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Contributors

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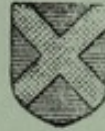
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City of St. Albans.



ANNUAL REPORT

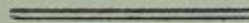
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1940.



ST. ALBANS:

PRINTED BY H. A. RICHARDSON, LTD., 5 HIGH STREET.

1941.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

City of St. Albans.



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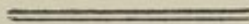
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE OF

NEW YORK

1912

To the Mayor and Corporation of the
City of St. Albans.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In view of the increasing pressure of work of local authorities and the need for strict economy in the use of paper, the Minister of Health has directed that interim reports only should be submitted for the year 1940.

General Statistics.

Area (acres), 5,129.

Population (at Census of 1931), 28,625.

Estimated Population, 48,000.

Estimated Population (Registrar-General), 42,610. ✓

Number of inhabited houses, 10,694. ✓

Number of new houses erected, 32.

Rateable Value, £384,016.

Sum represented by penny rate, £1,500.

Birth rate per 1,000 population (1940), 12.2.

Death rate per 1,000 population (1940), 12.3.

Deaths under one year per 1,000 births (1940), 38.

Mortality Table.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	1	...	1
Diphtheria	1	...	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	18	7	25
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	2	3	5
Syphilitic Diseases	6	...	6
Influenza	1	3	4
Measles	1	...	1
Encephalitis lethargica	1	...	1
Cancer	39	36	75
Intracranial Vascular lesions ...	15	25	40
Heart Disease	75	80	155
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	7	16
Bronchitis	20	20	40
Pneumonia	9	14	23
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	4	7
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	7	2	9
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years) ...	2	...	2
Appendicitis	1	...	1
Other Digestive Diseases	6	3	9
Nephritis	3	7	10
Puerperal Sepsis, &c ... ..	...	1	1
Premature Birth	2	2	4
Congenital Malformation	7	1	8
Suicide	1	4	5
Accidents	9	2	11
Other Violent Causes... ..	12	9	21
All other Causes	21	22	43
All Causes	272	252	524

Infant Mortality.

Of the 20 deaths of infants under one year 4 were due to Premature Birth.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

DISEASES.	North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital
Diphtheria	4	5	2	11	11
Scarlet Fever	12	24	18	54	48
Pneumonia	8	1	7	16	...
Erysipelas	2	2	2	6	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	...	2	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	19	1	2	22	22
Dysentery	17	3	...	20	10
Cerebro Spinal Fever	4	...	...	4	2
Whooping Cough	25	8	52	85	...
Measles	85	118	56	259	...
Typhoid Fever ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Pulmonary T.B.	17	12	14	43	...
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	4	8	3	15	...
Total	199	182	157	538	93

Dysentery.

Two cases of Flexner W Dysentery were notified to the Public Health Department on August 2nd, the cases having been removed to hospital on July 31st. Enquiries were immediately made as to the possible source of infection. By the evening of August 3rd, nine further cases of illness had been investigated and it was found that milk supply was common to all.

Samples of this milk were taken and examined bacteriologically.

The Medical Practitioners in the City were circularised and requested to notify immediately all cases of diarrhoea met with in their practices, specimens being obtained from the patients directly this information was received.

The last instance of diarrhoea was reported on August 14th and in the period which had elapsed enquiries had been made into forty-two cases, in twelve cases the diagnosis being confirmed and one death resulting from the outbreak.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

During the latter part of the year there have been epidemics of both Measles and Whooping Cough, the former being the most widespread.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
5	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
10	1	1	4	2	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
20	2	1	...	...	3	3	1	1
25	2	2	1	2	1	...	...	...
35	6	5	2	...	4	...	...	1
45	6	3	1	1	3	3	...	...
55	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	...
65	3	3	...	...	3	1	...	1
Totals ...	24	16	11	7	18	7	2	3

Hospitals, Nursing Arrangents, etc.

General Hospital—St. Albans and Mid Herts, Church Crescent.

Infectious Diseases—Sisters' Joint Hospital, Union Lane.

Public Assistance Institution and Infirmary—Oster House, Union Lane.

Emergency Maternity Hospital—Diocesan House, Verulam Road.

St. Albans District Nursing Association—29 Beaconsfield Road.

During 1940, 188 Maternity cases were nursed to which 3,313 visits were paid, and 845 General cases to which 15,121 visits were paid. 75 Post-Natal and 660 Ante-Natal visits were also paid.

School Medical Services—Wellington Court, Bricket Road.

339 visits to parents were carried out during 1940. 33 Minor ailments received attention and 13,828 children were inspected for Medical and Dental defects and Cleanliness in connection with which 244 inspections were held.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic—Wellington Court.

The numbers at the Centre in 1940 were as follows:
Number on Register—Expectant mothers, 547.
 Children (under 5), 1,116.

Number of Attendances—

Expectant mothers (consultation with doctor) 1,620.
 Children (under 5) seen by doctor, 2,250.
 Attendances, 5,820.
 Average weekly attendance of 76.6 children.
 Number of deaths among these children, 9.
 Number of children referred to the Orthopædic
 Clinic, 31.

Inspections, Disinfections, etc.

Inspections.

During 1940, 1,622 inspections were made of premises, including dwelling houses, grocery and provision shops, restaurant kitchens and cooked food premises, factories, bakehouses, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops and offensive trade premises. In connection therewith 778 defects were remedied.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Disinfection was carried out in connection with 71 cases of notifiable infectious diseases, and 51 in connection with Tuberculosis and Cancer.

Twenty-five complaints of bed-bug infestation were received and disinfestation was carried out.

In addition, the bedding and clothing was disinfected following the treatment of 117 cases of Scabies.

Public Cleansing.

429 cesspools received attention, and at approximately 120 houses pail closets were emptied twice weekly.

Housing.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	444
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	<i>Nil</i>
Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	336

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority of their officers	328
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Land has been purchased by the Corporation for the erection of 300 houses and immediately prior to the outbreak of hostilities sanction had been received for the erection of the first 100 houses in connection with slum clearance and general housing requirements. Unfortunately, however, owing to the war it has not been possible to proceed with this scheme.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Premises.

Regular inspections were made of food preparing premises, including bakehouses, restaurant kitchens, slaughterhouses and butchers shops, fish shops, grocery and provision shops, dairies, etc. These were found to be in a cleanly condition.

Examination of Food and Drugs.

During 1940, 112 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis. These samples included fifty-six of milk, four of vinegar, three of shredded suet and cheese, two of coffee, bi-carbonate of potash, citric acid, cream of tartar, margarine, pork and beans, olive oil, beef dripping, ginger wine and tinned peas, and one each of strawberry jam, self-raising flour, steak and kidney pie, sausages, lard, rice, brawn, prunes, chicken and ham roll, camphorated oil, epsom salts, medicinal paraffin, tinned beans, pickle, tinned cream, plum jam, tomato sauce, tinned pilchards, tinned grapefruit, mincemeat, fruit sauce, lemon cheese, crab paste, tinned raspberries and marmalade.

Of the fifty-six samples of milk submitted, five were found to contain added water. Legal proceedings were instituted against the Vendors of three of these samples,

the Vendors of the other samples being cautioned—the added water in these instances being very slight.

Sample No. 32—Contained added water to the extent of 9.3% Vendor fined £3 with £4 4s. 0d. costs.

Sample No. 53—Contained added water to the extent of 10.6% Vendor fined £2 with £1 1s. 0d. costs.

Sample No. 54—Contained added water to the extent of 9.4% Vendor fined £2 with £1 1s. 0d. costs.

One sample of shredded suet contained less than 80% of fat and, in consequence, the Vendor was cautioned.

One sample of sausages contained 290 parts per 1,000,000 of sulphur dioxide. No label or other marking was displayed and, in consequence, legal proceedings were instituted against the Vendor. The case, however, was dismissed.

The remaining samples were reported as being genuine.

We are,

Your obedient servants,

RICHARD PATON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

R. E. C. GODDARD, F.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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