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**Contributors**

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Stroud Urban District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1945.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1945 which is an abridged one in accordance with Circular 28/46.

Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever. 22 cases were notified as compared with 40 last year. Three cases proved not to be Scarlet Fever after admission to hospital.

Diphtheria. 17 cases were notified as compared with two last year. Of these 4 proved not to be Diphtheria after admission to hospital. Of the remaining cases 4 were adults and 9 children, only 2 of whom had been immunised.

Two deaths were registered from the disease in children who had not had the protection offered free of charge by your Council.

The Immunisation Scheme started early in 1940 has been continued during the year and is proving successful. It is estimated that at the end of the year there were in the area 2257 children under 15 years of age protected, giving a percentage of 67. There is reason to believe however that this figure should be higher as it is difficult to calculate the figure with any degree of accuracy.

Tuberculosis. 22 cases were notified last year, as compared with 31 in 1944, and a yearly average of 23 from 1940-43.. The Death Rates are indicated below :- (per million).

1939 - 345, 1940 - 822, 1941 - 577, 1942 - 428,

1943 - 560, 1944 - 568, 1945 - 839.

Statistics.

Birth Rate 15.8 per 1000 as compared with 16.2 last year.

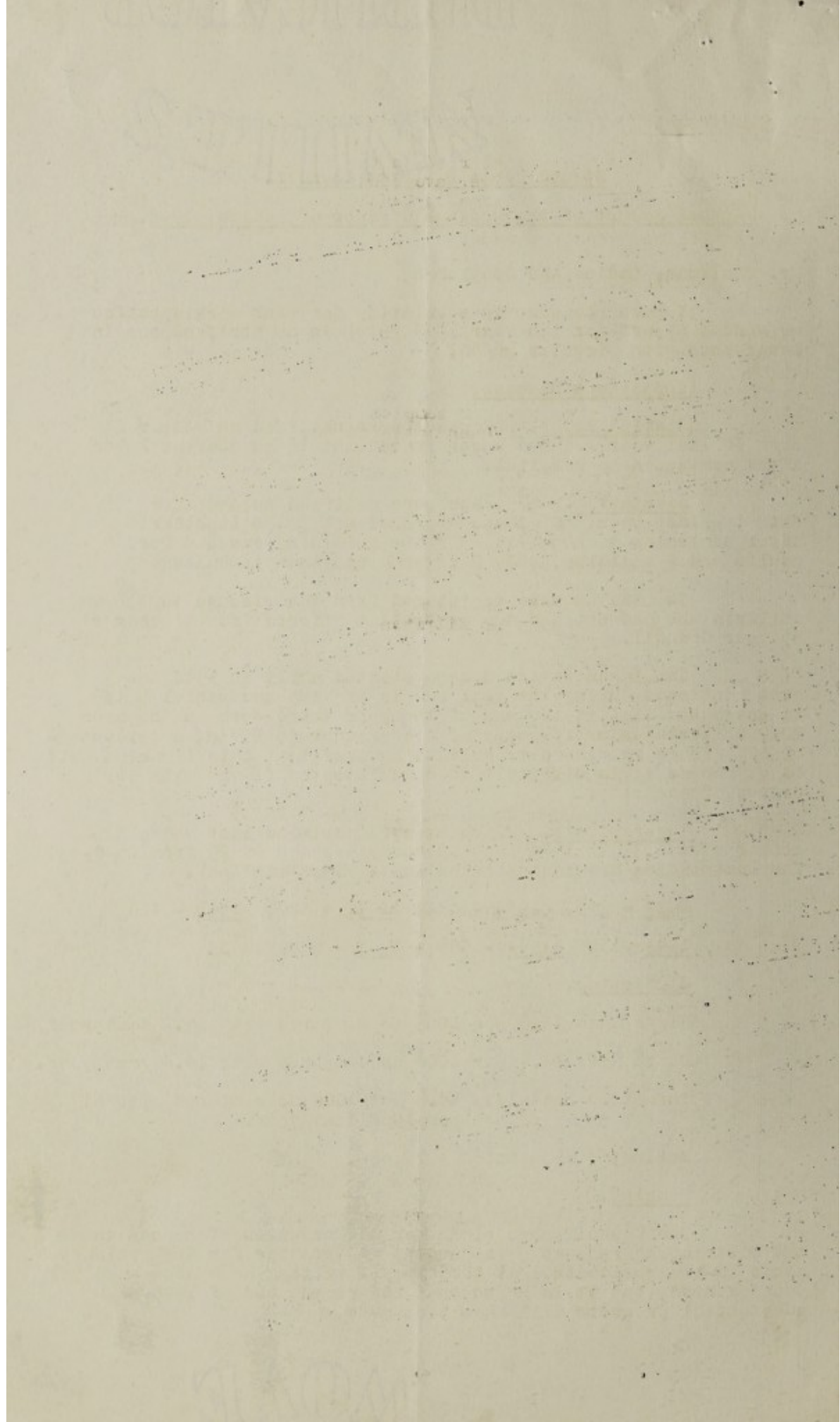
Death Rate 14.4 per 1000 as compared with 14.4 last year.

Infantile Mortality 44.8 per 1000 as compared with 61 per 1000 last year.

Estimated Population - 15,480.

Housing.

The Council have plans for the erection of houses in the District to relieve overcrowding and provide for the ordinary needs of the residents. At the time of writing no houses have yet been erected, but it is hoped that before the end of 1946 substantial progress will have been made.





### Sewerage.

Work has not yet started on the comprehensive sewerage scheme, but enquiries have been held both as regards the main sewers and the internal extensions. There is no doubt that the matter is an urgent one and it is sincerely hoped that a start will be made next year.

### Water Supplies.

Except for some outlying parts of the District, the whole population receives the water supplied by the Stroud District Water Board. It has been found satisfactory both in quality and quantity, speaking generally. Bacteriological examinations have been made of the raw water and also of that going into supply. Twenty-four samples were taken last year - the results have invariably been satisfactory.

Over 90 per cent of the population (approximately) are supplied with main water.

The following is one of the results received.

Total Dissolved Solids (per 100,000)	36.6
Combined Chlorine	1.0
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	0.036
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	absent
Mineral Ammonia	absent
Organic Ammonia	absent
Oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter in three hours	0.008
Temporary hardness	23.0
Permanent hardness	2.5
Total hardness	25.5
Micro-organisms (Agar at 22° C in 3 days)	1
" " (Agar at 37° C in 48 hours)	0

B. Ccili absent in 100 cubic centimetres.

Where houses are supplied by springs or wells, and the supply is found contaminated and the main supply is available, arrangements are usually made for this to be laid on.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Council and the Public Health Committee for their co-operation and support throughout the year, and the Sanitary Inspector's and the members of the other Departments for the assistance they have afforded me.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICHOLAS D. DUNSCOMBE.

Medical Officer of Health.

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