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Rural District 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.

Leamington Spa :

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1, MILVERTON HILL,
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August, 1944.

To the Warwick Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, 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, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Warwick Rural District.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1943	...	...	—
Birth Rate	...	...	14.0
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	33
Death Rate	...	...	8.4
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	...	...	41
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			46
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
.. .. Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
.. .. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) *Public Health Officers.*—As before.

Mr. Sholto Douglas continued to act as part-time Water Engineer.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	4	40	44
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	1	7	8

—
52
—

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water*.—The new supply at Radford has continued to be a success. The Borough of Leamington is being supplied from this scheme, together with water from the Whitnash supply, at the combined rate of approximately three million gallons per month.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—There are no changes to report.

2. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—There is no change to report.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—This service has been one of great difficulty even for war-time. The position has, however, improved during 1943, one team of four men having been obtained.

D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual tables have been compiled and are being kept for record purposes.

3. *Overcrowding*.—There is little to add to my last Report. Overcrowding has, however, varied somewhat.

4. *Re-housing*.—Eight houses for agricultural workers have been approved and are in course of erection.

5. *Fitness of Houses*.—Inspections of houses have been carried out following complaints. No routine house-to-house surveys are possible. It is hoped that the new scheme whereby certificates for Essential Repairs will be issued, may have some good effect in connection with the more urgent repairs.

6. *Temporary Housing*.—Concern increases about the number of temporary hutments which have been erected, many without plan or notice being given. These are inspected, and where possible licensed as temporary buildings.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The position regarding the production of milk remains fairly satisfactory. No new cowsheds were erected during the year, and only minor improvements were made to sheds.

The County Council has issued 68 licences to accredited producers in this district, a decrease of 6 compared with last year, and 9 licences to producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk, an increase of 2.

Meat and Other Foods.—Visits have been made in connection with emergency slaughter and cottagers' pigs. A total of 800 lbs. of beef, 100 lbs. of pork, and 150 lbs. of bacon has been rejected as unfit for human consumption. Visits have also been made to canteens and shops, and a quantity of canned food has been surrendered.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1936.

	Smallpox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1937 ...	—	11	15	—	20	—	1
1938 ...	—	14	23	—	17	—	1
1939 ...	—	11	47	—	11	—	—
1940 ...	—	10	17	3	18	—	1
1941 ...	—	37	18	2	52	—	2
1942 ...	—	11	13	—	17	—	—
1943 ...	—	16	19	—	22	—	1

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

Diphtheria.—The cases were well distributed throughout the district.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—During the year immunisation of the school children continued, and up to December 31st, 1,516 children between 5 and 15 years had been treated, also 351 under 5 years, a total of 1,867.

School Closures :—

Bishop's Tachbrook. 4th to 17th May. Measles.
Hunningham. 3rd to 17th May. Measles.

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	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	4	2	1	—	—	—	—
25	3	2	1	1	—	1	—	—
35	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	9	6	3	4	1	1	—	1

During the year 22 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 15 of which were of pulmonary and 7 of other forms of tuberculosis.

Sanatorium.—During the year 9 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 11 were discharged.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

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

TABLE I.
WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

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 ...	251	8	57	38
Dairies, Milkshops and Cow Sheds	81	—	10	14
Bakehouses	1	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses & Butchers' Shops	20	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	70	—	26	15
Food Preparation Premises ...	38	—	—	—
Ashbins substituted for Ashpits...	41	—	30	26
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	4	—	4	4
Water-closets	—	—	—	—
House Drainage	25	—	22	20
Water Supply	77	—	35	14
Pigsties	5	—	2	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Factories	9	—	3	2
Shops	12	—	—	—
TOTALS	634	8	189	133
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food ...			No. 21	lbs. 1050
Samples of Water taken for Analysis			35	
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use ...			24	
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease ...			45	

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

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	14,780	188	12.7	13	69	159	10.1
1938	15,020	224	14.9	9	40	138	9.2
1939	—	—	12.9	—	40	—	10.5
1940	—	—	15.2	—	26	—	10.2
1941	—	—	12.6	—	46	—	9.8
1942	—	—	16.1	—	17	—	7.5
1943	—	—	14.0	—	41	—	8.4

TABLE III.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

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)	16	2	6	4	3	1		16		
Erysipelas	4				1	2	1			
Scarlet Fever	19	4	11	1	3			12		
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	22	1	1	3	3	1	2	11	11	
Malaria										
Dysentery	17				2	2	8	5		
Puerperal Pyrexia	1					1				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	15				6	8	1		2	
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	7	1	1	3	2				1	
Totals	101	1	8	21	19	21	14	17	28	14

TABLE IV.
WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1943.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	69	87
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	1
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
8 Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9 Influenza	2	1
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	1	4
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	1	1
15 Cancer of Breast	—	2
16 Cancer, other Sites	5	2
17 Diabetes	1	—
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	9	8
19 Heart Disease	21	29
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	2	3
21 Bronchitis	2	3
22 Pneumonia	5	6
23 Other Resp. Diseases	1	1
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	1	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	—	2
28 Nephritis	2.	2
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	—	1
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	4	2
33 Suicide	1	2
34 Road Traffic Accidents	3	2
35 Other Violent Causes	2	3
36 All Other Causes	4	10