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**Borough of Warwick.**



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1943,

BY

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

**Warwickshire Combined Districts.**

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August, 1944.

**To the Council of the Borough of Warwick.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1943 ; this is the 25th Report which I have presented to you.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is 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 members of the Council and my colleagues.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,  
Medical Officer of Health.



## *Borough of Warwick.*

### A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1943	...	...	—
Birth Rate	...	...	18.6
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	25
Death Rate	...	...	12.1
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis ,, other causes		—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	48
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	120
Death from Measles (all ages)	...	...	1
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	2

### B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

*Public Health Officers.*—No change.

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

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
*Diphtheria	62	234	296
*Enteric Fever...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	2	16	18
			314

\*This includes specimens sent from Heathcote Isolation Hospital.



### C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. (i) *Water Supply*.—Samples of water from the public supply submitted for analysis gave entirely satisfactory results. The daily consumption of water, including that for trade purposes, was 36.76 gallons per head of population. Schemes are in hand for the augmentation of the supply.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewage Treatment*.—Samples of effluent submitted for analysis shew that the Sewage Disposal Works are operating efficiently.

2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*.—Nothing of special note occurred during the year.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—The sanitary accommodation at three factories and one public house was reconstructed during the year. Apart from emergency buildings, 22 new water closets, 2 urinals and 16 lavatory basins were erected. Eight of the few remaining waste water closets were converted into cistern-flushed water closets.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—The modified war-time scheme was continued.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*.—Table I. gives a summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector.

(iv) *Shops (Shops Act, 1934)*.—Two notices requiring improvements to heating, ventilation and sanitary accommodation were issued. The work required at one shop was completed; the other notice had not been complied with at the end of the year.

(v) *Smoke Abatement*.—Several complaints of nuisance from excessive emission of smoke from factory chimneys were received. Factory managements were interviewed and some improvements resulted. Inferior fuel and the unavoidable employment of unskilled stokers have led to some deterioration of the position regarding smoke abatement. One notice was issued—this was complied with.

(vi) *Eradication of Bed Bugs*.—An increasing number of tenants of infested houses sought advice on disinfestation. Several rooms used for firewatching duties at factories became infested; disinfestation was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's staff.



## D. HOUSING.

*General.*—No new houses were erected.

Work required by notices was again limited to defects calling for particularly urgent attention. The effects of postponement of normal maintenance repairs were frequently observed during the year, and a considerably higher number of notices were issued. Particularly acute labour shortage rendered impossible the complete discharge of all of these notices, and the deterioration in the condition of many dwellinghouses has already led to a serious position. With a view to remedying unsatisfactory housing conditions at the earliest possible opportunity, a survey was initiated during the year. This had not been completed at the end of the year, but the results will be reported as soon as they are available.

Fifty-one notices calling for house repairs of a general character, 23 requiring repairs to water closets, 35 relating to choked and defective drains, and 26 requiring the provision of new dustbins, were all complied with. In all, 61 new dustbins were provided as a result of notices issued.

Proceedings under Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were instituted against one owner for failing to comply with abatement notices in respect of two houses. An order for the execution of the necessary work was made and fines totalling £4 were imposed. The order was carried out.

## E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*—Outstanding improvements in respect of dairy premises were carried out during the year. A new dairy building was erected by a newly formed company. This building, which is lined inside with white tiles and equipped with a small pasteurising plant, cooling machinery, and adequate cold storage, now serves the needs of four dairymen who previously had independent but unsatisfactory premises. The provision of pasteurising facilities has had the effect of very considerably reducing the quantity of milk brought into the town from large dairies far afield, the new dairy being supplied direct from farms. Plans for the conversion of a very suitable building to meet the needs of another dairyman were approved, and the work of conversion was well in hand at the end of the year. In the case of another dairyman, plans for the erection of an entirely new building were approved. One new cowshed was erected, one cowshed was entirely reconstructed, and improvements were made to cooling houses at several farms.



Eighty-two samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Thirty-nine of these gave satisfactory results, eight were fairly satisfactory, and thirty-five were unsatisfactory. Fourteen of the samples were from milk produced at farms in the Borough, five were from milk produced at farms in adjoining districts, thirty-six were samples of Designated Milks produced and/or processed outside the district, twenty-two were samples of processed milk supplied in bulk to local dairymen from large dairies elsewhere, and five were from milk pasteurised locally. As in previous years milk supplied in bulk to local dairymen from large processing dairies outside the district gave the highest proportion of unsatisfactory results. As has already been stated, however, the quantity of milk from these sources is now very much reduced, the reduction having taken place towards the end of the year under review.

Nine empty bottles were taken from dairies where bottling takes place and submitted for bacteriological examination. Two of the results were unsatisfactory, but bottles taken from the same dairies later indicated a considerable improvement in the bottle-washing.

Ten samples of milk were submitted for the T.B. Inoculation Test. All gave negative results.

(b) *Other Foods Samples.*—No other foods were sampled.

(c) *Meat.*—There is no slaughterhouse in the Borough used for the war-time centralised slaughtering scheme.

One hundred and twelve pigs for which licences to slaughter had been issued by the Food Executive Officer were inspected. Two pigs' carcasses and organs and parts of two other pigs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered voluntarily.

(d) *Other Food.*—A considerable quantity of food, canned and otherwise, was found upon inspection to be unsound, and was surrendered for destruction.

(e) *Bakehouses.*—Two notices requiring occupiers to cleanse bakehouses were complied with; other bakehouses were maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.

(f) *Restaurants.*—A restaurant, newly opened towards the end of the year, was found to have grossly unsuitable arrangements for the preparation of food. Following the service of a notice under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the restaurant was closed.



## VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

*Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1934.*

		Smallpox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1935	...	—	25	12	—	31	—	1
1936	...	—	36	3	1	32	—	—
1937	...	—	32	44	1	46	—	4
1938	...	—	38	53	—	36	—	4
1939	...	—	6	38	2	17	—	1
1940	...	—	14	25	1	39	—	4
1941	...	—	13	9	—	24	—	1
1942	...	—	25	15	—	16	—	1
1943	...	—	21	26	—	17	—	11

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution on the cases notified during 1943.

*School Closures.*—Nil.

*Diphtheria Immunisation.*—The campaign for the immunisation of school children against Diphtheria continued, and at the end of 1943 1,931 school children had been treated together with 623 under school age, giving a total of 2,554.

## 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	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	1	2	...	...	1	2	...
25	...	1	1	...	...	2	4	...
35	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...
45	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...
55	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	5	5	1	...	6	8	...



During the year 11 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 10 being cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 1 of other Tuberculous disease.

6 cases of Tuberculosis were admitted for treatment at a Sanatorium, and 6 were discharged during the year.

#### REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and kept for reference.

TABLE I.  
BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S  
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1943.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	1004	7	79	51
Lodging Houses ... ..	4	—	—	—
Factories ... ..	13	—	4	2
Licensed Premises ... ..	10	—	—	—
Canal Boats... ..	4	—	—	—
Water-closets ... ..	87	10	29	23
Drainage ... ..	75	—	35	35
Water Supply ... ..	5	—	2	2
Cinemas ... ..	—	—	—	—
Caravans ... ..	10	—	—	—
Dustbins ... ..	90	11	26	26
Deposits of Refuse ... ..	16	—	7	7
Pigsties ... ..	12	—	3	3
Vermin Infestations ... ..	92	—	6	6
Shops (Shops Act, 1934) ... ..	10	—	2	1
Animals improperly kept ... ..	6	—	3	3
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	10	—	1	1
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	343	—	—	—
Cowsheds ... ..	72	—	—	—
Bakehouses ... ..	13	—	2	2
Slaughter Houses, Butchers' and other Retail Food Shops ...	445	—	—	—
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises ... ..	96	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	20	1	1	1
Miscellaneous Nuisances ... ..	5	—	2	2
TOTALS ... ..	2442	29	202	165

	No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food ... ..	93
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination ... ..	82
Samples of Milk taken for biological tests ... ..	10
Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed ... ..	14
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	59

J. BULLOCK, Sanitary Inspector.



TABLE II.

## BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1943 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
1937	13,970	228	16.3	15	66	185	13.2
1938	14,029	234	16.6	12	52	184	13.1
1939	—	—	16.9	—	26	—	10.3
1940	—	—	15.8	—	48	—	14.2
1941	—	—	15.9	—	36	—	12.8
1942	—	—	18.4	—	32	—	11.0
1943	—	—	18.6	—	54	—	12.1

TABLE III.

## BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE  
YEAR 1943.

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)	21	1	6	6	7	1			21	
Erysipelas ... ..										
Scarlet Fever ... ..	26		8	15	2	1			22	
Typhus Fever ... ..										
Enteric Fever ... ..										
Pneumonia ... ..	17	2	1		5	4	4	1		10
Malaria ... ..										
Dysentery ... ..	9				5	4				
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	11				7	4				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis ... ..										
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10				3	4	3			14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1		1							
Totals ... ..	95	3	16	21	29	18	7	1	43	24

Isolation Hospitals : Heathcote Joint Isolation Hospital  
(Warwick M.B.)  
Joint Small-pox Hospital (Fosse, in Southam R.D.)



TABLE IV.  
BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1943.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes ... ..	89	91
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—
4 Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
5 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	7
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	—	—
9 Influenza ... ..	2	1
10 Measles ... ..	1	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	1
12 Ac. Infant Enceph. ... ..	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.) ... ..	1	—
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod. ... ..	2	2
15 Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	5
16 Cancer, other Sites ... ..	5	6
17 Diabetes ... ..	—	1
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	3	13
19 Heart Disease ... ..	32	25
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys. ... ..	1	3
21 Bronchitis ... ..	3	5
22 Pneumonia ... ..	5	5
23 Other Resp. Diseases ... ..	—	—
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod. ... ..	—	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	2	—
26 Appendicitis ... ..	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	1
28 Nephritis ... ..	4	4
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis ... ..	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	—
31 Premature Birth ... ..	1	—
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	4	4
33 Suicide ... ..	3	—
34 Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	3	—
35 Other Violent Causes ... ..	4	—
36 All Other Causes ... ..	6	8