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**Contributors**

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b/s

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER, 1941.

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

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the  
Year Ending December 1941.

War conditions have prevented any extensions of  
the Social Services, but the Sanitary Services have been  
maintained efficiently sometimes only with difficulty as  
replacements are difficult to obtain, and the health of the  
township must be considered very good. There are a few  
outstanding features in the statistics. There is a slight  
rise in the death rate and a small decrease in the birth  
rate. The infantile mortality rate which was exceptionally  
low last year has risen to 65.04 per 1,000 births, a figure  
higher than it has been for the last five years.

There has not been any serious epidemics of  
infectious fevers. Measles was made notifiable and 186  
cases were reported. The type was mild, and there were no  
deaths from the disease

There are still individual cases of diphtheria  
in spite of the many immunisations which have been done  
during the last ten years. This year 223 children between  
the ages of two and fourteen were immunised. Not one of  
the cases reported have been immunised, and there was one  
death from the disease.

A great deal of work has been done amongst the  
children by the nurses attached to the Child Welfare Centre.  
They hold special clinics for the treatment of minor surgical

conditions and are particularly helpful in this direction. Also, by their special training they are able to detect ailments in children the importance of which would not be recognized by the untrained mother, and consequently they can be treated in their earliest stages.

The work of the district nurse has been invaluable. There is a great strain upon the nurse, and I think some of this could be relieved if patients would try to do a little more for themselves instead of expecting everything trivial to be done for them. The number of visits paid was 5,011 and the number of patients 327.

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. The estimated population was 7,567. The main industry is Coal Mining, and there is a large Railway Engine shed employing all types of railway workers.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Live Births. (Legitimate)	113	55	63
(Illegitimate)	4	4	-
	<u>112</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>63</u>
Still Births. (Legitimate)	6	3	3
Deaths	89	51	38
Birth Rate per thousand of the Estimated Resident Population			16.12
Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 total. (live and still)			24.00
Death Rate per thousand of the Estimated Resident Population.			11.77
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 29 and 30 of the 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	8	-
Legitimate	8	-
Illgitimate	-	-
All infants per 1,000 live births		65.04
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births		65.04
Illgitimate " " " " "		-
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		12.00
-do- Measles (all ages)		0
-do- Whooping Cough (all ages)		0.
-do- Diarrhoea (under two years of age)		0.

## Causes of death, 1941.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	-	1
Diphtheria	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	-	1
Influenza	2	-	2
Cancer of the Bronical Cavity and oesophagus (M) Uterus (F)	1	-	1
Cancer of the stomach and duodenum	1	1	1
Cancer of the breast	1	-	1
Cancer of other sites	9	6	3
Diabetes	2	1	1
Intracranial Vascular lesions	3	1	2
Heart Disease	28	17	11
Bronchitis	2	2	-
Pneumonia	14	9	5
Other respiratory diseases	1	1	-
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	2	1	1
Diarrhoea under two years of age	1	1	-
Other digestive diseases	1	1	-
Nephritis	3	-	3
Premature birth	1	1	-
Congenical Malformations, Birth injuries etc.,	3	-	3
Other violent diseases	3	-	3
All other causes	7	3	4
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>38</u>

Although Heart Disease has been 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 five years.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Births)</u>
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
1941	11.77	16.12	65.04

Prevalance of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1. Smallpox.

Nil

2. Scarlet Fever

10 cases were notified as compared with 9 cases in 1940

3. Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis

There were 3 notifications of this disease.

4. Puerperal Pyrexia.

Nil

5. Diphtheria

There were 17 notifications of Diphtheria, as compared with 32 cases in 1940.

6. Measles

There were 186 cases notified.

7. Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out at the houses where infectious disease occurred and the total number of houses so treated is 30. 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.

Year.	<u>Smallpox.</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Total</u>
1937	0	22	12	0	0	34
1938	0	13	6	0	0	19
1939	0	11	6	1	0	8
1940	0	9	32	1	0	42
1941	0	10	17	3	186	210

8. Tuberculosis.

The following table shows particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of the deaths from the disease in the area During 1941:-

Age

<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>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1								
1-5								
5-15		1				1		
25-35		1						
35-45	1							
45-55	1							
55-65								
65 and upwards								
TOTALS	2	2				1		

Tuberculosis patients in the list at the end of 1941:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
8males	8 females	3 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 + 5,011

No. of patients treated. - 327

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I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

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

Medical Officer of Health.

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ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1941.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Fourth Annual Report on the work of this Department, being for the year ended 31st December, 1941, and prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1961. In addition to the general work of the Department, Civil Defence duties and the collection of Salvage has been carried out.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

(a) Water Supply.

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

The total consumption during the year in Royston (exclusive of the amount supplied to the Wakefield Rural District Council) was 42,259,000 gallons, which represents an average daily consumption of 14.92 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>
1941	42,295,000 gallons	14.92 gallons
1940	42,680,000 "	15.07 "
1939	42,290,000 "	14.94 "
1938	40,257,000 "	14.21 "
1937	39,409,000 "	13.92 "

No extensions to the water mains were carried out during the year 1941.

(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.

a

(d) Closet Accommodation.

Particulars of the various types of sanitary Convenience in the district at the end of 1941 are as follows:-

<u>Type.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Last years figure</u>
Water Closets	1874.	1867
Waste Water Closets	-	-
Pail Closets	-	-
Privies	97	112

(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.  
3 Loaders.  
1 Controlled Tip Attendant.  
Extra Assistance on 12 days by 1 horse, cart and driver.

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

Collection is made from the following receptacles:-

		<u>Last years figures</u>
Dustbins	1906	1,868
Dry Ashpits	-	-
Privy Middens	57	68

(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 Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of visits Paid.</u>
Bakehouses	3
Cinemas and Music Halls	2
Cowsheds and Dairies	6
Factories	3
Housing and Slum Clearance	2
Milk and Dairies Order	9
Infectious Disease	32
Meat Shops and Stores	4
Miscellaneous (under the Public Health Act)	62
Petroleum Acts.	4
Public Cleansing	64
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	4
Refuse Disposal	23
Schools	7
Verminous Premises	38
Water Clauses Act	233
Work in Progress	29
Interviews	16
Drainage	47

TOTAL 593-

(2) Record of Nuisances abated and work done.

Roofs made watertight	No of Visits Paid.
Roofs made water-tight	7
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	3
Doors repaired or renewed	4
Widows repaired or renewed	13
Floors repaired	4
Plaster repaired (to walls and ceiling)	14
Staircases repaired	3
Fireplaces repaired	7
Coppers renewed	2
New sinks (completely) provided	3
New sink wastes only repaired	8
Taps repaired	148
Taps renewed	2
Water service pipes repaired	5
Water closets repaired	10
Flushing cisterns repaired and renewed	17
Choked drains cleansed	40
Defects in drains remedied	7
New drains provided	16
Inspection chamber covers renewed	2
Water in cellar rectified	4
Skirting boards repaired	2
Foodstore repaired	1
Verminous houses cleansed	5
Dustbins provided	70
Water closets cleansed	6
Smokey chimney remedied	1
Defective chimney stack repaired	2
Defective ventilation pipes	1
Sink pipe cleansed	1
Defective pointing to house walls	1
TOTAL	<u>411</u>

(g) Smoke Abatement.

No nuisance from smoke was observed during the year.

(h) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Houses Treated.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested	6
No. of houses cleansed	2
Private houses found infested	2
These were deinfested by the Yorkshire Fumigation Services Ltd., (H.C.N. method of fumigation).	

Meat Inspection

Cottage Pigs. 17 notices of slaughter were received, these pigs were examined and the following was found to be affected with tuberculosis. 2 Heads.

### Salvage.

During the year 1941, a great effort was made to collect salvage. Royston has no large industries within its boundaries, and the district consists mainly of working class houses. This increases the work of collection and shows only a small return for that work. The collection of salvage is still carried on and the people of Royston are working hard and with a great enthusiasm.

The following results show a definite increase on the collection of the year 1940.

The following is the amount of salvage collected during the year 1941:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Special Paper	2	17	3	-
Waste Paper.	32	9	3	-
Cardboard	1	15	-	-
Glass	17	14	-	-
Bones		18	2	7
Rags		6	-	14
Tins	15	2	2	-
Iron	1	8	-	-

### Factory Act 1937.

3. inspections under the above act were made during the year 1941.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE HEPWORTH.

Sanitary Inspector,  
Cleansing Superintendent,  
and Waterworks Manager.