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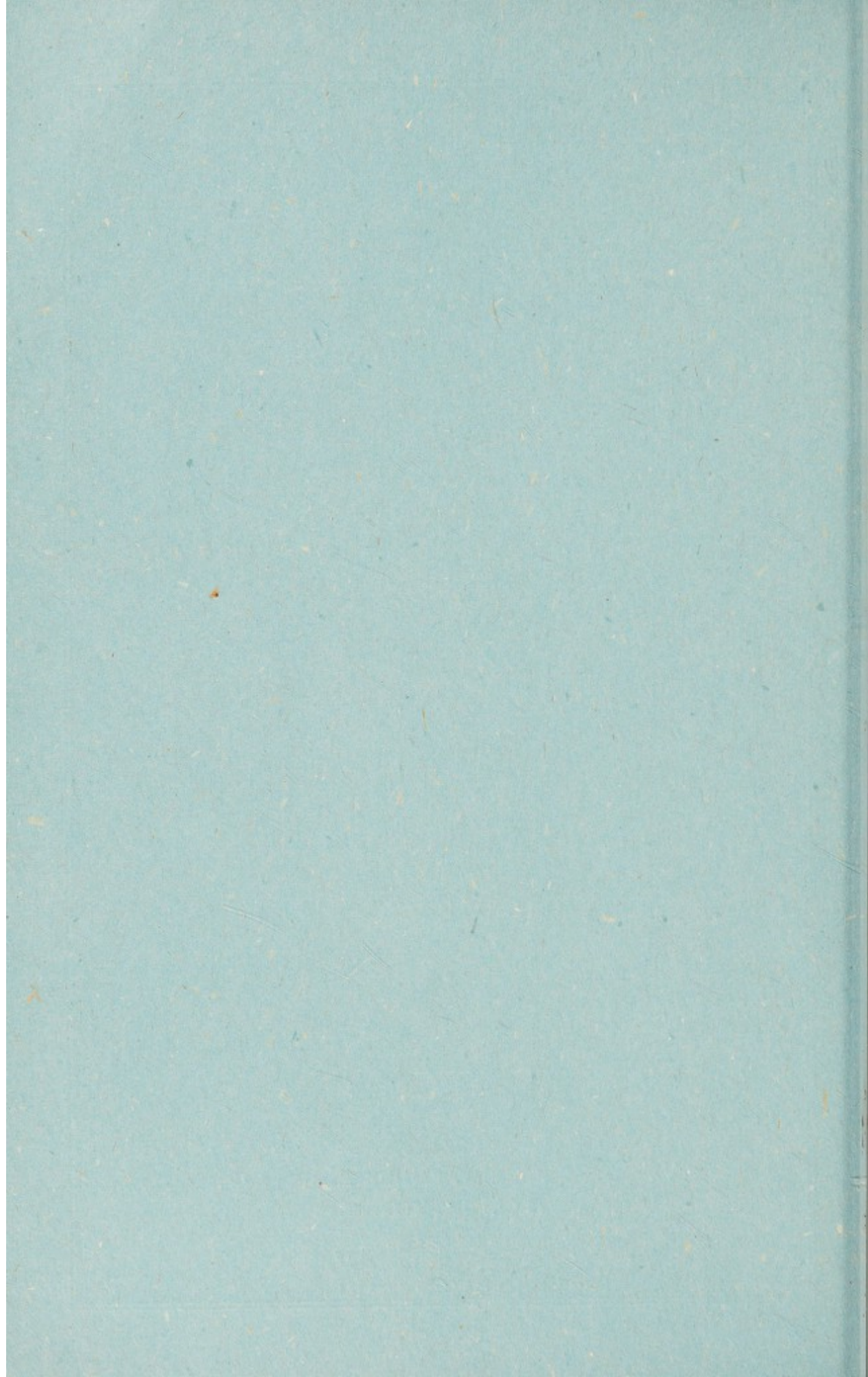
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THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
PENZANCE BOROUGH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR
1943.

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



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
PENZANCE.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,
BOROUGH OF PENZANCE.

MR. MAYOR, MY LORD, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health Services and Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the year 1943, together with the Vital Statistics in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 10/44 dated 15th February, 1944.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROWLAND HURST HADFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

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

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

A. T. HARPER.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

R. E. WARBURTON.

A. O. SHARPE.

HEALTH VISITOR :

MISS E. TONKIN.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 3,578 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1943 : 19,120.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1943 according to rate books : 6,268.

Rateable value : £121,926. Sum represented by a penny rate : £474.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Live Births :	Legitimate ...	292	146	146
	Illegitimate ...	29	11	18

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 1943 : 16.8.

National birth rate : 16.5.

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Still Births	... ..	11	6	5

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 36.3.

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Deaths	... ..	338	160	178

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population, 1943 : 17.7.

National death rate : 12.1.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :

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

		<i>Total.</i>	Males.	Females.
Infantile Deaths	... ..	14	8	6

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 births 43.6

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 44.5

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... 34.5

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 52

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil.

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.

 School Medical Officer :
 DR. R. C. LAWRY.

 Chief Sanitary Inspector :
 A. T. HARPER.

 Additional Sanitary Inspectors :
 R. E. WARBURTON.
 A. O. SHARPE.

 Health Visitor :
 MISS E. TONKIN.
- (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 : Two Clinics have been established for the treatment of verminous persons. One for In-patients at Regent Terrace, and the other for Out-patients at Alexandra Place.
 - (e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary : See Section F (2) with reference to the Borough Isolation Hospital.
2. Nil returns.
3. Maternity and Child Welfare. Developments or changes in services provided under the following heads :
 - (i) Midwifery and Maternity services. No changes.
 - (ii) Institutional provision for mothers or children :
 Provision for admission to County Council Maternity

Blocks has been taken advantage of by a number of visiting Servicemen's wives more than by local residents. The County Council Residential Nursery takes under five year olds by arrangements with this authority.

- (iii) Health Visitors : Position unchanged.
- (iv) Child Life Protection : Demands for children under five years of age coming within the provisions of the Child Life Protection Act have been greater and more adoptions have been arranged through the respective Societies. Five of these have been arranged by the Public Health Dept. and others in co-operation with the Secretary of the Cornwall Social and Moral Welfare Association.
- (v) Orthopaedic treatment : This Centre has been removed to The West Cornwall Hospital from North Parade.

4. Nil returns.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i) **WATER**: No new sources of public supply were brought into use nor any important extensions of the mains carried out during the year. Except in remote areas of the Borough all districts are provided with a piped water supply, the quality of which is controlled by filtration and chlorination and frequent bacteriological examinations carried out by the Water Department. In addition 26 samples have been taken by the Sanitary Department, 3 for chemical and 23 for bacteriological examination. No district was short of water at any time during the year.
- (ii) **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**: No important extensions of the sewerage and drainage arrangements were carried out during the year.
2. **RIVERS AND STREAMS**: These were kept under constant supervision and any complaints as to pollution were promptly investigated.
3. (i) **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION**: No major improvements were carried out during the year.
- (ii) **PUBLIC CLEANSING**: No variation in the method of collection or disposal was made during the year.
- (iii) **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA**:
 - 203 Complaints were received and attended to.
 - 339 Inspections of houses under the Housing Act.
 - 110 Inspections of houses under the Public Health Act.
 - 337 Inspections and visits re infectious diseases.
 - 224 Houses disinfected.
 - 259 Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected.
 - 37 Visits to infested premises.
 - 69 Premises disinfested.
 - 4 School premises disinfected.
 - 71 Visits to Isolation Hospital.
 - 28 Water Closets inspected.
 - 18 Water Closets found defective.
 - 9 Water Closets repaired or renewed.
 - 9 New Water Closets provided.
 - 105 Inspections of drains.
 - 55 Drains found defective.

- 24 Inspections of drainage work in progress.
- 43 Drains repaired or renewed.
 - 1 Drain tested with colour.
 - 4 Drains tested with smoke.
 - 12 Drains tested with water.
- 28 Inspections re percolation of water.
- 257 Inspections re rat infestation.
- 35 Inspections re removal of offensive deposits.
- 42 Inspections of factories and workplaces.
- 55 Inspections of fish markets and stalls.
- 377 Inspections of markets.
- 445 Inspections of food stores and shops.
- 77 Inspections of farms.
- 26 Inspections of cowsheds.
- 194 Inspections of dairies.
 - 4 Inspections of sanitary accommodation.
- 11 Inspections of streams and watercourses.
- 9 Inspections of Bakehouses.
- 3 Inspections of Common Lodging Houses.
- 3 Inspections of Food Preparing Premises.
- 1 Inspection of British Restaurant.
- 1 Inspection of Refreshment House.
- 6 Inspections of Fish Stores.
- 26 Inspections of Refuse Piles.
- 18 Inspections re Animals improperly kept.
 - 1 Inspection re provision of new refuse receptacles.
 - 7 Inspections re Diseases of Animals Acts.
 - 5 Inspections of offensive trades.
- 55 Inspections of Public Conveniences.
- 16 Inspections of Firewatchers premises.
- 7 Inspections of Evacuation Hostels re food supply.
- 50 Inspections of Air Raid Shelters.
- 252 Visits re Civil Defence.
- 72 Visits re Emergency Mortuary arrangements.
- 35 Inspections under Scabies Order, 1941.
 - 3 Inspections re Bomb Damage.
 - 6 Inspections re application for Housing Accommodation under the Defence of the Realm Act.
- 319 Visits re Salvage of Waste Materials.
- 27 Visits re Book Drive.

- 9 Inspections under Shops Act.
- 455 Miscellaneous Visits.
- 191 General Inspections.
- 23 Water samples taken for bacteriological analysis.
- 3 Water samples taken for chemical analysis.
- 14 Designated milk samples for bacteriological analysis.
- 260 Milk samples taken.
- 856 Local milk tests carried out in department.
- 115 Informal notices served.
- 51 Informal notices complied with.
- 4 Statutory notices served.
- 3 Statutory notices complied with.

(iv) **SHOPS AND OFFICES :** In the few instances where non compliance with the requirements of the Shops Act occurred, informal action resulted in satisfactory provision being made.

(v) **CAMPING SITES :** No action taken.

(vi) **SMOKE ABATEMENT :** No action necessary.

(vii) **SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS :** The only Bathing Pool within the Borough is, owing to war time conditions, no longer available for the use of the general public.

(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 69 premises. The work in all cases was carried out by the local authority, and the methods usually employed were either (i) fumigation by sulphur dioxide followed by spraying with one of the proprietary solutions or (ii) in cases of mild infestations by the use of the second treatment only. There was a gratifying decrease in premises infested with bugs, only four cases being discovered, two of which occurred in Council houses, but there was an increase in flea infestation.

4. **SCHOOLS :** Water supplies to all the Council Schools are adequate and satisfactory, provision in this respect having been made from one or other of the Council's main supplies. Sanitary arrangements in most instances are satisfactory and no improvements have been carried out during the year.

SECTION D.

Housing.

There has been no material alteration in the housing situation since I made my annual report for 1942.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY: During the year 271 visits were made to farms and dairy premises, 14 samples of designated milk and 3 samples of ordinary milk were submitted to the Pathological Department of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, for bacteriological analysis. In addition 257 samples were taken in connection with the National Milk Advisory Scheme and of this number 80 were subjected to resazurin and methylene blue tests at the St. Erth Creameries.

As a result of discussions with milk producers much improvement could be seen in milking technique at many farms, but the evidence adduced from the tests carried out both in our own department and at the St. Erth Creameries shewed that much greater improvement was required before the ultimate objective of a clean wholesome supply of milk for all could be achieved.

Two milk producers in the district were licenced under the Milk (Special Designations) Order to produce T.T. milk and one to produce Accredited milk, whilst one retailer was licenced to sell T.T. milk and two to sell pasteurised milk in the Borough.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS: Visits to food premises included 445 to food stores and shops, 377 to markets, 55 to fishmarkets and stalls, besides 3,348 visits to slaughter-houses for purposes of meat inspection. The number of carcasses inspected at the time of slaughter or immediately after was:

Bovine animals	...	4,694
Sheep and Lambs	...	4,841
Calves	... ..	3,781
Pigs	... ..	841
Goats	... ..	3
Total		14,160

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

	Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
TUBERCULOSIS:				
Carcases and Viscera	151	—	3	6
Forequarters	62	—	—	2

			Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
TUBERCULOSIS :						
Hindquarters	...	...	5	—	—	—
Briskets	...	...	15	—	—	—
Flanks	...	...	4	—	—	—
Livers	...	...	119	—	4	18
Lungs	...	...	467	—	4	25
Hearts	...	...	27	—	4	17
Heads and Tongues	...	...	325	—	—	54
Diaphragms	...	...	33	—	—	—
Mesenteries and Intestines			47	—	—	—
Omenta and Stomachs			23	—	—	—
Spleens	...	...	19	—	—	—
Kidneys	...	...	10	—	—	—
CHRONIC EMACIATION AND DROPSY (JOHNE'S DISEASE) :						
Carcases and Viscera			2	—	—	—
CHRONIC EMACIATION AND DROPSY :						
Carcases and Viscera			30	10	—	—
Briskets	...	...	4	—	—	—
Flanks	...	...	4	—	—	—
BRUISING :						
Hindquarter	...	...	1	—	—	—
Carcase Meat	...	...	362lbs.	9½lbs.	—	119lbs.
Forequarter	...	...	1	—	—	—
Legs	...	...	—	—	—	3
PUTREFACTION, DECOMPOSITION, BONE TAINT, ETC. :						
Carcase Meat	...	...	181lbs.	—	—	88lbs.
Livers	...	...	50	31	—	—
Tail	...	...	1	—	—	—
Heads and Tongues	...	...	14	—	—	29

				Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
PUTREFACTION, DECOMPOSITION, BONE TAINT, ETC.							
Lungs	...	...	50	—	—	—	—
Hearts	...	...	49	9	—	—	—
Spleen	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
PYAEMIA :							
Carcases and Viscera			—	—	2	3	
CIRRHOsis AND FLUKES :							
Livers	...	...	260	52	—	8	
UMBILICAL PYAEMIA :							
Carcases and Viscera			—	—	5	—	
JOINT ILL :							
Carcase and Viscera	...		—	—	1	—	
URAEMIA :							
Carcases and Viscera			2	—	—	—	
MORIBUND ANIMAL :							
Carcase and Viscera	...		—	—	1	—	
ABSCESS :							
Forequarters	...	...	3	6	—	—	
Hindquarters	...	...	1	—	—	—	
Carcase Meat		...	—	3lbs.	—	—	
Flank	...	...	—	1	—	—	
SEPTICAEMIA :							
Carcases and Viscera			1	—	1	—	
DEFORMITY :							
Carcase Meat	...		25lbs. hind shin	—	—	—	
OTHER CONDITIONS :							
Heads and Tongues	...		39	—	1	3	
Livers	...	...	453	93	9	3	
Lungs	...	...	22	9	—	5	

				Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
OTHER CONDITIONS :							
Carcase Meat	...	...	251lbs.	51lbs.	—	29lbs.
Hearts	...	...	2	—	—	7
Kidneys	...	...	22	—	—	—
Diaphragms	...	...	3	2	—	—
Spleens	...	...	2	1	—	—
Omenta and Stomachs			8	—	—	—	
Mesenteries and Intestines			2	—	—	—	
Tail	...	...	1	—	—	—

Other food rejected during the year included:—462 tins of meat; 302 tins of milk; 136 tins of fish; 224 tins of vegetables; 135 tins of fruit; 43 tins of soup; 2 tins spaghetti; 3 tins turkey; 2 jars of fish paste; 2 jars meat paste; 1 jar pickles; 1 jar Betox; 1 jar rennett essence; 1 pkt. beef suet; 168 pkts. gravy salt; 35 pkts. pudding mixture; 98 lbs. jam and marmalade; 1 lb. minciment; 2 lbs. syrup; $101\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. cheese; 4 lbs. biscuits; $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. chocolate; 8 cwt. 36 lbs. rice; 150 lbs. bacon; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. cocoa; 6 lbs. oats; 17 lbs. prunes; $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. sugar; $50\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. tea; 2 lbs. margarine; 14 ozs. butter; 12 ozs. lard; 21 lbs. fish; 15 lbs. sausages; 20 lbs. split peas; 33 lbs. Haricot beans; 28 lbs. kippers.

(c), (d), (e) and (f). No action taken.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1. Nil Returns.

2. 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.
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—
Diphtheria	90	87	6
Scarlet Fever	23	22	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	4	4	—
Pneumonia	5	—	16
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Jaundice	1	1	—
Measles	44	—	—
Whooping Cough	55	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	—

The incidence of Diphtheria has shown an appreciable increase over the preceding year despite the continued campaign for the immunisation of children under school age. This increase may be indirectly attributable to this campaign as a number of carriers have been discovered amongst those immunised. It is believed that immunisation has reduced the virulence of the disease as the percentage of deaths is much lower.

Of the cases shown in the above table as going to hospital 15 cases were admitted to Penzance Isolation Hospital and the remainder were treated at the County Isolation Hospital, Truro. The County Council has been made responsible for the provision of isolation hospital accommodation and in consequence of this the Borough Isolation Hospital at Mount Misery was closed as from the 30th March, 1943.

The following table shows the age incidence of each particular disease notified during 1943 :—

Disease.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	2	2	3	4	32
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	2	11
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3	7	3	3	4	15
Whooping Cough	4	5	5	7	14	17
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—

Disease.	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.
Typhoid	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	20	9	10	5	2	—
Scarlet Fever	6	1	—	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	2	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	4	4	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	1	—

Regular clinics for the immunisation of children were continued to be held during the year and at the end of 1943, 75 per cent. of children under 5 years of age, and 93 per cent. between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the full course of immunisation. During the year 431 children from 5 to 15 years of age and 378 under 5 years of age were immunised at the Council's Clinic; and Alum Precipitated Toxoid was the prophylactic used in all cases.

3. Nil Returns.

4. (a) No action taken.

(b) TUBERCULOSIS: No action taken.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS: NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
15	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
45	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	17	6	—	—	1	1	2	2

