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HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE
HERTFORDSHIRE INSURANCE COMMITTEE RECORDS
NIC

The Hertfordshire Insurance Committee was established under the provisions of the National Insurance Act, 1911 (1 and 2 Geo. V, c.55) to be responsible for the implementation of the Act and of Regulations made thereunder within the County. Central direction of Insurance Committees in counties and county boroughs was assured by National Insurance Commissioners appointed under the 1911 Act. By the Ministry of Health Act, 1919 (9 and 10 Geo. V, c.21), the powers and duties of the Commissioners were transferred to the Ministry of Health with whom they remained until 5 July, 1948 when, under the provision of the National Health Service Act, 1946 (9 and 10 Geo. V, c.81), they were transferred to the Ministry of National Insurance (since August, 1953 the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance). The Insurance Committees were abolished by the National Health Service Act and by regulations under s.69 of the Act, their properties and liabilities were transferred to the Executive Committees of the National Health Service as from 5 July, 1948.

The records consist solely of such of the minutes of the Hertfordshire Committee and its various sub-committees as appear to have survived. Apart from ad hoc sub-committees, appointed as needed from time to time, for which no minutes were kept, the only other standing Sub-Committee was that knownas the Joint Services Sub-Committee. This was appointed, as required under the various National Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations, to consider matters referred to it from the Medical Service or Pharmaceutical Service Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee never appears to have met.

Although minutes of Medical Service Sub-Committee after 1929 and of the Pharmaceutical Service Sub-Committee after 1934 do not appear to have survived, the reports of these Sub-Committees to the main Committee are extremely full and therefore all the substantive detail should be available in the main Committee minutes after these two dates.

These records, not having been selected for preservation in the Public Record Office or other specially appointed place under the provisions of S.4 of the Public Records Act, 1958 (6 and 7 Eliz. II, c.51), have been transferred to the Hertfordshire Record Office as an outright gift by the Hertfordshire Executive Committee of the National Health Service with the consent of the Lord Chancellor as required under s.3 (6) of that Act.

Although the restrictions on access provided for in s.5 of the Public Records Act, 1958, do not apply to these records, in view of the fact that parties to complaints are frequently named in the minutes of the Committee and its Sub-Committees, access to records of a date earlier than that provided for in the regulations currently in force for access to public records is solely at the discretion of the County Archivist.

Anyone who consults these records of whatever date, in view of the naming of parties, will be required to give a written undertaking not to divulge the names of or otherwise clearly identify persons by or against whom complaint was made and whose name appears in this context in the records.

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/1 June 1912 - July 1913
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/2 July 1913 - February 1914

/3 March 1914 - December 1914

/4 January 1915 - January 1916

/5 March 1916 - September 1917

/6 March 1918 - September 1920

/7 September 1920 - December 1922

/8 December 1922 - March 1927

/9 June 1927 - December 1930

/10 March 1931 - December 1933

/11 March 1934 - October 1937

/12 November 1937 - March 1942

/13 June 1942 - June 1948

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Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee

9 vols. 1912 - 1948

/1 July 1912 - December 1918

/2 January 1919 - November 1920

/3 December 1920 - December 1926

/4 January 1923 - December 1926 /5 January 1927 - March 1931 /6 March 1931 - March 1934

/7 March 1934 - March 1937 /8 March 1937 - December 1941

/9 March 1942 - June 1948

3. Minutes of the Allocation Sub-Committee 1 vol. 1920 - 1944

/1 April 1920 - September 1944 Deals with the assignment of insured persons to medical practitioners' lists under the National Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations, 1920, 1924, 1928, 1936 and schemes thereunder.]

Minutes of the Medical Service Sub-Committee 1 vol. 1915 - 1929

/1 June 1915 - September 1929 [Appointed under National Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations, 1913, 1920, 1924, 1928, to deal with any dispute between an insured person and a medical practitioner, alleged failure by a practitioner to give treatment or any question as to alleged breaches of terms of service by practitioners. Prior to June, 1915, the minutes of the few meetings held of this Sub-Committee are in the minutes of the main Committee. No minutes nurvive after 1929.]

5 Minutes of the Pharmaceutical Service Sub-Committee 1 vol. 1925 - 1934

Appointed to deal with reports on the testing of drugs or appliances as required under the National Insurance (Medical Benefit) Regulations which revealed variations from standards laid down together with any breaches of terms of service of pharmacists thus disclosed or otherwise reported. The first entry in the volume is preceded by a note stating that previous minutes of this Sub-Committee are to be found in the minutes of the main Committee (see NIC 1 above). No minutes survive after 1934.

Minutes of the Sanatorium (later Benefits)
Sub-Committee

1 vol. 1912 - 1913

/1 July 1912 - June 1913
[called Sanatorium Sub-Committee until meeting of 30 September 1912, thereafter called Benefits Sub-Committee. Appointed investigate and advise on the incidence of tuberculosis in the County, its treatment in sanatorium or otherwise and to draw up, administer and report on a scheme for sanatorium benefit as provided for in the National Insurance Act, 1911. This Sub-Committee appears to have lapsed after June, 1913, but many references to T.B. and sanatorium treatment will be found thereafter in the main Committee minutes.]