

County Health Department Renders Great Service

Hundreds Are Benefitted By Immunizations

Report Submitted By Dr. King Reviews Briefly Work Done Last Year

Editor's Note: The report printed here, submitted by Dr. Robert King, district health officer of Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga counties, gives a brief summary of the work being done in Alleghany county. The figures, themselves, are significant, but they are only a small part of the story as it relates to the health of the county. The full report is given below.)

By Robert R. King, M. D.

The year 1943 passed without a great amount of communicable diseases being reported to the health office. Though influenza was prevalent it was not reported, this being a common failure throughout the state. As the reporting of this disease is for statistical purposes only, we feel that this is the reason those treating it forgot or postponed sending in reports on it.

Whooping cough ranked first in the number of cases called to the attention of the Health Department with scarlet fever second, and measles a poor third. There were forty-six cases of whooping cough reported, though I can be sure that many homes recognizing the disease did not call in a physician and so the case went unreported. Three cases of scarlet fever were reported and only one of measles. We are glad to say that no cases of typhoid fever or diphtheria were reported during the entire year. These two diseases, however, are ones which we must constantly be on our guard and continue to immunize susceptible population until we have wiped them out entirely.

Small pox is another malady which crops up from time to time, and while we have had no cases in the district of which we are a part, there have been out-breaks of the disease in this State. A recent investigation shows that the incidence of small pox is in direct proportion to the types of laws in the different States in the Union. Those having compulsory small pox vaccination for all children before they enter school have the fewest number of cases over a period of years and from there to those who have no laws at all the groups of States show a corresponding number of cases occurring in their borders.

North Carolina does not have compulsory vaccination but it is left to each board of health as to whether the particular county shall have compulsory vaccination or not. In the light of the experience of other States we feel that each county and in fact, the whole state, should have compulsory vaccination for this dis-

case. Diphtheria vaccination is compulsory under the law during the first year of life. There are too many families who await until diphtheria strikes before they remember the protection this treatment affords. We had two hundred forty-nine children immunized against diphtheria during the year. Three hundred eighty-eight were vaccinated against small pox, one thousand one hundred eight-eight against typhoid fever and fifty-six against whooping cough.

Under tuberculosis control there were sixteen individuals examined by X-ray. One admitted to the sanatorium. Alleghany county is doing its share towards controlling this disease and by so doing is protecting her citizens against its spread.

Under maternity service we have had six admitted to medical service and thirty to nursing service, with eighty-two visits paid to them. Forty-two postpartum cases were admitted to service following the birth of the baby and ninety-two visits given these patients. Six visits were paid to midwives for their supervision and instructions.

One hundred twelve infants received three hundred twenty-three visits in the ratio of about five field visits to one office visit, while one hundred thirty-six children between infancy and school age received three hundred eighty-two field visits and ninety four office visits. One thousand three hundred and sixty-one inspections or examinations were made on school children and fifty three school children were given more direct nursing care by the staff. Fifteen class room health talks were made with three hundred seventy-six being in attendance. Medical class room health talks were made with three hundred

seventy-six being in attendance. Medical examinations were made on twelve milk handlers working in the dairies of Alleghany county and thirty-eight examinations on persons working in the eating establishments of the county as cooks, waitresses, etc. Nineteen teachers came in for examination as well as four other workers whose jobs require health certificates.

One hundred twenty six individuals registered for infirmities of one kind or another with a total of fifty-two clinic visits, ninety-six offices nursing visits and two hundred twenty-seven visits by the nurse to the homes.

Twelve crippled children were cared for during the year with a total of thirty-five visits paid them.

All of our dairies were visited during the year and our food handling establishments as well. During the latter part of the year we were without the services of an inspector and so this work during that period received only one or two visits from State Workers who came for this particular purpose.

Under laboratory procedure sixteen cultures for diphtheria infection were made, One hundred eleven for syphilis, three for gonorrhea, ten for tuberculosis, two examinations for intestinal parasites, and seventy-nine specimens of urine went through the laboratory.

Corrections were made on the teeth of one hundred and ninety-six children, eight had their tonsils removed and clinics were also held for the corrections of many children's eyes.

At this time the health departments are feeling very keenly the lack of trained workers, and when vacancies occur it is very difficult to get replacements. We feel that it would be advantageous to

County H. D. Clubs Hold Meetings

SCHEDULES ANNOUNCED

Miss Frances Capel, home demonstration agent, announced the following schedule for the week of March 20:

March 22: Glade Creek club meets at the home of Mrs. Emma Ayers at 2 p. m.

March 23: Sparta club meets at the home of Mrs. Albert Richardson at 3 p. m.

March 25: Wolfe Branch club meets with Mrs. Robert Taylor at 2 p. m.

All demonstrations will be on "dishes using little or no meat."

BLEVINS CROSS ROADS

Mrs. Haswell Rector, president, presided at the meeting of the Blevins Crossroads home demonstration club which met at the home of Mrs. Paul Crouse, March 11.

Mrs. Kyle Edwards, secretary, gave her report and Mrs. Rector gave a talk on "Health". This was followed by a talk on Education by Mrs. E. McMillan Easterling. Miss Frances Capel gave a most interesting discussion on curb marketing and a demonstration on "dishes using little or no meat."

Eight sweaters had been com-

pleted and were turned in to the Red Cross. Mrs. Alex Andrews turned in three sweaters; Miss Eunice Andrews, 2; Mrs. W. D. Gordon, Mrs. W. C. Evans and Mrs. Gwyn Truitt, one each. Miss Ainslee Alexander, who is with the FSA office at Sparta and Miss Elizabeth Ann Todd, Galax, Va., were guests of the club. Mrs. Crouse, assisted by her daughter, Alice, served a delicious two-course dinner with coffee. Mrs. Felix Hinchler will be hostess to the club April 8.

NEW HOPE CLUB

The New Hope home demonstration club met with Mrs. Frank Roupe on March 8 with the president, Mrs. D. J. Jones, presiding. A collection was taken for the club dues and for the Jane S. McKimmon Loan Fund.

Mrs. E. S. Mitchell made a talk on the Red Cross and the splendid work it is doing. A contribution of \$9.00 was given by the nine members present. Miss Frances Capel gave a demonstration on "dishes that require little or no meat."

The next meeting will be held with Mrs. D. J. Jones.

WHITEHEAD CLUB

The Whitehead home demonstration club met March 7 at the home of Mrs. Henry Edwards. The club dues of 25 cents were paid and \$1.00 given for the Jane S. McKimmon Fund. 4 sweaters were turned in to Miss Capel for the Red Cross. They were knit by the four Watson sisters, Misses Maude, Agnes, and Jennie, and Mrs. E. F. Hoppers.

The absence of school-age children from school was discussed. Mrs. Beale Jarvis was appointed to report to the welfare officer about the matter.

Miss Capel gave a discussion and demonstration on "dishes using little or no meat." The hostess served delicious refreshments, and the meeting adjourned after the presence of a visitor, Mrs. Charlie Edwards, was acknowledged. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Beale Jarvis on the first Tuesday in April.

ELK CREEK CLUB

The Elk Creek home demonstration club met with Mrs. S. O. Gambill, when Miss Pearl Fields gave an interesting talk on the Red Cross and what it is doing for our boys. A contribution of \$14.25 was made to the Red Cross fund by the eight members of the club.

Miss Frances Capel gave a demonstration on "Meat Pie" and "Spanish Rice", which was served with the refreshments.

The club dues of 25 cents were paid and \$1.31 was collected for the Jane S. McKimmon fund.

The next meeting will be held April 7, with Mrs. James Hash.

TURKEY KNOB CLUB

The Turkey Knob home demonstration club met Friday, March 11, at the community building with eight members and one visitor present.

In the absence of the president, the vice-president, Mrs. Nannie Williams, called the meeting to order. Club dues of 25 cents were paid and \$1.27 was collected for the Jane S. McKimmon loan fund.

Mrs. Fred Osborne was elected president to succeed Mrs. Cleo Cook Pettyjohn, who recently moved away.

Mrs. Lonnie Landreth gave a short talk on war service and Miss Frances Capel gave a demonstration on "dishes using little or no meat."

Five sweaters were knitted by club members and turned in for the Red Cross.

The hostess, Mrs. Nannie Williams, served a sweet course and coffee.

Algerian Briar Has Arrived! More Coming!

You Must Get Your Burls In This Winter If You

Want The Top Price For Them.

Phone or Write:

D. & P. Pipe Works

SAM PORTER, Gen. Mgr.

Help Him Through The Red Cross



THE
RED
CROSS
IS AT
HIS SIDE
AND THE
RED
CROSS
IS YOU!



Let's Show Our Men In Service We Are Backing Them Through

THE RED CROSS

Sponsored By The Following In The Interest Of Men In Service:

W. O. HOOPER, Chairman

FARMERS' HARDWARE AND IMP. CO.

MODERN DRY CLEANERS

REID HAMPTON

SMITHEY'S STORE

D. and P. PIPE WORKS

KAY'S 5c & 10c STORE

COLVARD'S SERVICE STATION

B & T DRUG COMPANY

CASTEVENS MOTOR COMPANY

BELK'S DEPARTMENT STORE

NORTHWESTERN BANK

CASH & CARRY STORE

AMERICAN LEGION POST "98"

WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE

GOODMAN LUMBER CO.

SPARTAN Theatre

SPARTA, N. C.

FRI.-SAT. MAR 17-18

Matinee Every Sat. 1:15

Bob Steele
Tom Tyler

-in-

RIDERS OF RIO GRANDE

Chapter 7

"Secret Service In Darkest Africa"

Also Comedy

MON.-TUES. MAR. 20-21

Bud Abbott
Lou Costello

-in-

HIT THE ICE

LATEST WAR NEWS

WED.-THURS. MAR. 22-23

Bargain Days

Admission 10c & 15c

Errol Flynn
Ann Sheridan

-in-

EDGE OF DARKNESS

Chapter 2

"The Phantom"

Also Cartoon