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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1940.

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SOKE OF PETERBOROUGH COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1940. -----------------

List of Members of the Public Health and Housing and Mental Deficiency, Mental Treatment, Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwives Acts Committee :-

County Aldermen.

J.T. Briggs.

The Most Noble The Marquess of Exeter, K.G. C.M.G.

County Councillors

0

G.H. Allen; Mrs M.C. Cook; W. Neaverson;

A.J. Nutt; Mrs M. Pailing; G.T. Vawser;

H. Reedman; Miss E.J. Warwick.

The Rev W.H. Barry;

Co-opted Members

Mrs Mansfield:

Mrs M.H. Slater:

J.R. Horrell:

The Hon. Mrs G. Pelham.

In last year's Report I stated that I had to rely on statistics obtained locally, and not from the Registrar-General. Further, no reports had been received from either Dr Johnstone or Dr Hawes as to the activities of the Peterborough City and Rural Districts. Those from Dr Hawes have now been received, but up to October 17th 1941 the reports of the City Medical Officer for the years 1939 and 1940 were not to hand. Both Dr Hawes and Dr Johnstone are undertaking work in connection with war emergency services, and it must take a considerable portion of their time to merely read the enormous number of circulars which pour in upon them with regard to work which has, up to the present, been entirely outside their sphere.

The main statistics received from the Registrar-General as regards population, births and deaths for the last two years are appended :-

Population - For the year 1939.	For calculating	For calculating
District	Birth rates.	Death rates
City of Peterborough	47,760	48,020
Peterborough Rural District	6,468	6.850
Barnack Rural District	2,432	2,570
Administrative County	56,560	58,940

For the year 1940 - the civilian populations are given, viz.,

City of Peterborough	47,670
Peterborough Rural District	6,600
Barnack Rural District	2,080
Administrative County	56,350

Births - for the year 1939 (as giveh by the Registrar-General)

District	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate
City of Peterborough	364	326	690	14.4
Peterborough Rural Distric	t 61	49	110	17.0
Barnack Rural District	14	15	29	11.1
Administrative County	439	390	829	14.1

The number of births given by me in last year's Report was 808.

There were 31 illegitimate births in the City, 5 in the Peterborough Rural Distict, and 1 in the Barnack area.

The births for the year 1940 are as follows .-

District	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate
City of Peterborough	351	340	691	14.4
Peterborough Rural Distric	t 45	46	91	13.7
Barnack Rural District	10	11	21	10.0
Administrative County	406	397	803	14.2

There were 31 illegitimate births in the City, 4 in the Peterborough Rural District, and 2 in the Barnack Rural District, a total of 37. There were 26 stillbirths, a rate of .55 per 1000 of the population - 21 in the City of Peterborough (a rate of .44); 4 in the Peterboro' Rural District (a rate of .60), and 1 in the Barnack area (a rate of .48).

In England and Wales as a whole the birth rate was 14.6; in the 126 Great Towns 16.0; in the 148 smaller towns (of which Peterborough is one) 15.7, and in London 13.7.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales as a whole was 0.55; for the 126 Great Towns 0.64; for the 148 smaller towns 0.55, and for London 0.44.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births 391. Legitimate. Males Females 375. Total 766 Illegitimate. 15 37 22 Total :-406 397 803

BIRTH RATE 14.2

Stillbirths. Males 12. Females 14. Total 26.

Rate per 1000 total births 32.3.

Deaths Males 383. Females 353. Total 736.

DEATH RATE 13.0

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births .-

Legitimate 40. Rate 51.0 Illegitimate 3 " 78.9 Total 43 " 52.3

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth .-

From sepsis O From other causes 1

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0
" " Whoeping Cough " " 1
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 1

The rateable value of the County on the 1st April 1940 was £373,924 The sum represented by a ponny rate for 1940-41 was £1,486.

MIDWIVES

Since my last Report was written there have been some changes in the midwifery service. Nurse Ireland has resigned, and Nurse Hilda Jones has also left the service of the County Council. Nurse N.I. Jones's vacancy has now been filled by Nurse J.H. Jones. The vacancy caused by Nurse Ireland's resignation has not yet been filled.

The number of cases attended by each midwife in 1940 was as follows :-

Midwife	Address			s attended as :- Maternity Nurse
L. Wilkinson, M.S. Gray,	92, Alexandra Road 142, Mayors Walk 153, Mountstephen Avenue 5, Geneva Street, 91, Taverners Road	boro'	73 21 22 45 28 17 21 10 10 27 21	29 35 43 40 25 23 10 21 18 21 4 62 - 84 2
tallets he later	Totals :-		310	417

In addition to these 727, 21 births were notified from the Peterborough War Memorial Hospital, and 10 from the "Charnwood" Nursing Home.

Medical aid was summoned by the midwives on 76 occasions for the following reasons .ruptured perinaeum 20; difficult and prolonged labour 11; feebleness of infant 7; discharge from baby's eyes 6; abnormal presentation 5; abortion or threatened abortion 3; offensive discharge 2; miscarriage 2; premature labour 2; premature birth 2; rise of temperature 2, and for one of each of the following conditions .- swelling of legs; ante-natal examination; faintness and dizziness; haemorrhage; puffiness of eye; pain in buttock; painful vein right knee; jaundiced baby; mastitis; retained placenta; asphyxia neonatorum; thrombosis; inflammed breast, and malformation.

Fifty-eight claims were paid to doctors under the Midwives Act 1918. In 28 cases the amounts so paid were wholly recovered, and in 12 cases they were partially recovered. In 15 cases no recovery was considered advisable. Three claims were disallowed by the Committee in consequence of their not being rendered during the specified time.

ANTE-NATAL EXAMINATIONS

By the end of the year only nine of the 112 expectant mothers had been examined ante-natally, and only 7 post-natally. It must be remembered, however, that the majority of the women in the rural districts engage a doctor. Two of the nine expectant mothers were examined twice. Five were normal in every respect. Two had varicose veins, another had high blood pressure, and in the last there was malpresentation of the child.

One of the women examined post-natally had bad teeth and a slight cervical tear. Another had had a perineal tear which had been satisfactorily repaired by suture.

CONSULTATIONS WITH OBSTETRIC SPECIALIST.

Only one was required. This was a case of puerperal pyrexia occurring in an evacuee who had been delivered in a nursing home. The lochia were offensive and her temperature was high. She had been treated by prontosil, anti-scarlatinal serum and intrauterine glycerine.

Dr Lilley advised her removal to the Memorial Hospital, where she recovered.

Dr Eric Till has now been appointed as Obstetric Specialist. He is on the staff of the Stamford, Rutland and General Infirmary, and is in charge of the midwifery of that Institution.

CONFINEMENTS IN INSTITUTIONS

It was only necessary to send two abnormal cases to Institutions.

One was a case of brow presentation in which forceps delivery had failed. The patient was admitted to Stamford Infirmary, where a difficult craniotomy was performed. The mother did well, but the child was of course destroyed by the operation which was necessary to save the mother. The other was the case of puerperal pyrexia previously mentioned.

Women were confined in St John's Hospital. Twenty-one women were confined in the Peterborough Memorial Hospital. 84 women were delivered at the Stuart Nursing Home, which is in charge of Nurse Gray, who is a certified midwife. 9 were delivered in Nurse Hart's Home (Charnwood Nursing Home). Nurse Hart is not a certified midwife. All these cases were attended in these nursing homes by their own doctors.

Maternity Outflits

You have continued to supply maternity outfits, and during the year 1940 twenty-eight outfits were supplied to mothers living in the rural districts.

Dental Treatment

During the year one nursing mother was referred to the Dental Surgeon for treatment, but did not keep her appointment, and therefore nothing was done under this heading in 1940.

Supply of Milk

During the year 134 gallons of liquid milk were provided to nursing and expectant mothers, as compared with 202 gallons in 1939.

Outfits for Infants

Beginning in August 1941 fifty special clothing coupons have to be sent by the County Medical Officer to mothers expecting a baby. This is a cumbrous and expensive method and could, I should have thought, be better done by the local Food Officers. The mother has to get a certificate from her doctor of midwife, which she has to send at a cost of 2½d to the County Medical Officer of Health. He has to send the coupons to her at the cost of another 2½d, and the mother has to send a receipt at the cost of 1d - total expenditure on each birth 6d.

VACCINATION

Summary of Vaccination Officers' Returns

Pe	terboro' District	Eye District	Barnack District
No: of births returned in Birth List Sheets 1939.	736	83	21
Successfully vaccinated	148	21	3
Insusceptible of Vaccination.	1	-	-
No: in respect of whom Statutory Declarations received:	513	58	15
Died Unvaccinated	35	3	2
Postponement by Medical Certificate	5	-	-
Removed to other Districts	10	1	0 1312
Removed to places unknown	15	res a el pi	1
No: of births remaining on 31st Jan. neither duly entered in Register, or accounted for in Report Book.	9	-	i mail
Total number of certificates and cop of Certificates of Vaccin of children under 14 received during 1940.	pies en 187	9	3
No. of Statutory Declarations of conscientious objections rec'd in 19	940. 486	50	9.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION ACT

Two persons were receiving children for reward. The number of children on the Register was 13. The work of health visiting under the Act is carried out by Nurse Mc'Phillips. All infants are seen at frequenti intervals and all have good homes.

MENTAL TREATMENT ACT

During the year 1940 six "Voluntary" patients (3 men and 3 women)
were treated under the Mental Treatment Act at Rauceby Mental Hospital.

DEATHS

The number of deaths in 1939 as given by the Registrar-General were as follows .-

District	Number	Crude Rate	Comparative Rate
City of Peterborough	550	12.4	10.2
Peterborough Rural District	120	18.3	15.3
Barnack Rural District	39	16.8	15.1
Administrative County	709	12.4	10.9

The number of deaths in 1940 was as follows .-

District.	Number.	Crude Rate.	Comparative Rate
City of Peterborough	636	13.3	13.1
Peterborough Rural Distric	t 76	11.5	10.8
Barnack Rural District	24	11.5	11.3
Administrative County	736	13.0	12.3

The death rates for England and Wales was 12.1; for the 126 Great Towns 12.0; for the 148 smaller towns 11.2; and for London 11.9.

There were 736 deaths in the County of the Soke of Peterborough, 383 being males and 353 females, as compared with 709 deaths in 1939, and 624 in 1938. There were no deaths among centenarians.

16 persons (3 males and 13 females) reached 90 years and over, the oldest being a lady of 99. In 6 of these the cause of death was stated to be senility, in 5 myocarditis or degeneration of the heart muscle, in 3 to lesions of the brain, embolism or thrombosis, one to gastric ulcer, and the last to cancer of the stomach.

There were only 4 deaths from suicide, 2 in men and 2 in women.

Two were due to drowning, one to poisoning by lysol, and another by Izal.

Ten deaths were due to road traffic accidents. Three of these 10 deaths

occurred in boys aged 5, 6, and 3 years respectively.

The Registrar-General returns 21 deaths from other forms of violence.

15 of these occurred in males and 6 in females. Five of the 15 males were accidentally drowned at the ages of 5, 6, 9, 10, and 17 years.

Surely such a loss of life in young persons should be prevented by arranging that swimming should form a part of every child's education.

Three men were killed on the railway. Five deaths were due to falls, 2 in men and 3 in women. One man aged 47 died while under gas and oxygen anaesthesia. Five persons died from asphyxia, 2 men aged 67, 2 children from overlying, and one woman suffocated during an epileptic fit. One woman of 71 was burnt to death, and one man of 31 was hanged for murder.

There were 8 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 9 deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. According to the Registrar-General there were 93 deaths from cancer, as compared with 86 in 1939; 95 in 1938; 83 in 1937, and 79 in 1936. 44 were men and 49 women. I have records of 86 cases, 41 being males and 45 females.

In 51 the alimentary system was the site of the cancer. The following were the organs affected : the buccal cavity 1, in a man; the stomach and duodenum in 21 (11 being males and 10 females); the colon or large intestine in 13 (5 males and 8 females); the rectum or back passage in 8 (6 males and 2 females); the liver in 4 (2 males and 2 females); the pancreas in 2 men and 1 woman, and the caecum in 1 male. The genito-urinary tract was affected in 17, 3 being males (the bladder, kidney, and prostate being the organs affected), and 14 females, the organs affected being the womb in 8, the ovary in 5, and the bladder in one. There were 4 cases of death from cancer of the breast in women, one of these being complicated by cancer of the lung, and another by Addison's disease, an affection of the suprarenal There were 6 cases of cancer of the lung, 4 in males and 2 in females. One of these cases occurred in a youth of 15. The X-ray picture closely simulated pulmonary tuberculosis, but the tuberculin patch test was negative. No tubercle bacilli were found either in the gastric washing, the sputum, or faeces. The lower jaw was affected in two men.

The glandular system was affected in four, 3 being males - the glands of the neck being the site of the disease in two and the parotid gland in another. The thyroid gland was attacked in one woman. A rodent ulcer was the cause of death in one woman, and cancer of the ear in a man. The larynx was affected in one man. There were 43 deaths among infants under 1 year - 39 in the City, 4 in the Peterborough Rural District, but none in the Barnack District. I shall deal with these under " Infant Mortality." Apart from these there were 31 deaths (18 males and 13 females) between the ages of 1 and 20 years, viz., three between the ages of 1 and 2 years; four aged 2 years; three aged 3 years; one aged 4 years; three aged 5 years; three aged 6 years; one aged 9 years; one aged 10 years; one aged 11 years; one aged 13 years; one aged 14 years; three aged 15 years; one aged 17 years; one aged 18, one aged 19, and three aged 20 years. Five were caused, as already described, by drowning, and 3 by motor accidents. Five cases were caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 being due to tuberculous meningitis, one to generalized tuberculosis, and 1 in a girl aged 20, to Addison's Disease - a tuberculous infection of the suprarenal capsules. This case, and the case of generalized tuberculosis in a boy aged 3 were seen by me. Three males aged 6, 15, and 18 years, and one female aged 15 succumbed to heart disease. One male and 3 females succumbed to bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia. Three deaths were due to epilepsy in males aged 13, 19, and 20 years. Two deaths were ascribed to meningitis in a boy and girl under 2 years of age. One of these cases of meningitis was caused by hereditary syphilis, and in the other the cause of the meningitis was not stated. Two females aged 11 and 20 died from diphtheria. A girl of 14 died from appendicitis, and a girl of 5 from nephritis or inflammation of the kidneys. The last was a case of cancer of the lung in a boy

(8)

of 15 already alluded to.

I record only one death in a pregnant woman aged 25. It was due to collapse after prolonged labour, and occurred in the Peterborough Memorial mospital. This is a striking contrast to last year when I had to acknowledge 9 deaths. This extraordinary variation in the figures occurs in all areas, and among the more romantic persons born north of the Tweed the low figure is frequently attributed to medical measures and discussions held with medical men by the medical officer of health. No such steps have been taken here, but the results are as good as in any area where publicity has been effected. The maternal mortality rate for the County is 1.1, compared with 2.82 for England and Wales.

The Registrat-General records 174 deaths from heart disease, 153 in the City, 16 in the Peterborough Rural District, and 5 in the Barnack area. I record 197 cases, however, in which it appears that the heart was implicated, including cases of aneurism, angina, coronary thrombosis and embolism, pericarditis, arterio-sclerosis and hyperpiesis, or high 133 cases were assigned to myocarditis, 69 males and blood pressure. 64 females, and among these was a boy of 6, a man of 28, and a man of 37. 11 deaths were due to sudden shutting off of the blood supply to the heart muscle, 8 being males and 3 females. One death in a woman was due to embolism of the coronary arteries. Disease of the aortic valves of the heart was recorded int 1 man and 1 woman, and mitral disease in 10 males and 19 females. One of the male mitral deaths occurred in a youth aged 15. 2 males died from malformation of the heart which had existed from birth. High blood pressure was the cause of death in 8 men and 2 women. One man died from aortic aneurism. 3 persons (2 males and 1 female) died from angina, and 6 (5 males and 1 female) from arterio-sclerosis, or thickening of the arteries, leading to heart failure. One female died from pericarditis.

Other deaths of some interest medically are 9 deaths due to diabetes.

6 of these occurred in the City of Peterborough, and 3 in the

Peterborough Rural District. 5 of these were in persons between 70

and 80 years. There were 3 deaths from appendicitis. Purpura

haemorrhagica, or bleeding under the skin, caused the death of a man

of 73, and acute lymphoid leukaemia caused the death of a man aged 58.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 43 deaths among infants under 1 year of age - a mortality rate of 52.3, as compared with a rate of 56.9 in 1939; 44.9 in 1938; and 64.0 in 1937. 26 were males and 17 females. 39 of the deaths occurred in the City of Peterborough, 4 in the Peterborough Rural District, but none in the Barnack area. The infant mortality rate in England and Wales as a whole was 50; in the 126 Great Towns 53; in the 148 smaller towns 40; and in London 48. Our rate is, therefore, unsatisfactory. I find from my records 45 deaths in infants, the causes being as follows:-

Prematurity	14
Broncho-pneumonia ·	8
Lobar pneumonia	1
Meningitus	3
Convulsions	3
Gastro-enteritis	2
Congenital debility	2
Asphyxia	2
Spina Bifida	2
Congenital heart disease	2
Miliary tuberculosis	1
Icterus Gravis	1
Overlying	1
Blastoma of the Retina	1
Pyloric Stenosis	1
Intra-cranal haemorrhage	1

The length of life of these 45 infants varied from 2 hours to 112 months. 9 of the 45 died before they had lived one day. 14 died under one week, 17 died from 1 month to 6 months of age, and 5 died from 6 months to 11 months of age.

(11)

The number of deaths from pneumonia - 9 cases - is rather disconcerting in view of the newer remedies now available. Two children died from asphyxia, one from vomiting its feeds and one from overlying.

One child died from severe jaundice of the new born. One died from malignant disease of the retina of the eye, one died from pyloric stenosis, and one from intracranial haemorrhage. Three died from convulsions, and 3 from cerebro-spinal meningitis. It is again disappointing to note that 14 died from prematurity, 2 from congenital debility, and 2 more from malformation of the heart, a total of 18, or 40%, which our present knowledge (or ignorance) does not allow us to combat.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year the health visiting in the Soke of Peterborough (outside the City) was efficiently performed by Miss M. Mc'Phillips. She made 106 first visits to infants under one year of age, and the total number of visits to infants amounted to 598. 108 visits were paid to expectant mothers, 54 of these being first visits. 742 visits were paid to children between 1 and 5 years of age. Altogether 1,448 visits were made, as compared with 1,536 last year.

It should be noted that Nurse Mc'Phillips is School Nurse, Visitor to mental defectives, and assists for about 6 hours a week at the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

The cards of the 108 infants visited for the first time during the year were examined in detail. It appears that one of these was stillborn, the still birth being due to a fall. Eighty-one of the live born infants were brought up on the breast, 15 on the bottle, 7 were first fed on the breast and then on the bottle, and in 2 no record was made. Of the bottle fed babies, 11 were brought up on cows' milk, 2 on Nestle's milk, 1 on Ostermilk, and 1 on Benger's Food.

Ninety-two of the live born infants were healthy, sturdy youngsters; 11 were not thriving, and 2 died. These were premature twins, who only lived for a few hours. One of the delicate children suffered from bronchitis, one had had broncho-pneumonia, one had an ulcerated mouth, and 1 suffered from hernia. Six of the 11 infants who were not thriving were breast fed, or 7 per cent of the total breast fed; 3 were bottle fed, or 20 per cent of the total bottle fed, and 2 were brought up first on the breast, and then on the bottle - or 30 per cent of the total breast and bottle fed infants.

Comforters, or dummy teats, were used in 18 cases; they were not used in 77, and in 10 no record was made.

81 of the 105 living babies had a separate cot, 12 slept in the same bed as their parents, and in 12 cases no record was made on this point. The infants' clothing was found to be satisfactory in 87 cases; in 15 it was described as poor or only fair, and in 3 no record was made.

An enquiry was made into the state of the mothers' health. In 11 cases it was not satisfactory. 10 mothers had bad teeth, but most of these declined to avail themselves of dental treatment. One mother was a notified consumptive, 1 suffered from a deformity of the spine, 1 was anaemic, and 1 mother suffered from prolapse of the uterus. Only one of the mothers was described as dirty and slovenly. Limited sleeping accommodation was reported in 7 cases, viz.,

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10 persons sleeping in 2 bedrooms 1 case;
9 " " 3 " 2 cases;
7 " " " 2 " 1 case;
6 " " 2 " 3 cases.
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Only one of the homes was described as dirty and illkept.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

There were only 8 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 5 being men, and 3 women. This is the smallest number of deaths ever recorded in the County, giving the extraordinarily low death rate of 0.14 per 1000. In the second year of the last War, i.e., in 1915, as many as 37 persons succumbed to pulmonary tuberculosis, and in 1918 - the last year of the Great War - the deaths had risen to 52. Up to the end of September 1941 the number of deaths is satisfactory, but with the increasing stringency of food control, the long hours of employment, and the recruiting of young women for work in factories, it would be unwise to expect the continuance of these satisfactory figures. The first of the deaths occurred in a man of 68 years. He was first notified in 1925. He had tubercle bacilli in his sputum then. He was sent to Eversfield Sanatorium and did quite well, and for many years was able to work. Owing to the slump he lost his work, and early in the year he had an acute exacerbation of the disease. The second death occurred in a man who was invalided out of the Army shortly after the last Great War. He came under my observation first in 1919. He had several periods of Sanatorium treatment and then left the County. He returned to this County, and was found to have an ischo-rectal abscess. He was again sent to the Sanatorium, but returned rather worse, and tubercle bacilli were present in his sputum for the first time, and an ulcer had appeared on his tongue. This was unlike most tuberculous ulcers, being painless, but various investigations set aside the suspicion of malignant or other disease. He was sent to the Westminster Hospital and was treated by radium. During his stay he went to the examination hall of the Royal College of Surgeons, where some, but by no means all of the examinees, diagnosed his condition correctly.

His general condition became much worse, although the ulcer on the tongue had healed, and he was admitted to St John's Hospital, where he died. Another case of very long standing was that of a woman, first notified in 1914. She had tubercle bacilli in her sputum, went to a Sanatorium, did well, and married. She then left the County. In 1940 she returned to her parents after the death of her husband, developed bronchitis and a failing heart, and died without my seeing her. Her doctor, however, sent me her sputum, but it was negative for tubercle bacilli. I do not know whether this case was included by the Registrar-General, but these three cases illustrate the enormously protracted length of this ailment and the heavy burdens which fall upon their relations and the ratepayers.

The next three cases illustrate the exactly opposite condition of affairs. A man of 37 was first notified on 9-3-40. He died on 13-3-40. He was only seen by me once, and was then almost at the point of death. A man of 50 was first notified on 20-4-40. He died on 11-5-40. He was only seen once by me, when his condition was hopeless. A woman of 46 was first notified on 26-10-40, and died on 26-11-40. She was only seen by me once or twice. When first seen she was in a very advanced stage of the disease and was grossly emaciated.

None of these three persons had been under their doctors for any considerable length of time, and this is perhaps explained by the fact that pulmonary tuberculosis is not a painful disease, and, with the exception of haemorrhage, not attended with alarming symptoms. Intermediate between these two extremes was that of a woman aged 46. She had nursed her son who was treated by me for pulmonary tuberculosis since 1935 by artificial pneumothorax. He did well. His mother was examined as a contact but no disease was found.

She consulted me in 1938, when a considerable amount of disease was found, with tubercle bacilli in the sputum. She had been under her own doctor for some time. An artificial pneumothorax was attempted but failed. She was then sent to Creaton Sanatorium, but made no improvement. Gold treatment was given, but without result. She died in June 1940. It seems strange that she did not consult me earlier in view of the knowledge she must have gained by nursing her son. The last death occurred in a woman of 33. She was a transfer from Derby on 4-9-37, and died on 3-7-40. She preferred to be treated by a private practitioner, but I saw her on one occasion when I advised a long period of rest, which she did not feel able to take. She had had sanatorium treatment in Derby and her condition hardly justified another period of this treatment in view of the limited accommodation now available.

The cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year 1940 were treated as follows :-

- 1). A case of extensive left sided pulmonary tuberculosis in a man aged 41. He was treated by me at home by artificial pneumothorax. At first he did well, but subsequently relapsed, and died in 1941.
 - 2). A young woman with tubergulous pleurisy. She was treated by rest in her comfortable home and is now back at work.
 - 3). A young man aged 29, with early disease in both lungs. He was admitted to Creaton Sanatorium, where an extra-pleural artificial pneumothorax was performed on the right side, and an intra-pleural pneumothorax on the left. The refills are exceptionally difficult, and he now goes to Creaton onee a week for this treatment.
 - 4). Case occurring in an airman at one of the neighbouring aerodromes. He was transferred to another County.
 - 5). A girl of 18. Was affected with very advanced disease. She was admitted to St John's hospital, but developed a natural pneumothorax. I attempted to maintain this artificially but failed, and her condition has steadily deteriorated.
 - 6). A man of 51, who had suffered from a cough for years. He had a large cavity in one lung. He was treated at home, but never did well, and he died in February 1941.

7). An early case in a youth of 16. He was sent to a Sanatorium, did well, and is now at work. 8). Two cases who died very shortly after notification. 10) Was a case of haemoptysis in a man of 42. Tubercle bacilli were present in the sputum. Infiltration was found by X-rays in both lungs, although no auscultatory signs were prosent. He was put on rest, did well from the start, and is now back at work. The X-ray shows complete healing. This case is an excellent example of the value of thorough rest. No better result could have been obtained in the most expensive sanatorium. 11) A case of extensive disease in both lungs in a man with tubercle bacilli in the sputum. He was admitted to St John's Hospital and was treated with complete rest and gold injections. 12) Was a transfer from the Residue of Northamptonshire. The case was quiescent and she married. She refused to go to the Birth Control Clinic. She is now expecting a child. 13) A man of 28 with advanced disease in the left lung and slight disease in them right. He was taken ill in London and returned to his home in the Peterborough Rural District. He was treated first by rest at home, then by artificial pneumothorax at home, and by a short stay at Creaton Sanatorium for division of adhesions. He has done well. 14) Was a case invalided out of the Army. Neither clinically or by X-rays could any evidence of active disease be found. 15) A girl of 18, very severely ill with disease in both lungs. She was admitted to St John's Hospital and up till the end of 1940 did well. Unfortunately she had to leave St John's and has subsequently deteriorated. 16) Was a school girl in whom I found no clinical or radiological evidence of disease. 17) A sailor of 39 with most extensive fibrotic disease of the right lung which had existed for years. He was admitted to St John's Hospital, but did not respond to treatment and died in 1941. 18) A woman of 33. She was admitted to St John's Hospital and did well under artificial pneumothorax treatment. 19) A woman of 46 with advanced disease, who died a month after notification. 20) A woman of 25 who was transferred from London, where she was having artificial pneumothorax treatment. This treatment has been continued at the Dispensary. She is in full work. 21) A man of 47. He had been working in a factory and had long-standing cavity at the right apex. After a long period of rest at home he went to Creaton. He has improved, but tubercle bacilli are present in the sputum and he is not at work. (17)

- 22). A girl of 21 with diffuse infiltration in both lungs.

 She had been evacuated from a Yorkshire town. She was sent first to St John's Hospital, and subsequently to Creaton.
- 23). A man of 44. Was passed A.l. for the Army, and a few months thereafter was found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. He was sent to Eversfield Hospital and was then evacuated to his home. He had extensive pulmonary disease, and subsequently tuberculous disease of the larynx set in. He died in 1941.
- 24). Was a transfer from another County. He had long standing disease of both lungs. He was at work, and has continued in employment with one breakdown.
- 25). A man of 60. Had advanced pulmonary tuberculosis with tubercle bacilli in his sputum. He did not improve with bed rest. Subsequently he removed to another County, and died in 1941.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, and dealt with as follows.

The first case occurred in a boy of 5. He had enlarged tuberculous glands and did well under home treatment.

The second case occurred in a youth of 19. The sacro-iliac joint was affected. He was sent by you to Manfield, where he still is.

The next two cases were ones of meningitis, who died shortly after admission to hospital.

A young man of 26 was suffering from peritonitis. He was treated by me at his home, where he died.

A child of 3 died of generalized tuberculosis in the Peterborough Memorial hospital.

A child of 7 had hip joint disease. She left the County for a time, and has not been heard of since.

A youth of 15 also had hip joint disease. He was living in a very wretched house. He was sent to Manfield, where he still is.

A youth of 20 - an apprentice engineer - had disease of the elbow. He was recently sent by you to Manfield, where he still is.

A woman of 24 had tuberculous glands. She was treated privately.

A woman of 42 was provided with a splint for hip joint disease.

A girl of 15 had hip joint disease. She was sent by you to Manfield where she still is.

A girl of 10 had hip joint disease and was sent by you to Manfield where she still is.

(18)

A man of 30 had tuberculous disease of the ribs. He was sent by you to Stamford Infirmary. He did well and is back at work.

A man of 24 was notified as a case of tuberculosis of the kidney and testicle. He was treated privately.

A man of 28 was invalided out of the Army with tuberculous disease of the eyes and of the lungs. I was unable to confirm the diagnosis. He is being treated by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

The very heavy burden which non-pulmonary tuberculosis exerts both upon the sufferers, their relatives, and their fellow ratepayers is well illustrated by these cases. No doubt a considerable number of the cases are due to infected milk, so unless milk is pasteurised it should be boiled before drinking.

According to the Registrar-General there were 9 deaths from nonpulmonary tuberculosis, 6 in the City, 2 in the Peterborough Rural District, and 1 in the Barnack area. Four of these deaths were due to tuberculous meningitis. The first of these occurred in an infant aged 8 months. His mother had recently died from pulmonary tuberculosis. He was sent by you to Creaton Sanatorium. He then had disease of the lungs and of the skin. A girl of 3 died in the Peterborough Hospital. I saw her with her doctor. I was at the time attending her sister with pulmonary tuberculosis. Both of these cases illustrate the great danger of allowing young children to come in contact with consumptive adults. Tuberculous meningitis is nearly always a fatal complication of this infection. Three deaths were due to generalised tuberculosis; one occurred in a child aged 3 in the Peterborough Memorial Hospital, and another in a woman of 34 years at Stamford Infirmary. These cases often arise from a focus outside the lung and then all of a sudden invade the whole system. Sometimes they are apyretic and in two cases the mental symptoms seem the predominant element in the case. The last case occurred in private practice and was not notified before death. A man of 26 died of tuberculous peritonitis under my care. A young woman of 20 died of tuberculous disease of the adrenal glands. I saw her in conjunction with her doctor. (19)

Institutional Treatment

On January 1st 1940 twelve persons were in receipt of institutional treatment, viz.,

2 at St John's Hospital, Peterborough;

3 " Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton;

6 "The Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton The Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea;

During the year 21 persons were admitted to Institutions, viz.,

3 to Eversfield Chest Hospital, St Leonards-on-Sea.

2 " Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton

4 " Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northamptom;

2 "Stamford & Rutland General Infirmary: 10 "St John's Hospital, Peterborough.

On December 31st 1940 twelve persons were still in Institutions, viz.

7 at Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton:

1 " Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton: 4 " St John's Hospital, Peterborough.

Dispensary Work.

The following work has been carried out at the Dispensary at 28, Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough.

358 patients were examined during the year. 234 of these 358 were new cases, and 124 were old cases notified in previous years. 2,878 examinations of these patients were made, 1,174 at the Dispensary, and 1,704 in the homes of the patients. 419 artificial pneumothorax inductions and refills were undertaken. 160 X-ray photographs were taken. 188 samples of sputum and other material were examined for the tubercle bacillus. 156 of these were negative, and 32 positive. 122 consultations were held with medical men, 22 in the homes of the patients, and 100 otherwise.

On December 31st 1940 156 persons were on the Tuberculosis Register, comprising 123 adults suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 children. 24 adults and 6 children were suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

During the year the Ministry of Health has insisted on quarterly returns being sent to Whitehall, instead of annually. This means extra labour for local authorities. I wonder who benefits.

VENEREAL DISEASES

128 patients attended the Clinic at 23, Fitzwilliam Street,

Peterborough for the first time during 1940. In addition 16 patients attended for the first time at your Clinic who had been treated at other centres for the same infection. Altogether then, 144 cases were treated by me for the first time, as compared with 198 in 1939.

20 of these 144 were cases of syphilis, 1 was a case of soft chancre, 46 were cases of gonorrhoea, and 61 were found not to be suffering from venereal disease. There is, therefore, a considerable decrease on previous years, due to so large numbers of both sexes being in the armed forces and allied forces of the Crown, which undertakes (at least for a time) the treatment of these complaints in service hospitals.

On January 1st 1940 145 cases of venereal disease were in attendance, 78 for syphilis, 66 for gonorrhoea, and 1 of an undiagnosed condition. In addition, 23 patients who, from one cause or another had left off treatment or had been transferred to other centres, re-applied for treatment - so that 168 old cases were under treatment during the year. Therefore 312 new and old cases passed through my hands.

The places of residence of the 128 new patients who had never before been treated at other centres were .-

Soke of Peterborough	80
Huntingdonshire	22
Isle of Ely	15
Kesteven (Lincs)	3
Holland "	1
Northamptonshire	4
Service Cases	2
Traveller	1
Tota	1 128

During the year 32 cases were transferred to other centres.

43 cases were discharged as cured, 9 for syphilis, 1 for soft chancre, and 33 for gonorrhoea. 2 patients died from the late effects of syphilis.

(21)

Three cases of syphilis in the early and curable stages of the disease, 11 in the later stages of the disease, and 3 hereditary cases ceased to attend before completion of treatment. Further, 3 cases of gonorrhoea ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure. Another 23 cases of gonorrhoea ceased attendance before completion of treatment. 130 cases were still under treatment at the end of the year, viz., 79 for syphilis and 51 for gonorrhoea.

The 312 patients (168 males and 144 females) who attended the Clinic during the year made 6,067 attendances, as compared with 7,119 in 1939, and 8,431 in 1938.

The attendances, classified in counties, were as follows :-

Soke of Peterborough	3,636
Huntingdonshire	1,315
Isle of Ely	720
Kesteven (Lincs)	161
Holland "	48
Northamptonshire	.98
Service Cases	58
Travellers	31

Total -- 6,067

No in-patient treatment was given.

1,337 doses of arsenical compounds were administered, the great majority intravenously. 1,783 doses of Bismuth were administered intramuscularly. Six doses of arsenicals were supplied to one medical man. 791 samples of material obtained from patients attending the Clinic were examined at an approved Laboratory. 11 of these were for the examination of spirochaetes — the organism causing syphilis: 291 for the gonococcus, 260 examinations of the blood for syphilis, comprising 242 Wassermann and 18 Kahn tests; 16 examinations of the cerebro-spinal fluid, and 141 examinations for the blood test for gonorrhoea. 60 samples of urine were examined for the gonococcus and other organisms; 10 examinations were made for Trichomonas, and 2 for cell counts. Ten samples were also sent by medical practitioners.

During the year the Ministry of Health has asked for returns at frequent intervals of the numbers of cases of early syphilis compared with the numbers prior to the war. In addition, from time to time the number of cases in the services acquired in this County is sent to me. I wonder why the names and addresses of the victims are not recorded. I am informed, however, that there is no undue amount of disease in this County. Owing to decrease in transport facilities it has been suggested that general practitioners should undertake the work in rural districts. The fees suggested to be paid were high. Owing to the fact that I pass through the whole County four times a week any case requiring treatment but unable to travel can be attended by me. The Scheme was not adopted in this County.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS 1913 and 1927

On January 1st 1941 seventy-three persons (41 males and 32 females)
were under Statutory Supervision. Twelve persons were under
Guardianship, 6 being males and 6 females. During the year 78
defectives were resident in the following institutions:46 (25 males and 21 females) were in the Peterborough Public
Assistance Institution; 20 (11 males and 9 females) were at Stoke
Park Colony; 3 females were at Whittington Hall Institution; 1 female
at Sandlebridge Institution, Cheshire; 2 males at Besford Court,
Worcestershire; 4 (2 males and 2 females) were in the State
Institution at Rampton. One male and three females were in receipt
of Poor Law Relief and were resident at the Peterborough Public
Assistance Institution.

Turning now to the cases under Guardianship, one man is still employed by the County Council on the roads and is in receipt of the standard wages.

(23)

Another man is still employed as an assistant to the Porter at the rublic Assistance Institution. He returns to his Guardian (who lives in a Council house) every night. Another is an epileptic who is under my treatment for his fits. A boy of 15 is now employed at the Brickworks, but is still under the Guardianship of his grandmother. The other two men under guardianship are too defective to undertake any work. One is a Mongolian Imbecile who has lost one eye. The other is finely developed young man, who is well looked Two of the females are under the Guardianship of after at home. the same woman. They reside in a good home. One is the daughter and the other the niece of the Guardian. They are both employed in domestic duties. One woman is still under the Guardianship of the Sister of Charity at St. Elizabeth's School, 131, Exeter Street, Salisbury. She is employed in the laundry. Her conduct is good, but she is very obstinate. She attends religious services held in the Convent. One woman is still under the Guardianship of her elderly mother who is in poor health. She looks after her mother and the satisfactory Council dwelling fairly efficiently. The other two women are too deeply defective to undertake any work or to be able to amuse themselves. One of them suffers from a severe rectal prolapse, and since the end of the year she has had to be admitted to hospital.

Few of the cases under Statutory Supervision are capable of doing any useful work. Ten men are now doing useful work on farms.

One man works on the golf course, another delivers coal, one is a district messenger for a railway company, and one works at boot repairing.

(24)

The following reports from various institutions show how your defectives are faring .-

- W.J.K. Aged 22. Intelligence quotient 57. Is now fit for discharge on Licence. He would prove a good farm worker. The Committee have asked whether this case and the next could be discharged to the Peterborogugh Public Assistance Institution, but up to the time of writing the Board of Control has withheld consent.

 Farm work and boot repairing could be provided in the Institution.
- W.R. Aged 22. Intelligence quotient 50. Is also fit for discharge on Licence. Is capable of performing work as an improver boot-maker.
- E.W. Aged 28. Is capable of light domestic duties, such as sweeping and scrubbing. She attends religious services, and as recreations walks in the country and goes to cinemas. She is a low grade feeble minded woman.
- J.H. Aged 16. Her intelligence quotient is half that of a normal person. She can do simple sums, but spelling, writing, sewing and knitting are poor.
- D.H. Aged 16. Twin sister of J.H. She can do simple sums and reads well. Drawing, games, and dancing are good.
- K.E. Aged 163. Is an imbecile with a mental age of 3.8. She is dirty in habits and untidy, and makes no industrial or educational progress.
- J.F. Aged 18. Is an imbecile with a mental age of 7.6. He is employed in the tailor's shop.
- J.C.F. Aged 19. Is feeble minded. His mental age is 7.8 years and his intelligence quotient 55. He is employed in boot repairing and is making good progress.
- A.M.S. Aged 62. Is an imbecile. She is restless, destructive, and dirty in habits.
- P.A.G. Aged 8. Is an idiot with a mental age of 12 years. She requires constant care and attention. She has outbursts of temper. She cannot talk.
- D.P. Aged 7. She has improved, and her mental age has improved from 2.2 to 5.2 on the Binet scale. She can copy letters and has learnt to knit and dress and take care of herself.
- H.B. Aged 14%. Is feeble minded with an intelligence quotient of 54. He goes to school for half a day, is learning to write, but cannot read. He works half his time in the tailor's shop. He is sly and mischievous.
- E.A. Aged 41. Is a low grade imbecile woman who does simple house and industry work. She is obstinate, moody and sullen.
- A.A.L. Aged 41. Is a low grade imbecile woman. Does simple house and industry work. Excitable at times and takes little interest in surrounding activities.

- A.E.T. Aged 54. A high grade imbecile woman. She makes no noticeable progress and performs simple house work. Dirty in habits and would be easily influenced.
- J.S. Aged 32. An imbecile man with a mental age of less than 3. His speech is unintelligible. He performs simple handwork, but destroys his clothes. Cannot read or write.
- M.S. Aged 15. An imbecile girl. She attends school at Stoke Park Colony, but her educational progress is poor. She can do addition by the use of her fingers. Her handwork is good.
- G.K. Aged 15. An imbecile boy with a mental age of 6.10 years.

 Is making slow progress in reading and writing and arithemetic.

 He works as a tailor for half the day.
- H.M.R. Aged 14. Is a feeble minded boy with a mental age of 7.6, and an intelligence quotient of 54. His educational progress is fair. He makes mats. His conduct is good.
- G.E.S. Aged 7. Is an imbecile boy with a mental age of 2.7 years and an intelligence quotient of 34. He has not been long enough in the school to say much about his educational progress.
- L.A.W. Aged 10. Is a Mongolian Imbecile with a mental age of 3.8, and Binet intelligence quotient of 35. He has not been long enough in the school to report progress.
- H.R.W. Aged 20. A low grade imbecile. His mental age is that of a child aged 7.8. He works in the upholstery shop. His general conduct has improved.
- F.B.T. Aged 15%. Suffers from epilepsy and is paralysed down the right side. He is imbecile with a mental age of 5% xyears. He is kept occupied with simple handwork. His conduct is good and his habits clean.
- H.W. Is an imbecile man aged 27 with a mental age of 6.4 years. He cannot read or write. He works in the kitchen and is well behaved.

Forty-three defectives (22 males and 21 females) are reported on by the Master of the Peterborough Public Assistance Institution.

Three men are employed in the wards, 3 are employed as gardeners,

4 take part in cleaning the institution, 1 is a Batman, 1 assists the
painter of the Institution, and 10 are unemployable owing to physical
and mental defects. Physical training is available. They are taken
for walks. There are wireless installations. Four of the 22 attend
Miss White's classes, while 7 attended regularly up till April.

Since that date they have been employed in cleansing the Institution.

They attend Church of England and Nonconformist services in the Chapel.

Thirteen of the 21 women are employed in housework. 3 assist in the kitchen, 12 in cleansing the institution, 4 in the laundry, and 1 is incapable of any form of employment. They are taken for walks, do knitting and fancy work and go to the pictures once a fortnight.

Seventeen of the 21 attend Miss White's classes at Thorpe Road.

Classes for Defectives

Only three males now attend Miss White's classes at Keeble's Chambers.

BLIND PERSONS ACT

There were 103 blind persons on the register of the Peterborough
Association for the Blind on March 31st 1941 - 41 men and 61 women.

During the year 13 new cases were registered (2 men and 11 women).

Nine blind persons died during the year (3 men and 6 women).

Nine blind persons were evacuated into the Soke of Peterborough (5 men and 4 women). Of this number three of the men and one woman have returned home. Three other persons were transferred from other areas, and 3 blind persons were transferred from the Soke of Peterborough to other counties.

Fifty-one blind persons were in receipt of domiciliary assistance, an increase of six on last year. A pension of £15 per annum has been obtained for a blind woman in the County through the Clothworkers Company.

1,412 visits have been paid to blind persons by the Secretary. Handicrafts have been taught and orders executed.

Six readers of Braille belong to the National Library, and two who read Moon type to the Moon Library, the annuan subscription in each case being paid by the Association.

The County Council made a grant of £1,400 to the Peterborough Blind Association during the year.

VETERINARY INSPECTION

Since the last report was written, and up till August 1941 Captain Townson has systematically examined the 1,600 cows in the 37 accredited herds and the two attested or tuberculin tested herds. One of the tuberculin tested producers has ceased to produce tuberculin tested milk and has become an accredited producer. Three cows were destroyed on account of tuberculosis, as compared with 2 in 1939 and Fifteen samples were examined microscopically for the ll in 1938. tubercle bacillus. The samples had been collected from animals with udder disease. All were negative. Two animals were found to be suffering from Johnne's disease. Only one of the 39 premises was found to be dirty. Captain Townson says that there is only one pasteurizing plant in the County. The supervision of this plant is undertaken by the City of Peterborough. Supervision is necessary to ensure destruction of milk borne organisms. If pasteurized milk goes sour the public loses confidence in the process.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year 1940:-

Disease	City of Peterborough.	Peterborough Rural District	Barnack R.D.	Total
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Pneumonia Erysipelas Whooping Cough	62 21 60 9 168	4 6 2 - 2	7 3 1 - 17	73 30 63 9 187
Puerperal Pyrexma Ophthalmia Neonatorum Measles Enteric Fever	7 1 1332 2	62	41	7 1 1435 2
Totals	1662	76	69	1807

Among non-civilians 11 cases of measles, 3 of scarlet fever, 1 of German measles, and 2 of malaria were notified in the Barnack Rural District.

(28)

The Fotal number of civilian cases notified during the year was 1807, as compared with 143 in 1939. This increase is due to the fact that the notification of measles had only just been started in 1939.

Dr Hawes remarks that 6 cases of diphtheria were notified at Northborough in the Peterborough Rural District. Three houses were implicated.

Three of the patients were evacuees. The source of infection was traced to a convalescent nasal carrier in one of the three houses in which four of the patients lived. Further spread of the disease was prevented by the isolation of the carrier.

In his report to the Barnaæk Rural District Dr Hawes says that it is absolutely necessary to provide hospital accommodation for evacuees suffering from mumps, chicken pox, measles, and whooping cough.

A plan is being submitted to use Barn Hill House Stamford for this purpose. Barn Hill House has up till now been used as a sick bay.

During the year another duty has been imposed on County Medical Officers of notifying all cases of infectious disease to the Ministry of Health's Regional Officer. These notifications are already sent to Whitehall by the local Medical Officers of Health. One wonders who benefits by this

WATER SUPPLY

Dr Hawes says that the bore sunk in 135 feet of the Lincolnshire lime stone provided a suitable supplyin the Barnack Rural District.

The villages of Barnack, Bainton, Ashton, and Ufford are supplied from this source. The present consumption is 10,000 gallons per day but could be increased to 60,000. Thornhaugh has a plant of its own which can give a supply of between 9 and 10 thousand gallons per day.

An automatic gravity chlorinator has been provided.

In his report to the Peterborough Rural District Dr Hawes says that night soil is collected in the villages of Helpston, Etton, Glinton, Peakirk, Northborough, Maxey, Castor, and Ailesworth. A system of refuse collection and disposal is in force for this district and in the Barnack Rural District.

FACTORY ACT

The number of factories on the register of the Peterborough Rural District was 28; Il with mechanical power and 17 without. Periodical inspections were made and all matters arising out of war time regulations were dealt with.

CHRISTOPHER ROLLESTON.

Ketton, Stamford.

duplication.

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