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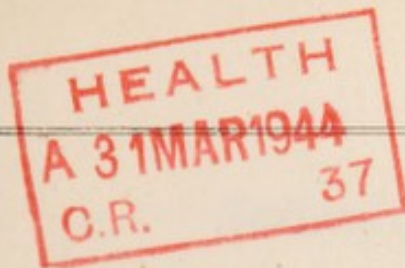
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Urban District of Solihull.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1942,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

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December, 1943.

To the Solihull Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. TIMMS AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1942; it is regretted that the Report should be delayed.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is again only a short statement of fact. All available information is being kept for record and can be produced

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Timms and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Solihull Urban District.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1942	—
Birth Rate	19.8
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	24
Death Rate	9.2
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	—
From Sepsis	—
„ other causes	3
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	43
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	45
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	41
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	6

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—During the year we had a Chief Sanitary Inspector, a Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector and one additional Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. Ernest Vaughan commenced his duties on January 1st, 1942.

6. *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by the Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	123	404	527
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	71	77
			604

8. *Hospitals.*—There are no changes to report in the statement given in the Report for 1941. The work of the Hospital has continued to increase both in its scope and variety, and continuous progress has been made in equipment and staffing.

13. *Ambulance Facilities.*—The Ambulances are housed at The Hermitage, Lode Lane, Solihull. Telephone Number: 2683 Solihull.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. (i) *Water Supply.*—The mains of the City of Birmingham and City of Coventry Water Departments are available for practically the whole of the populous parts of the Urban District. More than 90% of the houses in the District are so supplied. This number is constantly increasing.

There are approximately 834 private wells supplying 1,195 houses.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*—Conditions remain much the same as was indicated in my last Report.

The four Cesspool Emptying Machines are kept very fully employed; there are about 668 Cesspools in the District.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*—About 90% of the Closets are water flushed. It is estimated that there are about 900 Pail Closets in the District, of which 850 are emptied weekly by the Local Authority; in special cases this work is done twice weekly.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*—House Refuse is removed under the Council's Scavenging Scheme; the majority of the houses in the District are provided with approved ash-bins.

The system of "Controlled Tipping" is in use, and all the Tips are well kept and a credit to the Council, although labour difficulties have led to some complaints.

(iv) SHOPS ACT, 1934.—Number of Shops, 682.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.—No complaints were received.

SCHOOLS.—The Elementary Schools and private schools of the District have been inspected as occasion arose.

RATS.—A number of complaints have been received with respect to Rats, and advice and bait have been given where necessary.

D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual table have been compiled and are being kept for record purposes.

3. *Overcrowding*.—There were many cases of overcrowding during the year; this was unavoidable and there was no possible method of alleviation.

4. *Fitness of Houses*.—Owing to the staff being decreased and many other activities being imposed on those remaining, no routine housing inspection was possible.

Water Supply.—Where the water mains are available, it is the rule for the supply to be taken into the houses. When the only supply is from wells, the pump is almost invariably inside.

Closet Accommodation.—Apart from a few instances, there is usually private accommodation for each house.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—At the end of the year 1942 there were on the Register, Cowkeepers 96, Cowkeepers who retail the whole or part of their milk 22, Retailers 79, and Milkshops 53.

Licences have been applied for and granted for the sale of Tuberculin Tested, Accredited and Pasteurised Milk.

Tuberculous Milk.—21 samples of milk were sent to the Birmingham University to be examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli; Tubercle Bacilli were found in three samples. The samples were "mixed ones."

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Disease since 1936.

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1937	...	96	136	1	55	—	10
1938	...	62	78	1	50	—	6
1939	...	18	50	3	54	—	9
1940	...	24	68	12	40	—	4
1941	...	6	28	24	37	—	4
1942	...	17	91	—	58	1	1

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified in 1942.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—Immunisation continued throughout the year, and at December 31st, 1942, 3,498 children of school age had been treated, and 1,611 under school age, giving a grand total of 5,109 immunised up to the end of 1942.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The following list of school closures indicates fairly accurately the incidence of these diseases:—

No schools closed.

Notifications of all Infectious Disease occurring amongst school children are duly forwarded to me from the schools.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.				
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—
5	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
25	14	8	—	1	4	2	—	—	—
35	12	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	1
45	4	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
55	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	36	15	5	5	11	5	2	2	2

61 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, 51 being Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 10 of other forms.

29 cases were admitted to Sanatorium during the year, 17 were discharged after treatment.

16 deaths were due to Pulmonary tuberculosis, 4 to Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis. Of the 61 cases notified during the year, 9 died.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The information for this Report is available.

TABLE I

SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1942.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	392	1	53	37
Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	94	—	—	1
Cowsheds	146	—	2	4
Bakehouses	7	—	1	1
Other Food Premises	107	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses	2	—	—	—
Caravans and Camp Sites ...	122	—	8	8
Ashpits and Ashbins	4	—	2	2
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	17	—	8	8
Water-closets	17	—	15	12
House Drainage	425	—	89	89
Water Supply	111	—	—	—
Pigsties	73	—	5	5
Animals improperly kept ...	19	—	1	1
Factories	79	—	5	5
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	282	—	32	31
Verminous Premises	108	—	23	23
Rat Infested Premises	167	—	16	16
Infectious Diseases and Disinfections	423	—	—	—
Milk Samples	65	—	—	—
Miscellaneous... ..	704	—	—	—
TOTALS	3364	1	260	243

	No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	73
Samples of Food taken for analysis	—
Samples of Food found adulterated	—
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	41
Samples of Water not in all respects satisfactory	28

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	55
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	186
Schools ditto ditto ditto	—

E. VAUGHAN, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1942 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1936	40,500	718	17.7	44	61	337	8.3
1937	45,360	849	18.7	51	60	443	9.8
1938	48,310	1,011	21.0	34	34	376	7.8
1939	—	—	19.9	—	28	—	7.6
1940	—	—	19.1	—	54	—	10.6
1941	—	—	18.8	—	54	—	9.3
1942	—	—	19.8	—	43	—	9.2

TABLE III.

SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1942.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.							Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.			65 and upwards.
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	17	5	8	1	3			17	3	
Erysipelas	7			1	5	1				
Scarlet Fever	91	30	40	5	14	2		47		
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	58	7	7	9	21	7	7		22	
Malaria										
Dysentery										
Puerperal Pyrexia	1				1					
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	3	1	1		1				1	
Poliomyelitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica	1		1							
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3								
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	51	1	3	4	22	18	2	1	20	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	10	3	3	3		1			4	
Totals	242	5	49	63	41	63	13	8	64	50

TABLE IV.
SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1942.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	270	290
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	1	2
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	12	8
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	1
8 Syphilitic Diseases	2	2
9 Influenza	2	4
10 Measles	—	1
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	1
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	1
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	3	4
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	2	5
15 Cancer of Breast	—	12
16 Cancer, other Sites	30	30
17 Diabetes	3	3
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	20	24
19 Heart Disease	74	73
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	3	5
21 Bronchitis	8	15
22 Pneumonia	9	13
23 Other Resp. Diseases	3	4
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	5	3
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	5	1
26 Appendicitis	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases	8	8
28 Nephritis	7	8
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	3
31 Premature Birth	6	8
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	11	11
33 Suicide	4	2
34 Road Traffic Accidents	8	1
35 Other Violent Causes	9	13
36 All Other Causes	31	24