

[Report 1945] / Medical Officer of Health, Stamford Borough.

Contributors

Stamford (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1945

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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD.ABBREVIATED ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1945.SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	1918 acres.				
Population	10020.				
Rateable Value	£66,924.				
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£267.				
Number of inhabited houses from Rate Book	2,804.				
		M.	F.		
<u>Live Births.</u>	Total	181.	94.	87.) Birth Rate per 1000
	Legitimate	158.	81.	77.) population 18.0
	Illegitimate	23.	13.	10.) Corresponding figure
					for England & Wales 16.1
<u>Still Births.</u>					
	Legitimate	6.	3.	3.	
	Illegitimate	1.	1.	0.	
<u>Deaths.</u>	Total	106.	56.	50.) Death Rate per 1000
					population 10.5
					Corresponding figure
					for England & Wales. 11.4

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1000 live births	22.
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	11.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	5.
Corresponding figures for England & Wales (all infants)	46.
Decrease in Birth Rate compared with 1944 of	0.1
Decrease in Death Rate " " " "	1.1
Decrease in Infantile Mortality Rate of "	42.8

It will be noticed that the death rate of children under one year of age is very satisfactory, being on 22 per 1000 live births as compared with 46 for the rest of the Country.

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Examination of pathological specimens so vital to the control of epidemics of infectious diseases, are conducted by the Ministry of Health Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, at the annual charge of £10.

This service is of immense value and is without doubt a war time innovation of the first importance.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.1. WATER.

Water is supplied to the Borough by the Stamford Water Works, owner, The Marquess of Exeter, K.G., C.M.G. This is a piped supply derived from the following sources:-

BONE MILL.	(Well)	
WHITEWATER.	(Springs)	
WOTHORPE.	(Springs)	These have been dry the major part of the year.
NORTHFIELDS,	Stamford.	(Bore Hole)
RYHALL ROAD,	Stamford.	(Bore Hole)

In addition, Bone Mill supply can be augmented by Springs situated on the Leicester Road, Thornhaugh and Burghley High Park.

All supplies except Northfields and Ryhall Road bore holes are situated without the Borough, in the high ground south of the Welland in the County of the Soke of Peterborough.

All waters have a high total and permanent hardness, but have a high degree of purity.

Water has been sufficient in quantity and satisfactory in quality during the year, although it has been necessary to use the additional sources at the Leicester Springs and Burghley High Park.

Bacteriological examinations of raw water from all supplies at source are made quarterly by the Water Company and samples are also taken of water in supply in the town by the Public Health Department during the mid quarter period.

Tests have given very satisfactory results, there has been no evidence of any contamination.

Supplies from each source are chlorinated, no other treatment is given.

It is estimated that 85% to 90% of the houses have water directly laid on. Stand pipes provide for the remainder. More accurate figures will be available when the Housing Survey is completed.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

EXTENSION OF DUTIES.

Consequent upon the retirement of the Borough Surveyor in June 1945, the whole of the remaining duties normally discharged by the Sanitary Inspector were transferred to the Health Department as from July 1st. 1945. These additional duties included Housing Inspection, the abatement of nuisances and the enforcement of the sanitary provisions of the Factories and Shops Acts. Office accommodation and a junior assistant were not available until December 1945, and thus it is not possible to report fully on these additional functions this year and any statistics relating to the new duties are in respect of a part year only.

INSPECTIONS.

71 houses have been inspected on account of complaints of either overcrowding or insanitary conditions.

8 new cases of overcrowding were found, and in a further 10 houses definite overcrowding would occur as soon as members of the families returned from the Forces.

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS.

No statistics are yet available from the Housing Survey, but it is estimated that 50 houses are needed urgently to relieve definite and in some cases, gross overcrowding alone, in addition many houses are far below the post-war standard and will require replacing.

Taking these facts with the present number of applicants for Council houses, I consider a further 250 houses will be required in the Borough over and above the 250 already planned.

COMPLAINTS & ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

50 complaints were received mainly in respect of housing defects and overcrowding. 6 informal notices were served and all were complied with.

SECTION E. INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

VISITS.

No. of visits to slaughter-houses, shops, bakehouses, dairies and other premises where food is prepared for sale	561.
Inspection of cowsheds, dairies and milk vehicles ...	269.
Other miscellaneous inspections including infected houses and food decontamination preparations etc	245.
TOTAL.	1075.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Inspection of all animals slaughtered in the Borough for sale for human consumption has again been carried out, the total number of carcasses inspected being 7,019.

TABLE 1.

	<u>C A T T L E.</u>				
	<u>exclg. Cows.</u>	<u>COWS.</u>	<u>CALVES.</u>	<u>SHEEP.</u>	<u>PIGS.</u>
No. of animals inspected	1,056.	296.	73	5,235	359
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned:-	15	14	-	-	11
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:-	137	99	-	-	50
Percentage of carcasses affected with tuberculosis	14.39%	38.18%	-	-	16.99%
<u>Diseases other than T.B.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned:-	4	1	3	44	9
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:-	162	24	1	352	26
Percentage of carcasses with diseases other than T.B.:	15.71%	8.45%	5.48%	7.56%	9.75%

The following imported meat has been condemned during the year:-

Boneless Beef	-	2 part forequarters.	
Lamb	-	1 carcass.	Lambs livers - 12 lb.
Pork trimmings	-	53 lbs.	

Total weight of all meat condemned - 52,108 lbs.

TABLE 2. DETAILS OF CONDEMNED MEAT SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

<u>Meat Condemned.</u>	<u>Beef.</u>	<u>Mutton.</u>	<u>Pork.</u>	<u>Veal.</u>
Whole Carcasses & Offals.	34	44	20	3
Heads.	118	2	34	-
Tongues.	123	2	34	-
Pairs of lungs.	197	180	10	-
Livers.	152	178	3	-
Plucks (complete)	13	8	10	-
Fats (mesenteric)	64	-	20	-
Spleens	9	-	2	-
Hearts	-	3	6	-
Kidneys	5	-	4	-
Udders	4	-	-	-
Forequarters (whole)	37	-	-	-
Hindquarters (whole)	8	-	-	-
Other parts of Carcasses	76	48	17	1

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Registered at the end of the year:-

Cowkeepers & Wholesale & Retail Purveyors	3
Wholesale & Retail Purveyors with dairies	1
Retail Purveyors with Dairies	7
Wholesalers & Retailers without Dairy in Borough	2
Retailers without premises in Borough	6
	<u>19.</u>

Additions to Register during the year	0
Removals from Register during the year	0

One firm is licensed to sell T.T. milk and another in respect of Pasteurised Milk.

The monthly sampling of all milks retailed in the Borough for cleanliness tests has been continued throughout the year. 287 samples of raw milk were submitted to the Resazurin test with the following results :-

No. of samples.	Category A. Marketable.	Category B. Salvage.	Category C. Reject.
287.	203 (70.4%)	47 (16.4%)	37 (12.9%)

4 of the above samples were also submitted to the Methylene Blue Test and all were reported satisfactory.

31 samples of Pasteurised or heat-treated milk were taken and submitted to Plate Count, Phosphates and Methylene Blue Tests and also tested for the presence of B; Coli.

15 samples were in all respects satisfactory. One sample failed to pass the Phosphatase Test, 8 failed the Methylene Blue Test, there were 5 unsatisfactory Plate Counts and 12 samples contained B. Coli in 0.1 c.c.

The results of both classes of milk show a slight deterioration compared with those of last year. Probably the continued shortage of skilled labour is to some extent responsible.

The results of the raw milk samples during the summer indicated the need for great care if the milk is to pass the Resazurin Test when the temperature exceeds 65° F. In the case of the heat-treated milk, the fact that there was only one Phosphatase Test failure indicates adequate heat-treatment but the presence of B. Coli in 12 samples is disturbing as it shows the probability of after contamination, probably from dirty churns or bottles.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Borough have a contract with the South Kesteven Rural District Council for admission of patients suffering from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid and Para-Typhoid and Erysipelas to the Isolation Hospital, Bourne, at the following charge:-

Maintenance charge to include the in-patient treatment of a maximum of 12 cases per year	£180 p.a.
For all cases over and above this number	£2.10.0 per week.
Ambulance charges	15.0 per case.

The above charges are extremely reasonable and in view of the additional cost of hospital maintenance, will in all probability have to be revised in the near future.

Accommodation has been adequate.

Total cost of isolation hospital treatment during 1945	£191. 14. 0.
Average cost per patient	£19. 3. 5.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Total number of children immunised since the Council Scheme was adopted	1639.
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Number of children known to be immunised during the year :-

0 - 4 years	96.
5 - 15 "	48.

All except 8 were performed at the Broad Street Clinic by the Medical Officer of Health.

Percentage of immunized children as at 31st Dec. 1945.

1 - 5 years	38%	Target at which reasonable imm-unity can be expected.	75%
5 - 15 "	85%		80%

Not including private immunisations of which there is not a complete record.

Advantage was taken of the Ministry of Health Immunization campaign during the summer with beneficial results. There is still need however for more health education in this respect.

The Stamford Red Cross Detachment has throughout the whole year given valuable help in Diphtheria Immunisation by providing nursing staff for the Broad Street Clinic.

One case of diphtheria was reported, a very mild sub-clinical case, in a girl of 14 years, who had been immunised four years previously. Three child contacts under five years of age living in the same house, and all of whom had been immunized, did not contract the disease.

SCABIES.

The Stamford Scabies Treatment Clinic under the Joint Kesteven County Council Scheme has functioned continuously throughout the year.

As compared with 1944, 28 more cases have been treated from Stamford Borough, and 12 more cases from the surrounding areas.

Patients from the latter group are treated by contract with Kesteven County Council at £1.1.0. per case, of which sum the Borough received 7/- to cover the cost of drugs, dressings and materials.

Cases are referred to the Clinic by General Medical Practitioners and the School Authorities. No formal notices for compulsory treatment were served.

No. of patients treated during the year :-

	Stamford Borough.	Kesteven R.D.C.	Ketton R.D.C.	Barnack R.D.C.	Thrapston & Oundle R.D.C.	P'boro R.D.C.
<u>Adults.</u>	-	:	:	:	:	:
Male.	6	4	3	3	-	-
Females.	36	7	10	12	3	1
<u>Children.</u>	:	:	:	:	:	:
School age & under.	96	10	24	9	3	3
	138.	21.	37.	24.	6.	4.

Average number of attendances to complete a cure 2.

Maximum number of weekly notifications of fresh cases 14.

Average number of weekly notifications of fresh cases 3.

Actual Clinic expenses incurred by the Borough, excluding Nurses salaries, heating and lighting, which are the responsibility of the County Council for all patients treated is £23. 3. 2d.

Average cost per patient treated 2. 0½.

Amount refunded to the Borough by Kesteven C.C.
in respect of patients in Column 3, 4, 5 & 6 above
at 7/- per case £35. 3. 4d.

PEDICULOSIS - INFESTATION by body and head lice.

Total number of houses wherein occupants were found to be infested with head lice 20.

Total number of infested persons reported 40.

Infestation by head lice is far commoner than usually supposed in every community, this town is no exception. The number of persons treated and house infected during the year is nearly four times as great as in 1944; this does not mean a large increase in the lice population, but that more dirty heads were detected and treated under skilled supervision at the Scabies Cleansing Centre or what I now term, the "Stamford Health Clinic", a name which is as popular as Scabies Cleansing Centre was as unpopular with the public.

With adequate staff and infinite patience and energy, I am convinced that this scourge could be eradicated. The secret of success lies in the simultaneous treatment of parents and adults who are the responsibility of this Authority and the children who are the responsibility of the County Education Authorities.

How often the reason a child's head will not clear in spite of laborious combing and treatment, is because the other heads in the family are far worse infested and never treated.

Steps taken to combat infestation are the reporting of cases to the Medical Officer of Health by General Practitioners, School Medical Services and Health Visitor and Factory Surgeon; by visiting the homes of children found to be infested by the school medical authorities and by arranging for simultaneous treatment under supervision at home or at the clinic.

During the latter part of the year, D.D.T. powder spray has been used for bedding. Considerable opposition is met in carrying out both home and clinic treatment of adults; but it has not been necessary to serve formal notices.

During the year plans have been prepared for a combined Scabies and Lice disinfection centre in which all cases will be treated under the Joint County and Borough Scheme; this will lead to far greater efficiency and economy.

Flea infestation of houses is treated by Benzine Hexachloride Dust - results have been quite satisfactory.

BED BUGS.

6 houses were disinfested and treated for bed-bugs. Bedding was disinfested, Cimax being used as disinfectant. No disinfection by H.C.N. gas has been attempted.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria.	1	1	-
Scarlet Fever.	5 & 1 Service;	5 & 1 service.	-
Typhoid and.)	-	-	-
Para-Typhoid)	-	-	-
Lobar Pneumonia (Primary)	14	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever.	10	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-
Measles.	109	2	-
Whooping Cough.	14	-	-
Malaria.	-	-	-

With the exception of measles, the infectious diseases usually affecting children is the lowest on record.

(a) CANCER.

No undue prevalence in the district.

Patients resident in Stamford are treated at Stamford Infirmary under the Kesteven County Council Scheme. Treatment also being provided at the Scunthorpe Centre.

(b) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS. Nil.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>Notified during year.</u>				<u>Notified during year.</u>			
	<u>New Cases.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>		<u>New Cases.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>	
	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Non-Resp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Non-Resp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Non-Resp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Non-Resp.</u>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<u>Years.</u>								
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	5	2	1	8	-	1	-	-

An increase of 4 cases compared with 1944.
The increase was due to cases developing tubercular cervical glands.

W. Anley Hawes.

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1946.