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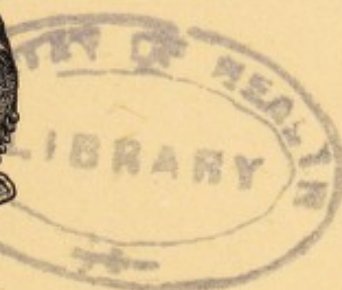
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THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
PENZANCE BOROUGH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR
1945.

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



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
PENZANCE.

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

MR. MAYOR, 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 1945, together with the Vital Statistics in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 28/46 dated 11th February, 1946.


I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROWLAND HURST HADFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.



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Public Health Officers of the 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 (to 17th November, 1945).

HEALTH VISITORS :

MISS E. Tonkin.

MRS. J. Tremearne (from 1st March, 1945).

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 3,578 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1945 : 19,700.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1945 according to rate books : 6,039.

Rateable value : £124,783. Sum represented by a penny rate : £488.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Live Births :	Legitimate	266	140	126
	Illegitimate	48	24	24

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 1945 : 15.8.

National birth rate : 16.1.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Still Births	...	13	8	5

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 39.7.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Deaths	...	315	146	169

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population, 1945 ; 16.0.

National death rate : 11.4.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :

		Rate per 1,000 total Deaths (live and still) births.	
Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal Causes	...	2	6.1
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2	6.1

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Infantile deaths	22	12	10

Death rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 births	70.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	75.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	41.7
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	50
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	2

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. (i) Medical Officer of Health :

DR. R. H. HADFIELD.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

A. T. HARPER.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

R. E. Warburton.

A. O. SHARPE (to 17th November, 1945).

Health Visitors :

MISS E. TONKIN.

MRS. TREMEARNE (from 1st March, 1945).

(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 : The Clinic established for the treatment of verminous persons at Regent Terrace continued to operate during the year and was closed at Christmas.

(e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary. No changes.

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 local residents.

(iii) Health Visitors : Mrs. Tremearne was appointed on March 1st, 1945, as full-time Health Visitor to the Borough of Penzance.

- (iv) Child Life Protection: The numbers of children coming within this Act have been on the increase during the year and many applications have had to be refused owing to a lack of Foster mothers. In certain circumstances transfers of children to Homes and Institutions have taken place and Adoptions arranged.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939. As a consequence of Education coming under the Cornwall County Council the powers of Guardian Ad Litem are now undertaken by this Welfare Authority. During the year the adoptions of seven children were arranged through the Welfare Authority, and six children removed to other Areas to be adopted by arrangements with Maternity and Child Welfare Authorities and the recognised Adoption Societies.

- (v) Orthopaedic Treatment. No change.

4. Nil returns.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The figures given below relate to the work carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

1. Health Visits to mothers and children.
2. Attendances at all clinics, viz.:
 - (i) Infant Welfare Clinics.
 - (ii) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.
 - (iii) Immunisation Clinics (see Section F. ii).
3. Visits to boarded out children.
4. Assisting expectant mothers with arrangements for confinement.

Visits to Expectant Mothers:

	1944.		1945.
1st Visits	126.	1st Visits	119.
Total Visits	329.	Total Visits	383.

To Children under 1 year of age:

	1944.		1945.
1st Visits	227.	1st Visits	438.
Total Visits	533.	Total Visits	1,103.

To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years :

	1944.	1945.
Total Visits	785.	1,698.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Four Infant Welfare Centres are maintained by the Borough Council :

PENZANCE (held weekly).

HEAMOOR (two sessions held monthly).

NEWLYN (two sessions held monthly).

MOUSEHOLE (two sessions held monthly).

The Penzance Infant Welfare Centre removed from the premises of Alverne House to the Science School, Morrab Road, on October 3rd, 1945. In spite of this further change in so short a time, the service suffered no interruption and attendances have so increased that larger premises are required or, alternatively, another weekly session commenced, to cope with the numbers.

Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year :

	1944.	1945.
Number of Centres	4	4
(1) Children under 1 year of age ...	246	195
(2) Children between 1 and 5 years attended for the first time ...	24	10
Percentage of live births represented in (1) above	58.01	50

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC :

Total number of women who attended at the Clinic for the first time during the year :

	Ante-Natal.	Post-Natal.
1944 ...	121	2
1945 ...	94	2

More private medical practitioners have during this year referred their cases to the Council than formerly.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i) **WATER:** There were no changes made in the sources of water supply during the year but the supply from the Tolcarne Reservoir was provided with a chlorinating apparatus. Only a small proportion of the total water provided for domestic purposes is now untreated. All sources are kept under constant supervision and frequent tests are made. 75 samples were taken by the Sanitary Department during the year, 4 for Chemical and 71 for Bacteriological analysis. With very few exceptions the analyst's reports on the samples taken were very satisfactory. No district was without water 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:** Towards the end of the year the Council's contract with a firm of local haulage contractors for the provision of refuse lorries expired and this made the opportunity for securing a Municipally-owned fleet of refuse lorries. The Council acquired five Karrier Bantam type vehicles to carry out refuse removal and street cleansing work.

A further feature of public cleansing which saw a complete change of Council policy was that of refuse disposal. For many years it had been the practice of the Council to sell the refuse collected in the Borough to farmers in the immediate neighbourhood. After the extraction by the Council employees of tins and other indestructible articles the residue was constructed into piles for use by the farmer in conjunction with stable manure, seaweed and sand, for manurial purposes. The extraction of paper and rags reduced the manurial value of house refuse to such a degree as to make it of little value to the farmers and, in consequence of the decline in demand by the farming community, forced the Council to adopt another method of disposal. Early in the year the owner's permission was obtained for the operation of controlled tipping in a series of "worked-out" gravel pits.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA :

- 191 Complaints were received and attended to.
- 261 Inspections of houses under the Housing Act.
- 279 Inspections of houses under the Public Health Act.
- 550 Inspections re Infectious Diseases.
- 126 Houses disinfected.
- 192 Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected.
- 36 Inspections of infested premises.
- 52 Premises disinfested.
- 500 Miscellaneous Visits.
- 134 General Inspections.
- 24 Water Closets inspected.
- 9 Water Closets found defective.
- 12 Water Closets repaired or renewed.
- 9 New Water Closets provided.
- 84 Inspections of Drains.
- 48 Drains found defective.
- 66 Inspections of Drainage Work in progress.
- 40 Drains repaired or renewed.
- 1 Drain tested with Smoke.
- 9 Drains tested with Colour.
- 8 Drains tested with Water.
- 481 Inspections and visits re Rat Infestation.
- 73 Inspections re Removal of Offensive Deposits.
- 7 Inspections re Animals Improperly Kept.
- 4 Inspections re Diseases of Animals Act.
- 2 Inspections re Provision of New Refuse Receptacles.
- 41 Visits re Scabies Order, 1941.
- 81 Visits under Food and Drugs Act (Milk and Dairies).
- 3 Visits under Food and Drugs Act.
- 42 Inspections of Factories and Workplaces.
- 43 Inspections of Fish Markets and Stalls.
- 6 Inspections of Fish Stores.
- 368 Inspections of Markets.
- 1 Inspection of Piggery.
- 34 Inspections of Farms.
- 26 Inspections of Cowsheds.
- 65 Inspections of Dairies.
- 2 Inspections of Stables.
- 512 Inspections of Food Stores and Shops.

- 77 Inspections of Food Preparing Premises.
- 16 Inspections of Ice Cream Premises.
- 9 Visits re Offensive Trades.
- 7 Inspections of Bakehouses.
- 2 Inspections of Licensed Premises.
- 60 Inspections of Public Conveniences.
- 40 Inspections of Refuse Disposal Sites.
- 77 Inspections of Refuse Disposal Dump.
- 8 Visits to Steam Disinfector.
- 5 Inspections of Common Lodging House.
- 1 Inspection of sanitary accommodation.
- 9 Designated and 27 Ordinary Milk Samples taken for bacteriological examination.
- 31 Local Milk tests.
- 14 Inspections under Milk and Dairies Regulations.
- 73 Water Samples taken for bacteriological analysis.
- 4 Water Samples taken for chemical analysis.
- 10 Inspections re Percolation of Water.
- 4 Inspections of Water Supplies.
- 59 Informal Notices Served.
- 34 Informal Notices Complied with.
- 1 Statutory Notice Served.
- 3 Statutory Notices Complied with.
- 245 Visits re Salvage.
- 65 Visits re Book Drive.
- 29 Inspections re Civil Defence.
- 57 Inspections re Emergency Mortuary.
- 10 Inspections of Air Raid Shelters.
- 680 Visits re Evacuation.

RODENT CONTROL: Towards the end of 1944, a full-time rodent operative was employed by the Council and the activities as regards Rodent Control in the Borough were greatly increased during 1945. Two further operatives were engaged in June, 1945, and all three received training at Ministry of Food courses.

Methods of treatment adopted were strictly in accordance with Ministry of Food recommendations, viz. : A careful and thorough Survey followed by "Block Control" poison treatment. In some instances, trapping methods were used at individual premises pending subsequent treatment on "block control" lines.

Treatment during 1945 was confined to surface infestation and did not extend to the sewer systems of the Borough.

The following table gives particulars of treatment carried out during the year :—

No. of Premises treated in Blocks	...	...	...	339
No. of Pre-baits laid	...	...	...	13,660
No. of Poison baits	...	...	...	2,241
No. of Post baits	...	...	...	1,956
No. of Rats killed by poison (estimate)	...	...	...	6,766
No. of Premises trapped	...	...	...	142
No. of Rats trapped	...	...	...	238
Total No. of Rats killed	...	...	...	7,004

(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 in the Borough remained under requisition throughout the year and was not available for its peace-time use.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS: Little trouble was experienced from bug infestation. Of the 52 premises disinfested during the year only two were infested with bugs. Both these occurred in Council houses. The work of disinfestation was carried out by the Local Authority in all cases 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.

4. SCHOOLS: Water supplies to all the schools are adequate and satisfactory, being provided from one or other of the Council supplies. Sanitary arrangements in most instances are satisfactory.

With the exception of the arrangements made for the immunisation against diphtheria of school children, no special action was taken or was required for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases among school children.

SECTION D.

Housing.

During the year the preparatory work in connection with new housing sites started in 1944, was continued. By the end of the year this had reached the stage where the Minister had fixed the date for the holding of a Public Inquiry on the Council's proposal to acquire compulsorily eighty-four acres of land on the western side of the old Borough as the first step of a 10 years' Housing Programme. Sites for 50 pre-fabricated bungalows were prepared and several of these dwellings were in the course of erection at the end of the year.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY: During the year 125 visits were made to farms and dairy premises, 9 samples of designated milk and 27 samples of ordinary milk were submitted to the Pathological Department of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, for bacteriological analysis, and 10 guinea pig tests were made for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. In addition, 31 samples were subjected to Resazurin and Methylene Blue tests in our own Department.

Farmers generally continue to show an interest in milk production and are prepared to discuss milking methods, cowshed construction and dairy equipment. Farmers are supplied with copies of all analyst's reports appertaining to milk produced on their premises and in addition, where samples have been in any way below standard, immediate visits have been made to the place of production and investigations made, following which further samples have been taken. Cowkeepers and dairymen have been issued with a Pamphlet setting out the principal requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order.

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 512 to food stores and shops, 368 to markets, 43 to fish markets and stalls, and 2,952 visits to slaughterhouses for purposes of meat inspection.

Animals inspected at time of slaughtering :

Bovine Animals	...	...	...	4,151
Sheep	...	...	...	3,929
Calves	...	...	...	2,419
Pigs	...	...	...	41
Goat	...	...	...	1

 10,541

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

Meat Rejected.

	Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
TUBERCULOSIS :				
Carcases and Viscera...	184	—	—	3
Fore-quarters ...	69	—	—	—
Hind-quarters ...	15	—	—	—
Briskets ...	43	—	—	—
Heads and Tongues ...	299	—	—	2
Lungs ...	544	—	3	2
Hearts ...	36	—	3	2
Diaphragms ...	52	—	—	1
Livers ...	149	—	3	—
Kidneys ...	9	—	—	—
Mesenteries and Intestines	42	—	—	1
Omenta and Stomachs	27	—	—	—
Clods ...	16	—	—	—
Buttocks ...	1	—	—	—
Loins ...	4	—	—	—
Spleens ...	15	—	—	—
Flanks ...	3	—	—	—
CHRONIC EMACIATION AND DROPSY :				
Carcases and Viscera...	37	3	—	—
BRUISING :				
Carcases and Viscera...	4	—	1	—
Hind-quarters ...	3	—	—	—
Fore-quarters ...	4	—	—	—
Heads and Tongues ...	1	—	—	—
Carcase Meat ...	671lbs.	2½lbs.	—	—
PYAEMIA :				
Carcases and Viscera...	4	2	2	2

			Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
CONTAMINATION :						
Carcases	...	...	2	—	—	—
Carcase Meat		...	—	—	—	28lbs.
FEVER :						
Carcases and Viscera...			1	—	—	—
MORIBUND ANIMAL :						
Carcases and Viscera...			—	5	—	—
PUTREFACTION, DECOMPOSITION, BONE TAIN, ETC. :						
Livers	...	...	1	11	20	—
Fore-quarters		...	1	—	—	—
Heads and Tongues		...	1	14	17	—
Lungs	...	...	2	11	20	—
Diaphragms	...	...	4	—	—	—
Spleens	...	...	4	—	—	—
Carcase Meat		...	114lbs.	—	—	—
Hearts	...	...	1	11	20	—
Kidneys	...	...	2	2	—	—
SEPTIC PERICARDITIS :						
Carcases and Viscera...			1	—	—	—
SEPTIC INTOXICATION :						
Carcases and Viscera...			1	—	—	—
SARCOMATOSIS :						
Carcases and Viscera...			1	—	—	—
DEFORMITY :						
Hind-quarters		...	1	—	—	—
SEPTICAEMIA :						
Carcases and Viscera...			1	—	—	—
CIRRHOSIS AND FLUKES :						
Livers	...	...	358	60	—	—

			Bovine Animals	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs
OTHER CONDITIONS :						
Spleens	...	...	3	—	—	—
Carcase Meat	...	...	106lbs.	18lbs.	—	18lbs.
Diaphragms	...	...	3	—	—	—
Livers	...	...	45	116	4	1
Mesenteries and Intestines			4	32	—	—
Heads and Tongues	...	...	29	2	—	—
Lungs	...	...	33	31	4	—
Hearts	...	...	8	2	2	—
Kidneys	...	...	3	—	—	—
Omenta and Stomachs			29	—	3	—

OTHER FOOD REJECTED DURING THE YEAR INCLUDED : 162 lbs. Flour; 177 lbs. Raisins; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Honey; 45 lbs. Marmalade and Jam; 598 jars of Fish and Meat Pastes; 565 tins of Meat; 428 tins of Milk; 239 tins of Fish; 361 tins of Vegetables; 65 tins of Soup; 66 tins of Fruit; 10 cwt. 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Sultanas; 120 lbs. Macaroni; 26 lbs. Oranges; 15 lbs. Syrup; 1 cwt. Rice; 20 lbs. Sugar; 45 lbs. 11 oz. Bacon; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Butter; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Margarine; 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Lard; 9 lbs. Cheese; 36 Fish Cakes; 5 stone of Bloaters; 63 lbs. Ling; 29 lbs. Tea; 9 lbs. Prunes; 189 Loaves of Bread; 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. Yeast; 1 cwt. Soya Flour; 3 cwt. 28 lbs. Dried Peas; 6 jars of Herring Fillets; 4 jars Pickles; 6 tins Dessert Powder; 7 bottles Fruit; 12 lbs. Sausages; 1 pkt. Beef Suet; 70 lbs. Hake; 75 lbs. Dates; 6 lbs. Sweets; 17 Bars of Chocolate; 7 cwt. 56 lbs. Herring; 120 lbs. Rolled Oats; 20 lbs. Biscuits; 66 tins Mustard; 5 stone Kippers.

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

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD : Samples of food taken for examination are submitted to the Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

(e) NUTRITION : No action taken.

(f) SHELLFISH (MOLLUSCAN) : No action taken.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1. Nil Returns.

2. The number of infectious diseases (notifiable) reported during the year are shown as follows :—

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths.
Diphtheria	45	44	2
Scarlet Fever	28	21	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—
Measles	103	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	38	—	—

The incidence of Diphtheria continued to decline during the year. Of the 45 cases notified 10 occurred in immunised children. The two deaths occurred in non-immunised patients, one of whom was an adult.

A free immunisation service was maintained throughout the year, weekly sessions being held at the Council's Health Department. During the year 58 children from 5 to 15 years of age and 269 under 5 years of age were immunised and the position at the end of the year was that 77 per cent. of the child population was immunised.

The Birthday Card Reminder Scheme was introduced on the 14th May, 1945, and since that date cards have been sent to all children born within the Borough just prior to their first birthday, notifying their parents of the facilities offered for immunisation. In addition, mothers are reminded at Infant Welfare Clinics and when visited in their own homes.

The following table shows the age incidence of each particular disease notified during the year 1945 :—

Disease.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10
Diphtheria	—	—	—	3	—	16
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	4	—	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	10	15	13	11	7	39
Whooping Cough	4	7	4	6	6	10
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—

Disease.	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.
Diphtheria	10	12	4	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	12	3	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	6	—	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—

3. Nil Returns.

4. (a) No action taken.

(b) TUBERCULOSIS : No action taken.

5. TUBERCULOSIS : NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
15	4	2	1	2	1	3	—	1
25	4	2	—	1	2	1	—	—
35	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	12	6	1	5	6	7	—	2



HEALTH
A 28 DEC 1946
C.R. 75