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CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

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HEALTH REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1943

BY

A.B. WILLIAMSON,

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L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

Medical Officer of Health,

Medical Officer of Health to the Port of Portsmouth,

Chief Administrative Medical Officer to the  
City Council

including

The Report of the Public Analyst.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1942 - 43

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The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor:

COUNCILLOR SIR DENIS LEO DALEY

Chairman:

ALDERMAN A. E. ALLAWAY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. L. J. RAMSDEN  
(to July)

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Aldermen:

A.G. STAPLEFORD  
C.F. LANGMAID (to November)  
W.H. ANDREWS  
A. JOHNSON (from November)

Councillors:

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J.J. MAHONEY  
H.T. CLIFTON  
J. ELLIS-JONES (to October)  
W.H. POWELL (from October)  
F.J. SLAPE (from October)

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The following ladies were co-opted to  
serve on the Sub-Health (Maternity and Child  
Welfare) Committee

MRS. K.A. RANGER  
MRS. E.G. LACEY

MRS. R. PARKER, J.P.

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To the Chairman and Members  
of the Health Committee.

Mesdames and Gentlemen,

At the request of the Ministry of Health the Report on the Health of the City for 1943, which I have the honour to present, is an interim one only, in view of war conditions and the need for strict economy in the use of paper. The present Report is, therefore, confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health of Portsmouth during the year. In addition the Report deals with War-time Emergency Services. Arrangements have been made for careful preservation of all records, in order that, after the termination of hostilities, a Report can be made dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1940 to the end of the last complete year of the war.

#### HEALTH STATISTICS

The statistics for 1943 were influenced by the following factors:-

There were few air raids during 1943, resulting in a gradual return to the City of people who had evacuated during the previous years. This increase was partly offset by the calling up of certain classes of the adult population for National Service and, for purposes of the calculation of statistical rates, by the exclusion from the civilian population of women serving in His Majesty's Armed Forces as well as men.

The Health Services and the public have had to manage with fewer doctors and dentists. Moreover, some drugs have been replaced by substitutes, and some food supplies have suffered through an unavoidable reduction in the essential food factors.

The estimated civilian population for the year 1943, which the Registrar General forwarded a few weeks ago, has on the direction of the Minister of Health, been withheld from this Report on grounds of national security, as no information should be given which would be helpful to the enemy. Accordingly, it has been possible to give only statistical rates and some of the original Tables have had to be withdrawn.

Although the figures supplied by the Registrar-General were computed by him with every care, it is obvious that in view of the movements of the population resulting from war conditions, the same reliance cannot be placed on the Health Statistics for 1943 as in pre-war years. This should be borne in mind when considering the following features of interest which present themselves for the year under review:-

1. A further increase in the Birth Rate from 20.68 in 1942 to 21.54 per 1,000 population, as compared with 16.5 for England and Wales. This is the highest Birth Rate since 1922 when it was 22.11. The increase, although welcome, is unlikely to continue after the war, based on our experience after the Great War, when the population, after a promising rise, gradually fell away. In Portsmouth, as in the country as a whole, the Birth Rate has shown a steady decline since the beginning of the present century, i.e. from 27.8 in 1901 to 14.73 in 1938. Unless this decline is arrested, the population of this country at the end of the century will have sunk to one half of its present figure, and one half will be over 60 years of age. It is a biological fact that this can only mean the decline and eclipse of Britain as an independent nation. The Government is at last alive to the seriousness of the problem and a few months ago appointed a Royal Commission on Population to investigate the causes and advise on remedial measures.
2. An increase in the general Death Rate from 14.68 in 1942 to 15.50 per 1,000 population, as compared with 12.1 for England and Wales, due largely to an increased number of deaths from influenza and other respiratory infections during the last quarter of the year and to an increase in deaths from violence.



3. An increase in the Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis from 0.89 per 1,000 population in 1942 to 1.04 in 1943. (See below.)
4. A decrease in the Maternal Mortality Rate from 3.91 in 1942 to 1.81 per 1,000 total Births as compared with 2.29 for England and Wales. Of the 6 deaths classified by the Registrar-General as Maternal Deaths, 3 were due to Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis.
5. An increase in the Infantile Mortality Rate from 41.77, the lowest ever recorded, to 47.32 per 1,000 live Births, as compared with 49 for England and Wales.
6. A further slight increase in the Cancer Death Rate from 2.29 to 2.48 per 1,000 population. This increase is relative rather than absolute, and is due mainly to better means of diagnosis and to the increase in the older age groups of the population when Cancer is more prevalent.

#### CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The war had no apparent effect on the incidence of infectious diseases during the year. There was an outbreak of influenza in the last quarter, but the mortality was comparatively low, i.e. 32 deaths during the year as compared with 9 for the previous year. In view of the shortage of civilian doctors, the Ministry of Health arranged through the Local Medical War Committee for medical officers of the Fighting Services in the area to be released temporarily to take over civilian practices or to assist. In this connection the Royal Naval Medical Service in Portsmouth gave ready and willing assistance, as did also, to a lesser degree, the R.A.M.C. At the same time nursing assistance in homes stricken by 'flu was organised by the Civil Defence Casualty Services, and domestic help by the Women's Voluntary Service. All three forms of aid were co-ordinated through the Health Department.

There were the usual fluctuations in some types of infectious diseases, e.g. there was an increase in the incidence of Scarlet Fever, but there were no deaths. There was also an increase in Whooping Cough, with 6 deaths as compared with 4 for last year, and an increase in the number of cases of Dysentery of the Flexner and Sonne types, from 2 to 10 cases, but there were no deaths. On the other hand, there was a marked decrease in the incidence of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, with only two deaths as compared with 11 last year, but perhaps the most noteworthy feature in the vital statistics was another marked fall in the incidence of Diphtheria from 68 to 19 cases with only 1 death - the result of the Immunisation Campaigns of the past few years.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation

The intense campaign described in last year's Report was continued throughout the year.

Our greatest problem is still how to get hold of the children in the under five group, as they are not in any daily organised institution like a school. Unfortunately, there are many changes of address and parents leave the City temporarily, and it is difficult for the health visitor to keep in touch.

The Mobile Unit, whose success last year in the first experiment of its kind in the country has encouraged other Local Authorities to follow suit, again functioned during the summer months and has given valuable aid, especially for the under five group. By kind arrangement with the Chief Education Officer, parents were asked to bring their under fives to the schools and the response has been gratifying, no fewer than 355 having been immunised.

Towards the end of the year the custom of sending a birthday card on the child's first birthday was revived and already there are signs of response.



An additional Immunisation Clinic at the new Child Welfare Centre at Reginald Road First Aid Post was opened, thus bringing the number of fixed Immunisation Clinics operating once a week up to five.

By dint of hard campaigning the percentage of school children immunised was raised from 84.3 at the end of 1942, to saturation point, i.e. 97.6 at the end of the year under review. Every school in the City was visited by the medical officer on the same day and time every month. When the schools were closed for holidays the Mobile Unit took over and waited at the school gates. Only some fifteen to twenty minutes were allotted for each visit, but that was found to be sufficient. The teachers have rendered valuable assistance.

In 1937, of 325 cases of Diphtheria which were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, 11 died; in 1943 only 13 were admitted and only 1 died. Of the 13 children, 4 had been immunised. The fatal case had not been immunised.

The saving of life and suffering to the children and the saving of cost to the ratepayers by this recent application of preventive medicine have surely been worth while.

### Tuberculosis

The upward curves of the Tuberculosis incidence and death rates which rose after the beginning of the war, continued to rise during 1943, following the slight fall which I was able to record last year. The same upward trend was manifest in Portsmouth and in the country as a whole during the last war and is due to conditions produced by war, e.g. (a) lowered resistance from anxiety, fatigue and overwork, and difficulty in maintaining desirable standards of environment, (b) increased liability to infection from overcrowding, bad ventilation resulting from the black-out, etc.

The number of new notified cases of all forms of the disease was 374, as compared with 368 during last year. Whilst there was a decrease in the non-pulmonary form, there was an increase in the pulmonary form of the disease, the increase being manifest mainly in the age groups 25 to 35, 35 to 45, and 45 to 55, amongst males.

The number of deaths from all forms of the disease was 155, as compared with 129 for the previous year. Expressed in death rates, the death rate from all forms of the disease was 1.04, as compared with 0.89 during 1942, and 1.61 during the corresponding year in the last war, i.e. 1918. An analysis of the death rates shows that the increase occurred chiefly amongst females of the 15 to 25 and 35 to 45 age groups.

Amongst measures taken to cope with the increased number of cases were the opening of additional clinics, the extension of free milk for necessitous cases, and a more rapid turnover of cases at Langstone Sanatorium. At the same time the Tuberculosis Voluntary After-Care Committee increased its scope and influence to form a very valuable adjunct to the Tuberculosis Service in supporting and assisting all measures for the prevention and cure of Tuberculosis in the City, and in making use of all existing agencies for the restoration of patients to health and independence.

During the year the Minister of Health, fully alive to the importance of the increase in tuberculosis in war time, issued, after consultation with his Advisory Committees, Memorandum 266/T which will become a landmark in the annals of the fight against Tuberculosis. The Memorandum authorises Local Authorities to give financial assistance to certain classes of tuberculous persons and their dependants, thus enabling the patient to leave his work without financial anxiety and undergo treatment in the early stage of the disease when cure is possible. The scheme of Allowances was brought into operation by the Health Committee on September 1st of the year under review and the number of patients in receipt of the Allowances at the end of the year was 149, representing a percentage of 10.8 of the patients on the Register. Total payments amounted to £2,710 3s. 7d. for the four months.



The above Memorandum also provides wider opportunities for early diagnosis by means of Mass Radiography Units. Portsmouth was selected by the Ministry as one of the few Local Authorities to receive a Unit, the intention being that it should serve a fairly wide geographical area by arrangement for joint use with neighbouring Authorities. Towards the end of the year preparations were put in hand for the commencement of the Mass Radiography Scheme, and substantial progress was made in the appointment of the Team, the preparation of the Unit's Headquarters in Ward A.9 at Saint Mary's Hospital, and in preliminary propaganda amongst the larger industrial firms and other organisations in the City.

#### Venereal Diseases

It will be seen from the Table on page 7 prepared by the Medical Officer-in-charge, Venereal Diseases Centre, that the work of the Clinic during the year has greatly increased, the number of attendances being 11,872, as compared with 8,884 for the previous year. Although there was a marked increase in the number of patients attending, the actual number of new cases of acquired Syphilis, in which the diagnosis was confirmed, was actually 8 less than in the previous year, whilst there was also a decrease of 11 cases in the number of Congenital Syphilis, and a decrease of 2 in those found for the first time to be suffering from Acute Gonorrhoea. It is pleasing to be able to record that the number found not to be suffering from Venereal Disease was 534 as compared with 243 in 1942. This is no doubt due to the Ministry of Health's wise and intelligent propaganda in the public press. When in doubt more and more people are seeking medical advice early.

Regulation 33B, whose advent I foreshadowed in my last Report, came into force on the 8th January of the year under review. It grants powers to require any infected person, indicated as a source of infection by two or more separate patients under treatment for a Venereal Disease, to undergo examination and, if necessary, treatment. Failure to do so, or to cease treatment until certified as not suffering from the disease in a communicable form, constitutes an offence.

A year before the coming into force of the Regulation an experiment was carried out in Portsmouth whereby the names of women alleged to be infected were passed to the Health Department from various sources, mainly as a result of statements made by infected Service men. Their abode, if necessary, was verified by the help of the Police, and the women were visited and interviewed by Health Visitors who kindly volunteered to do this difficult type of work. Visits were later extended to include women who for some reason had failed to continue treatment. During the twelve months before the 8th January, 1943, of 18 cases visited, 7 attended for treatment.

The difference in the number of cases brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health before and after the 8th January, 1943, will give some indication of the effect of the working of the Regulation in Portsmouth, assuming other factors, e.g., number of infecting agents and those liable to be infected, etc., to be the same. From January 8th, 1943, until the end of the year there were 4 cases who had been indicated as a source of infection by two or more separate persons. One of these only could be persuaded by the Health Visitor to attend, but she failed to continue the attendance, so that all 4 were served with a Notice of Requirement to submit to medical examination under the Regulation. As a result, 2 of these attended, and the other 2 who failed to do so, were prosecuted and were sentenced to three months' imprisonment. During the same period attempts were made outside the scope of the Regulation to persuade 17 cases who had been indicated as a source of infection by one person only, to attend for treatment. 11 only could be traced and 6 of these attended for treatment. Of the remaining 6 who could not be traced, 4 were found definitely to have given wrong names and addresses. A longer period of experimentation would be necessary, however, before the conclusion could be drawn that one of the effects of the Regulation was to make prostitutes and amateurs assume pseudonyms.

The general conclusion to be drawn from the operation of the Regulation during a period of approximately twelve months, is that the Regulation,



though slow and cumbersome in its working, has undoubtedly been of benefit. The Ministry of Health's recent advice to take informal action outside the scope of the Regulation where only one Form I has been received is a wise one, and should result in an increased number of cases being treated.

Towards the end of the year the Health Committee agreed to the appointment of a trained Almoner under Ministry of Health Circular 2834, part of whose duties would be concerned with helping and guiding persons attending the Clinic.

### Scabies

Further progress was made during the year in reducing the incidence of this "dirt" disease which had shown a marked increase in Portsmouth, as in the country as a whole, from the beginning of the war. Despite a thorough comb-out of cases and the examination of 2,045 contacts, there were 932 or 26% fewer cases than last year. The percentage of school children treated at the Scabies Clinic was 6.5, as compared with 9.9 in the previous year.

The effective control of Scabies in Portsmouth is the result of good team work between -

- (a) the reporting agents, i.e. private medical practitioners, medical officers at the various clinics - School, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, etc., who refer cases to the Scabies Clinic at the Infectious Diseases Hospital,
- (b) the investigation agents, i.e. sanitary inspectors, who visit the homes or places of work and arrange for the sufferers or suspected sufferers and all the personal contacts to come to the Scabies Clinic,
- (c) the medical officer in charge of the Scabies Clinic, who diagnoses and treats and is responsible for the detailed administration of the Scheme,
- (d) the Medical Officer of Health, who co-ordinates the team work generally and, when necessary, serves notices under the Scabies Order on any recalcitrants who may be a danger to the community.

Thoroughness in the investigation of contacts is the key note of success - one untreated contact may easily undo all the good work of the team.

During the year under review the contacts examined accounted for nearly half of the 4,754 cases examined. All treatments were by appointment and much appreciation was expressed by the patients who found this method an invaluable time saver. With rare exceptions appointments were punctually kept. Much time, labour and petrol were therefore saved. 'Bus fares were paid to 219 individuals (39 adults and 180 children). This proved to be an important aid where a mother and perhaps eight or ten children had some distance to travel. Domiciliary visits were paid to 59 cases (36 children and 23 adults.)

Home treatment by the patient was found to be generally a failure unless carried out under medical supervision, as was proved by the number of cases who were found to be suffering from sulphur dermatitis.

The powers of the Scabies Order have undoubtedly contributed to success, because, although there were only two prosecutions, the 59 other notices served had a most salutary effect.

Experiment is a constant feature of the Clinic. In February 1943, for example, it was decided to discontinue the disinfection of bedding and clothing to find out whether it had any appreciable effect on the spread of the disease. The experiment has shown that the disinfection of bedding and clothing can be dispensed with, and that the disease is spread by personal contact.



Experiments were also carried out in regard to the best method of treating secondary sepsis which complicated about 10 per cent of the cases. Sulpha-Thiazole internally and 1% solution of Brilliant Green or Prontosil Ointment were found to be the best means of treatment.

Details of the work of the Clinic are contained on page 4.

#### Lice Infestation

The reduction in the number of Scabies cases enabled the staff at the Scabies Clinic to deal with the worst cases of infestation by lice and fleas.

Many of the cases of lice infestation were those who had failed after repeated treatments at the School Clinic to keep themselves free from vermin, indicating that the home was at fault. The same methods described above for the control of Scabies were adopted and all the members of the family were brought up for examination. Notices were served on three families, but no prosecution was necessary. The number treated was 79, of whom 7 were under five, 32 were of school age and 40 were adults. Of the last named, the majority were adult females of ages of 17 to 19 years.

The problem of the control of head lice in school children has formed the subject of my remarks in several of my annual reports to the Education Committee. The percentage of school children found during the year under review to have lice or their eggs on the head during the nurses' cleanliness surveys was 10.7 - a percentage which compares favourably with that of most cities. The source of infection of all habitually verminous children is the home and not the school, so that these children when cleansed at the Clinics soon become reinfested. We shall make no appreciable progress in the eradication of this preventable condition, with its resultant increase in skin and other septic conditions, (a) until parents realise that the nits which they may see attached to the hairs on the heads of their children are virtually the eggs of lice, from which baby lice will soon hatch out, and (b) until the home of every child infested with nits is visited and every member of the family, of whatever age, is examined and treated. At the present time, however, with serious shortage of staff, such a line of action is impossible.

#### Cancer

Although further meetings of the Local Authorities in the Wessex Area were held during the year under review, little or no progress was made towards the provision of a Joint Cancer Service. It would now appear that provision for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer will form an integral part of the proposed Co-ordinated Hospital Service envisaged in the Government's White Paper.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The total number of samples of food and drugs taken by officers of the Department under the Food and Drugs Act, and analysed by the Public Analyst, was 937, as compared with 896 in 1942. Of this number, 66 or 7.0% were found to be adulterated, as compared with 3.8% for the previous year, but practically all of this increase had its origin outside the City of Portsmouth. Proceedings were instituted in 19 cases and fines and costs, ranging from £2 1s. 0d. to £45 5s. 0d. totalled £112 7s. 2d. In addition, 9 were cautioned by the Medical Officer of Health.

#### Pasteurisation of Milk

For several years in my Annual Reports I have constantly stressed the importance of pasteurisation as the only way of ensuring that the milk is safe. In 1937 the Portsmouth Health Committee passed a resolution, which was approved by the Council and sent to the Ministry of Health, urging that legislation be introduced for the compulsory pasteurisation of milk in this country. Each year, in England and Wales, there are about 1,500 to 2,000 deaths from Tuberculosis of bovine origin, chiefly amongst children, 400 to 500 cases of Undulant Fever, occasional outbreaks of Scarlet Fever, septic sore throat, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Para-Typhoid Fever,



Dysentery, and acute Gastro-Enteritis, apart from many thousands of cases who survive and remain crippled or impaired in health.

At long last, in July 1943, the Government issued its White Paper (Cmd. 6454) on "Measures to improve the Quality of the Nation's Milk Supply," in which, inter alia, it outlined its policy to make arrangements to subject to heat treatment, as high a proportion of milk other than Tuberculin Tested Milk and some Accredited Milk, as is practicable. The Health Committee in October, 1943, reaffirmed its decision that powers be obtained for the compulsory pasteurisation of all milk sold in Portsmouth, but a reply was received from the Ministry of Food that the powers to be granted to the Minister did not permit of an Order to be issued for the compulsory pasteurisation of all milk.

Although the Government's White Paper will not provide for the compulsory pasteurisation of all milk, it is certainly a step in the right direction. So far as Portsmouth is concerned, thanks to the co-operation of the local milk retailers, over 90% of the milk sold at the end of the year was pasteurised.

#### Meat Inspection

The Report of the Veterinary Officer (page 18) reveals the many advantages derived from the temporary centralised slaughtering at Paulsgrove. It is earnestly hoped, therefore, that after the war there will be no return to the old insanitary mediaeval conditions with which we are all too familiar, and that the Council will be able to implement the decision made when they approved the Health Committee's recommendation at the Council Meeting on the 25th January 1938, and will erect the Municipal Abattoir without delay.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

As will be seen from pages 12 and 13 of the Report, the essential Maternity and Child Welfare Services have been well maintained during 1943.

The number of expectant mothers evacuated to Emergency Maternity Homes in the country, excluding Chiltley Place Maternity Home, the annexe of Saint Mary's Hospital, was 242 as compared with 164 last year, despite the comparative freedom from bombing in the City. Chiltley Place annexe was well booked up throughout the year and received 399 cases.

One of the Municipal Midwives was seconded for duty at one of the Emergency Maternity Homes.

There was a substantial increase in the number of attendances at the Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics, the number of patients attending Ante-Natal Clinics representing 76.1% of the total registered births in Portsmouth during the year, as compared with the corresponding figure of 72.7 per cent for last year.

Arrangements are in hand to train both Hospital and Domiciliary Midwives in administering analgesics to women in child-birth at Courses of Training at Saint Mary's Hospital and two sets of portable gas and air apparatus have been acquired.

The Government Scheme for giving prior claim to expectant or nursing mothers and children under five in the supply of essential commodities, e.g. milk, eggs, orange juice, black currant purée, national rose hip syrup, was taken full advantage of during the year, thus safeguarding them against under-nourishment.

A disquieting feature in our vital statistics is the war-time increase in the number of illegitimate births in Portsmouth, as in the country as a whole, due to a number of factors, including (a) the absence of Service men from their homes, (b) the loosening of home ties while women are themselves on national service, (c) the influx of troops, especially from overseas, and (d) the war-time impediment of securing the legitimacy of an expected child prior to birth.



In Circular 2866 of October 1943, the Ministry of Health asked Welfare Authorities to consider the problem in co-operation with local moral welfare associations. A conference was held in December between members of the Health Committee and representatives of various voluntary welfare organisations in the City, when it was agreed (a) to endeavour to find a home for the duration of the war to accommodate mothers and their illegitimate children, in view of the fact that foster mothers are increasingly difficult to find, and (b) to appoint a **trained social worker** to reinforce the good work being done by the voluntary organisations and to provide closer co-ordination between them and the local authority, the appointment to interfere in no way with the existing work of the voluntary organisations.

#### HOSPITAL SERVICES

The fewer air-raids and gradual return of a proportion of the evacuated population were reflected in the number of admissions to all three Health Committee Hospitals. Each showed an increase.

In the case of Saint Mary's Hospital, the increase is attributed also to the admission of cases transferred from the waiting lists of the Royal Hospital and the Eye and Ear Hospital whose accommodation was substantially reduced as a result of war damage.

Both Saint Mary's Hospital and the Infectious Diseases Hospital, as Grade Ia Hospitals, kept always available a proportion of first line beds for casualty purposes during the year. No Hospital was damaged by enemy action.

Advantage was taken by Saint Mary's Hospital of facilities provided by the E.M.S. Hospital Service to send civilian cases to highly specialised Treatment Centres in the Region.

The Blood Transfusion Unit at Saint Mary's Hospital was able to meet all demands made upon it.

The gradual expansion of the armed forces greatly reduced the number of medical practitioners available for work in hospitals, and Saint Mary's Hospital had to carry on with a further reduction in staff.

During the year there appeared the long overdue Rushcliffe Committee National Scale of Salaries for Nurses, which brought their pay and status up to standards more commensurate with their fine and unselfish service to humanity. The Health Committee adopted the new Scale without delay. By the Nurses Act proper recognition was given to the grade of "Assistant Nurse," and to protect the general public, the use of the title "nurse" was restricted to State Registered Nurses and enrolled Assistant Nurses.

Although the shortage of nurses still continued during 1943, in the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, it was much relieved in the case of Saint Mary's Hospital, thanks to the efforts of the Local Advisory Committee for the Distribution of Nurses and Midwives set up by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, and to the assistance of the Civil Nursing Reserve.

The problem of obtaining adequate domestic help for all three Hospitals remains acute.

Close liaison continued to be maintained with the Voluntary Hospitals of the City through the Joint Hospitals Committee, matters of policy agreed upon including a Cancer Scheme under the Cancer Act and the establishment of a Hospital Centre on a site at Purbrook, north of the City, to comprise 300 acres and providing accommodation as follows:-

- 1,100 beds for the Municipal Hospital
- 400 to 500 beds for the Royal Portsmouth Hospital
- 100 beds for the Eye and Ear Hospital
- 200 beds for the Tuberculosis Sanatorium,

and to include, if possible, a Medical School.



## HEALTH EDUCATION

Notwithstanding the many difficulties encountered during war-time, Health Education during the year under review has by no means been neglected. The highlight of the year was the Health Week held between the 15th and 22nd June, the outstanding event of which was the inaugural public meeting addressed by Dr. R. Sutherland, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of the Central Council for Health Education. One of the most useful aspects of the Campaign was a series of lectures given to the youths of the Air Training Corps, emphasising the value of becoming 100% fit. In addition the programme was designed to interest all classes of the community, including Health Talks to Service Establishments, other Youth Organisations, dinner time shows at the principal factories, and a series of conferences for parents, youth leaders and teachers. Throughout the year every opportunity has been taken to emphasise the value of "Positive Health" to the general public by propaganda posters, issuing of leaflets, and various addresses given by members of the medical staff of the Health Department.

With the helpful co-operation of the managers of the Southdown 'Bus Company, and the Portsmouth Passenger Transport Department, special emphasis was given to the value of correct ventilation in all public vehicles. A special letter signed by the Medical Officer of Health was given to each 'bus conductor indicating how best they could assist, and a series of slogans was exhibited in all 'buses.

Arrangements were made at various times with managers of local cinemas for the display of special propaganda films.

A special display cabinet has been erected outside the General Office of the Health Department to enable the general public to have free and ready access to the latest pamphlets and information published by the Central Council for Health Education.

## RODENT CONTROL

On account of the enormous toll taken by rats and mice on food and other commodities, the Ministry of Food required Local Authorities to take all possible steps for their eradication.

To supplement the present staff of the Health Department a Rodent Officer was appointed in November 1943 and arrangements made whereby six volunteers from the Civil Defence Rescue Service could be employed as operators on their "off days." By the end of the year plans for an intensive and systematic campaign were drawn up. The Ministry of Food has accepted the view that, broadly speaking, the cost in excess of that normally incurred by the Local Authority, should be reimbursed by the Ministry.

## CASUALTY AND OTHER WAR-TIME EMERGENCY SERVICES

The year 1943 was less eventful than the first two years of the war, so far as air-raids were concerned, and the opportunity was taken to bring the Emergency Services to an even higher state of efficiency.

The Casualty Services proper have seen many changes since they were begun in Portsmouth in 1935, for they have been adapted each year to meet changing demands of the war situation. Some of them have been grafted on to the existing Public Health organisation; all are closely associated with it. They have one object in common - the rapid and efficient collection, treatment and evacuation of the injured, both civilian and Service personnel, occurring in the City as a result of enemy action, and the identification and disposal of the dead.

In view of the shortage of man-power and the need to release certain classes of men for more vital work, the amalgamation of the male members of the First Aid Parties with the Rescue Service took place on 20th October 1943. This meant a loss to the Casualty Services of many experienced drivers, but steps were taken to institute driving instruction for Ambulance Attendants with the result that a reserve of nearly forty new drivers was created.



The Ambulance Service was re-organised in three divisions, one each in Cosham, North End and Southsea, each division consisting of a main Depot and a subsidiary Depot under a Depot Superintendent. The newly constructed Service very soon settled down and by the end of the year was functioning in a satisfactory manner.

Close co-operation exists with the new Rescue Service, the Medical Officer of Health being responsible for the first aid training of all personnel and for supervising the first aid work at incidents.

Whole-time Civil Defence workers in the Casualty Services were, like other Civil Defence personnel, required to work longer hours.

Casualty Service vehicles continued to perform useful work in supplementing, within prescribed limits, the transport of the Local Authority. First Aid Posts continued to assist in the distribution of fruit juices, cod liver oil, etc. and Child Welfare Clinics were held regularly at two of them. During the Influenza epidemic towards the end of the year nursing assistance from the First Aid Posts was rendered to stricken homes.

In the intervals between air-raids an effort was made to maintain interest and efficiency by periodical inspections and parades, by refresher courses at the Casualty Services Training School and by organising competitions and promoting welfare activities. During the year the Casualty Service Concert Party, formed in June 1942, gave 50 concerts to various Naval and Military establishments in the Portsmouth Fortress Area.

No establishment or hospital was destroyed by enemy action during the year.

#### Invasion Medical Arrangements

During the year there was continued need for closer co-operation between all the Medical Services within the Area, the Medical Officer of Health of Portsmouth acting as Co-ordinating Medical Officer. Close liaison with Medical Officers of Local Authorities and of the Fighting Forces was maintained and a scheme was evolved to afford flexibility and speed in co-ordinating all medical resources - personnel, equipment, transport, etc. - within the Area, and thus enable assistance and reinforcements to be switched rapidly from one sector to another.

The following are the other war-time Emergency Services:-

- (a) Casualty Bureau - under the immediate charge of the Chief Clerk to the Health Services - correlates all Hospital accommodation, makes official record of all casualties and identifies and disposes of the dead.
- (b) Medical and Nursing Service in connection with the Centres for the Homeless. This Service includes District Medical Officers, Health Visitors, Tuberculosis Visitors, School Nurses, Sanitary Inspectors, who visit the Centres when these are opened.
- (c) Public Shelter Health Service. In each of the two Deep Tunnel Shelters is a well equipped Medical Aid Post, staffed by nurses and attended nightly by a doctor. A watch is thus kept for any outbreak of infectious disease, and accidents or cases of illness occurring in the shelter are treated. In the other dormitory Public Shelters, provision is made for a doctor to be called in on emergency. All Public Shelters are visited regularly by a Sanitary Inspector, and are sprayed with electrolysed sea water disinfectant to maintain a high standard of hygiene. To prevent infestation all bedding in the dormitory shelters is periodically passed through a Millbank Mobile Hot Air Disinfector which is stationed outside one of the Deep Tunnel Shelters and is capable of dealing with 100 blankets or equivalent each hour. Unfortunately, in a few parts of the City widespread damage and pilfering have made the work of keeping the shelters up to the desired standard of hygiene very difficult.



- (d) Civil Nursing Reserve. This is a Ministry of Health Emergency Organisation to recruit and train nurses with the object of supplementing the regular nursing staffs in E.M.S. Hospitals, First Aid Posts, Medical Aid Posts, etc. The Portsmouth Civil Nursing Reserve is organised by an Honorary Local Organiser, Mrs. P.C. Pond, under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health. Close touch is maintained with all branches of nursing through the Local Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession, composed of Medical Superintendents, or their representatives, and Matrons of Hospitals, representatives of First Aid Posts, and the Joint War Organisation of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John, and the Women's Voluntary Service, which meets periodically in the office of the Medical Officer of Health.
- (e) The Care of Women Workers' Children.
- (i) Wartime Day Nurseries. The three Wartime Day Nurseries at (a) Garfield Hall, (b) Cliffdale, near the Deep Tunnel Shelter, London Road, and (c) St. Peters Institute, Somers Road, continued to meet a growing need. A fourth Wartime Day Nursery, namely at Twyford Avenue, was opened on 16th November, 1943, and by the end of the year preparations were in hand for the opening of a fifth Nursery at Bramble Road School. The Day Nurseries are managed by a Joint Sub-Health and Education Committee and are visited periodically by a Medical Officer and by the District Health Visitor.
- (ii) War-time Residential Nurseries. With the assistance of the Ministry of Health and the Social Service Council, accommodation was obtained for Portsmouth children at 16 Residential Nurseries in Reception Areas in Hampshire, Dorset, Somerset and Devon, and 174 children between 2 and 5 years were in residence at the end of the year. A Selection Sub Committee for the Residential Nurseries, composed of representatives from Health and Education Committees, Social Service Council and Evacuation Officer, meets regularly to decide priority of admission.
- (iii) Daily Guardians Scheme. A scheme for Registered Daily Guardians or Daily Minders, as advocated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, was instituted in 1942 to give financial assistance to women willing to look after their neighbour's children during working hours. The Daily Guardians are advised and kept under supervision by the District Health Visitor. At the end of the year under review there were 13 Daily Guardians on the Register, but they have not been fully used.

All applications for disposal of their children by women workers are passed to the Child Welfare Section at the Northern Secondary School. Mothers are interviewed by the Supervisor of Day Nurseries, who by co-ordinating the activities of the above three agencies, advises them as to the best way of disposing of their infants and children.

There is a need for a short-stay nursery in or adjoining the City to take children for temporary periods, e.g. confinement, illness of mother, trouble in the home.

- (f) Home Helps. During the year under review the Committee approved a Scheme for providing part-time Home Helps for women at the time of their confinement in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2729.

All the personnel of the Casualty and other War-time Emergency Services have at all times carried out their duties efficiently and enthusiastically and with disregard to personal safety. They are deserving of my warmest thanks, in particular my Staff Officer, Mr. Chadwick.



Safety of Water Supplies

The Portsmouth Water Company continues to provide an adequate and wholesome water supply at all times. The following bacteriological report is typical of many - "This sample is clear and bright in appearance and of the highest standard of bacteria purity. These results are very satisfactory and consistent with an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character and suitable for the purpose of a public supply."

Special measures have been taken in conjunction with the Engineer and Manager to minimise the risk of contamination of the water supply due to enemy action. After each air-raid the mains and sewers are inspected and if necessary, the population in certain districts are instructed by loud-speaker and the public press to chlorinate or boil the water. Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Analyst or the Ministry of Health Emergency Laboratory. As a safeguard against any small undetected contamination resulting from enemy action, the Engineer and Manager, at my request, willingly arranged to chlorinate the main supply after leaving the filter beds to permit a residual chlorine content of at least 0.1 parts per million to be maintained in any part of the City's supply. Periodical tests by the Public Analyst during the year under review have shown the average residual chlorine content to be .15 parts per million.

Emergency Drainage

As a result of experience gained in previous air-raids, further consideration was given to the best method of disposal of household waste water when drains are damaged by enemy action and water is cut off. The recommendations have been embodied in a pamphlet entitled "Water Supply and Drainage - Air Raid and Invasion Precautions," compiled jointly by the Corporation and the Water Company, and sufficient copies have been printed in readiness for immediate distribution to each householder in the City in an emergency.

Typhoid Inoculation

The scheme inaugurated in December 1940 for the immunisation of the general public against Typhoid Fever, the danger of which was considered to be increased by the damage to sewers and water mains by enemy action, was continued during the year. The public have been offered facilities for free inoculation and the total number of persons immunised since the commencement of the scheme is 3,908.

Precautions against Typhus

In view of the possibility of this disease being brought to this country when communications are re-established with the Continent, precautions have been taken to train, and equip with special clothing, teams of medical officers, sanitary inspectors, ambulance drivers, attendants, nurses and disinfectors, to deal quickly with the emergency, should it arise.

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I desire to acknowledge with much gratitude the willing services of the whole staff of the Health Department who, though short-handed and working under difficulties, have responded unhesitatingly to the extra demands made upon them. In particular, my thanks are due to my Deputy (Dr. Roberts) and to my Chief Clerk (Mr. Rogers) for their valuable assistance.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I am greatly indebted for their sympathy and encouragement under difficult conditions, and I would express my appreciation of help freely given by the Town Clerk and Controller, the chief officials of other Departments of the Corporation, the Officers of the Regional Ministry of Health, the Director of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, the Local Medical War Committee, and the various voluntary organisations, especially the Social Service Council and the Women's Voluntary Service.

I have the honour to be, Mesdames and Gentlemen,  
Health Department,  
Northern Secondary School.  
JUNE, 1944.

Your obedient servant,  
A.B. WILLIAMSON, M.D.,  
Medical Officer of Health



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY FOR 1943

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres (land and inland water)	..	..	..	9,223
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	52,786
Rateable Value (1st April 1943)	..	..	..	£1,701,489
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	£5,761
Total rainfall	..	..	..	25.28 inches 642 millimetres

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate and Illegitimate)	-	Rate per 1,000 Population	- 21.54
STILLBIRTHS (Legitimate and Illegitimate)	-	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	- 28.72
DEATHS	-	Rate per 1,000 Population	- 15.50

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 Total Births:

From Puerperal Pyrexia	- 0.90.	From other Maternal causes	- 0.90
Total maternal mortality rate	..		1.81

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	47.32
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				45.40
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				68.96

3. COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR (1942)

			1943	1942
			Rate per 1,000 living	
Births	..	..	21.54	20.68
Deaths	..	..	15.50	14.68
"	Principal Zymotic Diseases	..	0.08	0.09
"	Smallpox	..	-	-
"	Measles	..	0.02	-
"	Scarlet Fever	..	-	0.01
"	Diphtheria	..	0.00	0.01
"	Whooping Cough	..	0.04	0.02
"	Fever (Typhoid and Para Typhoid)	..	-	0.00
"	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	0.02	0.02
"	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	0.92	0.72
"	Cancer	..	2.48	2.29
"	Influenza	..	0.21	0.06
			Rate per 1,000 live births	
"	under 1 year of age	..	47	41
			Rate per 1,000 total births	
"	Maternal - Sepsis	..	0.90	1.30
	- Other maternal causes		0.90	2.60
	Total		1.81	3.91

Average Death Rate for previous Ten years (1933-42) 13.50



# SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL

Statistics relating to In-Patients during the year 1943  
as compared with 1942

	Year 1943	Year 1942
1. Total number of admissions (including infants born in Hospital)	6147	4872
2. Number of women confined in Hospital (including those at the Maternity Annexe, Liphook.)	1001	878
3. Number of Live Births	969	826
4. Number of Stillbirths	48	52
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born (i.e. under four weeks of age) *	41	21
6. Number of Maternal Deaths among women confined in Hospital.	6	8
7. Total number of deaths	799	725
8. Total number of discharges (including infants born in Hospital)	5261	4077
9. Number of beds occupied -		
(a) Average during the year	851	772
(b) Highest    on 15th December 1943	917	
"         "    6th May 1942		838
(c) Lowest    on 15th August 1943	779	
"         "    5th January 1942		756
10. Number of surgical operations under general anesthetic (excluding dental operations.)	1473	756

\*This figure relates only to children born in Hospital.

Saint Mary's Hospital (Contd.)

Statistics relating to Out-Patients during the year 1943  
compared with 1942

	<u>1943</u>		<u>1942</u>	
	No. of Patients	No. of Attendances	No. of Patients	No. of Attendances
Ante-natal Clinic	1236	8682	1338	7753
Post-natal Clinic	352	629	324	556
Physiotherapy Department	596	10537	398	6015
Skin Department	916	2948	828	2323
X-Ray Department	3124	4566	1924	2404
TOTALS	6224	27362	4812	19051

PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT - 1943

	<u>No. of Patients Treated</u>			<u>No. of Treatments Given</u>		
	In-Patients	Out-Patients	Total	In-Patients	Out-Patients	Total
Massage Section	95	107	202	2888	1614	4502
Electrical Section	221	233	454	3132	4516	7648
Light Section	143	256	399	1576	4407	5983
TOTALS	459	596	1055	7596	10537	18133

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year are given below:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	8	11	2
Scarlet Fever	231	217	-
Whooping Cough	253	22	6
Diphtheria	19	31	1
Tuberculosis (all forms)	365	352	155
Erysipelas	47	23	-
Measles	878	35	3
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	1	1	2
Acute Polio-myelitis	2	1	-
(Notifiable Pneumonia	) 15	2	108 (all forms)
(Influenza		-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	29	21	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	15	5	-
Pomphigus Neonatorum	-	1	1
Dysentery	10	1	-



# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

STATISTICS relating to Diphtheria Immunisation, carried out at four fixed clinics and by means of a Mobile Unit during the year are as follows. The material used was A.P.T. in doses of 0.2 and 0.5 c.c supplied by the Ministry of Health through the Emergency Public Health Laboratory. Towards the end of the year the initial dose was raised to 0.3 c.c.

Total number of children who received a complete course:-

				1943	1942
Under 5	..	..	..	2101	3295
5 - 15	..	..	..	2674	3871
Over 15	..	..	..	9	6
			TOTALS	4784	7172

Total number of children fully immunised since the commencement of the Scheme .. .. . 38878 34094

The percentage of school children fully immunised at the end of the year was 97.6 and the percentage of under fives 50.4

The number of cases admitted to Hospital as Diphtheria and the number of deaths during the past seven years are given below for reference purposes:-

Year	Admitted to Hospital	Died in Hospital	Year	Admitted to Hospital	Died in Hospital
1937	325	11	1940	79	4
1938	302	15	1941	110	9
1939	133	6	1942	75	3
			1943	31	1

## SCABIES ORDER 1941

Clinics were held every morning (except Saturday and Sunday) and on two afternoons each week at one of the Wards of the Infectious Diseases Hospital where there are four baths available. Two other afternoons were devoted to the treatment of Pediculosis. Every case is seen by the Medical Officer.

The material used is Benzyl Benzoate, 23% in a 1% solution of Sodium Bicarbonate with lanette wax.

The average attendance per month was 396 with 273 in August as the lowest and 552 in February as the highest. Domiciliary visits for treatment were paid to 36 children and 23 adults.

			1943	1942
Total number of cases dealt with during the year	..	Actual Cases	2709	3641
		Contacts	2045	1751
		TOTALS	4754	5392

The distribution as to sex and age was -

	Under 5		5 - 15		15 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cases	193	198	536	545	306	931
Contacts	162	195	174	185	455	874
Added Skin Infections	48	50	63	89	45	83
	403	443	773	819	806	1888

Details relating to complications found during treatment were Dermatitis - 90, Secondary Septic Conditions - 288. In the majority of Dermatitis cases the cause was the excessive use of sulphur ointment at home.

61 Notices under the Scabies Order were served and there were two prosecutions. In one case the family attended for treatment without further trouble, but in the second case a fine of £3 was imposed, the whole family being treated the following day.

Pediculosis and Fleas. 79 cases were treated for pediculosis, in which 41 cases of lice or nits were present. 21 cases were treated for flea infestations. The age and sex distribution of these cases was -

	Under 5		5 - 15		15 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total for Pediculosis	4	3	9	23	16	24
In which lice or nits were present	2	2	3	14	6	14
Total for Fleas	2	0	9	5	1	4

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

The total number of beds available for the treatment of infectious diseases in the Hospital is 291; of these the two cubicle isolation blocks supply 40.

Admissions. The total number of admissions was slightly higher than in 1942.

During the year 733 cases were admitted, excluding Tuberculosis which accounted for 125 admissions. The grand total of all cases admitted during the year was 858. 59 cases were admitted from outside the City boundary and 125 Service cases.

#### Cases discharged during 1943

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Other Infections	Non-Infectious	Deaths	TOTAL
January	21	4	42	16	2	85
February	9	3	34	12	3	61
March	16	2	29	11	4	62
April	21	-	34	23	1	79
May	14	1	26	13	4	58
June	17	3	23	9	4	56
July	14	-	22	15	6	57
August	8	-	14	16	2	40
September	9	2	16	16	3	46
October	19	1	20	22	2	64
November	26	7	11	17	2	63
December	35	3	14	18	8	78
TOTAL	209	26	285	188	41	749

During the year there were 41 deaths from the causes stated below:-

Miliary T.B.	..	..	1	Diphtheria	..	..	2
T.B. Enteritis	..	..	2	Br. Pneumonia	..	..	1
T.B. Laryngitis	..	..	1	Gastro Enteritis	..	..	1
T.B. Infection	..	..	1	Pertussis	..	..	1
T.B. Meningitis	..	..	16	Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	..	..	1	Pemphigus Neonatorum	..	..	1
Pneumococcal Meningitis	..	..	2	Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	2
Streptococcal Meningitis	..	..	1	Rheumatic Endocarditis	..	..	1
Cerebral Softening	..	..	1	Cardiac Failure	..	..	1
Cerebral Thrombosis	..	..	1	Subacute Infective Endocarditis	..	..	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..	..	2				



Diphtheria. There were 41 cases admitted as Diphtheria. Analysis of proven cases of Diphtheria discharged, together with complications arising whilst in Hospital, is given below:-

Day of Dis- ease	AGE GROUP										DIPHTHERIA TYPE					VARIOUS TYPES					COMPLICATIONS																	
	0 - 5 years		5 - 10 years		10 - 15 years		15 - 20 years		20 years +		Faucial		Pharyngeal		Nasal		Laryngeal		Haemorrhagic		Gravis		Intermediate		Mitis		Negative Swab		No Swab taken		Carrier	Tracheotomy	Tonsillectomy	Palatal Paralysis	Partial Heart blocked	External Otitis	Genitis	Deaths
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F								
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	1	2	3	-	2	1	1	-	2	2	7	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	5	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7+	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Of the cases admitted and proved to be Diphtheria (20), the following types were found -

Gravis ..	..	10	2 Cases of Clinical Diphtheria
Intermediate ..	..	3	returned negative swabs
Mitis ..	..	3	1 positive swab, not typed
			1 case - no swab taken

Cases sent in as Diphtheria and proved to be other conditions were as follows -

Tonsillitis ..	..	11	Br. Pneumonia ..	..	1
N.A.D. ..	..	5	(Br. Pneumonia and		
Measles ..	..	1	(Laryngismus Stridulous		1
Vincent's Angina		2			

The two deaths from Diphtheria during the year occurred within twenty-four hours of admission to hospital. The first case was admitted having had a Tracheotomy performed, and on admission to Hospital was moribund and died a few hours after. The second case was a typical one of Haemorrhagic Diphtheria, admitted on the fifth day of disease. It died within six hours of admission. Neither of these cases had been immunised.

Despite the fact that the majority of the cases proved to be Diphtheria yielded organisms of the Gravis type, the clinical picture generally did not suggest a severe type of Diphtheria.



Scarlet Fever. There were 237 cases admitted as Scarlet Fever and the majority were of a mild to moderate type. There were no deaths. The following is a table showing the complications arising from 209 proven cases of Scarlet Fever discharged:-

Congestive Heart	..	1	Mastoid	..	2
Adenitis	..	11	Jaundice	..	1
Otorrhoea	..	6	Serum Rash	..	1
TOTAL					22

Enteric Fever. During the year there was one case admitted as Typhoid Fever and this proved to be a case of Dietetic Enteritis.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. During the year 12 cases were admitted as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. Below is a table setting out the age groups of the 8 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis discharged during the year.

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
0 - 5 years	2	-	2
5 - 10 years	1	1	2
10 - 15 years	-	-	-
15 - 20 years	-	2	2
20 - 25 years	-	-	-
25 years +	1	1	2

### VENEREAL DISEASES

	1 9 4 3			1 9 4 2		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
No. of cases under treatment or observation on 1st January	161	167	328	148	105	253
No. of cases dealt with for the first time during the year	284	472	756	217	259	476
No. of cases discharged on completion of treatment and final tests of cure.	240	397	637	145	156	301
No. of cases which ceased to attend before completion of treatment	39	38	77	32	32	64
No. of cases which ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure.	27	15	42	39	21	60
No. of cases transferred to other centres or to the care of private practitioners.	142	25	167	130	32	162
No. of cases remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December.	167	205	372	161	167	328
No. of attendances -						
(a) for attention by Medical Officer	3968	4652	8620	3471	3001	6472
(b) for intermediate treatment	495	2757	3252	576	1836	2412
Total Attendances	4463	7409	11872	4047	4837	8884



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL - CASES ADMITTED DURING 1943

## DIAGNOSIS BEFORE ADMISSION

MONTH 1943	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS	Service Cases	Cases from Outside Areas	Nett Admissions from the City
Scarlet Fever	17	13	19	21	23	14	9	11	15	30	33	32	237	5	15	217
Diphtheria	7	-	-	2	2	1	-	6	10	7	3	3	41	1	9	31
Enteric	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Varicella	6	1	1	4	2	1	-	1	1	2	-	3	27	14	1	12
Morbilli	11	20	7	15	7	6	2	-	2	1	1	1	71	32	4	35
Rubella	1	-	2	4	3	-	3	-	-	1	2	-	16	14	-	2
Mumps	4	4	4	7	6	3	2	2	1	1	1	-	35	23	-	12
C.S. Meningitis	4	1	3	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	2	3	12	1	-	11
Pertussis	1	-	-	1	1	2	3	2	3	2	4	3	22	-	-	22
Pemphigus	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1
Erysipelas	3	2	3	2	1	2	-	4	-	3	1	4	25	2	-	123
Gastro Enteritis	1	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	3	3	1	4	17	1	-	16
Vincent's Angina	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	2	1	6	2	3	1	3	2	6	1	30	-	9	21
Healthy Baby	2	-	1	2	4	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	22	-	6	16
Healthy Mother	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Observation	14	9	9	20	5	12	7	12	17	4	16	10	135	29	6	100
Tonsillitis	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	-	-	7	1	-	6
Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	4	-	-	4
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	2
Broncho-Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	2
Croup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Boil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Septic Hand	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Glandular Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
Naso-Pharyngitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
For Diagnosis and Treatment	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	1	-	5
Abortus Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
Infected Eyes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Marasmus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polionyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
TOTAL	77	51	55	83	65	50	40	46	59	66	74	63	733	125	59	549



## TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

Table showing the work of the Dispensary during 1943

[illegible]



# TUBERCULOSIS

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943

Age Periods	* NEW CASES						DEATHS			
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	..	..		1	..		...	..	3	2
1 to 5	..	..		2	3		1	..	1	4
5 to 15	6	4		5	6		2	2	3	2
15 to 25	48	47		8	2		7	18	..	1
25 to 35	42	35		5	5		11	14	..	..
35 to 45	55	27		..	..		13	14	..	1
45 to 55	31	10		..	..		29	3	..	..
55 to 65	21	6		1	..		11	6	..	..
65 and upwards	2	2		..	..		5	2	..	..
TOTALS	205	131		22	16		79	59	7	10

\* Includes primary notifications and new cases which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health by other means.

N.B:- Of the total number of 155 deaths registered from all forms of tuberculosis, 3 or 1.9% had not been notified during life, as suffering from the disease.

## INFANT MORTALITY 1943

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at  
various ages under 1 year  
of age

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 wks and under 5 mths	3mths and under 6mths	6mths and under 9mths	9mths and under 12 mths.	Total Deaths under 1 year
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	3
Tubercular Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	5
Syphilis	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Bronchitis	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	18
Diarrhoea	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	3
Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	1	5
Prematurity	30	2	2	-	34	1	-	-	-	35
Atelectasis	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Asphyxia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Heart Disease	3	1	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Congenital Malformations	8	3	-	2	13	4	-	-	1	18
Convulsions	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	2
Haemorrhagic Disease of New Born	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	6
Injury at Birth	9	4	2	1	16	1	-	-	-	17
Marasmus, Debility Atrophy	6	-	-	-	6	1	1	-	-	8
Pemphigus Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Violence	-	-	-	2	2	3	3	1	1	10
Other causes	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
TOTALS	68	10	9	9	96	20	19	11	6	152
Previous Year (1942)	56	5	7	5	73	18	13	13	7	124



MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

MIDWIVES

The practice of the midwives during the year was satisfactory, and the inspection of midwives' bags, books, appliances was carried out regularly.

	1943	1942
Number of midwives practising in the City on December 31st.	33	32
Total number of cases attended	1963	2273
Number of cases attended as Midwives	1567	1882
Number of cases attended as Maternity Nurses	396	391
Number of midwives' cases in which medical assistance was sought	655	603
Showing a percentage of	41.8	32.0
Amount paid by Local Authority to medical men in respect of above attendances	£1055	£1067
Amount paid as premiums under the Insurance Scheme	£286	£250
Amount recovered from patients	£348	£309
Nett cost to Local Authority	£421	£508
Percentage of midwives' cases in which medical assistance was sought for insured cases	59.0	45.4
for uninsured cases	41.0	54.6

DOMICILIARY SERVICE OF MIDWIVES

Number of Municipal Midwives employed in Portsmouth	14	14
Number of Municipal Midwives evacuated to Emergency Homes	1	1
Number of cases booked	1737	1595
Number of patients delivered	1040	1087
Excluding holidays and sickness -		
Percentage of cases per midwife per month	6.2	6.5
Equivalent percentage of cases per midwife per annum	74.3	77.6
Average weekly number of bookings	33.4	30.7

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Details of the work carried out at the Council's Ante-Natal and Post-Natal clinics during the year are given below:-

	ANTE-NATAL				POST-NATAL			
	No. of patients		Attendances		No. of patients		Attendances	
	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942
Fratton (three Clinics weekly)	803	669	3426	2878	11	6	11	6
Cosham (one Clinic weekly)	252	223	1096	1198	8	2	8	2
Saint Mary's Hospital (three Clinics weekly)	1236	1338	8682	7753	352	324	629	556
TOTALS	2291	2230	13204	11829	371	332	648	564

The number of patients attending Ante-natal Clinics in Portsmouth represents 76.1 (72.7) per cent of the women confined during the year.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. The number of attendances, new cases and children seen by the Medical Officer at the Child Welfare Centres functioning during the year are as set out below -

	Attendances	New Cases	Seen by the Medical Officer
Fratton (5 afternoons per week)	12,831	1,421	4,142
Lyndhurst Road School (1 afternoon per week)	5,490	557	1,206
Cosham (1 afternoon per week)	3,863	238	887
Futcher School (1 afternoon per week)	3,974	260	322
Totals	26,158	2,476	6,557
Totals for 1942	14,468	2,122	6,114

Dried Milk was issued from the Child Welfare Centres to expectant mothers, nursing mothers and infants, at a total cost of £5,390 (£4,255). Of this sum £3,818 (£3,050) was recovered from the patients.

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres during the year 1943, classified according to age of the child concerned, were as follows -

Children from 0 to 1 year of age ..	23,029	
" " 1 to 2 years of age ..	1,833	
" " 2 to 5 " " " ..	1,296	Total for 1942 -
Total	26,158	14,468

WARTIME NURSERIES. The following are the statistical details relating to the four Wartime Day Nurseries already established in Portsmouth. Details of the cases sent to Residential Nurseries outside the City are also quoted.

	Admissions during the Year	Attendances at 31st Dec.	Awaiting Admission at 31st Dec.
Garfield Road Day Nursery (Complement 35)	74	31	37
Cliffdale Day Nursery (Complement 60)	112	35	21
St. Peters Day Nursery (Complement 46)	91	30	62
Twyford Ave. Day Nursery (Complement 40) (opened 16th November 1943)	41	26	25
Residential Nurseries .. .. Totals	112	174	
"Milton Lodge," Gillingham, Dorset.	13	20	
"Knole," Knole Road, Bournemouth.	-	7	
"Hingarston," Marnhull, Dorset.	2	6	
"Corem Court and Towers," Lyme Regis, Dorset	3	4	
"Holt Hatch," Bentley, Alton, Hants.	20	23	
"North Bestwall," Wexham, Dorset.	-	2	
"Cross House," Fontwell Magna, Dorset.	13	19	
"Hawley Hill House," Blackwater, Surrey.	16	15	
"Buriton House," Petersfield, Hants.	22	29	
"Princes Place," Closworth, Yeovil, Somerset.	3	9	
"Parford," Chagford, Devon.	3	10	
"Marsh Court," Stockbridge, Hants.	1	3	
"Moorstown House," Ringwood, Hants.	3	5	
"Corfe Hills," Broadstone, Dorset.	11	21	
"Milesdown House," Winchester.	1	1	
"Lady Place," Hurley, Nr. Maidenhead.	1	-	

EVACUATION OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS. During the year 242 expectant mothers were evacuated to Emergency Maternity Homes as follows -

"Brooklands," Abingdon, Berks.	174
"Langtons," Alresford, Hants.	34
"Oakley House," Abingdon Berks.	6
"Folly Farm," Sulhampstead, Berks.	15
"White Lodge Hostel," Cockham Road, Maidenhead.	5
"Old House," Wheatley, Nr. Oxford	4
"Ashcroft," St. Peters Avenue, Reading.	4

and 399 cases were evacuated to the Saint Mary's Hospital Maternity Annexe at Chiltley Place, Liphook.



INSTITUTION TREATMENT OF MATERNITY CASES

	Saint Mary's Hospital	Chiltley Place	Royal Naval Maternity Home
No. of Maternity beds (exclusive of isolation and labour)	40	24	17
No. of Patients admitted	820	401	279
Average duration of stay	12 days	12 days	12 days
No. of cases delivered by -			
(a) Midwives	558	320	252
(b) Doctors	106	17	23
Cases in which medical assistance was sought by midwife	126	71	Doctor always available
No. of cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia	11	6	3
No. of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum	-	-	-
No. of infants not entirely breast fed while in Institution	104	48	67
No. of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	-	1
- Result of treatment	Recovered	-	Recovered
No. of maternal deaths	6	-	-
No. of foetal deaths -			
(a) Stillborn	45	3	9
(b) Within 10 days of birth	37	4	2

HOME VISITING. The Health Visitors paid 17,699 (17,752) visits during  
the year -

				Total number of visits.	
				1943	1942
First visits	..	..	..	3445	2613
Subsequent visits to children from 0 to 1			year of age	4456	4049
"	"	"	from 1 to 2		
"	"	"	years of age	3075	3122
"	"	"	from 2 to 3		
"	"	"	years of age	2308	3269
"	"	"	from 3 to 5		
"	"	"	years of age	4047	4107
Visits to cases attending Centres	..	..	..	-	31
Visits to ante-natal cases	..	..	..	-	-
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	-	-
Other visits	..	..	..	368	561

# SANITARY INSPECTION

The following summary shows the particulars of the work carried out:-

<u>DRAINAGE DEFECTS</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>
Drains cleared .. ..	301	180
Drains cleared in Factories .. ..	2	-
Drains repaired or relaid .. ..	85	76
Drains ventilated or ventilating shafts repaired	9	48
New water-closet pans provided .. ..	25	23
New pedestal closet pans provided .. ..	73	53
Water-closet fittings repaired .. ..	214	247
Flushing apparatus to water-closets provided	20	28
" " " " " " in Factories	2	-
Separate and additional sanitary accommodation provided	7	1
Water-closets disconnected from Factories ..	1	-
" " screened from Factories ..	-	-
" " ventilated .. ..	4	2
" " cleansed .. ..	7	6
Gratings provided to gully traps .. ..	22	30
Glazed stoneware sinks provided .. ..	6	7
Sink waste-pipes repaired, trapped or renewed	95	128

## OTHER DEFECTS

Rain-water spouting cleansed or repaired ..	225	281
Roofs repaired .. ..	257	468
Weather slating repaired or external walls protected	63	117
Floors, stairs or doors repaired .. ..	203	343
Sashes, lines, sills, glazing or sash frames repaired	396	518
Damp courses provided or repaired .. ..	52	57
Houses or parts of houses cleansed or distempered	140	178
" " " " " " repaired .. ..	361	444
Sanitary dustbins provided .. ..	41	27
Dust chutes cleansed or repaired .. ..	-	8
Space beneath floors ventilated .. ..	39	98
Yards, stables, sties, etc. repaved .. ..	37	40
Overcrowding in dwelling-houses abated ..	-	14
Foundation of house concreted .. ..	9	-
Water supply laid on or water services repaired	75	84
Factories cleaned or distempered .. ..	3	2
Factory floors repaired .. ..	2	1
Factory roofs repaired .. ..	2	1
Factories or parts of Factories repaired ..	2	2
Cooking ranges or firegrates repaired or renewed	67	101
Coppers repaired or renewed .. ..	10	26
Other nuisances in dwelling-houses abated ..	51	149

## OFFENSIVE MATTER, Etc.

Manure and refuse removed .. ..	35	44
Stagnant water removed .. ..	2	5
Animals removed .. ..	1	11
Bedding cleansed or destroyed .. ..	5	21

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES, STABLES, Etc.

Yards, stables, sties, etc. cleaned .. ..	6	9
Bakehouses cleansed .. ..	17	6

## BYELAWS

Notices under Nuisance Byelaws complied with	2	-
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# GENERAL INSPECTION

DWELLING HOUSES - 7,066 (7,388) dwelling houses were inspected, and 11,867 (11,533) re-inspections were made whilst work ordered to be carried out was in progress. 5,674 (3,257) other inspections of buildings were also made.

COMPLAINTS - 1,846 (1,727) complaints were made at the office and received attention.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES - 13 (14) visits were made to the 2 (2) registered Common Lodging Houses.

FACTORIES - 312 (580) visits were made to the Factories, which have been well kept, and 161 (169) visits to out-workers' premises. 4 (4) complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, all of which received attention. 98 (166) inspections of bakehouses were made.

OLD DRAINS - 582 (731) old drains were tested or re-tested.

NEW SANITARY FITTINGS - 43 (18) sanitary fittings were examined.

OCCUPATION CERTIFICATES - No (no) Occupation Certificates were issued with respect to new buildings.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES - 2 (2) Sanitary Certificates with respect to sanitary conditions of the drains and fittings of old dwelling houses have been issued.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) AMENDMENTS ACT, 1933 - Under this Act 1 (no) Certificate relating to dwelling houses not being kept in a reasonable state of repair were granted to tenants.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT - 1,571 (1,222) visits were made to rat infested premises and 1 (1) notice was served.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1,490 (1,321) cases of Infectious Diseases were visited and investigated and 933 (873) rooms were disinfected by the Disinfectors.

## SPECIAL WAR DUTIES

AIR RAID SHELTERS - 3,772 (3,556) inspections

EMERGENCY CENTRES - 60 (15)

MUNICIPAL RESTAURANTS - 19 (65) inspections

FOOD PREMISES - 157 (112) inspections

COMMUNAL AIR RAID SHELTERS - 130 (324) inspections

MILLBANK DISINFECTOR - 106,244 articles disinfected (75,868 from 18th June to 31st December)

A.R.P. CONTROLS - 365 (365) shifts

MORTUARIES - 24 (32) attendances

WAR DAMAGE - 403 (1,071) inspections

AIR RAID WARDENS' POSTS - 41 (4) inspections

MOSQUITOES - STATIC WATER TANKS, Etc., 461 (820) inspections

FIREWATCHING - 294 (365) turns of duty

	1943	1942
Power Factories on Register at end of Year	486	517
Non Power Factories on Register at end of Year -		
Retail Bakeries .. .. .	12	16
Tailoring .. .. .	44	48
Dressmaking and Millinery .. .. .	19	20
Upholstery .. .. .	1	2
Laundries .. .. .	1	1
Photography .. .. .	3	3
Miscellaneous .. .. .	94	109
TOTAL	174	199

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health								
PREMISES	Inspections		Defects found		Written Notices		Defects Remedied	
	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942
Power and Non Power Factories	312	580	14	22	9	13	14	19

## HOMework

Number of Outworkers: Contractors 13 (14)	Notices served Nil (Nil)
Workmen 456 (450)	Outworkers in infected
Outworkers in unwholesome premises Nil (Nil)	permises Nil (1)

## PORT SANITARY INSPECTION

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR

	1943	1942
Number inspected by Medical Officer of Health ..	Nil	Nil
" " " Port Sanitary Inspector ..	284	263
" of vessels found defective ..	73	46
" " " on which defects were remedied ..	73	46
" " " with infectious disease ..	1	1

## HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

Number inspected during year	.. ..	284	263
Defects of original construction	.. ..	Nil	Nil
Dirt, Vermin and other Conditions prejudicial to health		73	46

## MUNICIPAL DISINFECTANT STATION - MANUFACTURE OF DISINFECTANT FLUID

					1943	1942
					Gallons	
Amount manufactured	..	..	..	..	6000	7500
Issued to public	..	..	..	..	3010	3730
Public Swimming Baths	..	..	..	..	1820	3120
Public Mortuary	..	..	..	..	120	120
Meat Store	..	..	..	..	120	120
Tunnel Shelters	..	..	..	..	630	140
Elementary Schools	..	..	..	..	190	60
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	110	210



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION  
OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938

During the year 937 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Of these 66 were found to be adulterated or 7.04% compared with 3.79% in 1942. Of the 66 adulterated samples, 43 were formal samples, 22 informal or test samples and 1 was a private purchaser's sample.

Proceedings were instituted in 19 cases and fines and costs amounting to £112 7s. 2d. were imposed, ranging from £2 1s. 0d. to £45 5s. 0d. In 8 cases cautions were given.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS OF 1936 AND 1938.

During the year 14 licences were issued for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk and 3 for Pasteurised Milk.

30 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk were taken and 5 failed to pass the prescribed test.

36 samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken and 1 was rejected as it failed to pass the standard laid down for this type of milk. Of the 36 samples taken, 12 were as supplied to Schools, and 1 was rejected, while 24 represented milk supplied to local Hospitals and Institutions, all of which passed the prescribed standard for this type of milk. 6 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk were examined, all of which satisfied the regulations.

MILK

431 samples of milk were taken during the year and 39 were found to be adulterated. Of this number, 281 represented milk supplied by farmers to retailers in the City, of which 38 were found to be adulterated.

26 samples of milk were taken from the various Hospitals and Institutions in the City. All were returned as genuine.

DRUGS

119 samples of drugs were taken and 11 were found not to be in accordance with the standards laid down in the British Pharmacopoeia or the British Pharmacopoeia Codex.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND ORDERS IN COUNCIL MADE THEREUNDER.

During the year 135 visits were made to business premises to see that the provisions of these Orders were being complied with. It was found that the Orders were being complied with by the numerous tradesmen in the City in a satisfactory manner. 3 cautions were issued.

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REPORT OF THE VETERINARY OFFICER (Mr. R. Scouler, M.R.C.V.S.)

DUTIES AT THE PORT

During the year no clinical evidence of the existence of any notifiable disease has been detected in the livestock landing at the Port, and all animals have been able to proceed to their destinations. When a large foreign vessel called at Portsmouth in September, the Ship's Local Agents reported a substantial amount of meat spoiled owing to a leak in the refrigerating plant. As the vessel was sailing again soon, I had the meat brought ashore in order to carry out thorough inspection. The Steward was given a condemned note against the meat taken ashore. Finally a large percentage of beef, pork and veal was saved for human consumption. The salvaged meat was handled by agents of the Ministry of Food.



## AGRICULTURAL ACT, 1937

Shortage of experienced labour and concern about adequate feeding stuffs in winter are still troublesome problems for the cowkeeper. With the great demand for increased milk production, and the many difficulties to be overcome, it seems to me very creditable that one local cowkeeper, by the end of the year, was well on the way to doubling the number of animals in his herd. Throughout the year, there was again very little trouble with locally produced milk.

### SWINE FEVER

During the year there has been little activity relating to this disease compared with last year. It has not been necessary to report to the Ministry of Agriculture any suspicious pig.

### FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

The Slaughterhouse at Paulsgrove was closed from August till October in accordance with instructions received by the Ministry of Food from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This action was taken because the City formed part of an area scheduled by the Ministry of Agriculture relating to Foot and Mouth Disease restrictions. I understand the Ministry of Agriculture's decision to close the Slaughterhouse was due to the fact that livestock, other than animals awaiting slaughter, are kept in the vicinity.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSE

On several occasions I have spoken about the need for a hide and skin store and a condemned meat store at Paulsgrove. Towards the end of the year I was informed that it was the intention of the Ministry of Food to erect both stores. Owing to Foot and Mouth Disease restrictions, the Slaughterhouse was closed from August till October. The following are the approximate figures for the animals slaughtered during the nine months of slaughtering at Paulsgrove:-

<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Total number of Animals</u>
6,730	8,782	3,528	19,040

### SLAUGHTERHOUSE BY-PRODUCTS

Pharmaceutical materials are put in cold storage at Paulsgrove while fresh. Centralisation of slaughtering is the factor which makes possible the collection of these valuable by-products. Ever since I came to Portsmouth I have never ceased to advocate the collection of blood. As centralised slaughtering lends itself to this, I pressed the matter strongly before Paulsgrove Slaughterhouse opened. Actually, when operations at Paulsgrove commenced, I provided the first lot of blood trays. No doubt today the sale of this blood is an item of considerable revenue to the Ministry of Food.

### ANTE-MORTEM INSPECTION

Centralisation of the slaughtering has greatly facilitated the practice of ante-mortem inspection. Every opportunity has been taken to carry this out.

### CONDEMNATIONS

There are several noteworthy items which appear under the above heading:-

1. 66 Carcases and full offals of home-killed meat were condemned during the nine months Paulsgrove Slaughterhouse was in operation.
2. 50 lbs. udders were condemned following the slaughter of a dairy herd affected with mastitis.
3. 40 hams - all the hams were passed to the Ministry of Food (Salvage Division.)



4. I could not support the attitude of the Ministry of Food when they assumed that when they took over a consignment of 70 boxes of herrings, they did not at the same time accept responsibility for the return of the valuable empty boxes. Eventually, after a serious delay, they accepted responsibility for the despatch of the boxes.
5. There were conflicts with Fish Traders relating to two large parcels - 250 boxes hippers and 6 tons herrings. Notwithstanding their protests, in both cases, some salvage was effected.
6. 29 cwt. herrings and mackerel - this consignment was handled on a Saturday afternoon at the Town Station. The Ministry of Food was involved.
7. 380 loaves (twice) - in each instance, the loaves were used for feeding the lower animals.
8. 3 tons barley flakes - this was part of a wagon load of barley flakes dealt with at the Railway Goods Station.
9. 76 rolls celery - this item was also handled at the Railway Goods Station.

#### U.S.A. ARMY

Practically a weekly visit has been paid to the local Depot of the U.S.A. Army in connection with the inspection of foodstuffs. Besides my inspection, those foodstuffs are also inspected by one of the Veterinary Officers of the U.S.A. Army at the Depot. The Ministry of Food insists that those goods should be inspected by the Inspector of the Local Authority concerned.

#### MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924

The cleanliness of meat transport has been enhanced following instructions given to wash calves' feet before they are moved from the Slaughterhouse. As a preventive of meat contamination during transit by the transport personnel, pressure for the equipping of meat vehicles with rubber slippers has been postponed until after the war. Last April I ascertained that, owing to the shortage of material, it was impossible for the manufacturers to make the slippers.

#### OTHER FOODSTUFFS

Practically all kinds of foodstuffs, other than home-killed and imported meat sold at Wholesale Depots, have been handled under this heading. Tinned goods are an important item - 13,976 have been dealt with.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

No seizure has been necessary during 1943. All foodstuffs unfit for human consumption have been dealt with by surrender.

#### BOMBED FOOD PREMISES

In the central part of the City, foodstuffs had to be inspected, following enemy action, for any possible form of salvage. 15 food shops were involved. One feature of the affected food stocks was the large amount of food buried for several days. After being dug out, most of this food was found to be fit for human consumption.

#### REFRIGERATION - (BREAKDOWNS)

During the year there have been three cases of refrigeration trouble, which involved large quantities of meat. In one case, although  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons of meat were regarded as doubtful, I was able, after a thorough investigation, to save it all. In both the other cases, a substantial salvage was effected. In each case a different refrigerant was used, namely Ammonia, Sulphur Dioxide and Calcium Chloride.

#### MINISTRY OF FOOD PROSECUTION

At the request of the Ministry of Food I attended the local Court and gave evidence supporting their case which related to waste of food. The approximate wholesale value of the meat involved, which was condemned by me was £450. The Defendant was the Manager of a local Cold Storage Company. A conviction was obtained.

#### VISITS

1982 during 1943. Included are 196 to Slaughterhouse; 145 to Piggeries; 66 to Farms; 113 to Sausage Makers and 236 relating to Complaints.

Public Analyst's Department,  
Trafalger Place,  
Clive Road,  
Fortsmouth.

The Chairman and Members of the  
Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Thirtieth Annual Report on the work carried out in the City Laboratory during the year ending 31st December 1943.

The Report is necessarily of an abridged nature owing to present conditions but it will be seen that the number of samples of all descriptions has been well maintained.

The total number of samples and specimens submitted is rather less than that for the previous year which is mostly accounted for by the decreased number of specimens submitted for diphtheritic examination and this, fortunately, is due to the low incidence of Diphtheria throughout the country.

The percentage of adulteration is nearly double that found for the previous year but practically all of this had its origin outside the City of Portsmouth.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the work of Mr. C.M.Beckett who, for 22 years, has been my Chief Assistant and without whose loyal co-operation it would have been impossible to carry out the work. D.A. Boswall, the Pupil Assistant, is making satisfactory progress and his work has been of great value under present conditions.

I should also like to place on record the highly efficient and tactful manner in which your Official Sampling Officer, Inspector F.R.Bell, carries out his duties at all times.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

REGINALD P. PAGE

Public Analyst.



## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

During the year ended 31st December 1943 the total number of samples and specimens examined in my Department was 1,947, which may be briefly summarised as follows:-

	1943	1942	1941
Food and Drugs Act	937	896	783
Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act	72	82	51
Water	24	40	77
Police and Coroner	27	22	83
Miscellaneous	224	130	52
Diphtheritic Material	663	1170	480 (8 mths)
TOTAL	1947	2340	1526

### FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938

937 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938, during the year and of these, 66 or 7 per cent, were reported as "not genuine." This figure constitutes a large increase in the percentage of detected adulteration when compared with that for the previous year, 3.8 per cent.

Of the 66 samples adversely reported upon, 43 were formal samples, 22 were informal and one sample was submitted by a private purchaser.

Legal proceedings were instituted in 19 cases and fines and costs were imposed amounting to £112 7s. 2d.

A table showing the complete list of adulterated samples, the nature of the adulteration, or irregularity, and the results of any administrative action are given at the end of this Report.

### MILK

The total number of samples of milk analysed was 431 and of these, 39 or 9.0 per cent, were found to be below the standard for genuine milk.

Of the total number of samples taken, 281 represent milk supplied by farmers to retailers in the City. 38 of these samples were found to be below the standard for genuine milk.

The average percentage of fat in all samples of genuine milk was 3.9 per cent and of solids-not-fat, 8.79 per cent. This represents milk of very good quality when judged by the legal limits of 3.0 per cent of fat and 8.5 per cent of solids-not-fat.

Many complaints were received during the warmer months from consumers on the grounds of sour milk. These were all investigated and generally it was found that the trouble was due to difficulties in transport set up by war conditions, rather than to faulty technique on the part of the local Dairies.

### The Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1937 and 1938

Bacteriological examinations were made on 30 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk and 5 or 16.6 per cent, failed to pass one or the other of the prescribed tests.

Tuberculin Tested Milk represents the only supply of reasonably safe raw milk available to the public and the percentage of rejection is high. It must, however, be remembered that very special care has to be exercised in the production and handling of this grade of milk and that, under present conditions there is a great shortage of skilled workers who have the necessary knowledge and training in its production.

The average percentage of milk fat in these samples was 3.57 per cent and of solids-not-fat, 8.91 per cent.

36 samples of Pasteurised Milk were examined, of which 12 samples were taken at Schools and 24 samples from Hospitals or other Local Institutions. Of these 36 samples, only 1 failed to comply with the standards laid down for this type of milk. The average percentage of milk fat in the samples was 3.87 per cent and of solids-not-fat, 9.00 per cent.

#### BUTTER AND MARGARINE

Arrangements have been made between the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Health whereby the Official Food Sampler may obtain samples of rationed foodstuffs and, of these, probably the most important are butter and margarine.

48 samples of butter were analysed during the year, all of which were genuine and free from preservatives.

48 samples of margarine were examined and were found to be genuine and properly labelled in accordance with the Regulations.

All the samples contained Boreon Preservative, the Preservative Regulations having been relaxed in regard to margarine as a war-time emergency. It is, however, hoped that the practice of adding preservatives to margarine will be discontinued after the war. In no case has an excessive quantity of preservative been found.

#### Other Articles

##### SAUSAGES

20 samples of sausages, or sausage meat, were analysed and of these, 5 reported as being deficient in meat.

At the period during which these samples were reported against, the sale of sausages was controlled by the Sausages (Maximum Prices) Order, 1941, which fixed the meat content from 30 to 45 per cent of meat. Judged by the protein value, the nutritional value of a sausage containing only 30 per cent of meat was low, but one sample of pork sausage contained only 17 per cent of meat and resembled a moist, starchy mass.

To increase the nutritional value without an addition of meat, a new Order - The Food (Meat Products and Cooked Meats) Order - was issued and came into force in July 1943, which prescribed the addition of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of soya to sausages and sausage meat. Low fat soya, such as is issued for the purpose, contains about 50 per cent of protein and has increased the nutritional value of sausages, if not their palatableness. The same Order stabilised the meat content of sausages and sausage meat at  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

Legal proceedings were taken against the vendors of all of the 5 samples with successful results.

##### BAKING POWDER

Of the 9 samples taken, 4 were reported as being deficient in available carbon dioxide, the gas to which the essential properties of the powder is due.

Baking powders consist of bicarbonate of soda with, normally, the addition of an acid material such as tartaric acid or cream of tartar. Owing to war conditions these latter substances are not now available and their place is taken by sodium acid pyrophosphate or acid calcium sulphate.

When moistened with water these powders give off carbon dioxide gas which, when disseminated throughout the dough, gives a lightness or porosity to the cake or pastry.

Unfortunately this change also takes place under storage conditions, the moisture in the atmosphere causing the ingredients to react and consequently the powders deteriorate. This deterioration is accentuated under present conditions when the baking powder is often packed in cardboard containers and kept in stock for any great length of time.



When freshly prepared, baking powders are made to contain about 10 per cent of available carbon dioxide. No standard has, however, been laid down for baking powders and it has been the practice in Portsmouth to adopt a minimum of 6 per cent of available carbon dioxide to allow a reasonable latitude. The powders reported against contained 2.5, 3.0, 3.0 and 4.6 per cent of available carbon dioxide. In each case the manufacturers were communicated with and they readily agreed to withdraw and replace their stock in the local shops.

In January 1944 the Ministry of Food issued the Food Standards (Baking Powder and Golden Raising Powder) Order, 1944, which states that baking powder shall yield "not less than 8 per cent of available carbon dioxide." This comes into force, insofar as it concerns the retailer, in July 1944.

#### HALIBORANGE

This product consists of halibut liver oil and orange juice with added Vitamin D. According to the statement upon the label attached to the bottle the contents should contain 3 per cent of halibut liver oil. Actually the proportion of oil found was 1.35 per cent. The makers were communicated with and they pointed out that, owing to war conditions, they had been using a halibut liver oil stronger in Vitamin A content as there was none of the weaker oil available and they had, accordingly, used less halibut liver oil. There was also a discrepancy on the label as to the method of calculating the percentage of oil. The makers agreed to alter their statement upon the label in accordance with the existing conditions.

#### TINCTURE OF IODINE

Tincture of iodine consists of a solution of iodine in potassium iodide solution of a definite standard laid down in the British Pharmacopoeia.

10 samples were taken during the year of which 5, 3 informal and 2 formal, samples were found to be incorrectly dispensed. The two formal samples, Nos. 213 and 729 were both supplied by the same wholesaler to local establishments. Sample No. 213, purchased in March, was 36.8 per cent deficient in iodine and Sample No. 729, purchased in October, was not only deficient in iodine to the extent of 60 per cent but also had an excess of potassium iodide, containing rather more than twice the amount laid down in the British Pharmacopoeia which constituted a completely wasteful and unnecessary procedure. Legal proceedings were taken in both cases with successful results.

#### GELATIN

Edible gelatin is one of the many articles which have been in short supply during the year and an effort seems to have been made to replace this by inferior grades of gelatin which has many uses in industry, being the basis of glue and size. Many such cases have been reported from various parts of the country and one such sample was obtained in the City which, in my opinion, was nothing more than an industrial gelatin sold for edible purposes. It contained 1,600 parts of Zinc per million, 3 parts per million of Arsenic and 20 parts per million of Copper. Proceedings were instituted against the packers of this gelatin and a conviction obtained.

#### BLACKBERRY WINE

This sample was brought to the Laboratory by a member of H.M. Forces, who found that, on arrival at home on leave, his wife had made some blackberry wine but that this had a peculiar taste.

Analysis showed that it contained 28 grains of metallic zinc per pint and subsequent enquiries showed that the blackberry juice had been fermented in a galvanised pail which was obviously the source of the metallic contamination.

## Miscellaneous

### POLICE AND CORONER

One case was investigated for the City Coroner, in which the cause of death was obscure but no substance of a poisonous nature was found in the various organs submitted.

Eleven cases have been submitted by the City Police involving the examination of 22 exhibits. These included two cases of attempting to dope greyhounds at the Greyhound Track, one case of counterfeit coinage and three cases of alleged use of Government petrol for unlawful purposes.

A sample of whiskey which had been offered for sale privately at a reduced price was submitted and this was found to contain 76 per cent of proof spirit which would correspond with a whiskey of pre 1921 era. The sample was of a very pale colour and had undoubtedly been in store for many years.

The remaining cases were of a criminal nature and many of these cases have necessitated attendance at the Portsmouth Quarter Sessions or Winchester Assizes.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Under this heading are also included samples submitted by the various Departments of the Corporation, all of whom make use of the facilities of the Laboratory from time to time.

224 samples have been received from the various sources and of these, 144 were samples of oil taken from transformers and submitted by the Electricity Department in connection with a scheme for cleaning the oil and making it suitable for a further period of usefulness.

38 samples of canned food were received from a selection of Rest Centres in the City, which had been in store for long periods since the commencement of the war. Some of these tins were in a very bad condition, in some cases due to faulty storage, and a scheme was suggested for turning over these stocks of food from time to time.

A similar investigation was made for the City Engineer on the stocks of bleaching powder held for possible decontamination purposes in the City.

The amount paid to the City Treasurer for the analyses carried out under this heading is £83 4s. 0d.

### WATER

24 samples of water have been examined bacteriologically during the year and 12 of these represent the routine monthly examination of the City Water Supply. This has maintained the usual high standard of purity throughout the year.

The remaining samples were taken from local wells to ascertain if the water was fit for human consumption.

### DIPHTHERIA

663 swabs have been examined, of which 595 were received from Medical Practitioners in the City and 68 from the School Clinic.

The Laboratory has been open on all Sundays and Bank Holidays throughout the year.

REGINALD P. PAGE

Public Analyst.



ADULTERATED SAMPLES FOR YEAR 1943

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Observations
29	Milk	11.0% of Added Water	Test sample
33	Milk	4.4% of Added Water	Fined £1 and £1 1s. 0d. Costs
35	Milk	1.8% of Added Water	Fined £1 and £1 16s. 6d. Costs
52	Beef Sausages	13.3% deficient in Meat Content	Fined £1 and £1 1s. 0d. Costs
99	Pork Sausages	10.0% deficient in Meat Content	Test Sample
103	Pork Sausages	43.4% deficient in Meat Content	Fined £10 and £1 11s. 6d. Costs
106	Beef Sausage Meat	6.6% deficient in Meat Content	Fined £3 and £1 11s. 6d. Costs
156	Milk	5.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
165	Milk	14.0% deficient in Milk Fat	} Cautioned by the Medical Officer of Health
166	Milk	6.0% deficient in Milk Fat	
176	Milk	4.0% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	Test Sample
177	Milk	3.3% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	Test Sample
180	Haliborange	55.0% deficient in Halibut Liver Oil	Test Sample
182	Milk	2.8% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	} Appeal to Cow Sample deficient in Solids-not-Fat
183	Milk	3.3% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	
204	Tincture of Iodine	36.8% deficient in Iodine	Test Sample
206	Pork Sausages	2.5 grains to lb. Boric Acid	No action
207	Beef Sausage Meat	30.0% deficient in Meat Content	Fined £5 and £1 1s. 0d. Costs
210	Vinegar	100% Vinegar other than Malt Vinegar	Cautioned by the Medical Officer of Health
211	Vinegar	100% Vinegar other than Malt Vinegar	Cautioned by the Medical Officer of Health
212	Vinegar	100% Vinegar other than Malt Vinegar	Test Sample
213	Tincture of Iodine	36.8% deficient in Iodine	Fined £10 and £1 1s. 0d. Costs
220	Malt Vinegar	100% Vinegar other than Malt Vinegar	Cautioned by the Medical Officer of Health

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Observations
238	Haliborange	55.0% deficient in Halibut Liver Oil	Makers asked for an explanation
239	Milk	6.6% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
244	Milk	11.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Appeal to Cow Sample deficient in Milk Fat
295	Milk	2.0% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od.
296	Milk	4.3% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od.
297	Milk	4.1% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od.
298	Milk	2.0% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od.
299	Milk	4.1% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od.
300	Milk	4.3% of Added Water	Fined £1 Os. Od. and 83 18s. 10d. Costs
301	Milk	20.7% deficient in Milk Fat	} Appeal to Cow Samples below standard.
302	Milk	23.3% deficient in Milk Fat	
303	Milk	15.6% deficient in Milk Fat	
304	Milk	17.6% deficient in Milk Fat	
314	Milk	7.0% deficient in Milk Fat	} Appeal to Cow Samples
315	Milk	25.0% deficient in Milk Fat	
317	Milk	23.9% deficient in Milk Fat	
319	Milk	23.0% deficient in Milk Fat	
339	Milk	2.0% of Added Water and 8.3% deficient in Milk Fat	} Fined £1 Os. Od. in each case and £2 17s. 10d. Costs
340	Milk	5.1% of Added Water	
378	Milk	18.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
413	Milk	10.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
538	Milk	12.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
543	Milk	8.3% deficient in Milk Fat	Improper bulking of Milk, remainder of consignment above standard.
548	Milk	6.6% deficient in Milk Fat	Test Sample
603	Milk	10.0% deficient in Milk Fat	Improper bulking of milk
612	Milk	5.0% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	Test Sample
631	Milk	6.1% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	Same supplier as Sample No. 612. Appeal to Cow Sample below minimum for Solids-not-Fat



No. of Sample	Nature of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Observations
646	Milk	4.1% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	Same supplier as Samples Nos. 612 and 631.
647	Milk	3.3% deficient in Solids-not-Fat	
680	Blackberry Wine	Metallic Zinc 28 grains per pint	Private Sample. Fermented in galvanised utensil
693	Baking Powder	50.0% deficient in available Carbon dioxide	Test Sample
726	Tincture of Iodine	52.0% deficient in Iodine and 110.0% excess of Pot. Iod.	Test Sample
729	Tincture of Iodine	60.0% deficient in Iodine and 110.0% excess of Pot. Iod.	Fined £40 and £5 5s. Od. Costs
778	Gelatin	Zinc 1,600 parts per million Arsenic 3 parts per million Copper 20 parts per million	Fined £10 and £2 2s. Od. Costs
817	Baking Powder	50.0% deficient in available carbon dioxide	Cautioned by Medical Officer of Health
819	Baking Powder	58.3% deficient in available carbon dioxide	Cautioned by Medical Officer of Health
821	Baking Powder	23.3% deficient in available carbon dioxide	Cautioned by Medical Officer of Health
923	Milk	4.3% of Added Water	Cautioned by Medical Officer of Health
937	Tincture of Iodine	40.0% deficient in Iodine	Test Sample