

[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Yeovil U.D.C. / Borough.

Contributors

Yeovil (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1944

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/grac7x3h>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

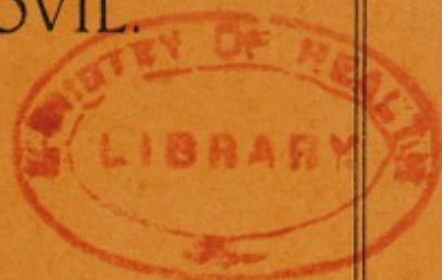


Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY



BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

FOR THE YEAR

1944.



BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.




ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

FOR THE YEAR

1944.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30248772>

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.

MAYOR:
COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SIDNEY VOSPER.

DEPUTY MAYOR:
COUNCILLOR STANLEY DUCKWORTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Alderman W. J. C. PITTARD (Chairman).

Councillor B. DENING (Vice-Chairman).

THE MAYOR.

Councillor J. BOLLEN.	Councillor W. J. ENGLISH.
Councillor W. P. BROOKS.	Councillor D. SEATON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE:

Dr. H. A. R. E. UNWIN (Chairman).

Councillor S. DUCKWORTH, (Vice-Chairman).

THE MAYOR.

Alderman F. BEEL.	Councillor W. P. BROOKS.
Councillor H. D. BROOKS.	Councillor A. L. EWENS.
Councillor F. SHORNEY.	Councillor W. J. ENGLISH.
Mrs. BELL.	Mrs. WALTERS.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

*Acting Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer:

MARY E. HAGUE, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant School Medical Officer:

ERNST STEINER, M.D. (Vienna).

Dental Surgeon	.....	R. L. ROYAL, L.D.S., R.D.S. (Eng.)
Chief Sanitary Inspector	.....	C. G. H. RICE, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Food.
Sanitary Inspector	.....	W. E. JONES. Cert. R.S.I.
Health Visitors	.....	E. WHITEHOUSE, M. GOLDSMITH, M. BULLOCK.
Midwives	.....	E. ASHTON, W. HANCOCK, H. KNOWLES, E. PRITCHARD.
Clerk to M.O.H.	.....	DELSIE E. CANE.
Disinfector	.....	C. AXE.

*DAVID S. CLARK, M.O.H. on Active Service.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the
Public Health Committee.*

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the Year, 1944. This abridged Report is again in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry.

The health of the Borough has been good. During April a large proportion of the population was vaccinated as a result of a case of Smallpox which occurred in the area.

The birth rate has again risen and is the highest since 1921.

There was a rise in the death rate during the year—113 deaths occurred in persons over 70 years old.

There was a rise also in the infantile mortality rate: the causes of death are tabulated.

I wish to thank all the members of the staff for their support and assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MARY E. HAGUE.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY.

Area	2,256 Acres.
Rainfall	27.95 inches.
Rainy Days	163.
Population	22,480.

Live Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	239	204	443
Illegitimate	25	22	47
			490

Stillbirths	14	
Birthrate per 1,000 population	21.7	
Illegitimate births	10.6%	

Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	137	130	267

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population.....	11.8
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop'on	51.02
Phthisis Death Rate per „ „	.6
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	Nil

VITAL STATISTICS.

The birth rate has been steadily increasing and is now highest since 1921.

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
13.3	13.7	14.3	15.8	18.1	19.7	21.7

The following tables show the causes of death and sex distribution.

The primary cause of death was heart disease (59) with Cancer second (49).

CAUSES OF DEATH. All Causes Total.	1944.	
	MALES.	FEMALES.
	137	130
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	2	
Cerebral Spinal Fever		
Scarlet Fever		
Whooping Cough		
Diphtheria		
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	8
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	1
Syphilis		
Influenza		
Measles		
Poliomyelitis	2	
Encephalitis		
Cancer	23	26
Diabetes		1
Intracranial vascular lesions	18	12
Heart Disease	28	31
Other Diseases of circulatory system	7	3
Bronchitis	11	5
Pneumonia	3	6
Other respiratory Diseases	2	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	2
Diarrhoea	2	
Appendicitis		
Other digestive diseases	3	2
Nephritis	2	5
Puerperal Sepsis		
Other maternal causes		1
Premature Births	3	
Congenital causes	6	5
Suicide	1	
Road traffic		1
Other violence	3	3
All other causes	9	16

Death of Infants under 1 year.

Total	25
Legitimate	18
Illegitimate	7

INFANT MORTALITY.

Causes of Death.

Prematurity	.....	4
Congenital	.....	6
Pneumonia	.....	6
Enteritis	.....	3
Birth Injuries	.....	2
Marasmus	.....	1
Tuberculosis	.....	1
Convulsions	.....	1
Violence	.....	1
		<hr/> 25

Age of Death.

Under 24 hours.	Under 1 Week.	1 Month or under.	Under 1 Year
5	6	7	7

Causes of Death under 24 hours were :

Prematurity	.....	2
Congenital causes	.....	1
Birth Injuries	.....	1
Violence	.....	1

Causes of Death under 1 week.

Congenital	.....	3
Prematurity	.....	2
Birth Injuries	.....	1

Causes of Death 1 month or under.

Enteritis	.....	2
Congenital	.....	2
Marasmus	.....	1
Pneumonia	.....	2

Causes of Death under 1 year.

Pneumonia	.....	4
Enteritis	.....	1
Tuberculosis	.....	1
Convulsions	.....	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table sets out the details of Infectious Diseases notified during the year, and the number of cases admitted to South Petherton Isolation Hospital.

DISEASE.	Cases notified.	Cases admitted to South Petherton Isolation Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	131	38
Diphtheria	—	—
Measles	28	—
Rubella	—	—
Pneumonia	12	—
Erysipelas	3	—
Whooping Cough	22	—
Poliomyelitis	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—

Admitted to Yeovil & District Hospital.

Puerperal Pyrexia 2

It is to be noted that no cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Immunisation against Diphtheria of Infants and School Children was continued throughout the year at the Public Health Clinic.

VACCINATION.

A teacher at one of the Yeovil Schools developed small-pox in April, and as a result a large proportion of the population was vaccinated.—A great number were cases of primary vaccination. No cases of post-vaccinal encephalitis occurred and no further case of small-pox developed.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	PULMONARY.	NON-PULMONARY.
Notifications	33	6
Deaths	14	3
Death rate of respiratory Tuberculosis per 1.00 population is .6		

The number of respiratory cases notified is 3 in excess, and non respiratory 2 in excess of those notified in 1943.

SCABIES.

During the year 241 cases in 150 families were known to have occurred. The majority of these cases were treated at the Public Health Clinic.

When a child is discovered to have Scabies or if a doctor sends a patient to the Clinic for the treatment of Scabies, a letter is sent to the head of the family (under the Scabies Order 1939) informing him or her that all members of the Household, including lodgers, must present themselves for examination. Generally, all contacts are seen before treatment of the original case is begun.

HEAD LICE.

This condition is now treated with lethane at the Clinic. It has been found that in the schools there are certain families, though small in number, whose members are habitually infested and who are the chief source of trouble to others.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Institutional Provisions.

The Maternity Home provides accommodation for 11 mothers. This number is quite inadequate for the needs of the Borough and rural area. The difficulties of providing beds for expectant mothers has become greater and is partly due to the fact that many of them are living in other peoples homes and partly to the impossibility of obtaining home help. Patients have been sent to various other homes—Tetton Hall, Taunton, Bridgwater, Crewkerne, Chard and the Yeatman, Sherborne. Difficulty has been experienced in obtaining midwives and domestic staff for the Home.

District Midwifery.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, having adopted the Rushcliffe Scheme, appointed a fourth midwife in October and the domicillary midwifery is now adequately provided for in regard to the nursing side. The shortage of domestic help remains very acute and often makes the position extremely difficult, both for a mother having her confinement at home, and the mother who enters a Maternity Home and needs someone to look after the rest of the family while she is away.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The number of foster-children on the register was 3, and the number of registered foster-mothers 3.

Visits are paid regularly by the Health Visitors to see that the children are well cared for.

Visits were made to the schools in the town where children under 9 years of age are boarded.

WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

The Nurseries were well attended and the average daily attendance was as follows :

GRASS ROYAL DAY NURSERY	34
SUMMERLEAZE PARK DAY NURSERY	35

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This was well attended during the year. There was again an increase in the number of women attending Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics, and more of them have taken advantage of the scheme whereby they can obtain dental treatment and dentures at reduced cost.

Ante-Natal visits	226
Mothers attending for advice	124
Infants first visits	454
Attendances of children at Clinic	5477

Home Visits by Health Visitors.

Infants.

Primary visits	434
Subsequent visits	1983
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	3288

MARY E. HAGUE,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1944.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Health and Sanitary Committee :**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first annual report since my appointment as Chief Sanitary Inspector, following the retirement of Mr. F. Whalley after nearly 35 years service with the Corporation. In May, Mr. W. E. Jones of Thedwastre Rural District Council, was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

OVERCROWDING.

The general position has changed little since last year. A large number of houses in the Borough are still occupied by members of more than one family.

There are at present well over 1,000 applicants for Council houses.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

Delapidation increases as time goes on, especially in regard to the internal decoration of houses. Because of the widespread call for the repair of war damaged houses elsewhere, it has been very difficult to get even such urgent jobs as choked drains cleared, and much time elapses before ordinary repairs can be commenced.

During the year, four houses, badly damaged by enemy action, were rebuilt.

MEAT INSPECTION.

During the year a careful inspection of all home killed meat was carried out at the Ministry of Food controlled slaughterhouses in Yeovil. The premises in use are the same as were taken over at the beginning of the war and considering the amount of killing done in the course of 12 months, have been kept going reasonably satisfactory, especially with regard to general cleanliness.

Comparative figures of killings for the years 1941 to 1944, inclusive, are shown below.

	Bullocks	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
1941	3126	10313	10902	1890
1942	2767	15797	3344	3111
1943	3083	10206	463	2539
1944	3338	11649	372	2773

The following is a brief statement of carcase meat condemned during the year.

	Total Number Condemned	Number affected with		Percentage num- ber of carcasses condemned.
		Gen: T.B. & T.B. with emaciation	Other Diseases	
Bullocks ...	160	133	27	4.73
Sheep ...	44	—	44	.37
Pigs ...	17	3	14	4.56
Calves ...	8	—	8	.28

DISEASED, UNSOUND AND INJURED MEAT CONDEMNED.

Beef.	2 tons 7 cwts. 1 qr. 26 lbs.
Mutton.	1 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs.
Pork.	1 qr. 22 lbs.

FOOD INSPECTION.

UN SOUND FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

Cheese.	46 lbs.
Ray.	18 stone.
Dogfish.	5 stone.
Shrimps.	4 gallons.
Bacon.	77 lbs.
Ox cheek.	116 lbs.
Sausages.	108 lbs.
Sausage rusk.	140 lbs.
Dried peas.	77 lbs.

CANNED FOODS CONDEMNED.

Milk — evaporated.	600 tins.
Meat — various.	405 „
Fish — various.	3449 „
Fruit and Vegetables.	316 „
Other	75 „
Total	4845 „

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following disinfections were carried out in connection with the above.

Scarlet Fever.	125
Tuberculosis.	34
Vermin.	24
Scabies.	12
Cancer.	6
Measles.	3
Steam disinfections.	128
Library Books.	120
Gloves.	30 doz. approximately.
Miscellaneous.	5

VERMIN INFESTATIONS.

The following infestations were dealt with during the year.

	Private Houses.	Council Houses.
Bugs.	3	6
Fleas.	3	6
Lice.	—	6

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

During the year a Rodent Exterminator was appointed and the following is a statement of the visits, etc., made.

Total No. of Visits.	Premises found clear of rodents.	Premises baited.	Premises gassed.
251	127	67	29

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The following are particulars from the register.

Cow keepers.	14
Producer retailers.	8
Distributors only	12

GRADED MILK PRODUCERS IN THE DISTRICT.

Tuberculin Tested.	2
Accredited.	3
Pasteurised.	2

During the year 37 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and of this total 22 were reported as satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections made, together with the results are given in the following tables.

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS.

Nuisances.	68
„ re-inspections.	92
Visits re housing defects.	44
Complaints.	191
Drainage.	51
Slaughterhouses.	1460
Butchers shops.	120
Dairies and Cowsheds.	35
Bakehouses.	42
Complaints re rats and mice.	37
Infectious disease.	178
Smoke nuisance.	4
Food inspection.	81

HOUSES AND PREMISES.

Houses repaired.	12
Amended ventilation to rooms.	3
Dampness remedied.	3
Floors repaired.	8
Roofs repaired.	4
New staircases fixed.	1
Yards repaired.	4
New floors.	7
Walls repaired.	1
Windows provided.	2
Ceilings repaired.	1

HOUSE DRAINAGE AND SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

New drainage to existing premises.	4
Interceptors fixed.	3
Inspection chambers built.	12
Gullies provided	14
Vent. shafts fixed.	7
Alterations and repairs to existing drainage.	14
New W.C.'s built.	3
Flushing apparatus provided.	2
Defective traps removed.	1
Cesspool drainage converted and connected to Public Sewer.	2
Drains tested.	24
Choked drains cleared.	30

In conclusion may I express my appreciation of the valued co-operation of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Mary Hague, and the loyal support of all members of the staff who have helped to carry out the work of this Department successfully during another year of war.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. H. RICE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS AND SENATE
JANUARY 1871

That the sum of \$100,000 be and it is hereby ordered that the sum of \$100,000 be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing land for the establishment of a national observatory at such place or places as the President may deem proper, and that the Secretary of the Interior be and he is hereby authorized to expend the same in the purchase of such land, and to make such other and further provisions as may be necessary and proper for the establishment of such observatory, and to report to the President the results of his action thereunder.

COMMITTEE

That the sum of \$100,000 be and it is hereby ordered that the sum of \$100,000 be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing land for the establishment of a national observatory at such place or places as the President may deem proper, and that the Secretary of the Interior be and he is hereby authorized to expend the same in the purchase of such land, and to make such other and further provisions as may be necessary and proper for the establishment of such observatory, and to report to the President the results of his action thereunder.



