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UGANDA PROTECTORATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Department


FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1941.

PRICE: SH. 1/-

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MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended 31st December, 1941.

Staff.—One Senior Medical Officer and one Laboratory Assistant were released from military service, one Medical Officer arrived on first appointment, and one resigned. At the end of 1941 the following personnel of the Department remained seconded to the Army:—

Europeans.—

Two Senior Medical Officers.

Eight Medical Officers.

One Pathologist.

Four Health Inspectors.

Two Nursing Sisters.

Africans.—Another 24 Africans have been seconded, making a total of 77.

Hospitals.—The new wing at the European and Asian Hospital, Kampala, will be completed early in 1942. Work has begun on the new hospital at Mubende.

Yellow Fever.—Yellow fever virus was isolated from a case which occurred in the Bwamba county of Toro district in June following investigations carried out by Dr. Mahaffy of the Rockefeller Foundation in this area during April which revealed that a number of persons whose protection tests had been negative in the previous year had become immune. Mass vaccination was carried out in the Western portion of Toro and some 150,000 people were vaccinated. No person was permitted to enter or leave the area who had not been vaccinated against yellow fever not less than fourteen days or more than two years previously. Entry into Uganda from the Belgian Congo was similarly controlled. Yellow fever virus was also isolated from two batches of *A. simpsoni* caught in the vicinity in which the case occurred. As soon as an immune area had been created in western Toro restrictions on entry to the district, with the exception of Bwamba county, were removed. By the end of the year restrictions similar to those described above had also been placed on travel between the Southern Sudan and Uganda. Anti-amaryl buildings were erected at Entebbe aerodrome. Other measures included the establishment of units for the control of *Aedes* in each district. These consist of African mosquito searchers trained by the Senior Entomologist (Medical), working under the supervision of an European Health Inspector. Their duties consist of finding breeding places and eliminating them. In Kampala and Entebbe European Overseers were engaged specially for this work. Later in the year a laboratory assistant was released from the Army and was also employed in Entebbe and then in the Western Province.

Small-pox.—The outbreak of this disease which commenced in December, 1940, was over by February, 1941. There were 27 cases and 128,780 persons were vaccinated. Later five cases occurred in the Masaka district and 169,315 persons were vaccinated. No further cases were reported.

Sleeping Sickness.—514 cases were reported from Busoga district. These occurred at first on the shore of Lake Victoria and were clinically of the type caused by *T. gambiense*. Towards the end of the year cases were discovered at some distance from the lake and presented the clinical picture

of the Rhodesian type of the disease. The diagnosis of *T. rhodesiense* was confirmed by animal inoculation and at the end of the year the epidemic showed no signs of abating. In the West Nile district the incidence continues to decrease, 304 cases being reported as compared with 355 in 1940.

Legislation.—The Midwives (Amendment) Ordinance, 1941, was enacted in order to enable nursing sisters who had passed the first part of the new C.M.B. certificate to be registered under Uganda law. There were also certain amendments made in existing Rules under the Public Health Ordinance.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The number of cases seen at station hospitals and dispensaries was as follows:—

New cases including examinations ...	541,235
Re-attendances	752,048
Total attendances	1,293,283

Only the diseases treated in station hospitals and at dispensaries in charge of an African Assistant Medical Officer are included in the above.

General Diseases.

Epidemic, endemic and infectious diseases.—The incidence in this group was 131,097 and there were 614 deaths in hospital. Malaria accounted for 55,022 cases. There were 18,951 cases of syphilis and 22,942 of yaws.

General diseases.—22,955 cases were reported. Rheumatic conditions accounted for 20,102 of these but a number of other indefinite diseases are probably included. There were 401 cases of cancer or other tumour of which 322 were non-malignant or undetermined; there were 23 deaths in this group.

Affections of the nervous system and organs of the senses.—There were 33,779 cases. Trachoma was responsible for 3,644 cases.

Affections of the circulatory system.—There were 1,128 cases in this group. 500 patients suffered from heart diseases and 137 of these were treated in hospital with 40 deaths.

Affections of the respiratory system.—There were 46,288 cases. The pneumonias show a decrease, being 2,113 with 246 deaths as compared with 3,610 with 289 deaths last year.

Diseases of the digestive system.—48,110 cases were recorded.

Diseases of the genito-urinary system.—There were 2,531 cases of non-venereal disease of the genito-urinary system.

Puerperal state and diseases of infancy.—There were 952 cases treated.

Affections of the skin, cellular tissue, and the organs of locomotion.—A large proportion of the 68,993 cases were of tropical ulcer.

Affections produced by external causes.—53,157 cases were reported and range from slight injuries to fatal accidents.

Communicable Diseases.

(a) INSECT-BORNE.

Trypanosomiasis.—There were 934 new cases and 51 reported deaths. Of these 304 cases and one death occurred in the West Nile district.

Relapsing Fever.—591 cases reported, of which the majority were diagnosed microscopically. Of these 377 were treated in hospital with 28 deaths.

Plague.—223 cases with 213 deaths were reported, compared with 277 cases with 268 deaths in 1940.

Typhus.—One case was reported.

Malaria.—There were 55,022 cases with 159 deaths in hospital. The number of admissions to hospital was 5,939.

Blackwater Fever.—142 cases with 24 deaths were reported. Of these 82 with 12 deaths were treated by Government medical officers, and 60 with 12 deaths by private practitioners.

Poliomyelitis.—There were eight cases and no deaths.

Diphtheria.—There was one case and one death.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—There were 112 cases with 38 deaths compared with 76 cases with 20 deaths in 1940.

Dysentery.—1,639 cases were reported. There were 570 cases of amoebic dysentery, 417 bacillary, and 652 were unclassified.

Influenza.—8,572 cases were reported.

Small-pox.—See above.

Syphilis and yaws.—There were 18,951 cases of syphilis and 22,942 cases of yaws treated.

Gonorrhoea.—The number of cases treated was 7,347.

Leprosy.—At Government hospitals and dispensaries 472 lepers attended for treatment. Most cases of the disease applying for treatment are treated in the leper colonies which are under the control of mission societies.

Mission Leper Colonies dealt with the following numbers:—

(a) *Buluba Leper Settlement, Busoga.*

Number resident	...	...	...	168
„ admitted	...	...	...	51
„ treated (out-patients)	...	...	...	245
„ of births	...	...	...	2
„ of deaths	...	...	...	15

(b) *Nyenga Leper Colony, Mengo.*

Number resident	...	...	...	174
„ admitted	...	...	...	55
„ of births	...	...	...	—
„ of deaths	...	...	...	6
„ discharged	...	...	...	33

(c) *Bunyonyi Leper Colony, Kigezi.*

Number resident	...	...	...	320
„ admitted	...	...	...	24
„ of births	...	...	...	7
„ of deaths	...	...	...	24
„ discharged	...	...	...	43

(d) *Teso Leper Settlements.*

(I) *Kumi Children's Home.*

Number resident	...	...	...	577
„ admitted	...	...	...	—
„ of deaths	...	...	...	12
„ discharged	...	...	...	71

(II) *Ongino.*

Number resident	...	...	...	568
„ admitted	...	...	...	—
„ of births	...	...	...	—
„ of deaths	...	...	...	14
„ discharged	...	...	...	83

(c) HELMINTHIC DISEASES.

The number of cases of infection with intestinal parasites recorded in the returns includes only those patients whose symptoms are diagnosed as due to such parasites. Many other infections are discovered during the routine examination of the stools of in-patients in hospitals but are not separately reported, though treatment is given when advisable.

Ancylostomiasis.—2,589 cases were recorded. Although the infection appears to be widespread, medical officers report that as a rule it causes little disability.

Schistosomiasis.—442 cases were reported.

There were 5,468 cases of other helminthic infections, of which the most common were *Taenia* and *Ascaris*.

NOTE.—Cases from the smaller dispensaries not under the direct charge of qualified officers are not included in the foregoing figures.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The vital statistics for the Protectorate are given in Tables A and B. The population has been calculated from the census figures of 1931, by the addition of births and the subtraction of deaths in each subsequent year.

Birth Rate and Death Rate.—Live births exceeded deaths by 35,803 and the population increased by 9.56 per thousand, the corresponding figures for 1940 being 39,420 and 10.64. All districts showed an excess of live births over deaths.

Still-Birth Rate.—The number of still-births recorded was 3,834 compared with 3,583 in 1940 but these figures are probably not accurate. The percentage of still-births to the total of live births and still-births ranges from 0.75 in Teso to 6.64 in Bunyoro. The rate for the Protectorate was 3.47.

Infant Mortality Rate.—This was 123.99 per thousand live births. It still remains high in the West Nile (185.61) Acholi (195.20) and Busoga (215.40) while the lowest figure was found this year in Kigezi 40.55.

Maternal Mortality Rate.—The rate fell from 7.98 to 7.15. The figures given are probably not very reliable.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

Nutrition.—A sub-committee of the Development and Welfare Committee was appointed to deal with this question but owing to depletion of staff consequent on the exigencies of the local campaign any such specialist undertaking as a nutrition survey had to be held in suspense and no nutritional investigations were carried out.

Social Welfare.—Considerable progress has been made, with the full co-operation of the people concerned, in the scheme of a model *mutalla* mentioned in the 1940 report. The construction of houses in cob has proceeded well and it is expected that the first of these, at an approximate cost of not more than £10 each, will be ready for occupation early in 1942.

Fruit tree plots and pole plots of cape lilac have been planted for each household and available springs have been impounded and separate watering places for man and cattle demarcated. Satisfactory progress was made in the erection of the combined hall and school, and the dispensary and staff houses.

Disposal of night soil and rubbish.—Incineration or burial are the usual methods of disposal throughout the Protectorate. Although the Indore system has proved efficient in the stations where it has been tried out; its general use is at present precluded by the difficulty experienced in disposing of such compost even though distributed free of cost.

TABLE A.—RETURN SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH, STILL-BIRTH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR THE UGANDA PROTECTORATE FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.

Province and District.	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.							Death Rate per 1,000 Population							Still-Birth Rate per 100 Births and Still-Births.							Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.							Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births and Still-Births.						
	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
BUGANDA:—																																			
Mengo	1974	1983	1971	2006	2190	2028	2196	2161	2056	1937	1792	1937	1903	2038	472	321	309	309	376	236	185	8398	9173	8996	7641	6903	9755	8663	1227	1542	923	1002	884	714	586
Entebbe	1906	2034	2039	2119	2128			1638	1762	1789	1638	1634	2123	1740	448	609	448	392	258	159	190	6223	7403	6050	5925	5979	8411	6616	5794	6365	7397	653	931	476	504
Masaka	2884	3330	3227	3293	3312	3344	3387	1912	1939	1885	1683	1017	1103	931	775	509	430	497	347	314	292	12000	12087	11441	8772	7884	9048	6682	534	578	786	503	511	405	164
Mubende	2099	2202	2017	2154	1196	1210	1124																												
TOTAL	2171	2317	2260	2332	2253	2171	2275	1829	1877	1802	1638	1559	1809	1782	437	407	334	312	295	212	182	8416	8876	7936	6945	6903	9186	7816	795	960	843	732	784	603	523
EASTERN:—																																			
Busoga	2645	2380	2223	2175	2085	2148	2176	2436	2637	2698	2137	1698	2043	2146	765	827	782	610	636	558	599	22775	27666	24804	21104	17782	25484	21540	1375	1612	1812	1824	532	1318	1227
Budama	3142	3297	3122	2784	3037			2437	2493	2182	1727	1502			953	858	105	359	041			14747	17441	14562	12596	10774									
Bugishu	3352	3813	3405	3132	3894	2910	2790	2133	2607	2072	1604	2015	1929	1933	505	503	540	547	309	362	280	39730	21766	20056	14404	12200	16172	13727	870	1148	1177	982	744	645	571
Bugwere	2800	3045	2813	2708				3727	3214	2423	1872				629	538	508	442	309	362	280	18865	15792	14954	10602										
Teso	1636	1630	1779	2159	2570	2487	2388	1831	1790	1448	1373	1606	1678	1666	021	018	014	031	025	085	073	9781	9228	5638	5394	7166	8200	6945	1447	1322	964	885	709	1022	435
TOTAL	2613	2658	2521	2490	2868	2568	2503	2448	2505	2199	1785	1751	1906	1948	482	471	450	375	294	304	326	18577	19987	17307	13593	12256	16665	14378	1357	1291	1204	1174	919	911	731
WESTERN:—																																			
Toro	1998	2137	2009	2352	2651	3018	2697	1673	2038	1788	1749	1516	1824	1844	328	401	361	328	351	366	435	22329	20247	13929	11103	11213	13719	11833	1030	1297	1323	1177	1206	1288	983
Ankole	2175	2681	2407	2637	2621	3310	2907	2001	1398	1587	1574	1559	1936	2470	434	293	330	327	321	346	400	16947	10330	12387	11596	10078	11639	14165	791	858	764	401	549	496	735
Kigezi	3297	3333	3177	3984	3952	4541	4193	1887	1272	1492	1303	1436	1679	1831	163	094	095	197	261	308	435	16891	9641	13338	6963	7430	8864	4055	561	500	589	320	304	425	541
Lango	3706	3563	3404	3396	3075	2959	2923	3006	2218	2293	2214	1744	1336	1284	146	227	291	265	314	280	481	13375	15997	14008	13349	11628	10960	12252	772	978	944	937	792	514	574
Banyoro	1757	1856	1584	1533	1650	1946	1549	1436	1432	1443	1010	1139	992	1146	1190	1043	1000	766	677	1075	664	10234	9342	10730	6214	6789	8734	6667	351	435	445	782	438	493	309
Gulu	5371	4627	4538	4719	4586	4177	3702	2369	2496	2549	3360	2477	1948	1882	552	563	546	623	513	505	492	14394	17433	19607	20009	25537	19619	12520	300	531	911	499	827	1007	721
Chua	5044	2576	3816	3810				2238	1187	2274	3456				568	630	558	652				23303	31179	36468	56422				1641	1781	1748	1699			
West Nile	2312	2065	1869	2468	3596	3650	4400	911	1027	1090	1267	2151	2063	2101	268	231	282	161	265	290	288	27961	31623	31410	36228	28236	20083	18561	2016	4611	3201	4154	2183	1389	1157
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	3264	3477	3363	...	...	...	...	1746	1743	1871	...	...	...	...	350	372	419	...	...	...	...	16050	13023	13012	...	...	...	...	949	803	776
UGANDA PROTECTORATE	2643	2642	2538	2670	2889	2865	2823	2066	1960	1895	1750	1702	1812	1875	419	397	379	346	321	323	347	16588	15864	15567	14718	13084	13442	12399	1060	1228	1117	1064	908	798	715

† The population of Karamoja has been excluded from the total population and from all calculations of rates because no vital statistics are submitted from that district.

* The Entebbe District was amalgamated with the Mengo District on 1st November, 1936.

† The Bugishu, Budama and Bugwere Districts were amalgamated into the Central District on 1st January, 1937.

‡ The Gulu and Chua Districts were amalgamated into the Acholi District on 1st January, 1937.

TABLE B.—VITAL STATISTICS RETURN OF THE UGANDA PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1941 (AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY).

PROVINCE AND DISTRICT.	TOTALS FOR THE WHOLE YEAR.										ESTIMATED POPULATION.	RATES FOR THE YEAR.				
	Live Births.			Still Births.	Deaths					Birth Rate per 1000 Population.		Percentage of Still Births to Births plus Still Births.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births.	Maternal Mortality per 1000 Births and Still Births.	Death Rate per 1000 Population.	
					Of Children under 1 Year.			Of Women in Child Birth.	All Other Deaths.							Total Deaths.
	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.									
BUGANDA PROVINCE:—																
Mengo ...	6,150	5,901	12,051	227	532	512	1,044	72	10,058	11,174	548,336	21.96	1.85	86.63	5.86	20.38
Masaka ...	3,480	3,352	6,832	111	232	220	452	35	3,022	3,509	201,604	33.87	1.60	66.16	5.04	17.40
Mubende ...	888	893	1,781	46	72	47	119	3	1,385	1,507	158,413	11.24	2.52	66.82	1.64	9.51
TOTAL ...	10,518	10,146	20,664	384	836	779	1,615	110	14,465	16,190	908,443	22.75	1.82	78.16	5.23	17.82
EASTERN PROVINCE:—																
Busoga ...	4,328	4,103	8,431	537	950	866	1,816	110	6,390	8,316	387,709	21.76	5.99	215.40	12.27	21.46
Central ...	7,810	7,678	15,488	446	1,071	1,055	2,126	91	8,627	10,844	555,125	27.90	2.80	137.27	5.71	19.53
Teso ...	5,526	5,241	10,767	50	273	197	470	31	4,221	4,722	283,418	23.88	0.73	69.45	4.55	16.66
†Karamoja ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	15,664	15,022	30,686	1,033	2,294	2,118	4,412	232	19,238	23,882	1,226,092	25.03	3.26	143.78	7.31	19.48
WESTERN PROVINCE:—																
Toro ...	2,819	2,725	5,544	252	333	323	656	57	3,078	3,791	205,554	26.97	4.35	118.33	9.83	18.44
Ankole ...	4,443	4,311	8,754	365	664	576	1,240	67	6,131	7,438	301,175	29.07	4.00	141.65	7.35	24.70
Sigezi ...	6,085	5,752	11,837	538	243	237	480	67	4,675	5,222	232,185	41.95	4.35	40.55	5.41	18.51
Lango ...	3,746	3,461	7,207	364	475	409	883	45	2,237	3,165	146,556	29.23	4.81	122.52	5.94	12.84
Bunyoro ...	923	892	1,815	129	68	53	121	6	1,181	1,308	117,182	15.49	6.64	66.67	3.09	11.16
Acholi ...	4,078	3,832	7,910	409	784	760	1,544	60	2,417	4,021	213,669	37.02	4.92	185.30	7.21	18.83
West Nile ...	6,344	5,913	12,257	760	1,188	1,087	2,275	146	3,433	5,854	278,587	44.00	2.85	185.61	11.57	21.01
TOTAL ...	28,438	26,886	55,324	2,417	3,755	3,444	7,199	448	23,152	30,799	1,644,908	33.63	4.19	130.12	7.76	18.71
UGANDA PROTECTORATE ...	54,620	52,654	106,674	3,834	6,885	6,341	13,226	790	56,855	70,871	3,779,403	28.23	3.47	123.99	7.15	18.75

† The population of Karamoja has been excluded from the total population and from all calculations of rates because no vital statistics are submitted from that district.

Water Supplies.—The Drilling Section of the Geological Department completed twenty-three successful bore-holes in the West Nile District, and contractors completed forty-six in various districts.

Schools.—Inspections of schools by medical officers and health inspectors were carried out in so far as shortage of staff and petrol restriction permitted.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Ante-natal, Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes.—The work of these services continues to increase and attendances are most satisfactory.

Summary.

1. The following cases received treatment in various Government institutions:—

Total number of ante-natal first attendances	...	33,963
Total number of pregnancies terminated in institutions	...	4,833
Total number of ante-natal re-attendances	...	90,711

2. The following cases received treatment in various Mission institutions:—

Total number of ante-natal first attendances	...	13,265
Total number of pregnancies terminated in institutions	...	4,483
Total number of ante-natal re-attendances	...	51,439

LABORATORY.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in the Laboratory:—

1. Parasitology.—

Blood films examined	...	...	...	...	12,408
Dark ground examinations	...	...	...	...	33
Faeces	...	...	...	...	3,155

2. Serology.—

Kahn tests on sera	...	...	...	...	12,821
Kahn tests on cerebro-spinal fluid	...	...	...	...	318
Agglutination tests for enteric and other fevers	...	...	...	...	454

3. Bacteriology.—

Blood cultures	...	...	...	...	18
Urine cultures	...	...	...	...	98
Faeces cultures	...	...	...	...	404
Sputum for <i>M. tuberculosis</i>	...	...	...	...	732
Sputum for <i>B. pestis</i>	...	...	...	...	598
Swabs and Smears	...	...	...	...	723
Vaccines	...	...	...	...	12
Sterility tests on drugs	...	...	...	...	105
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	60

4. Clinical Pathology.—

Blood counts, etc.	...	...	...	...	1,555
Cerebro-spinal fluid	...	...	...	...	354
Pleural and other fluids	...	...	...	...	87
Urine	...	...	...	...	1,864
Faeces, occult blood	219
Miscellaneous examinations	23

5. Biochemical examinations

...	486
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6. Autopsies and Histo-pathology.—

Autopsies	367
Histo-pathology	591

7. Medico-legal examinations—

Identification of blood stains, etc.	99
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8. *Chemical examinations.*—

For the Medical Department	51
For the Police	117
For the Public Works	...	...	...	5
For the Tender Board	...	...	...	13
For the Supply Board	...	...	...	2
For the Veterinary Department	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3

MEDICAL EDUCATION.

In spite of shortage of staff, work at the Medical School has continued without any curtailment of the courses of study. No changes were made in the curriculum.

The following are the results of the examinations held:—

First Examination (Chemistry, Physics, Biology, English, Mathematics).

8 candidates: 5 passed; 1 failed in one subject; 1 was referred and 1 failed.

Second Examination (Anatomy and Physiology). 9 candidates: 5 passed

(1 distinction in Anatomy); 2 referred (1 year); 2 discontinued the course.

Third Examination.—

PART I. (Pathology and Pharmacology). 7 candidates: 3 passed; 1 referred for 6 months in Pathology; 2 referred for 6 months in Pharmacology; 1 discontinued the course.

PART II. (Preventive Medicine, Forensic Medicine). 4 candidates, all of whom passed, one with distinction.

PART III. (Medicine, Surgery and Obstetrics). 7 candidates: 5 passed (1 with distinction in Surgery); 1 passed in Medicine and Surgery but was referred in Midwifery and Gynaecology for 3 months; 1 was referred in all subjects for six months.

