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**Contributors**

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Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
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To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SALCOMBE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH  
F-3 JUN 44  
O.R.  
38

Gentlemen,

During 1943 there were no major improvements or schemes carried out. Your officers and staff were concerned with the day to day difficulties caused by war disturbances and commotions and you are to be congratulated that no outbreaks of illnesses occurred and that there was no grave deterioration in the health of the population. The usual routine precautions were observed, including diphtheria immunisations.

I. General Statistics.

The district is 1,184 acres in extent. The estimated civilian population was approximately 2,000 and the civilian-inhabited houses about 750. The rateable value was £21,790, and a penny rate produced £25.

II. Vital Statistics.

During 1943 there were eleven births and 33 deaths.

III. General Provision of Health Services.

There was an influenza epidemic during the month of December.

The following hospitals and health services are available to the district, and use has been made of them as and when required: Small-pox hospital provided by the Devon County Council; tuberculosis hospitals at Hawkmoor and White Cliff (Torquay), and a Preventorium at Torrington; the South Hams Cottage Hospital at Kingsbridge, and various hospitals at Plymouth; an Orthopaedic Centre at Kingsbridge; ambulance service at Salcombe and Kingsbridge; and one midwife practising in the area.

There is a part-time Medical Officer of Health and a whole-time Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor - Mr.R.Lusher, who succeeded Mr.J.W.Stevens in May.

IV. Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

The refuse is now collected weekly and conveyed to the dump on the foreshore, which is well supervised.

The Salvage Scheme was re-organised during 1943, and as a result salvage is now collected from each house once a week. The collection of kitchen waste for pig food is made twice a week.

Four samples of water were taken during the year. One of these was unsatisfactory, owing to insufficient chlorination. Samples are now being taken at regular monthly intervals.

V. Housing.

No new houses were built, and no Closing Orders made during the year.

VI. Inspection and Supervision of Food,

There were 13 retail and 2 wholesale dairymen on the register.

Nine samples of milk were taken, eight of which failed the methylene blue test. There were 15 registered cowsheds and dairies, and 30 inspections were made. Notices are being served under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, to bring all premises up to the necessary standard.

There were three butcher's shops, all with glass fronts. Meat inspections were made at Dartmouth.

There were 6 bakehouses, and 48 inspections were made.

#### VII. Infectious Disease.

During 1943 there were 10 cases of infectious disease - 2 of tuberculosis, 4 of bronchial pneumonia, 3 of chicken pox and one of cerebro-spinal meningitis.

#### VIII. Venereal Disease.

There are treatment centres at Plymouth and Exeter, and local treatment was also available under the Devon County Council's Practitioners' V.D. Scheme.

#### IX. Maternity and Child Welfare.

There is no clinic in the area.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DANIEL O. Twining,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Salcombe,  
May, 1944.