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Contributors

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ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1940.



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
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To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District which you control. War conditions are responsible for the delay in publishing this. All the statistics given are interesting as they show that with the exception of diphtheria, the notification of which have numbered 32, the township has been fairly free from infectious disease. The increase in the number of diphtheria cases cannot be explained. Immunisation against this disease has been steadily carried out and a further 263 children have been immunised during the year. Only one case of the 32 has had the prophylactic treatment and this diphtheric condition was very mild.

The birth rate and death rate have remained about the same and compare favourably with the rest of the country. A remarkable feature is the huge drop in the figure for infantile mortality. This figure is not likely to be maintained in other years.

The Mobile First Aid Unit under myself and the Auxiliary Fire Service under the leadership of the Sanitary Inspector have been in full training during the year.

The Urban District covers an area of 1,452 acres. The Rateable Value of the Township at the end of the year was £24,845, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £92. The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year, according to the Rate Books, was 2,081, the same as last year.

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VITAL STATISTICS.

		<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Live Births.	(Legitimate)	128.	59.	69.
	(Illegitimate)	<u>5.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>4.</u>
		<u>134.</u>	<u>61.</u>	<u>73.</u>
Still Births.	(Legitimate)	5.	3.	2.
Deaths.	...	89.	52.	37.
Birth Rate per thousand of the Estimated Resident Population.			17.63.	
Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 total. (live and still)			35.97.	
Death Rate per thousand of the Estimated Resident Population.			11.45.	
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List)				

No. 30 - Other Puerperal Causes: 0.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

			<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.	...	...	2.	1.
Legitimate.	...	...	2.	1.
Illegitimate.	...	...	-	-
All infants per 1,000 live births.				23.43.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births.				23.43.
Illegitimate " " " "				-
Deaths from Cancer. (all ages)				7.
-do-	Measels. (all ages)			0.
-do-	Whooping Cough. (all ages)			0.
-do-	Diarrhoea (under two years of age)			0.

Causes of Death, 1940.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	1.	1.	-
Diphtheria.	4.	2.	2.
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	1.	-	1.
Syphilitic Diseases.	2.	1.	1.
Influenza.	4.	2.	2.
Acute Infantile Encephlethargia.	1.	1.	-
Cancer of the Bronchial Cavity and oesophagus (M.) uterus (F.)	2.	2.	-
Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	2.	2.	-
Cancer of breast.	1.	-	1.
Cancer of other sites.	2.	2.	-
Diabetes.	1.	-	1.
Intracranial Vascular Lesions.	5.	3.	2.
Heart Disease.	30.	14.	16.
Bronchitis.	4.	4.	-
Pneumonia.	9.	4.	5.
Other Respiratory Diseases.	1.	-	1.
Appendicitis.	2.	1.	1.
Other Digestive Diseases.	2.	2.	-
Nephritis.	1.	-	1.
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, &c.	1.	1.	-
Other violent causes.	2.	2.	-
All other causes.	<u>11.</u>	<u>8.</u>	<u>3.</u>
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>89.</u>	<u>52.</u>	<u>37.</u>

Although Heart Disease has the largest number of causes of death this is due to the fact that it is chiefly in old people that this has occurred.

Table showing Death Rate, Birth Rate, and Infantile
Mortality Rate per 1,000 Estimated Population for
Royston for the last 5 years.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate.</u>	<u>Birth</u> <u>Rate.</u>	<u>Infantile</u> <u>Mortality</u> <u>Rate.</u>
1936.	9.2	18.7	40.3
1937.	9.92	18.04	21.43
1938.	11.78	21.36	54.54
1939.	11.25	17.17.	60.15
1940.	11.45.	17.63	23.43

Prevalance of and Control over Infectious and other
Diseases.

1. Smallpox.

Nil.

2. Scarlet Fever.

9 cases were notified, as compared with 1 case in 1939.

3. Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There was 1 notification of this disease.

4. Puerperal Pyrexia.

Nil.

5. Diphtheria.

There were 32 notifications of Diphtheria, as compared with 6 cases in 1939.

6. Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out at all houses where infectious disease occurred, and the total number of houses so treated is 43. Contacts were also kept under observation and all possible steps taken to minimise the spread of infection..

The following Table shows the number of cases of Disease notified during the last 5 years :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Smallpox.</u>	<u>Scarlet</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Diphtheria.</u>	<u>Cerebro-Spinal</u> <u>Meningitis.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
1936.	0.	10.	12.	1.	23.
1937.	0.	22.	12.	0.	34.
1938.	0.	13.	6.	0.	19.
1939.	0.	1.	6.	1.	8.
1940.	0.	9.	32.	1.	42.

7. Tuberculosis.

The following Table shows particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1940:-

<u>Age Period.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0-1.								
1-5.								
5-15.	1.	-	1.	-				
15-25.	-	1.			-	1.		
25-35.	1.	-						
35-45.								
45-55.	-	1.						
55-65.								
65 and upwards.								
<u>TOTALS.</u>	2.	2.	1.	-	-	1.	-	-

The incidence of Tuberculosis in the Country generally showed a rise during 1940. This may have been due to the careful examination of recruits for the army.

Tuberculosis patients in the list at the end of 1940:-

Pulmonary.

9 males.

Non-Pulmonary.

8 males.

5 males.

2 females.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

District Nursing Service.

No. of visits paid during the year - 4,523.

No. of patients treated. - 277.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. PARE, M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer of Health.

ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Third Annual Report on the work of this Department, being for the year ended 31st December, 1940, and prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1961. This work has been gradually increased by A. R. P. work and the collection of Salvage.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

(a) Water Supply.

The Township received its water supply in bulk from the County Borough of Barnsley, being served by the U. D. C. Mains from a reservoir at Smithies Hill. The supply throughout the year was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity.

The total consumption during the year in Royston (exclusive of the amount supplied to the Wakefield Rural District Council) was 42,680,000 gallons, which represents an average daily consumption of 15.07 gallons per head.

The following Table shows the consumption figures for the past five years :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Total Annual Consumption.</u>	<u>Average Daily Consumption per head of population.</u>
1940.	42,680,000 gallons.	15.07 gallons.
1939.	42,290,000 "	14.94 "
1938.	40,257,000 "	14.21 "
1937.	39,409,000 "	13.92 "
1936.	37,029,000 "	13.05 "

No extensions to the water mains were carried out during the year 1940.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage.

No major alterations or extensions to the sewerage system took place.

(c) Rivers and Streams.

No pollution of rivers or streams in the area was detected during the year.

(d) Closet Accomodation

Particulars of the various types of sanitary convenience in the district at the end of 1940 are as follows :-

<u>Type.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Last year's Figure.</u>
Water Closets.	1,867.	1,838.
Waste Water Closets.	-.	-.
Pail Closets.	-.	-.
Privies.	112.	141.

(e) Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse is carried out by the following transport under my control:-

- 1 2-ton Bedford Motor Vehicle.
- 1 Driver.
- 2 Loaders.
- 1 Controlled Tip Attendant.
- Extra assistance on 36 days by 1 horse and cart and driver.
- 2 extra Loaders on 156 days each.

The motor vehicle has a capacity of seven cubic yards, and is fitted with dust-proof sliding metal covers.

Collection is made from the following receptacles :-

		<u>Last Year's Figures.</u>
Dustbins.	1,888.	1,859.
Dry Ashpits.	-.	-.
Privy Middens.	68.	83.

(f) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

(1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year the following visits and inspections were made :-

<u>Nature of Inspection.</u>	<u>No. of Visits Paid.</u>
Bakehouses.	3.
Cinemas and Music Halls.	3.
Cowsheds and Dairies.	5.
Factories and Workshops.	5.
Housing and Slum Clearance.	5.
Ice Cream.	5.
Infectious Disease.	41.
Keeping of Animals.	2.
Markets.	-.
Meat Shops and Stores.	2.
Miscellaneous (under Public Health Acts)	63.
Petroleum Acts.	5.
Public Cleansing.	31.
Rats and Mice Destruction Act . .	19.
Refuse Disposal.	27.
Schools.	3.
Shop Acts.	3.
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.	8.
Vermineous Premises.	28.
Waterworks Clauses Acts.	351.

Work in progress.	67.
Interviews.	24.
Drainage.	68
	<u>768.</u>
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>768.</u>

(2) Record of Nuisances abated and work done.

Roofs made water-tight.	15.
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed.	19.
Doors repaired or renewed.	11.
Windows repaired or renewed.	13.
Floors repaired.	2.
Plaster repaired.	9.
Staircases repaired.	5.
Fireplaces repaired.	3.
Coppers renewed.	3.
New sinks (completely) provided.	2.
New sink waste only provided.	3.
Taps repaired.	120.
Taps renewed.	18.
Outbuildings repaired.	1.
Water service pipes repaired.	67.
Water Closets repaired.	9.
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed.	13.
Choked drains cleansed.	15.
Defects in drains remedied.	5.
New drains provided.	3.
Yard gulley provided.	2.
Inspection chamber cover renewed.	3.
Water in cellar rectified.	2.
Skirting boards repaired.	3.
Food store repaired.	1.
Verminous houses cleansed.	43.
Dustbins provided.	126.
Water closets cleansed.	9.
	<u>525.</u>
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>525.</u>

(g) Shops.

2 Inspections were made during the year under the Provisions Shop Act, 1934. No contraventions of the Act were observed.

(h) Smoke Abatement.

No nuisance from smoke was observed during the year.

(i) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Houses treated.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested.	2.
No. disinfected.	...

Meat Inspection.

Regular visits were paid to slaughterhouses, shops, stalls, and vehicles, and places where food is prepared, for the purpose of inspection of the premises and meat and other food in course of preparation or exposed for sale.

Following the receipt of 20 notices of slaughter

under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, 20 visits were paid to slaughterhouses, and the following animals were inspected :-

Cows.	3.
Calves.	-.
Beasts.	10.
Sheep.	29.
Pigs.	<u>27.</u>
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>69.</u>

It was not necessary to condemn any part of these carcasses.

Salvage.

The collection of Salvage was commenced on the 21st March, 1940, and although many difficulties were experienced, the following material was collected and sold up to the end of the year 1940 :-

Paper.	25 tons, 11 cwts., 2 qrs.
Glass.	9 tons, 16 cwts., -.
Ferrous Metal.	1 ton, 3 cwts., -.
Non-ferrous metal.	- 5 cwts. 6 lbs.
Tins.	16 tons. - cwts., 5 qrs.
Rags.	- 12 cwts., -

Factories and Workshops Acts.

5 inspections under the above Acts were made during the year 1940.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE HEPWORTH.

Sanitary Inspector,
Cleansing Superintendent,
and Waterworks Manager.