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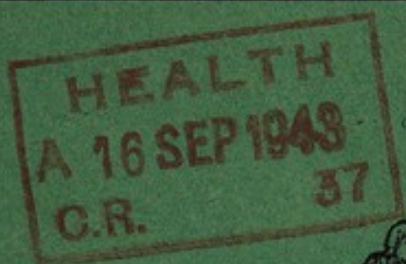
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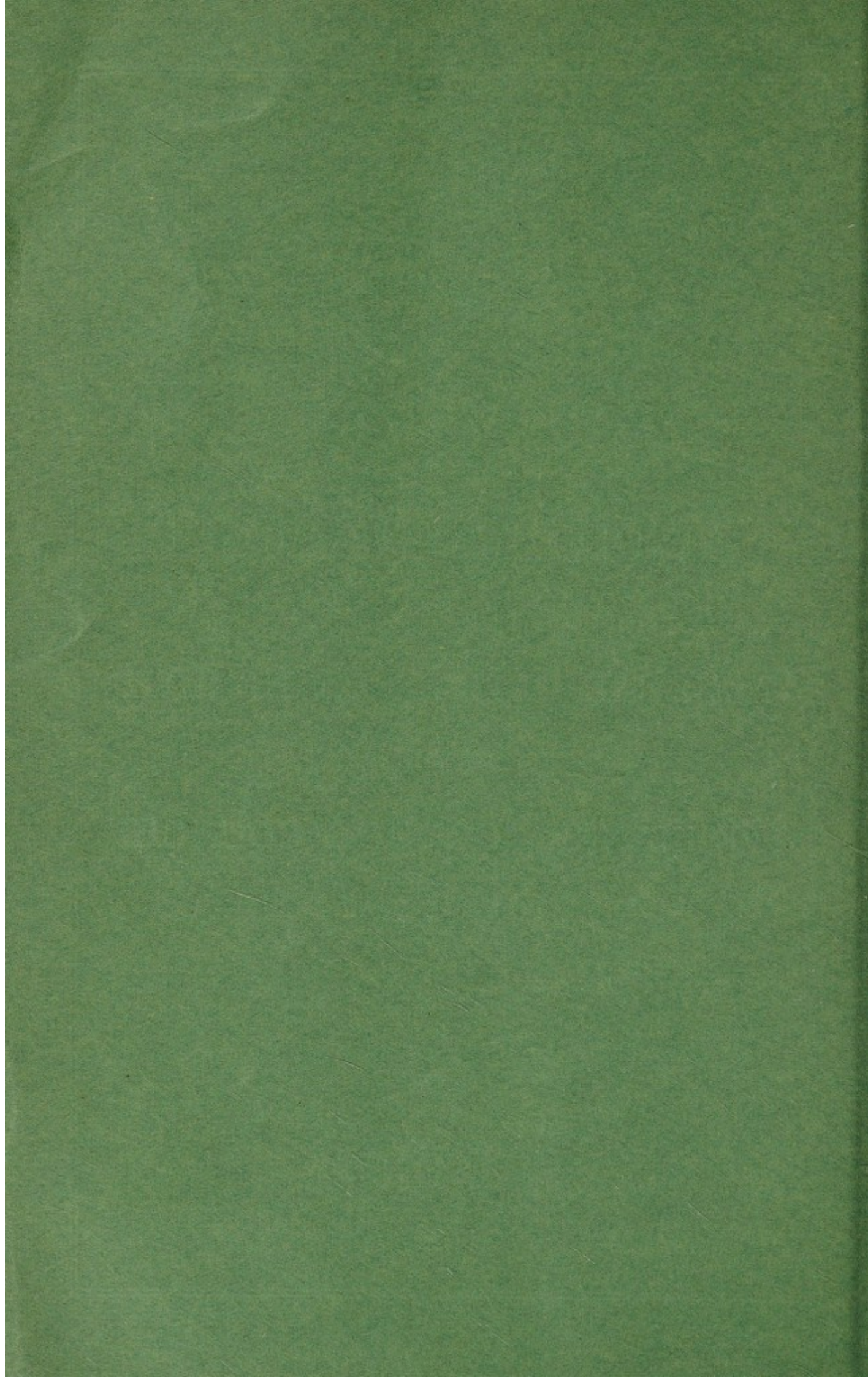
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THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
TO THE  
**PENZANCE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
FOR THE YEAR  
**1941.**

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— PENZANCE —  
JOHN W. SAUNDRY,  
13 CHAPEL STREET.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
PENZANCE.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
BOROUGH OF PENZANCE.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the year 1941, together with the Vital Statistics in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health's Circular 2604 dated 24th March, 1942.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROWLAND HURST HADFIELD,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

DR. R. H. HADFIELD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

DR. DOROTHY CHOWN (appointed May, 1941).

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

A. T. HARPER.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

R. E. WARBURTON.

A. O. SHARPE (appointed August, 1941).

HEALTH VISITORS :

MISS E. TONKIN.

MISS I. M. GOACHER (seconded from Lambeth M.B.C.  
January, 1941).

## SECTION A.

**Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**

Area : 3,578 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1941 : 22,610.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1941 according to rate books : 6,268.

Rateable value : £120,406. Sum represented by a penny rate : £470.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Live Births : Legitimate	...	268	142	126
Illegitimate	...	12	6	6

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 1941 : 12.4.

National birth rate : 14.2.

Still Births : 12. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 41.

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Deaths	... ..	348	169	179

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population, 1941 : 15.4.

National death rate : 12.9.

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	... ..	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal Causes	...	2	7
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2	7

	<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Infantile Deaths	22	15*	7    *4 illegitimate.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 78.6

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births... 67.2

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 333.3

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... .. 37

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... .. 2

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... 1

## SECTION B.

## General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

## 1. (i) Medical Officer of Health :

DR. R. H. HADFIELD.

## Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

DR. DOROTHY CHOWN (appointed May, 1941).

## School Medical Officer :

DR. R. C. LAWRY.

## Chief Sanitary Inspector :

A. T. HARPER.

## Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

R. E. WARBURTON.

A. O. SHARPE (appointed August, 1941).

## Health Visitors :

MISS E. TONKIN.

MISS I. M. GOACHER (seconded from Lambeth  
M.B.C. January, 1941).

## (ii) Developments or changes in the services provided in the area including those due to war time conditions :

(a) Laboratory facilities. No changes.

(b) Ambulance facilities. No changes.

(c) Nursing in the home. No changes.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics. For some time it has been felt that it was unable to conduct the main Infant Welfare Centre in an efficient manner because of the unsatisfactory premises used for this purpose.

During the year an arrangement was made with the Cornwall County Council for the use of a part of the premises at " Penlee " used as a First Aid Post. It was found possible to make much more satisfactory arrangements on these premises and since the transfer of the Clinic to these new

quarters there has been a marked improvement in attendances and it is now felt that the Clinic is functioning far more efficiently than heretofore.

2. Nil returns.

3. (i), (ii) and (iii). No changes.

(iv) Duties in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare services within the Borough were considerably extended as a result of the influx of evacuees, and to meet the situation arrangements were made for the seconding of a Health Visitor from the Lambeth M.B.

(v) and (vi). No alterations.

4. Nil returns.

## SECTION C.

**Sanitary Circumstances of Area.**

1. (i) WATER.—Most areas of the Borough are provided with a pipe water supply and except in remote areas with limited sources of supply, the water is treated by chlorination. The main supplies from the new pumping station at Drift and also from the Boscathnoe reservoirs are subject to regular bacteriological examinations by the Water Department. In addition, 13 samples have been taken by the Sanitary Department for bacteriological analysis.
- (ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—No important extensions on the sewerage and drainage arrangements were carried out during the year.
2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—Routine general inspections were made by the Sanitary Department to check pollution of streams and watercourses and notices were served when found necessary.
3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—No major improvements were carried out during the year.
- (ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.—No extensions of arrangements were made during the year.
- (iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—
  - 131 Complaints received and attended to.
  - 100 Inspections of houses under the Public Health Act.
  - 23 Inspections of houses under Housing Act.
  - 209 Visits to infected houses.
  - 378 Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected.
  - 248 Houses disinfected.
  - 30 Visits to infested premises.
  - 40 Premises disinfested.
  - 2 Visits to schools.
  - 150 Visits to Isolation Hospitals.
  - 302 Visits re Salvage of Waste Materials.
  - 253 Miscellaneous Visits.
  - 90 General Inspections.
  - 67 Water Closets inspected.

- 20 Water Closets found defective.
- 14 Water Closets repaired or renewed.
- 11 New Water Closets provided.
- 109 Inspections of drains.
- 74 Inspections of drainage work in progress.
- 49 Drains found defective.
- 33 Drains repaired or renewed.
- 9 Drains tested with water.
- 4 Drains tested with smoke.
- 2 Drains tested with colour.
- 13 Inspections re percolation of water.
- 28 Inspections re rat infestation.
- 51 Inspections re removal of offensive deposits.
- 73 Inspections of factories and workplaces.
- 30 Inspections of fish markets and stalls.
- 387 Inspections of markets.
- 422 Inspections of food stores and shops.
- 43 Inspections of cowsheds.
- 42 Inspections of farms.
- 39 Inspections of dairies.
- 1 Inspection of stables and manure receptacles.
- 13 Water samples taken for bacteriological analysis.
- 71 Informal notices served.
- 26 Informal notices complied with.
- 17 General inspections of refuse piles.
- 7 Inspections of bakehouses.
- 14 Inspections re decontamination of Foodstuffs.
- 70 Inspections of Air Raid Shelters.
- 9 Inspections of streams and water courses.
- 1 Inspection of Common Lodging House.
- 271 Visits re Civil Defence.
- 7 Inspections of Fried Fish Shops.
- 16 Samples of milk taken for bacteriological analysis.
- 7 Visits re overcrowding.
- 66 Visits re Proposed Rest Centres.
- 257 Visits to Council Houses re overcrowding.
- 2 Inspections of houses for repair.

- 5 Inspections re animals improperly kept.
- 60 Inspections re special Hostels.
- 6 Inspections re nuisances.
- 8 Statutory Notices served.
- 2 Statutory Notices complied with.
- 2 Visits to Fish Stores.
- 3 Visits re food poisoning.
- 1 Inspection re offensive trades.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.—Informal action taken in the few instances where it was found necessary to administer the provisions of the Shops Act, 1924, resulted in satisfactory arrangements being made.

(v) CAMPING SITES.—No action taken.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.—No action taken.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—The only Bathing Pool within the Borough has been in the occupation of the military authorities since 1940.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.—Investigations of complaints concerning premises infested by either bugs or fleas made by the Department during the year resulted in disinfection being carried out at 40 premises. The work being done by the local authority in all cases.

Methods usually employed were either by fumigation by sulphur dioxide gas followed by spraying with some proprietary solution in bad cases, or for mild infestations the use of the second treatment only.

Ten premises were found to be infested with bugs and of these six were Council houses.

4. SCHOOLS.—No changes were effected during the year in the sanitary arrangements or water supply at any of the Council's schools.

It was found necessary to draw the attention of the Education Committee to the unsatisfactory sanitary arrangements provided at the St. Paul's Boys' School. Although strong representations were made for the provision of improved accommodation, no steps have yet been taken to instal modern conveniences.

#### SECTION D.

### **Housing.**

Some concern has been felt over the arrangements made for the accommodation of alien refugees. At the time of the emergency the only premises available for housing these people were condemned properties from which families had been displaced. As a temporary expedient these houses had to be utilised for accommodating the refugee families, but the Housing Committee were left in no doubt as to the undesirability of prolonging the tenancy of these condemned houses, and therefore occupation should only be sanctioned for a limited period. There are, however, still too many of these properties remaining in use for this purpose.

## SECTION E.

**Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—During the year 124 visits were paid to farms and dairy premises and 16 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological analysis.

One milk producer in the district was licenced under the Milk (Special Designations) Order to produce Tuberculin Tested milk, whilst two retailers were licenced to sell Tuberculin Tested milk, and two to sell Pasteurised milk in the Borough.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—Visits to food premises included 422 to food stores and shops, 387 to markets, 30 to fishmarkets and stalls, and 16 to other premises besides 2,864 visits to slaughterhouses for purposes of meat inspection. The number of carcasses inspected at the time of slaughter or immediately after was 15,104.

Bovine animals	...	3159
Sheep and lambs	...	7277
Calves	... ..	1729
Pigs	... ..	2939
Total		15104

The following table gives particulars of meat and other food rejected during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

	TUBERCULOSIS :			
	Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
Carcases and Viscera...	53	—	—	12
Forequarters ...	52	—	—	3
Hindquarters ...	10	—	—	—
Briskets ... ..	6	—	—	—
Lungs ... ..	371	—	1	81
Livers ... ..	117	—	1	60
Heads and Tongues ...	309	—	—	175
Mesenteries and Intestines	13	—	—	—
Omenta and Stomachs	14	—	—	1

				Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
TUBERCULOSIS :							
Hearts	...	...		18	—	1	55
Diaphragms	...	...		39	—	—	—
Spleens	...	...		13	—	—	—
Kidney	...	...		1	—	—	—
CHRONIC EMACIATION (JOHNE'S DISEASE) :							
Carcases and Viscera...				5	—	—	—
CHRONIC EMACIATION AND DROPSY :							
Carcases and Viscera...				5	35	—	1
Forequarter	...	...		1	—	—	—
MORIBUND ANIMALS :							
Carcases and Viscera...				—	2	—	—
PYAEMIA :							
Carcases and Viscera...				—	3	—	2
UMBILICAL PYAEMIA :							
Carcase and Viscera...				—	—	1	—
ABSCESSSES :							
Forequarters	...	...		—	6	—	1
TUMOUR :							
Forequarters	...	...		—	2	—	—
PUTREFACTION, DECOMPOSI- TION, BONE TAINT, ETC.							
Carcases and Viscera...				—	—	1	2
Forequarters	...	...		3	—	—	—
Hindquarters	...	...		3	—	—	—
Carcase Meat	...			300lbs.	—	—	124lbs.
Heads and Tongues	...			3	—	—	—
Livers	...	...		2	—	—	—
Lungs	...	...		3	—	—	—
Hearts	...	...		3	—	—	—
Diaphragms		...		3	—	—	—
Tails	...	...		3	—	—	—
Spleen	...	...		1	—	—	—

			Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
BRUISING :						
Hindquarters	...	...	1	2	—	—
Forequarters	...	...	2	—	—	—
Heads	...	...	2	—	—	—
Carcase Meat		...	274lbs.	21lbs.	—	264lbs.
CIRRHOsis AND FLUKES :						
Livers	...	...	181	126	—	9
OTHER CONDITIONS :						
Livers	...	...	263	159	4	20
Lungs	...	...	4	25	—	54
Heads and Tongues	...	...	34	1	1	—
Hearts	...	...	3	7	—	29
Kidneys	...	...	15	—	—	17
Diaphragms		...	1	—	—	—
Spleens	...	...	1	—	—	1
Omenta and Stomachs			4	—	—	1
Mesenteries and Intestines			3	—	—	1
Carcase Meat		...	—	66½lbs.	—	11lbs.

Other food rejected during the year included:—55 tins meat; 3 tins fish; 101 tins fruit; 6 tins vegetables; 36 tins milk; 18 lbs. sausages; 24½ lbs. cheese; 125 lbs. tomatoes; 40½ lbs. bacon; 26 2 lb. loaves of bread; 31½ lbs. flour; 1 ton 3 cwt. dried fish; 154 lbs. kippers.

The following food, etc., was rejected owing to air raid damage:—641 loaves bread; 18 cakes; 30 lbs. liquid egg; 10 lbs. dates; 327 lbs. flour; 4 lbs. salt; 1½ lbs. yeast; 30 gallons milk; 2 tins milk; 44 eggs; 13 lbs. margarine; 7 lbs. lard; 36 lettuces; 2 lbs. jam; 2 bottles rennet; 8 pkts. custard powder, blancmange, etc.; 1 lb. coffee; 3 qts. fruit juice syrup; 28 lbs. sugar; 6 tins vegetables; 1 bottle pickles; 3 bottles cough mixture; 2 seidlitz powders.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.—No action taken.

## SECTION F.

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1. The number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases reported during the year are shown in the following table :—

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths.
Diphtheria ... ..	90	78	5
Scarlet Fever ... ..	72	45	—
Cerebral Spinal Fever ... ..	11	10	2
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	5	3	—
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	3	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	—	—
Infantile Paralysis ... ..	1	1	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	—
Measles ... ..	417	—	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	59	—	—

It will be seen that the considerable increase in the incidence of both Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever which followed shortly after the arrival of the evacuees in the Borough in 1940 was maintained throughout 1941. It will also be noted that several cases of Cerebral Spinal Fever were notified during the same period. Of the cases shown in the above table as being removed to hospital 70 cases of Diphtheria and 44 cases of Scarlet Fever were isolated at the Borough's Infectious Disease hospitals at Mount Misery and Madron. The remainder of the cases were sent to the County Emergency Isolation Hospital at Truro.

The Council's campaign for Immunisation against Diphtheria commenced early in the year, and by the end of 1941 434 children under 5 years of age and 3,258 children from 5 to 15 years of age had completed the full courses.

Alum Precipitated Toxoid was the prophylactic used in all cases.

The incidence of each particular disease is analysed as shown in the following age groups :—

Disease.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	1	3	2	42
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	1	5	9	5	30
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Spinal Fever ...	2	2	—	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—
Infantile Paralysis ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—

Disease.	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.
Diphtheria ... ..	20	8	9	4	1	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	12	3	5	1	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cerebral Spinal Fever ...	—	2	3	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	4	1	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	1	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile Paralysis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

## 2. CANCER.

	—50	50—60	60—70	70—80	80 and over.
Male ... ..	3	3	5	3	2
Female ... ..	—	4	8	8	1

## 3. TUBERCULOSIS. No action taken.

## 4. TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1941 :

Age-Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	2	1	—	2	1	—	—	—
25	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	...	...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
55	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards			—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	...		7	5	—	2	3	2	—	1





