

## **[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Barnet Rural District].**

### **Contributors**

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**BARNET RURAL DISTRICT**

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*For the Year 1939*

BY

CHARLES F. HARDIE, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab)

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TOGETHER WITH

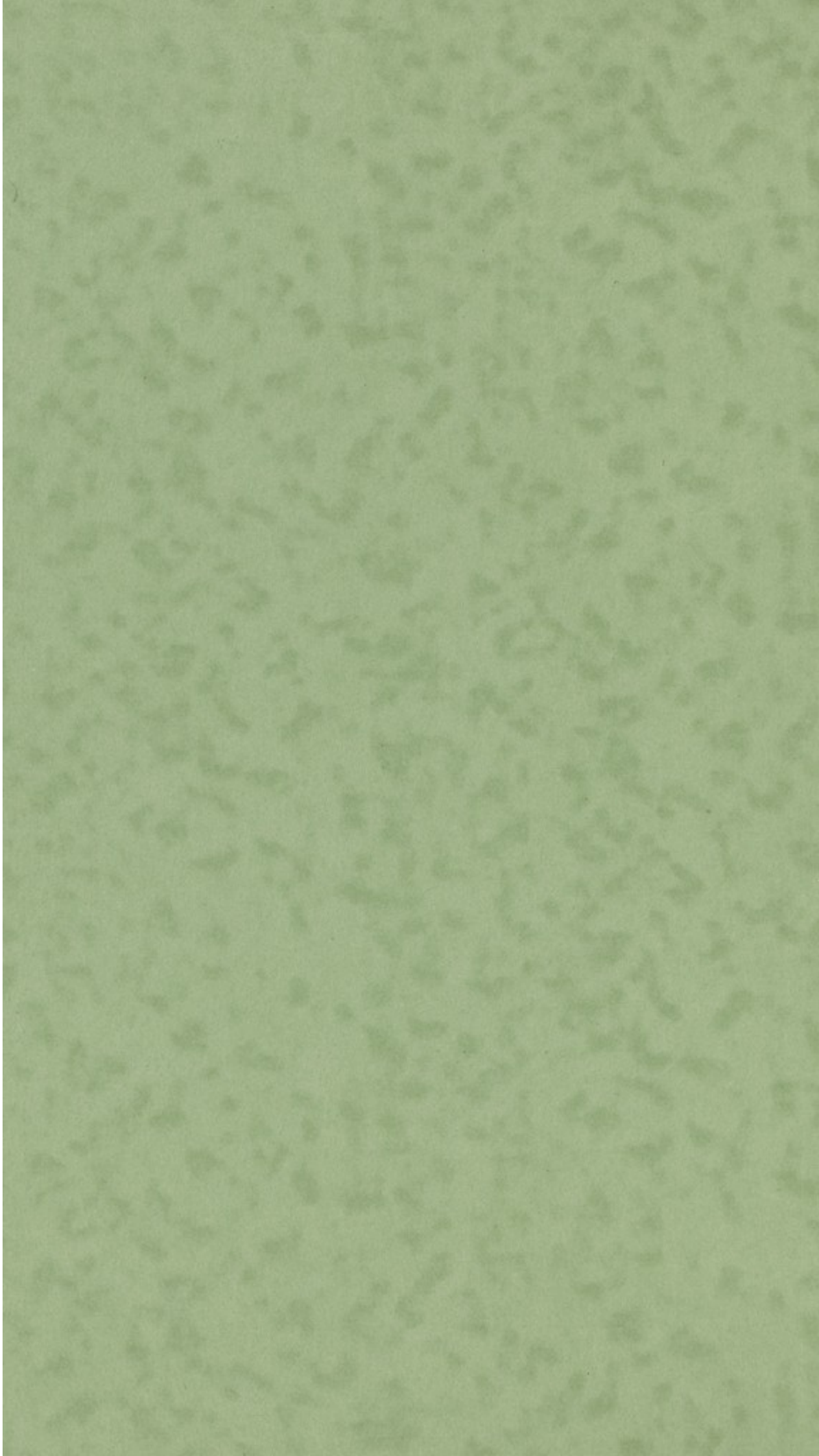
The Report

OF

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

A. D. S. BLACKHALL, A.R.San.I.

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# Members of the Council

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## **Chairman :**

R. J. MACNAUGHTON, J.P.

## **Vice-Chairman :**

G. I. BREW

## **Members :**

E. H. CLARK

T. H. COCHRANE

H. T. A. DASHWOOD, M.A., J.P.

REV. CANON A. R. T. EALES, M.A.

MRS. A. M. R. HOOPER

W. G. TAYLER

J. R. YOUNG

## **Medical Officer of Health :**

CHARLES F. HARDIE, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab.)

## **Sanitary Inspector :**

A. D. S. BLACKHALL, A.R.San.I.

## **Clerk of the Council :**

A. LANCASHIRE

## **Council Offices :**

16 Shenley Road, Boreham Wood, Herts.

# Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Barnet Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1939.

Prior to July 1939, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. A. J. Wilshire) was also Sanitary Inspector but relinquished this latter office upon the appointment of a whole-time Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector. Such an appointment became necessary in view of the rapid development of the district.

The report has been prepared and arranged on the lines indicated by the Minister of Health in Circular 1961. Sections D and E, however, dealing respectively with Housing and Inspection and Supervision of Food, have been omitted from the body of my report and are fully dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Publication of the report could not be proceeded with as early as usual, this year, owing to the fact that the Registrar-General was unable to provide the usual statistics for 1939 until October, 1940.

Much has been accomplished during the year and the improvements effected by the Sanitary Inspector (details of which will be found on page 23) must be regarded as particularly commendable when it is borne in mind that a considerable portion of his time has been devoted to duties as Ambulance Officer and Billeting Officer. Original inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations have been abandoned since the outbreak of war, but other routine work of the department is proceeding as in normal times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES F. HARDIE.



## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

|                                                                                |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Area ... ..                                                                    | 8339 acres |
| Population, 1921 Census ... ..                                                 | 4,513      |
| Population, 1931 Census ... ..                                                 | 6,400      |
| Registrar-General's estimate of                                                |            |
| (a) resident population mid-1939 ... ..                                        | 9,434      |
| (b) average population appropriate to the<br>calculation of death rates ... .. | 9,643      |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) accord-<br>ing to Rate Books... ..    | 2,428      |
| Rateable Value (1st April, 1940) ... ..                                        | £111,959   |
| Estimated product of a penny rate (1st April, 1940)                            | £340       |

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The District comprises the parishes Shenley and Ridge (chiefly farming and residential), and Elstree. In Elstree the principal occupations are industrial, more particularly, the film studios, photographic plate and paper manufacturing, photographic processing and knitting mills. Elstree is, to some extent, residential, particularly on the west side of the L.M.S. Railway line. On the eastern side of the Elstree station, in the Boreham Wood portion of the Parish, considerable development is taking place. The widening of the main Shenley Road (Shopping Centre) has been completed by the County Council. A considerable number of new factories have been erected and occupied, and many more are in course of erection. Various types of industry are represented including manufacturers of Soaps and Perfumes, Children's Toys, Cosmetics, Table Stationery, Electrical Accessories, as well as Light Engineering and Joinery Works.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange, Watford, for the following particulars with respect to unemployment in the Boreham Wood Employment Exchange area.

During the year the average number of unemployed workmen registered was 148. The highest rate of unemployment was in the week ended 2nd January, 1939, a figure of 249, when the hard weather adversely affected outside workers. The lowest figure recorded was during the week ended 17th July, 1939, namely, 73; at this time building and construction works were

at their peak of employment and the moving picture industry was also busy.

A keen and varied demand for labour set in towards the end of 1939. It is likely to continue under present conditions.

## VITAL STATISTICS

|                                                                       |                       | Total | M. | F. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|----|----|
| Live Births                                                           | { Legitimate ... ..   | 129   | 73 | 56 |
|                                                                       | { Illegitimate ... .. | 2     | 1  | 1  |
| Birth Rate: 13.9 per 1,000 estimated<br>resident population mid-1939. |                       |       |    |    |
| Stillbirths                                                           | ... ..                | 8     | 6  | 2  |
| Rate: 57.6 per 1,000 total (live and<br>still) births                 |                       |       |    |    |
| Deaths                                                                | ... ..                | 77    | 38 | 39 |
| Death Rate: 8 per 1,000 estimated<br>average population.              |                       |       |    |    |

The Comparability Factor of 1.13 (furnished by the Registrar-General to correct anomalies in age and sex distribution, compared with the country as a whole) gives a Standardised Death Rate of 9.04. The Death Rates for England and Wales and for the Administrative County of London respectively are given as 12.1 and 11.9 per 1,000 population.

|                                       | Deaths | Rate per 1,000<br>total (live and<br>still) births. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Deaths from puerperal causes:—</i> |        |                                                     |
| Puerperal sepsis ... ..               | —      | —                                                   |
| Other puerperal causes ... ..         | 1      | —                                                   |
| Total ... ..                          | 1      | 7.2                                                 |

### *Death rates of infants under one year of age:—*

|                                                                |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..                       | 30.5  |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..     | 15.5  |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... .. | 1,000 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..                           | 5     |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..                          | —     |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..                   | —     |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..            | —     |



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### 1. Public Health Officers

One part-time Medical Officer of Health.

One whole-time Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector.

#### 2. (a) Laboratory Facilities

Examination of sputum is carried out at the Herts County Council laboratory. Swabs are examined by the Clinical Research Association. No changes have been made in these services since before the outbreak of war.

#### (b) Ambulance Facilities

Cases of infectious diseases are conveyed by the Joint Isolation Hospital Ambulance. Non-infectious cases, prior to the war, were conveyed by the Barnet Ambulance. Since the outbreak of war, however, the Council has purchased two private cars and one van, which have been converted into emergency ambulances for Civil Defence purposes. A staff of nine drivers and nine attendants (working eight-hour shifts), together with a number of part-time volunteers, are engaged on ambulance services, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector (as Ambulance Officer). One of these ambulances is occasionally called into use for street and other accidents, so that the Barnet Ambulance has been relieved, to some extent, of its work in this area. When it has been found necessary to call upon the Barnet Ambulance, the request has been promptly met and arrangements have proved adequate and smooth-working.

#### (c) Nursing in the Home

There are Nursing Associations in Elstree, Boreham Wood, Shenley and Ridge, supplying three whole-time nurses who work under the Herts County Council. There is no special nursing for infectious diseases.

#### (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics :—

##### (i) *Maternity and Child Welfare*

Centre : Baptist Church, Shenley Road, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays  
Boreham Wood at 2 p.m.



Clinic : Fieldways, Wellhouse Lane,  
Barnet

Tuesdays,  
morn. : Ante-Natal.  
aft. : Children.

(ii) *Tuberculosis Dispensary*

Fieldways, Wellhouse Lane, Barnet

1st and 3rd Wednesdays,  
2.30 p.m.

(iii) *Dental Clinic*

First Aid Post (Church Hall), Shenley  
Road, Boreham Wood

Thrice Monthly :  
Second Monday,  
third Tuesday and  
fourth Wednesday

(iv) *Child Guidance Clinic*

H.C.C. Combined Social Services Centre,  
16 Victoria Street, St. Albans

Mondays to Fridays  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturdays, 9 a.m. to  
1 p.m.

(v) *Venereal Diseases*

Special Treatment Clinic,  
Oster House, St. Albans

Females : Tuesdays &  
Thursdays, 10 a.m.  
to 4 p.m.  
Males : Wednesdays &  
Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m.

(e) **Hospitals**

Wellhouse Hospital, Barnet

General hospital containing  
325 beds, including maternity  
beds ; managed by the Public  
Assistance Committee. Has  
facilities for operative surgery,  
X-ray, and massage, and has a  
whole-time pathologist.

Victoria Hospital, Barnet

Voluntary hospital containing  
50 beds.

Bushey and District Hospital,  
Bushey

Local cottage hospital, contain-  
ing 35 beds.

Joint Isolation Hospital,  
Barnet

Infectious diseases are sent to  
this hospital, which contains 54  
beds.

Joint Smallpox Hospital,  
Cheshunt

Tuberculosis Sanatorium,  
Ware

Provided by the Hertfordshire  
County Council.

The hospital accommodation appears to be adequate.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) **Water.** The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. It is supplied by the Colne Valley Water Co., who state that constant care and supervision are exercised, frequent bacteriological examinations are carried out, and all the water supplied to the district is chlorinated.

(ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.** No important extension of sewerage was carried out during the year.

2. **Rivers and Streams.** Cases of minor pollution of brooks have been investigated and dealt with.

3. (i) **Closet Accommodation.** No reliable statistics, regarding the number of types of closets, are available, but, apart from a few pail closets at outlying farms and other premises, all the dwelling-houses in the district are served by water closets. These, with the exception of a few which discharge into cesspools, are connected to the public sewers.

(ii) **Public Cleansing.** House refuse is collected weekly from the whole of the district by the Council's own staff (under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor), and disposed of by controlled tipping on the Meadow Road playing field.

(iii) **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.** The prescribed tabular statement is contained in the Sanitary Inspector's report, which commences on page 17.

(iv) **Shops and Offices.** No action was taken during the year.

(v) **Camping Sites.**

(a) Number of sites in the area which were used during 1939 was one.

(b) No licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season—40.

(vi) **Smoke Abatement.** See page 20 of the Sanitary Inspector's report.

(vii) **Swimming Baths.** There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the area.

(viii) **Eradication of bed bugs.** One Council house was found to be infested, upon a change of occupancy. The work of disinfestation was carried out by Contractors using Cimex blocks. Subsequent visits were paid, but no further infestation was discovered.



4. **Schools.** The sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory. The water is supplied by the Colne Valley Water Co. The schools are visited regularly by the Assistant School Medical Officer, and specially on an outbreak of any infectious disease for the purpose of excluding or examining possible contacts and advising on any necessary measures. All cases of infectious diseases are notified by the head teachers.

Schools were not closed for infectious disease.

The erection of a new senior school (Hertfordshire County Council) was completed during the year, but was not occupied until the beginning of 1940, owing to the outbreak of war.

## SECTION D

### HOUSING

During the months of July and August, inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and several properties were considered to be unfit for habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit. The outbreak of war precluded the possibility of representations being made to the local authority with regard to these dwellings. In certain instances, owners were required informally to carry out certain works of a temporary nature in order that tenants could enjoy reasonable comfort and amenities during the suspension of slum clearance activities.

The question of housing of rural workers was also considered during the year and several properties were inspected with a view to their possible repair and reconstruction. In several instances recommendations would have been made for grants to be sought to facilitate the execution of these works. It was with some reluctance, upon the outbreak of war, that these schemes were shelved.

Details of housing work carried out during the year will be found on pages 25, 26 and 27 of the Sanitary Inspector's report.

During the year, 63 houses were completed by private enterprise.

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **Milk Supply.** See pages 19 and 24 of the Sanitary Inspector's report.

(b) **Slaughterhouses and Food Supplies.** See pages 19 and 25 of the Sanitary Inspector's report.



## SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 8 cases of Scarlet Fever. The disease was of a mild type, and there were no deaths. Seven of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, Barnet. The other patient was effectually isolated at home.

There were no cases of Diphtheria. Diphtheria anti-toxin is immediately available if required.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

Disinfection of infected premises is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

## Incidence of notifiable diseases during the year

| Disease                  | Total notified | Total cases admitted to Hospital | Total deaths |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Smallpox ... ..          | —              | —                                | —            |
| Scarlet Fever ... ..     | 8              | 7                                | —            |
| Diphtheria ... ..        | —              | —                                | —            |
| Enteric Fever ... ..     | —              | —                                | —            |
| Puerperal Fever ... ..   | —              | —                                | —            |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... ..  | —              | —                                | —            |
| Pneumonia... ..          | 3              | —                                | 5            |
| Erysipelas ... ..        | 4              | —                                | —            |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum... | 1              | —                                | —            |
| Measles ... ..           | 1              | —                                | —            |
| Malaria ... ..           | 1              | —                                | —            |

## Age-Group

|                | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 20-25 | 25-35 | 35-45 | 45-65 |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever  | 1   |     | 4    | 3     |       |       |       |       |
| Pneumonia ...  |     | 1   | 1    |       |       | 1     |       |       |
| Erysipelas ... |     |     |      |       |       |       | 1     | 3     |
| Measles ...    |     |     |      |       |       | 1     |       |       |
| Malaria ...    |     |     |      |       | 1     |       |       |       |

**Tuberculosis**—*New cases and mortality during 1939.*

| Age Periods    | New Cases. |    |                   |    | Deaths.   |    |                   |    |
|----------------|------------|----|-------------------|----|-----------|----|-------------------|----|
|                | Pulmonary  |    | Non.<br>Pulmonary |    | Pulmonary |    | Non.<br>Pulmonary |    |
|                | M.         | F. | M.                | F. | M.        | F. | M.                | F. |
| Under one ...  |            |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 1- 5 ...       | 1          |    | 2                 | 1  |           |    |                   |    |
| 5-10 ...       |            |    |                   | 1  |           |    |                   |    |
| 10-15 ...      |            |    | 1                 | 1  |           |    |                   |    |
| 15-20 ...      |            |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 20-25 ...      | 1          |    |                   | 1  |           |    |                   |    |
| 25-35 ...      |            | 3  |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 35-45 ...      | 2          |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 45-55 ...      | 1          |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 55-65 ...      |            |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| 65 and upwards |            |    |                   |    |           |    |                   |    |
| TOTALS ...     | 5          | 3  | 3                 | 4  | 1         | —  | 2                 | 2  |





Annual Report  
OF THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR





*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Barnet Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I trust that I shall not be censured in your minds when I say that it is not without some pride that I submit my first annual report, containing particulars of the work carried out during the year ended the thirty-first day of December, 1939. Carlyle has said that the only happiness a brave man ever troubled himself with asking much about was happiness enough to get his work done. It has been my exceeding good fortune, since entering your service, to find colleagues who are anxious to render assistance and advice and a Council unreluctant to afford me every encouragement. I too have gleaned some of the happiness which is his who can get his work done, but I should be churlish indeed if I did not acknowledge that this has been made possible by your support and by the co-operation of my colleagues.

The work of the public health department is of such a nature that it is seldom possible for immediate tangible results to be shown, but none the less vital seeds are being sown which will yield abundant harvest in course of time.

I commend my report to your indulgent perusal and have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. S. BLACKHALL.

## **Inspections**

The total number of inspections and visits for all purposes amounted to eight hundred and sixteen. Details and classification of these inspections will be found on page 21.

## **Notices Served**

112 Intimation Notices were served during the year and owners and their representatives were written and interviewed. The Council authorised the service of 14 Statutory Notices upon the failure of informal action, but it was found necessary to serve only 9 of these notices. At the end of the year, a total of 31 notices was outstanding, and in a large number of instances work had been commenced or instructions given for compliance. This position must be regarded as highly satisfactory. In no case was it necessary to institute legal proceedings or to carry out work in default. Details of all notices served during the year are given on page 22.

## **Improvements Effectuated**

A tabulated statement of improvements carried out in pursuance of inspections made and notices served is given on page 23.

## **Overcrowding**

I am satisfied that there are, in normal times, very few cases of serious overcrowding within the district. All complaints received in this connection were fully investigated and routine inspections were made in certain districts for the detection of cases of overcrowding. Council houses were included in these surveys, and only 5 cases of overcrowding—within the meaning of the Housing Act, 1936—were detected. One of these cases was a Council house. In one case, where it was suspected that the occupier had given false information, the authority of the Council was sought and a Statutory Notice served pursuant to the provisions of Section 66 of the Housing Act, 1936. Since the outbreak of war, the large influx of population to the district has possibly resulted in a few isolated cases of overcrowding. One such case, brought about by what may be termed “un-official billeting,” was found and remedied.



## Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders

|                                            |     |     |    |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Number of accredited milk producers        | ... | ... | 10 |
| Number of tuberculin tested milk producers | ... |     | 1  |
| Number of other producers                  | ... | ... | 11 |
| Number of retail purveyors                 | ... | ... | 15 |

148 inspections were made during the year, of cowsheds and dairies. Five samples were taken from purveyors within the district, the results of which are enumerated on page 24.

## Slaughterhouses and Food Supplies.

There are three slaughterhouses within the district, all of which are subject to annual licence. One of these slaughterhouses is that used in connection with the Middlesex County Hospital at Shenley. The animals killed and dressed at the other slaughterhouses were regularly inspected, and the table on page 25 gives details of the carcasses examined and parts condemned. The meat sold in the district was found to be of a high standard of quality. The owners voluntarily surrendered diseased or unsound meat when their attention was called to its condition. Visits to slaughterhouses, during the year, numbered 126. Other premises where food is sold were also visited and the food exposed for sale inspected. Five premises are registered in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation, etc., of food. Four of these are sausage preparers and one is a fish-frying establishment. These premises were visited on several occasions and found to comply with the requirements of the Act. There are 4 bakehouses on the register and on inspection these were found to maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

## Factories

The Annual Report of the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 is shown on page 28. There has been intense industrial development during the year and the work of revising the register of factories and of making inspections to ensure that



the relevant sections of the Act are not being contravened is in progress. This is one branch of the Sanitary Inspector's work which has been sacrificed at the altar of civil defence. Progress is being made, however, and it is contemplated with some confidence that future reports will make demonstrable atonement.

### **Offensive Trades**

Byelaws with respect to fish frying and offensive trades were adopted by the Council on the 21st October, 1939, and confirmed by the Minister of Health on the 13th December, 1939. The byelaws come into force on the 1st February, 1940.

### **Smoke Abatement**

Although no action was taken during the year, it cannot be claimed that the district is without offenders. On the contrary, a flagrant contravention attracted my attention at the close of the year and early in 1940 letters were written and the responsible engineer was interviewed in an attempt to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance. This report is not concerned, however, with the result of such action, and the 1940 report will discuss its outcome more fully.

### **Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919**

One complaint was received with regard to rat infestation, and upon investigation it proved to be well-founded. The County Rats Officer, with whom the closest co-operation is maintained, was notified and ultimately the matter was left in his hands. I welcome this opportunity of placing on record my indebtedness to the County Rats Officer for the advice and assistance which that Officer, when consulted, courteously proffered.

### **Civil Defence**

Since the outbreak of war, much of the Sanitary Inspector's time has been taken up with war time duties as Ambulance Officer and Billeting Officer. He has also been nominated by the Council to deal with the treatment and disposal of foodstuffs contaminated by gas. As a consequence the amount of time which he can devote to public health matters has been considerably curtailed.

**PARTICULARS**  
**OF**  
**INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR**

|                                                                           |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Housing inspections ... ..                                                | 43  |
| Housing re-inspections ... ..                                             | 35  |
| Public Health Act inspections ... ..                                      | 25  |
| Public Health Act re-inspections ... ..                                   | 50  |
| Visits re overcrowding, including computation of permitted numbers ... .. | 135 |
| Visits in respect of :—                                                   |     |
| Infectious diseases ... ..                                                | 17  |
| Verminous premises ... ..                                                 | 19  |
| Accumulations ... ..                                                      | 26  |
| Animals ... ..                                                            | 2   |
| Dirty houses ... ..                                                       | 5   |
| Drainage ... ..                                                           | 113 |
| Factories ... ..                                                          | 4   |
| Outworkers ... ..                                                         | 1   |
| Water supply ... ..                                                       | 4   |
| Cowsheds ... ..                                                           | 86  |
| Dairies and milk shops ... ..                                             | 65  |
| Food preparers ... ..                                                     | 12  |
| Meat shops ... ..                                                         | 12  |
| Slaughterhouses ... ..                                                    | 126 |
| Stables and piggeries ... ..                                              | 2   |
| Ice-cream dealers and manufacturers ... ..                                | 8   |
| Milk Samples ... ..                                                       | 5   |
| Other inspections ... ..                                                  | 21  |
| TOTAL                                                                     |     |
|                                                                           | 816 |



## DETAILS OF INTIMATION AND STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

### Intimation Notices

| Nature of Defects                                                                                                   | No. of<br>Notices<br>served |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| General housing defects including leaking roofs, dampness,<br>defective plaster, floors, window-frames, etc. ... .. | 23                          |
| Houses not reasonably fit (inspections under Housing<br>Consolidated Regulations) ... ..                            | 13                          |
| Absence of necessary information in rent books. (Sections<br>4 and 62 of the Housing Act, 1936.) ... ..             | 14                          |
| Overcrowding ... ..                                                                                                 | 7                           |
| Drainage ... ..                                                                                                     | 14                          |
| Defective w.c. connections ... ..                                                                                   | 1                           |
| Insufficient closet accommodation ... ..                                                                            | 2                           |
| Choked water courses ... ..                                                                                         | 16                          |
| Dirty and insanitary houses... ..                                                                                   | 1                           |
| Insufficient water supply ... ..                                                                                    | 1                           |
| Offensive accumulations ... ..                                                                                      | 8                           |
| Improper keeping of animals ... ..                                                                                  | 1                           |
| Dairies and cowsheds... ..                                                                                          | 8                           |
| Factories ... ..                                                                                                    | 3                           |
| TOTAL                                                                                                               | 112                         |

### Statutory Notices

| Nature of Defects        | Statute                                                  | No. of<br>Notices<br>served | No. of<br>Houses<br>affected |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Overcrowding ... ..      | Section 66 Housing Act,<br>1936 ... ..                   | 1                           | 1                            |
| Cowsheds and dairies ... | Milk & Dairies Order,<br>1926 ... ..                     | 1                           | —                            |
| General Housing Defects  | Section 9 Housing Act,<br>1936 ... ..                    | 3                           | 2                            |
| Choked Watercourse ...   | Sections 93 and 259<br>Public Health Act,<br>1936 ... .. | 4                           | 4                            |
| TOTALS ... ..            |                                                          | 9                           | 7                            |



# IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT IN PURSUANCE OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND NOTICES SERVED.

|                                                             | No. of<br>Houses |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Repairs to plastering and woodwork ... ..                   | 4                |
| Window frames repaired and sash cords renewed...            | 3                |
| Leaking roofs repaired ... ..                               | 7                |
| Guttering repaired, cleansed and renewed ... ..             | 2                |
| External brickwork repointed ... ..                         | 3                |
| Chimneys repaired and repointed ... ..                      | 1                |
| Dirty rooms redecorated ... ..                              | 6                |
| Dampness remedied ... ..                                    | 3                |
| Accommodation provided for the storage of food...           | 1                |
| Glazed sinks provided in lieu of insanitary stone sinks ... | 1                |
| Drains cleared and drainage systems repaired ... ..         | 14               |
| W.C. connections repaired ... ..                            | 2                |
| Ashbins provided ... ..                                     | 4                |
| Water courses cleansed ... ..                               | 3                |
| Accumulations removed ... ..                                | 4                |
| Nuisance from the keeping of animals abated ... ..          | 1                |
| Overcrowding abated... ..                                   | 3                |
| Cowsheds and dairies limewashed ... ..                      | 3                |
| Dairy accommodation provided or improved ... ..             | 2                |
| Cowshed approaches cleansed ... ..                          | 1                |
| Cowsheds provided with additional lighting ... ..           | 1                |
| Cowsheds provided with additional ventilation ... ..        | 1                |
| Cowshed floors repaired ... ..                              | 2                |
| Rooms disinfected ... ..                                    | 12               |
| Verminous houses disinfested ... ..                         | 1                |

### DETAILS OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN.

| No. | Designation       | Result of bacteriological examination |                                | Action                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|     |                   | methylene blue test                   | Coliform bacillus in 1/100 ml. |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1   | Tuberculin tested | Satisfactory                          | Present in 3 tubes             | Letters written to retailer and producer. Dairy and farm visited                                                                                                              |
| 2   | Accredited        | Unsatisfactory                        | Present in 3 tubes             | Produced within the district. Farm visited and second sample taken (No. 4). Letter to producer                                                                                |
| 3   | Ordinary milk     | Not examined                          | Present in 1 tube              | Bacterial count 50,000                                                                                                                                                        |
| 4   | Accredited        | Satisfactory                          | Present in 3 tubes             | Letter to and interview with producer. Notice served requiring lime-washing of dairy and cleansing of approaches to cowsheds. Suggestions made for improving standard of milk |
| 5   | Accredited        | Satisfactory                          | Absent                         | Bacterial count 3,000. Producer (local) complimented on excellent quality of milk                                                                                             |

All of these samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspector from milkshops and purveyors. Samples were also taken at the accredited farms within the district by the County Veterinary Officer. In nine cases the County Medical Officer drew the attention of the Medical Officer of Health to instances where samples taken by the County were below standard and in these cases the Sanitary Inspector visited the respective farms, interviewed the producers and made suggestions, where it was deemed necessary, for improving the quality of the milk. In all cases, subsequent samples were found to comply with the standard imposed by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.



## ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED AND PARTICULARS OF CONDEMNATIONS.

(The number of animals killed includes those slaughtered at the Shenleybury Farm for the inmates of the Shenley Hospital. These carcasses are not normally inspected, except by the Hospital Authorities, as they are not intended for sale.)

|                                                                                          | Cattle<br>ex.<br>Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Number killed (estimated) ...                                                            | 71                    | 113  | 47     | 246                   | 449  |
| Number inspected ...                                                                     | 69                    | 11   | 33     | 246                   | 248  |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>                                                  |                       |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...                                                            |                       |      |        |                       |      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...                                  |                       | 1    |        |                       | 2    |
| Percentage (of the number inspected) affected with disease (other than tuberculosis) ... |                       | 9.1% |        |                       | 0.8% |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>                                                                 |                       |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...                                                            |                       | 1    |        |                       |      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...                                  | 2                     | 4    |        |                       |      |
| Percentage (of the number inspected) affected with tuberculosis ...                      | 2.9%                  | 45%  |        |                       |      |

## HOUSING

### I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses During the Year

- |     |     |                                                                                                                                                      |     |
|-----|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...                                              | 68  |
|     | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose                                                                                                           | 153 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... | 43  |



|                                                                                                                                                                        |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose                                                                                                                         | 78 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..                                    | 14 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... .. | 17 |

## II. Remedy of Defects During the Year without Service of Formal Notices

|                                                                                                                                    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... .. | 13 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

## III. Action under Statutory Powers During the Year

### A. *Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936*

|                                                                                                |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. | 2    |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—       |      |
| (a) By owners ... ..                                                                           | None |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners ...                                                | None |

### B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts*

|                                                                                                               |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | None |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—                |      |
| (a) By owners ... ..                                                                                          | None |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners ...                                                               | None |

C. *Proceedings under sections 11 and 13  
of the Housing Act, 1936*

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which  
Demolition Orders were made ... .. None
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pur-  
suance of Demolition Orders ... .. None

D. *Proceedings under section 12  
of the Housing Act, 1936*

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground  
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were  
made... .. None
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground  
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were  
determined, the tenement or room having being  
rendered fit ... .. None

IV. **Housing Act, 1936—**

**Part IV—Overcrowding**

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the  
end of the year ... .. } No  
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein } record  
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein }
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported  
during the year. ... .. 5
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved  
during the year ... .. \*3
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 24

\* By informal action.



## ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health (Including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector)

| Particulars                            | Number of   |                 |              |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                                        | Inspections | Written Notices | Prosecutions |
| Factories with mechanical power ...    | 4           | 3               | —            |
| Factories without mechanical power ... | —           | —               | —            |
| Other premises ... ..                  | —           | —               | —            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> ... ..                    | <b>4</b>    | <b>3</b>        | <b>—</b>     |

### 2. Defects Found

| Particulars                           | Number of Defects |          |                            | Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       | Found             | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector |                                                                     |
| Want of Cleanliness ...               | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Overcrowding ... ..                   | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Unreasonable temperature              | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Inadequate ventilation                | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Ineffective drainage of floors ... .. | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Sanitary Conveniences :               |                   |          |                            |                                                                     |
| Insufficient ... ..                   | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Unsuitable or defective               | 1                 | 1        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Not separate for sexes                | —                 | —        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| Other offences ... ..                 | 2                 | 2        | —                          | —                                                                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b> ... ..                   | <b>3</b>          | <b>3</b> | <b>—</b>                   | <b>—</b>                                                            |



