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URBAN DISTRICT  
OF  
PAIGNTON

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Annual Report

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
— HEALTH —  
FOR 1944

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AXWORTHYS TORBAY PRINTING WORKS, PALACE AVENUE,  
PAIGNTON

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
PAIGNTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1944, in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health.

It is a pleasure to record that the restrictions imposed on the subject-matter and publication of Annual Reports during the war years have now been removed. The instructions emphasise particularly the importance of water supplies, details of which are given in Section C.

An analysis of birth notifications shows that three-quarters (303) of the total births occurred in Hospital and Maternity-Nursing Homes. This is a social trend which requires recognition by every Local Authority, whether a Maternity Authority or not, for questions of housing conditions, home nursing, home help and the accommodation, staffing and requirements of Hospitals generally are involved. Did not Carlyle say that the wealth of a nation is its children. For another year there were again no deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth.

Apart from a limited outbreak of Whooping-cough (55 notified cases) there has been no prevalence of infectious disease.

The retention of the Auxiliary Isolation Hospital was well justified—for this year at least—to deal with the isolation and treatment of a number of varied acute infections which, owing to the housing of evacuees and the complete or partial absence of parents on war work, could not have been treated at home. Scabies, too, has again been prevalent and the Auxiliary Hospital and Cleansing Clinic have greatly alleviated this disturbing infestation. The amount of bodily and mental distress to patients and parents which Scabies causes to our population is not generally known. Future arrangements for the isolation and treatment of these acute infections and Scabies should be kept in mind, and will depend to a large extent upon housing conditions and accommodation.

The reception of a large number of evacuees, particularly mothers and their young families, added considerably to the amount of infection and infestation, and especially to the problem of control and the work of disinfection ; but by the end of the year the return of evacuees had given much easement.

In thanking the Staff of the Department for their work generally, I desire to record particularly the willingness with which they met and handled the many medical, hygienic and social questions which came their way. One is specially grateful to many members of the nursing profession, and to the Matron and Senior Nurse of the Isolation Hospital who, in addition to the duties for which they are solely engaged, have so often undertaken domestic tasks in their stride, and uncomplainingly. Nevertheless, we do not forget the great

example and help given by the voluntary organisations—the W.V.S., the British Legion Women's Section, the Women's Guilds, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and Nursing Division, and others—in meeting these problems and difficulties of illness, community and personal hygiene, welfare and accommodation which were both accompaniment and sequel to the reception of homeless families.

In conclusion, may I say a few words on administration and staff. By administration, one means management, and this is something which must be well-defined, recognised and known to the Staff. On the contrary, there will be disjointed and unco-operative effort, which makes for inefficiency, may fail in an emergency, and may promote an unhappy atmosphere. What is this which one has to manage? The Staff of a Public Health Department works solely for the common good, for the health of the community—never for any personal vain-glory.

One thinks of Hygeia, the Goddess of Health—often depicted as wearing a veil—as a being of much graciousness and humility. Let us try to emulate the spirit of this fine tradition, and, in so doing, in whatever capacity we serve, strive to carry out our work with that *sanitas* which was understood and handed down to us so long ago. Thus did Hygeia kindle and replenish her lamp of knowledge from the wisdom of old Æsculapius, God of Healing, and her father.

In considering administration and the work and functions of a Staff we can gain much by a knowledge of basic principles. The Ancients perceived the connection as well as the difference between medicine (healing) and health. It was not by accident that they deified Hygeia. And although they had no single term for our word "sanitation" (which we derive from their language), nevertheless *sanum mentem et sanum corpus habere* was something which they were quite clear about, and over the latter of which Hygeia presided. Even in our present more material and scientific times, we can always add to our understanding and broaden our conception of public health by some learning of the doctrines of a great and earlier civilisation.

Soundness of mind, knowledge, principles, the discernment of sifted truth, the suppression of giddy fancies of self-exaltation, all these are still needed that an administration may operate well and truly, and that its moral fibre may be strengthened and maintained.

We, who are concerned with Public Health, may not always attain to the perfection of the charge given to us by Micah in a higher sphere: "To do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly," but, at least, we should have little difficulty in walking modestly with Hygeia.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**A. DICK.**

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

### MEDICAL—

A. DICK, M.D. (State Med.), D.P.H. (Glas. Univ.)  
Medical Officer of Health, and Medical Officer for Isolation Hospitals.

†HELEN BUMSTEAD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Deputy Medical Officer for Isolation Hospitals and Infectious Disease.

### NURSING—

MISS I. FREEMAN.  
Matron, Isolation Hospital, King's Ash.

#### Whole-time Nurses :—

Senior Nurse : MISS E. MORGAN (Fever Certif.)  
MISS B. RICHARDS (Fever Certif.)

\*MISS E. HARRISON, S.R.N.  
Matron, "Dunedin" Auxiliary Isolation Hospital.

\*MRS. D. T. WARD, S.R.N.  
Matron, "Pensilva" Sick Bay, and Nurse-in-charge of Scabies and Skin Treatment.

### SANITARY—

FREDK. J. THICK, Certif. S.I.E.B. (London), Meat Certif., F.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.  
Meat Inspector.

S. H. BONE, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Certif.  
Additional Sanitary Inspector.  
Meat Inspector.

†T. B. CHAFFE, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Certif.  
District Sanitary Inspector.

#### Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :—

‡G. E. LOVATT, Cert. S.I.B. (1943)  
K. E. BISHOP, Cert. S.I.B. (1944). Left 30/3/44.

### CLERICAL—

†R. AUTHERS, Chief Clerk.  
MISS K. M. TALBOT.  
MRS. M. J. SARGEANT.  
Also a Temporary and a Junior Clerk.

### OTHER—

#### Ambulance and Disinfector :—

[†]F. E. PARNELL.  
C. J. TURPIN.

†Part-time. \*Temporary. ‡Absent, H.M. Forces. [†]With N.F.S.

## Section A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1—

Area (acres) ... ..	5,177
Population—Census 1939 (September) ... ..	22,510
Registrar-General's estimated resident population, 1943 ...	23,750
Registrar-General's estimated resident population, 1944 ...	24,420
Number of inhabited houses :—1943, 8,505 ; 1944 ...	8,505
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1945 ... ..	£246,091
Estimated sum represented by Penny Rate, 1944/45 ...	£970

## 2—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Live Births ... ..	354	186	168
Legitimate ... ..	325	174	151
Illegitimate ... ..	29	12	17
Still Births ... ..	8	4	4
Illegitimate ... ..	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ...			14.49
Birth Rate (Still Births)    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,			0.32

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Deaths ... ..	428	194	234
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ...			17.52

Standardised Death Rate for Paignton :—

Comparability Factor not available for 1944.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—

From Sepsis ... ..	Nil
From other causes ... ..	Nil

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age...	13	10	3
All Infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	36.72
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	33.84
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	...	...	0

The number of births has increased by 65 over last year. The Birth Rate, 14.49 per 1,000 population, although raised, is not up to the average rate for England and Wales (17.6 per 1,000 population).

The Death Rate, 17.52 per 1,000 population, continues to be unstandardised. Ninety-two males were over 70 years (36 being over 80 years) ; 144 females were over 70 years (64 being over 80 years). Of these, there were 12 females over 90 years, while two males passed the ages of 94 and 99 years, respectively.

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1944

	M.	F.
All causes ... ..	194	237
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever ... ..	0	0
Measles ... ..	0	0
Scarlet fever ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
Influenza ... ..	1	8
Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	0	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ... ..	8	3
Other tuberculosis ... ..	3	2
Syphilis ... ..	2	1
Cancer ... ..	27	33
Diabetes ... ..	1	6
Cerebral hæmorrhage ... ..	26	43
Heart disease ... ..	51	72
Other circulatory diseases ... ..	4	7
Bronchitis ... ..	7	13
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	11	7
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	1	3
Ulcer of stomach ... ..	1	1
Diarrhœa under 2 years ... ..	0	0
Appendicitis ... ..	0	3
Other digestive diseases ... ..	5	6
Acute and chronic nephritis ... ..	9	8
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	0	0
Other puerperal diseases ... ..	0	0
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc. ... ..	5	2
Suicide ... ..	4	1
Road traffic accidents ... ..	5	2
Other violence ... ..	3	2
All other causes ... ..	19	10
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age : Total ... ..	10	3
Legitimate ... ..	8	3
Illegitimate ... ..	2	0

## Section B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

- (a) **Laboratory Facilities** continue to be given at the Devon County Laboratory, Dix's Field, Exeter, by arrangement with Devon County Council through the County Medical Officer, and have been satisfactory. Specimens have been submitted from

the Isolation Hospitals, Sick Bays, Hostels, Clinics, and from private Practitioner sources as a public health measure.

- (b) **Ambulance Services**—(a) There is one Ambulance for general medical and surgical cases, administered and staffed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and Nursing Division. A contribution is made by the Council towards this service. Augmentation and increasing support and improvement of this service with the co-operation of the Brigade is under present review.

(b) The Ambulance for the movement of cases of infectious disease is provided by the Council. The Ambulance driver is also in control of the Disinfector at the Isolation Hospital, and carries out disinfection and disinfestation there. An improved relief-driver arrangement is still necessary.

- (c) **Nursing in the Home**.—There is no change in this service, which continues to be so ably carried out by the District Nurses of the District Nursing Association.

- d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics**.—The Central School Clinic and Dental Clinic, operated by Devon County Council at Midvale Road, for school children and expectant mothers, continues.

Part of this Clinic is equipped as a **Cleansing Clinic**, and is under the control of Paignton Urban District Council acting as agents of the Ministry in connection with the Evacuation Scheme.

Native residents of the town and district, in addition to evacuees, are treated at this Clinic for verminous conditions, including Scabies.—(Particulars of the work done are given under Section F).

- (e) **Hospitals**.—There is no change. Arrangements were made for a Mobile First Aid Post to be set up, if a certain emergency occurred, in part of the Auxiliary Isolation Hospital, Polsham Park.

**Maternity and Child Welfare**.—These services continue to be administered by Devon County Council. The Medical Officer is Dr. F. Muriel Morris, O.B.E., M.D. The Health Visitor is Miss A. D. Bishop. Both Dr. Morris and Miss Bishop have taken a large part in bringing to the notice of mothers the advantages of diphtheria immunisation, and large numbers (see Section F) of young children have been protected at the Welfare Centre by Dr. Morris.

The Welfare Centre has continued to enjoy the support and enthusiasm of the voluntary helpers, to whose Honorary Secretary (Mrs. K. Fletcher) I am indebted for the following Report :—

## PAIGNTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

### SECRETARY'S REPORT for the Year ending 31st December, 1944

During the year under review the Centre was opened for 90 sessions. The attendances for the year were as follows:—

	MOTHERS.	BABIES.	TODDLERS.
	3463	2832	1009
Mothers on Register ...	...	...	593
Babies on Register ...	...	...	375
Toddlers on Register ...	...	...	273
New Mothers ...	...	...	306
New Babies ...	...	...	254
New Toddlers ...	...	...	66

In addition, the following attendances were made by Evacuees:—

MOTHERS.	BABIES.	TODDLERS.
319	250	102

## Section C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1— [i] **Water.**—No new sources of supply are in operation.

(a) Five samples have been analysed, with satisfactory chemical and bacteriological results.

(b) Figures kindly furnished by the Water Engineer show that the quantity is adequate. Based on an average for summer months, the consumption is about 40 gallons per head per day for a summer population of 30,000. The average standard for an ample but not excessive urban supply for this country is considered to be 35 gallons per head per day.

(ii) The supply is piped after storage and filtration, with terminal chlorination at points where the main pipe-lines leave the reservoirs.

(iii) Neither the moorland nor the lowland supplies have plumbo-solvent action. Lead has not been detected in the chemical analyses and the hydrogen-ion concentration has always showed a neutral or slightly alkaline re-action.

(iv) No action in respect of contamination has been taken, other than the treatment measures and protection of reservoir areas already in operation.

- (v) Almost all dwellings in the district have a direct supply. There are very few supplied by means of stand-pipes—only about 0.25 per cent.—but this leaves out of account several farms and other dwellings in rural parts of the district where the piped main supply is not available.

- [ii] **Drainage and Sewerage.**—There are no extensions to record. Complaints of flooding in a certain area are already known, and the remedy awaits post-war attention.

2— **Stream Pollution.**—There is nothing to report.

3— **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**—No figures have been given for 1944. During the early summer, occupiers of residential and business premises in one area were seriously disturbed, to such an extent as might have endangered health, by fly nuisance arising from the refuse tip. Food tipping by Service Units was partially the cause, and it became necessary to make a special effort to abate the nuisance.

**Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**—The Senior Sanitary Inspector has submitted the following details of inspections carried out by the Additional Sanitary Inspector and himself. Inspections by the Medical Officer of Health are also included, and also the work of Disinfection :—

(a) **Drainage.**

**Old Houses or Buildings.**—The drainage of 12 houses or buildings was tested. All were found defective, of which 4 were re-laid and 8 repaired.

Forty-three visits were paid in connection therewith, and 15 tests applied.

Visits were paid in connection with 52 choked drains or private sewers. Fifty-two Notices were served (40 written and 12 verbal).

- (b) **Disinfection.**—One hundred and twenty-six houses were disinfected for the following reasons :—

Notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	15
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	21
Other infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	40
Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	26
Other cases	...	...	...	...	24

The following is a list of bedding and other articles passed through the Steam Disinfector :—

				FROM ADJOINING	
				PAIGNTON.	DISTRICTS.
Mattresses	...	...	195		100
Pillows	...	...	294		46
Blankets	...	...	293		354
Other articles	...	...	784		5

Scabies has again made large demands on the work of disinfection, and the old Ambulance vehicle has been in very regular use for the transport of bedding, etc.

- (c) **Shops and Offices.**—Twenty-seven Shops were inspected under the Shops Act, 1934 (Section 10). One Notice was served for the provision of sanitary accommodation for females. The date of the expiration of the Notice was not until after the end of the year.

One Kiosk was closed for winter use because of lack of heating.

Four inspections were made of canteen and hotel kitchens, and remedial measures carried out in two cases.

(d) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

		INFESTED.	DISINFESTED.
(1) (a) Council houses	...	0	0
(b) Other houses	...	8	8

(2) The methods employed are (a) by spraying with insecticide (Zaldecide) in mild cases, and (b) "Cimex" blocks in severe cases.

In all cases the woodwork (skirtings, picture rails and architraves) have been removed; also floor-boards eased in order to allow complete penetration.

Where considered necessary, bedding is also removed for steam disinfestation.

(3) The methods previously mentioned are also employed if necessary to ensure that the belongings of the tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Frequent visits are paid and advice given.

Science has moved so rapidly under the incentive and pressure of war that it may be permissible to anticipate future records by mentioning the discovery of D.D.T. (dichlor diphenyl trichlorethane). It is too early yet to claim any properties of universal application of this substance which might out-class other disinfestants. It is known that it is not specially toxic to man and animals; it acts by direct contact with a slow delaying action, and, what is important, its effect is persistent over a long period. Meantime, D.D.T. is not generally available, and the best forms and methods of application may still have to be determined.

**4—Schools.**—There have been no changes in water supply and sanitary arrangements. Water, washing, and special sanitary conveniences at the Nursery Schools in the district have been inspected and found adequate and satisfactory.

## Section D

### HOUSING

THERE have been no special developments to report.

#### 1—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act or Housing Acts) ... ..	132
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	275
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the Sub-Head (1), above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... ..	11
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	2
(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—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 ... ..	110
--	-----

#### 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 ... ..	1
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0

(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	3
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notice :—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0

(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 ... ..	0
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	0

(d)—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	0

#### 4—Housing Act, 1936—Part 4 : Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	0
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	0
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	0
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	0
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	0
(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 ... ..	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—	

Several visits and investigations have been made, mostly in instances brought to notice by the Health Visitors, School Nurses, or by the Nurse in charge of Scabies treatment. The conditions which caused most work were those arising in the accommodation of evacuated families, where several parents and families occupied the same dwelling.

However much overcrowding is relieved, one is forced to conclude that almost any kitchen is overcrowded where two or more different parents are cooking meals at the same time ; cooking pots may not clash, but temperaments do—which is still bad for nutrition.

Summarising the above Table, the Senior Sanitary Inspector notes :—

One hundred and thirty-two houses were inspected during the year—21 under the Housing Act, and 111 under the Public Health Act.

Notices to remedy defects were as follows :—

	VERBAL.	INTIMATION.	STATUTORY.	TOTAL
Housing Act ...	0	13	1	14
Public Health Act ...	12	91	3	106
	12	104	4	120

No cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Two Closing Orders were made during the year. In one case the occupants were transferred to a Council house, and in the other alternative accommodation was found by the occupants.

Houses were also inspected in connection with Certificates for Essentiality Repairs.

## Section E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### (a)—Milk Supply.

The amount of pasteurised milk being retailed appears to be increasing, and this, as it means a cleaner and safer milk, is a good thing. The National Milk-Testing and Advisory Scheme, now getting well under way, should appeal to all producers who have the mind and interest to make progress. The Scheme is under the supervision of Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, acting for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and a Sampling Officer for this district is soon to be appointed.

One hundred and fifty-six visits have been paid to Dairies and Cowsheds.

Number of Cowkeepers or Dairymen on the Register at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Number Registered as Producer-Retailer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number Registered as Producer-Wholesaler	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Number Registered as Retailers only	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

#### Cleanliness and Bacteriological Examinations.

Thirteen samples were submitted to the County Bacteriologist. The results for cleanliness are as follows :—

Passed ... 7      Failed ... 6

	from Local Producers.		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from Local Producers.		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from outside Producers.		From Retailers outside the District	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Cleanliness (Methylene Blue Test)	4	4	3	1	—	1	—	—
Bacteriological Failures (B. Coli Test of the above)	—	2	1	1	—	1	—	—
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)

Two of the combined Bacteriological and Cleanliness failures shown in the above Table were from the same farm within a period of four months. It will be noted from the above (third column) that one sample which passed the Cleanliness test (i.e., indicating the over-all bacterial content) nevertheless failed on the B. Coli test.

In addition, and not included above, four samples examined for Tubercle Bacillus were Negative; these were from farms all within the Urban District.

#### National Milk-Testing and Advisory Scheme.

Two hundred and fifty samples were taken under this Scheme. The results are as follows:—

Passed A ... 187      Passed B ... 39      Passed C ... 24

A—indicates "market" milk, i.e., fit for human consumption.

B—indicates "salvage" quality milk.

C—indicates "rejected" milk.

#### (b)—Meat and other Foods.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There are two Slaughter-houses in the District—one Private (Registered), situated at Crown and Anchor Arch; and one Public, at Luscombe Road. Both are used by the Ministry of Food as slaughtering centres for Paignton and certain surrounding districts.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Thick) at the Public Slaughter-house, and the Additional Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Bone) at the Private Slaughter-house, have continued to carry out the work of meat inspection. The care and the high standard of soundness which Meat Inspectors exercise are qualities of some importance in this work, and it must be a matter for satisfaction to both Inspectors that there have been no complaints made. "When in doubt, pepper it," is the remark made to me not long ago by a knowledgeable Devonian character.

The small percentage of Tuberculosis is again satisfactory.

Six hundred and thirty-eight visits have been paid to Slaughter-houses, Butchers' shops, and the Meat Depot.

The following Table shows the number of animals killed during the year at the Slaughter-houses at Crown and Anchor (Registered) and Public Slaughter-house :—

	SHEEP &					
Registered	CATTLE	COWS	PIGS	CALVES	LAMBS	TOTALS
Slaughterhouse...	821	615	0	902	4602	6940
Public Slaughterhouse...	597	420	128	226	6766	8137
TOTALS	1418	1035	128	1128	11368	15077

Carcases imported into the District have also been inspected at the Meat Depot.

### UN SOUND FOOD

Tables showing details of Meat and Offals condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption :—

#### Carcases inspected and destroyed :—

	CATTLE (excl'dg. Cows)			SHEEP AND LAMBS		PIGS
Number killed ...	1418	1035	1128	11368		128
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	3	8	4	19		0
Carcases of which some part of or- gan was con- demned ...	327	284	6	277		0
Percentage of the number inspect- ed affected with disease other Tuberculosis ...	23.27%	28.21%	0.89%	2.6%		0
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned ...	15	13	1	0		0
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	105	94	0	0		3
Percentage of num- ber inspected aff- ected with Tuberculosis ...	7.76%	10.34%	0.089%	0		2.34%

	TUBERCULOSIS.	OTHER DISEASES AND CONDITIONS.	TOTAL
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Beef ...	16435	5813	22248
Pork ...	64	—	64
Mutton ...	—	871	871
Veal ...	216	304	520
Offals ...	2733	9386½	12119½
TOTALS ...	19448	16374½	35822½

### OTHER UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has carried out the inspection of almost all articles in the following list:—

23 tins fish	48 tins marmalade
81½ stone fish	8lbs. Soya bean flour
113 tins meat	20lbs. butter
180lbs. sausages	107½lbs. bacon
42lbs. meat-offal	14 pkts. cornflakes
63 tins beans	72lbs. cheese
100 tins peas	1 tin greengages
550 tins milk	415lbs. chocolate
1½ pints skimmed milk	1,625 bars chocolate
50lbs. prunes	1 box Neapolitans
21 pies	1 solid pack apples
4 tins syrup	1cwt. peas
20 tins plums	1½cwt. carrots
1 tin damsons	41lbs. coley
52 tins soup	1 tin gravy
15 jars sweets	6 tins dessert powder
27 tins jam	15,137 oranges
19lbs. peas and rice	

One hundred and forty-two visits have been paid to other premises (Bakehouses, Cafés, Fishmongers, etc.) where food is prepared or sold.

## Section F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### Prevalence.

The continued diminution of Diphtheria cases serves to support the value of Immunisation.

Scarlet Fever was even more sporadic than last year, the disease continuing in a mild form.

The limited whooping-cough infection caused anxiety in a few cases. There is no question of the benefit of hospital treatment for the latter—where the patients are of tender years, and the disease itself and its complication so often acute and prolonged, the difficulty of treatment in many homes is very real.

### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Disease	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospitals.	Total deaths.
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	23	20	—
Diphtheria ... ..	3	2	—
Enteric Fever ... .. (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	13	—	18
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	1	—	1
Measles ... ..	7	7	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	55	8	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	2	—	—

#### Cases treated in Hospital.

There are two Isolation Hospitals—the Council's permanent Isolation Hospital, and "Dunedin" Auxiliary Isolation Hospital. There are 18 beds in each. The Auxiliary Hospital is conducted as an Evacuation Hospital, sanction having been given for the treatment of permanent district residents in order to make most effective use of all available isolation accommodation in reception areas for Evacuation. Minor infections are treated in the Auxiliary Hospital, and a section is used for treatment of severe Scabies.

#### Investigation.

Twenty-eight notifiable cases were investigated during the year and enquiries were made as to possible source of infection.

The above does not include cases visited in their homes by the Medical Officer of Health, or other home investigations made by him. One contact of a Paratyphoid carrier was re-inoculated.

#### Removal by Ambulance.

Twenty-six cases from Paignton and 8 from other districts were removed to the Isolation Hospital; 10 cases from Paignton and 3 from other districts were removed to the Auxiliary Isolation Hospital.

## THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Total number of cases, 36 :—Males, 25 ; Females, 11.

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DISEASE.	PAIGNTON	BRIXHAM	DARTMOUTH
Scarlet Fever ... ..	20	4	4
Diphtheria ... ..	2	0	0
Measles ... ..	2	0	0
Cases admitted for observation	1	0	1
Non-Civilians :—Measles ...	1	0	1
TOTALS ... ..	26	4	6

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I. FREEMAN, Matron.

## “ DUNEDIN ” AUXILIARY ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Total number of cases, 88 :—Males, 40 ; Females, 48;

Native residents	...	...	...	14
Evacuees	...	...	...	74

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DISEASE	PAIGNTON	BRIXHAM	DARTMOUTH	OTHER AREAS
Broncho-pneumonia ...	2	0	0	0
Influenza ... ..	1	0	0	0
Measles ... ..	4	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	8	1	0	0
Mumps ... ..	1	0	0	1
Chicken-pox ... ..	5	0	2	1
Ringworm ... ..	0	0	0	9
Scabies ... ..	15	6	14	0
Other skin conditions	6	2	0	0
Others ... ..	10	0	0	0
TOTALS ... ..	52	9	16	11

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E. HARRISON, Matron.

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“ Pensilva ” Sick Bay, which had been closed, was re-opened as a Sick Bay and for the treatment of Scabies and skin conditions, on the 28th August, as an evacuation need. The following table shows the work done to the end of the year :—

## “ PENSILVA ” SICK BAY

Total number of cases, 55 :—Males, 30 ; Females, 25.

Native residents	...	...	...	...	8
Evacuees	...	...	...	...	47

DISEASE	PAIGNTON	BRIXHAM	DARTMOUTH	OTHER AREAS
Scabies ... ..	21	6	3	2
Impetigo ... ..	8	2	1	1
Dirty and septic head	0	1	0	0
Septic toe ... ..	1	0	0	0
Ear conditions (Otorrhoeas and following operation) ... ..	5	0	0	1
Cœliac disease ...	1	0	0	0
Chill ... ..	1	0	0	0
Asthma ... ..	1	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<b>38</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

D. T. WARD, Matron.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

No special local appeal or arrangement was made this year.

One hundred and thirty-six children, aged 1 to 5 years, were protected, and our sincere thanks are due to Dr. Muriel Morris, who has carried out almost all of these immunisations at the Welfare Centre.

About 40 per cent. of children aged 1 to 5 years, in Paignton, are fully immunised, and some 57 per cent. of children aged 5 to 15 years.

The prophylactic used, in all cases, was Alum Precipitated Toxoid, in two doses of 0.3 to 0.4 c.c. and 0.5 c.c. There have been no ill effects reported to me, apart from a few cases of temporary localised swelling and stiffness at the site of injection.

### Scabies, Skin and Verminous Conditions.

(1)—In-patient treatment for severe cases among children was given at “ Dunedin ” Auxiliary Isolation Hospital, while out-patient treatment for adults and mild cases was given at the Cleansing Clinic, Midvale Road.

Thirty-five cases of Scabies have already been shown in the Auxiliary Isolation Hospital return, and thirty-two cases in the return for “ Pensilva ” Sick Bay. The following Table completes the total work done :—

## OUT-PATIENT (CLEANSING) CLINIC FOR SCABIES

	EVACUEES :		DEVON RESIDENTS :	
	Children.	Adults.	Children	Adults.
1—PAIGNTON :—				
Total Scabies	43	1	73	22
2—BRIXHAM :—				
Total Scabies	0	0	1	0
3—TOTNES R.D. :—				
Total Scabies	0	0	4	0
TOTALS ...	43	1	78	22

The grand total number of cases treated is 144 :—44 Evacuees and 100 Devon residents.

D. T. WARD, Nurse-in-charge.

### Verminous Head Conditions.

(2)—These were treated at the above Cleansing Clinic (not at the same sessions as for Scabietic treatment). Cleansing has been carried out by the Assistant-Nurse Helper (Mrs. E. Russell), who also, acting part-time for Devon County Council, inspects children in the Schools. This combined practice has proved to be of the greatest benefit in controlling verminous conditions. Home visits and advice by your Medical Officer and the Assistant-Nurse have been given in many cases, so that formal action against parents has generally been unnecessary. Generally, the children of Paignton are, or have been, kept remarkably clear of vermin, and can hold their heads up unblushingly for inspection alongside of any other comparable community.

The following Table shows the extent of the work done at the Clinic :—

1944	DEVONS :		EVACUEES :	
	Head Cleansing	Baths	Head Cleansing	Baths
January ...	16	8	0	0
February ...	10	8	12	0
March ...	6	10	8	0
April ...	8	2	0	0
May ...	6	4	9	0
June... ..	9	3	4	0
July ...	1	0	17	28
August ...	0	0	0	0
September ...	0	0	29	6
October ...	4	0	10	2
November ...	4	0	5	0
December ...	0	0	10	0
TOTALS ...	64	35	104	36

There have been many "return" cases in the above numbers. One hesitates to blame a parent living with two or more children in part-occupation of a dwelling which has no bath with hot and cold taps. We are very conscious of our "black spots," and can only regret that their demolition or vacation for habitation has to be still delayed.

It is a pleasure to report that parents so situated have readily agreed in using the cleansing facilities at the Clinic.

### VACCINATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Objections signed	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
Postponed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Left District	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

WM. ROSSITER, Vaccination Officer.

I again thank the Vaccination Officer for the above return. The small number of vaccinations is regrettable.

The arrangements for the following-up or Smallpox contacts are unchanged.

### TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1944

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2—5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
6—10	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
11—15	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
16—20	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
21—25	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
26—35	3	5	1	0	2	0	1	1
36—45	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
46—55	3	2	1	0	2	2	0	1
56—65	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0
66 upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	14	15	6	3	9	4	2	3

A note is taken of new cases and enquiry made in view of any possible connection, which they might have with milk, food, or other means of spreading infection. One such case was investigated.



