beef	54
4 tins Pork Luncheon Meat	14
10 tins Pork	48
3 tins Meat Roll	18
	<hr/>
	364-lbs
	<hr/>

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

No Licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Local Authority during the year.

Bread.

There are 16 bakehouses in the district, none of them underground, of which 47 inspections have been made. Four informal notices were served during the year in respect of cleansing defects, all of which were complied with.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Ministry of Health suggest that the number of samples to be taken annually under the Food adulteration sections of this Act should approximate to 3 per 1,000 population which would require the taking of some 54 samples throughout the Rural District. The actual number of samples taken during the year was 16, or roughly 30% of the number suggested by the Ministry.

The following table supplied by the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, the administrative authority for the food adulteration sections of the Act, shows the number of samples taken in the district during the year and the results of the analyses :-

Description	No. of samples analysed.	No. found genuine.	No. found not genuine.
New Milk	12	9	3 ^δ
Butter	1	1	-
Jam	1	1	-
Castor Oil	1	1	-
Anti-Gas Ointment No.2	1	1	-
Totals	16	13	3

^δ All three samples from one Vendor reported 'slightly deficient'. Further samples proved genuine.

The average content of the genuine samples of milk
was :-

Fat - 3.65% Solids not fat - 8.90% Total solids - 12.55%

Other Foods.

The following other foods were found during the year to
be unsound and were condemned :-

<u>Foodstuff</u>	<u>Weight in lbs.</u>
Sultanas	7
Dates	13
Pilchards 5 tins	5
82 Eggs	6
Butter	44
Meckerel	91
Collar of Bacon	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Forend and back Bacon	14
Nestles Milk, 1 tin	$\frac{1}{2}$
Baked Beans, 1 tin	$\frac{1}{2}$
Herrings, 3 tins	18
Tomatoes, 2 tins	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Rabbit	2
Salmon, 1 tin	2
Apples, 1 tin	2
Bread, 100 Loaves	200
Sugar	82
Total	<u>498-lbs</u>

Section VI.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases.

Apart from a small outbreak of Scarlet Fever at a residential
School, and some increase in the prevalence of Scabies, there has
been no unusual incidence of infectious or other diseases in the
district during the year.

Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis show an increase
of 8 over the figure of 14 for the previous year, although the deaths
from all forms of this disease remain unaltered.

Smallpox.

No cases of this disease were notified during the year, and
no deaths were registered as due to this disease. Three persons who
were notified to be smallpox contacts entered the district, and were
kept under observation until the end of their quarantine periods.
These contacts developed no signs of the disease.

Diphtheria.

Only one case of this disease was notified during the year as
compared with 8 cases for the year 1941. The notified case, an evacuee
child aged 5 years, was admitted to Isolation Hospital after nose and
throat swabs were found to be positive for diphtheria bacilli, but the
child developed no clinical signs of the disease, and the 'carrier'
condition satisfactorily cleared up after a stay in Hospital of three
weeks. The patient had not been immunised against Diphtheria whilst
resident in the district, and so far as could be ascertained had not
been protected prior to his evacuation from the place of normal
residence.

Supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

There have been no changes during the year with regard to the supply of anti-toxin to Medical Practitioners.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Further considerable progress has been made during the year in the Diphtheria immunisation campaign when 316 children of pre-school age, and 455 children aged 5 to 15 years received a complete course of injections. At the end of the year, it was estimated that 87% of the children aged 5-15 years, and 39% of the child population aged 0-5 years had received a complete course of immunisation. Whilst the percentage of protected children in the 5-15 years group is exceptionally good, the percentage of 39 in respect of children of pre-school age is somewhat disappointing. In view, however, that the percentage of the child population in the latter age group immunised at the commencement of the year was estimated to be slightly less than 20, the actual progress during the year as a whole must be considered as being satisfactory. An extensive campaign is in progress to improve the position regarding children in the 0-5 years age group.

As in previous years, immunisation was carried out by Medical Officers of the County Health Department.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 18 cases of this disease (including 1 non-civilian) were notified, as compared with 21 for the year 1941. Of the 18 cases, 9 were removed to the City of Chichester Isolation Hospital where the average length of stay was 30 days. The notified cases were mild in character and all the patients made good recoveries. The cases were distributed throughout the district, 10 Parishes being affected, those with the greater number of notifications being Elsted and North Ambersham each with 4 cases. The cases occurred sporadically throughout the year, the months with the greatest incidence being January and September, when 4 persons were notified in each month. During the month of November a small outbreak of the disease occurred at a residential school situate in the Parish of North Ambersham, when 3 boarders were notified who were subsequently removed to Hospital. A previous case had occurred at this School in the month of September but no further cases occurred until November. With a view to determining the source of the epidemic, the services of the Pathologist at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Christ's Hospital, were enlisted, who first visited the School on the 6th November when nose and throat swabs were taken from the day boys', boarders and adult staff. The reports on these swabs showed a large number of the day boys', boarders, and members of the staff to be carrying Haemolytic Streptococci. Further swabs were taken on the 9th November, 25th November and 8th December, and from these, three adult persons were found to be suspected sources of infection including one who appeared to be a persistent carrier. These persons were suitably isolated and kept under medical supervision until pronounced to be free from infection.

The benefit of participation in the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service was strikingly demonstrated by the work carried out by the Pathologist, Dr. L. Foulds. In all, 494 swabs were examined in connection with the outbreak, and if the cost of examination of these swabs had been charged at the usual rates it would have entailed expenditure amounting to at least £75.0.0d., whereas the total annual cost to the Council for participation in the scheme is only £117.0.0d which sum includes the cost of routine examination of a fair number of water and milk samples, and any other bacteriological work required in the District.

The distribution of the notified cases is shown in the following Table :-

Parish	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Elsted	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Harting	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iping	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Lodsworth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Lurgashall	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Midhurst	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
N. Ambersham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	4
Rogate	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Stedham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1x	-	-	-	1
Tillington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Totals	4	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	4	2	3	-	18

x Non-Civilian

Erysipelas.

Four cases of this disease were notified during the year, the same figure as for the previous year. Of the notified cases none were removed to Hospital, and no deaths were registered as due to this cause during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and Encephalitis

Lethargica.

No cases of these diseases were notified during the year, and no deaths were registered as due to these conditions.

Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Influenzal).

There were 3 cases of Acute Influenzal, and 7 of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified during the year, as compared with 8 cases of all forms of Pneumonia during 1941. None of the notified cases were removed to Hospital. Deaths registered in 1942 as due to Pneumonia of all forms numbered 5.

Influenza.

During the year 1 death was registered as due to this disease as compared with 3 in the previous year.

Whooping Cough.

There were 9 cases of this disease notified during the year as compared with 35 in 1941. Only 4 Parishes were affected, Harting with 5 cases, having the largest number of cases. Six of the total cases notified occurred during the month of December. The disease in the majority of cases was mild in character and no cases were admitted to Hospital, nor were any deaths registered during the year as due to this disease. In addition to the notified cases one case was reported by the Head Teacher of an Elementary School.

The incidence of the disease in the various parishes during the year is shown in the following table :-

Parish	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Fernhurst	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Harting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Lurgashall	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rogate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	9

Measles.

During the year 53 cases of Measles were notified as compared with 195 in 1941. The cases occurred sporadically throughout the year, although 56% of the total notified cases occurred during the latter three months. The spread of the disease progressed in the year 1942 and reached epidemic proportions in the month of February. The Parishes most affected during 1942 were Fernhurst and Graffham with 23 and 17 cases respectively. In most cases the disease was mild in character, only one case being admitted to Hospital, a child evacuee from a Day Nursery aged 20 months, who, upon admission to Hospital was seriously ill with Pneumonia following Measles. The child's condition did not improve and death occurred nine days after admission to Isolation Hospital.

The distribution of the notified cases is shown in the following Table :-

Parish	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
E.Lavington	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	4
Elsted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Fernhurst	-	-	9	6	-	-	1	-	4	3	-	-	23
Graffham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	2	17
Lodsworth	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Rogate	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tillington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5
Totals	-	-	10	6	-	2	1	-	4	13	10	7	53

Enteric Fever and Dysentery.

No cases of typhoid, para-typhoid or dysentery were notified during the year and no deaths were registered as due to these diseases.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

As in the year 1941, one case of this condition was notified during 1942.

The patient was admitted to Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea, where she made a good recovery. No deaths were attributed to Puerperal Sepsis or other Puerperal causes during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two cases of this condition were notified during the year as compared with one for the previous year. Both children made complete recoveries without impairment of vision.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information regarding these diseases among school children is obtained from returns made by Head Teachers of Public Elementary Schools. During the year under review the following cases of infectious and contagious diseases were brought to the notice of the Department :-

Mumps - 26
Chickenpox - 16

Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer during the year was 23 as compared with 31 for the previous year. For comparative purposes, the percentage of deaths due to Cancer during the year 1941 was 14.83, whilst the corresponding figure for the year under review is 11.5.

The following Table is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons whose deaths were certified during the year to be due to Cancer :-

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
0 - 15	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	-	1
25 - 35	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	1	1
45 - 55	1	2	3
55 - 65	3	5	8
65 - 75	2	2	4
75 and up	-	6	6
	<u>7</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>23</u>

Localisation of the Disease.

Digestive organs and Peritoneum :-

Stomach and Duodenum	2
Intestines other than Duodenum or Rectum	5
Pancreas	1

Respiratory System :-

Lungs and Pleura	2
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Female Genital Organs :-

Uterus	3
Ovary	1
Other female genital organs	2

Male Genital Organs :-

Kidney	1
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Breast	5
All other sites	1

Total number of deaths from Cancer 23

Tuberculosis.

During the year 20 civilian new cases of Tuberculosis were added to the notification Register as compared with 14 in 1941. Of the 20 new cases, 11 were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 9 from non-pulmonary types of this disease. In addition, two cases were restored to the Register during the year who had previously been removed therefrom, the reason for restoration in each case being due to pulmonary disease becoming active after periods of quiescence. A total of 5 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were recorded during the year, the same number as for the year 1941. There was one death from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis a corresponding figure with the previous year. Three persons died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis who had not been notified in the district during life.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during the year 1942. The unusually large number of cases removed from the Register during the year is due to the fact that some 52 persons were found to have left the district without notification having been received either by the Tuberculosis Authority or the Public Health Department :-

	Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases			Total Cases (all forms)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1. No. on Register at 1/1/42	33	30	63	12	12	24	50	42	92
2. Cases previously removed and returning during 1942	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2
3. New cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge) in 1942	5	6	11	7	2	9	12	8	20
	45	36	81	19	14	33	64	50	114
4. Cases removed from Register in 1942	27	23	50	5	9	14	32	32	64
5. No. on Register at 31/12/42	18	13	31	14	5	19	32	18	50

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
5 to 10	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 to 25	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
25 to 35	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
35 to 45	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 to 55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 to 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	7	6	7	2	4	1	1	-

Scabies.

During the year 21 cases of scabies have come to the notice of the Department, mainly through the enquiry of the School Medical Service. These cases, 15 of whom were official evacuees, came from 14 households situated in various parts of the district.

Facilities for the treatment of women and children are available at Canavan Auxiliary Hospital, Cocking, whilst men can be treated by arrangement with the Medical Superintendent at St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

During the year 15 patients received treatment at Canavan Auxiliary Hospital and at St. Richard's Hospital.

Venereal Diseases.

As the Council is not an Authority responsible for the treatment of venereal diseases no definite statistics are available regarding its incidence in this district. It has, however, been the practice of Medical Officers of certain Dominion Units to notify cases of these diseases occurring in men under their charge.

During the year one case of suspected syphilis and three cases of suspected Gonorrhoea were notified in this manner.

Table showing cases of Infectious Disease
Notified during the Year.

Disease	Total No. of Cases Notified.	Cases ad- mitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.	Age Distribution											
				Under One	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	over 65
	Total C. N.C	Total C. N.C													
Measles	53 53 -	1 1 -	1	-	4	5	7	5	22	7	2	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	18 17 1	9 8 1	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	7	-	2	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	9 9 -	- - -	-	1	-	2	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7 7 -	- - -)))) 5	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	1
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	3 3 -	- - -)))) 5	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	4 4 -	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2 2 -	- - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1 1 -	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	1 1 -	1 1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	98 97 1	11 10 1	6	4	4	7	9	7	37	16	2	5	2	1	4