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**Contributors**

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STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
NICHOLAS D. DUNSCOMBE, M.B., D.P.H.

1940 - 1941.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with Circular 2314, the report for 1940 is again an interim one, dealing only with essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health. I am pleased to report that war-time conditions have not necessitated my recommending the expenditure of the public money on any extension of the public health services. The Public Water Supply has maintained its excellent quality, and no abnormal difficulties have been experienced with the disposal of sewage.

The general health of the population has been good, and no evidence has been brought to my notice, of any trouble arising from lice infestation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Scarlet Fever was prevalent during the latter part of the year, 67 cases being notified, as compared with 18 in 1939. At no time, however, did it reach epidemic proportions. Only three cases of Diphtheria were notified.

The Scheme approved by the Council, for immunisation against Diphtheria in October 1939, was brought into operation early in the year, and an acceptance rate varying from 40 to 80% has been obtained in the Schools in the area. Typhoid immunisation is available to all those desiring it, and those at special risk are being advised to have the treatment.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER. This disease, in common with other parts of the country, appeared in the district early in the year, fourteen cases being notified and removed to Hospital.

At the termination of the War, a report will be made, dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

*Nicholas D. Dunscombe*

Medical Officer of Health.

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