

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Barnet Urban District Council].

Contributors

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URBAN DISTRICT OF BARNET
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
A C T I N G M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
to the
B A R N E T U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
by
ARTHUR L. HYATT, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.

-----ooOoo-----

Together with the
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
C H I E F S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R
by
JOHN B. WILSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

-----ooOoo-----

1954.



STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

1912

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this _____ day of _____, 1912.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____

Notary Public

My commission expires _____

WITNESSED my hand and seal of office this _____ day of _____, 1912.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____

[Faint signature or stamp]

BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Public Health Department,
31 Wood Street,
Barnet.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Barnet Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1954.

It is drawn up in accordance with the directions of the Ministry of Health Circular 28/54 of the 15th December, 1954.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	4,290
Population (1951 Census)	25,019
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid 1954	25,330
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,665
Rateable Value	£280,685
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,160

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population is largely residential, and consists chiefly of people whose occupation lies outside the urban area. Those employed in the district, apart from the tradesmen and their employees, are mainly skilled workers at dental manufacturing, lithographic, printing and optical works.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births (Legitimate)	342	167	175
(Illegitimate)	16	4	12

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population (standardised): 14.28

	Total.	M.	F.
Still Births (Legitimate)	6	4	2
(Illegitimate)	Nil	Nil	Nil

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births: 16.48

Deaths	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
	240	109	131

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population (standardised): 9.00

Deaths from Puerperal causes	<u>Total.</u>
	2

Death Rate from Puerperal causes per 1,000 total (live and still) Births: 5.49

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:-

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	2	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live Births: 25.14

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age:-

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	2	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under four weeks of age per 1,000 live Births: 19.55

The figures of two deaths from puerperal causes (one of which is stated to have occurred over twelve months after the maternal condition) are provided by the Registrar General in his annual figures, but I have been unable to trace these in the death returns whether notified within the district or outside. These are the first recorded deaths from puerperal causes for this district since 1944.

Too much importance should not be paid to the rates where the actual number of cases is small, e.g. - below 10, as such rates are of little statistical significance. Thus, if an attempt is made to compare this area with other districts, or with previous years, it would be better to compare actual cases.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

The Council are not the appropriate Local Authority for the purpose of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and do not therefore control any of the Hospitals or ancillary services in the district.

Within this district, and under the control of the Barnet Group Hospital Management Committee, are the following:-

Barnet General Hospital, Wellhouse Lane, Barnet.	478 Beds.
St. Stephen's Hospital, Mays Lane, Barnet.	88 Beds.
(Female medical, Ear, Nose and Throat, and male long-stay cases)	
Victoria Maternity Hospital, Wood Street, Barnet.	48 Beds.
"Elm Bank", Arkley. (Female long-stay cases)	27 Beds.

The following is a list of Clinics etc. available in the district.

Tuberculosis Clinics are held daily, by appointment, at Barnet Chest Clinic, Wellhouse Lane, Barnet.

At Vale Drive the following Clinics are held during the school term.

A Clinic for Schoolchildren on the second and fourth Monday morning in each month, and a Clinic for Remedial Exercises every Monday afternoon. A Speech Therapy Clinic is held on Wednesdays and Fridays, Child Guidance Clinics on Thursdays, and an Eye Clinic on Wednesdays. An Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon all the year round and also on the first and third Fridays in each month. For the convenience of residents at Totteridge there is an Infant Welfare Clinic at "Dollisfield" every Friday afternoon. Dental Clinics are held daily at Vale Drive.

The Family Planning Association hold sessions at Vale Drive each Wednesday between 6 and 7.30 p.m.

These Clinics are subject to alteration and it is advisable to enquire of the Vale Drive Clinic (BAR: 6194) for the current days and times.

Home Help Service.

The local office of the Herts County Council Home Help Service at 25 East Barnet Road, New Barnet, is open daily from 9 - 1, Monday to Friday inclusive.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Ø x Arthur L. Hyatt, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

+ Ø John Baillie Wilson, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

Ø Howard W.C. Alloway, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

+ Ø David W.E. Jessett, M.S.I.A. (Appointed 5th July, 1954)

One Clerk-Typist.

One Rodent Operative.

+ Holds the special qualification as Inspector of Meat and other Foods under examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Ø Salary Contribution of one half from Exchequer Grants.

x Part-time Officer.

WATER SUPPLY.

The major area of the district is supplied with water from the mains of the Barnet District Water Company, and the remainder is served by the Colne Valley Water Company.

All water supplied by the Barnet District Water Company is chlorinated. A pathological staff is maintained and the water is regularly tested at all stages. During the year, a total of 1,732 bacteriological and 240 chemical examinations of the water were made by the Company's own staff. 1,470 of these samples were representative of the supply and 99.6% were found to be free from B. Coli.

The Colne Valley Water Company exercises constant supervision, and members of the staff are on duty day and night throughout the year examining samples. All the water supplied by this Company is chlorinated. The water supply is satisfactory both from the Chemical and Bacteriological aspects.

Six samples of water were taken by the Department, four from Barnet District Water Company's supply and two from the Colne Valley Water Company's supply, and submitted for analysis with satisfactory results, coliform organisms being absent in 100 millilitres in each case.

The water supply to the whole district is considered adequate, and all houses are supplied by these companies mains, with the exception of one house which is still using water from a well in the front garden, from where it is pumped up to a store tank in the roof space.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The town is drained and sewered on the separate system, excepting the older portions of the district where it is a combined system. The sewage is conveyed to a Sewage Disposal works of 56 acres, where it is screened, grit removed in detritus tanks, thence to primary settlement tanks and thereafter distributed over three 80 ft. diameter bacteria filters, followed by humus removal in rectangular tanks before discharge to the Dollis Brook. Pumping is necessary for three sewers which have their outlets at a low point on the works. Part of the Totteridge area drains to the Finchley Borough sewers; in the outlying areas some properties are on cesspool drainage or domestic sewage disposal plants, and a few only have pail closets.

SANITARY CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY OF SCHOOLS.

There are in the district fourteen schools administered by the South Herts Divisional Education Committee, viz:- Queen Elizabeth's Boys and Girls Grammar Schools; Ravenscroft Secondary Modern School; Foulds School (Junior Mixed and Infants); Christ Church School for Infants; Christ Church School for Girls; Christ Church School for Junior Boys; The Elizabeth Allen Secondary Modern School; Grasvenor Infants School; Underhill School (Junior Mixed and Infants); St. Catherine's Roman Catholic School and Whittings Hill School (Junior Mixed and Infants).

The South Herts College of Further Education, Wood Street, Barnet, is available for Girls and Boys between the ages of 15 and 18.

All schools in the district are supplied with mains water and are connected to the Council's main drainage system.

DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The house refuse is collected weekly in covered mechanical conveyances and taken to the Council's Sewage Farm, where it is loaded into Contractor's covered lorries and disposed of daily by controlled tipping outside the district.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the number of Notifications to the Sanitary Authority during the year, of each disease specified in the Public Health Act, 1936, and the various Infectious Disease Regulations, and the number of cases removed to Hospital.

DISEASE	NOTIFIED	REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
Scarlet Fever	16	3
Whooping Cough	47	10
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Nil	Nil
Measles	107	3
Acute Pneumonia	6	3
Meningococcal Infection	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Nil	Nil
" " (Non-Paralytic)	2	2
Acute Encephalitis	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	9	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	41	41
Smallpox	Nil	Nil
Malaria	Nil	Nil
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1
Enteric Fever	1	1
Food Poisoning	9	7
Erysipelas	4	2
Tuberculosis	22	20
TOTALS	266	101

The foregoing figures shew a welcome overall reduction as compared with last year, particularly in respect of measles and whooping cough.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED												
	YEARS OF AGE												
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	Total.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	2	1	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	16
Whooping Cough	7	4	7	6	8	13	-	1	1	-	-	-	47
Measles	1	5	13	11	12	64	-	1	-	-	-	-	107
Acute Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	-	6
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	2	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	22	-	-	-	41
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	3	1	-	-	9
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4
TOTALS	11	10	22	21	22	91	5	27	29	5	1	-	244

Of the foregoing, the following cases normally resident outside the district were notified from the Barnet General Hospital and the Victoria Maternity Hospital:-

Whooping Cough 1; Acute Pneumonia 3; Meningococcal Infection 1; Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) 1; Dysentery 6; Puerperal Pyrexia 36; Enteric Fever 1; Food Poisoning 6; Erysipelas 1.

The cases of Tuberculosis removed for treatment are usually sent to Clare Hall Sanatorium, South Mimms, other patients with an infectious disease being sent to Coppett's Wood Hospital, Muswell Hill, N.10.

The Case Rates, of certain diseases, excluding those cases not normally resident in the district, per 1,000 of the population are as follows:-

Scarlet Fever 0.63; Whooping Cough 1.82, Measles 4.22; Acute Pneumonia 0.12; Food Poisoning 0.12; Erysipelas 0.12.

As mentioned earlier in this report, where the number of cases is less than, say, 10, case rates are of little statistical value for comparison purposes.

VACCINATION.

No primary or revaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES.

At the end of 1952 a new form was introduced for International Vaccination Certificates requiring authentication of the signature of the doctor performing vaccination or inoculation of persons proceeding overseas. During this year 677 such certificates were authenticated and marked with the internationally agreed stamp.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954.

YEARS OF AGE	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
25	2	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
35	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	10	6	3	3	3	3	-	-

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, which came into operation in May 1952, rescinded an earlier Regulation which required the local

Medical Officer of Health to keep a register of all Tuberculous patients, shewing the movements of local cases. Notification of the disease is still required, and as suggested by the Minister of Health the local register is being maintained as the information contained therein may be useful for local purposes.

The total number of persons entered on the Register at the end of the year was 227, as compared with 215 at the beginning of the year. The difference is accounted for by new cases, deaths, and transfers in and out of the district.

There were no cases of wilful neglect or of refusal to notify Tuberculosis in any form.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

It has not been found necessary to take any action under the above Regulations, relating to Tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172, COMPULSORY REMOVAL TO HOSPITAL OF CASES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was necessary under the above Section.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, - SECTION 47.
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951 - SECTION 1.

During the year there was a considerable increase in the amount of work in connection with the aged and infirm, some seven persons receiving our attention.

Two were the subject of Emergency Removal Orders under the Amendment Act and Continuation Orders through the Court under the main Act. One, an aged lady, remains at Western House, Ware, where she is quite happy, the other, a man, was discharged from Hospital after improvement in his state of health and alterations of the domestic circumstances. Three further cases were removed voluntarily to suitable Homes.

One very independent old gentleman living on his own did not wish to go away from his home and after much persuasion he permitted his relations to clean up the house and give him the necessary attention.

The last case was not one strictly for action under these Acts and

eventually the case was removed to hospital for medical attention.

MORTAL STATISTICS.

Of 240 deaths, 16 occurred under one year of age.

The following were the major causes of death:- Heart Disease 80; Cancer 43; (23 males and 20 females); Vascular Lesions of nervous system 29; Bronchitis 18; Pneumonia (all forms) 5; Tuberculosis 6; Motor vehicle accidents 3; Other accidents 4.

MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION.

Under arrangements made with the East Barnet Urban District Council their mortuary is available for the use of this district, and it was so used on twenty occasions during the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR L. HYATT,
M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS, 1925, - ARTICLE 31.
HOUSING ACTS, 1936 AND 1949.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1953.
HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

- (1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation: 7
- (2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. Nil
- (3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to:-
- (a) the service of notices requiring the execution of works. . . . Nil
- (b) the making of demolition or closing orders 6
- (4) The number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works Nil
- (5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-
- (a) by owners Nil
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (6) (a) The number of demolition orders made. 2
- (b) The number of houses demolished 18
- (c) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking under sub-section 3 was accepted 2
- (d) The number of houses in respect of which a demolition order has been determined. Nil
- (7) (a) The number of closing orders made 2
- (b) The number of closing orders determined by Local Authority. . Nil

BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Public Health Department,
31 Wood Street,
Barnet.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Barnet Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1954.

With the passing of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, in August, and the resumption of slum clearance work, the department turns to a Housing Survey for report to the Ministry before August 1955.

The preliminary survey has been started and will be completed on time. With the Act coming into operation late in the year there had not been any appreciable demand for Certificates of Disrepair, although there have been many enquiries from owners and tenants as to their rights and responsibilities under the Act.

The 1951 Census final figures were published and the Council made application for the further powers under the Food and Drugs Acts, but the Ministry of Health enquiry was not held before the end of the year. With the publication of the Census figures the Council became the responsible authority for all duties under the Shops Acts.

The benefit of the services of the new additional sanitary inspector, who quickly settled down, were felt in allowing us, without serious reduction of existing routine work, to start the Housing Survey and to spread the additional work of meat inspection at the private slaughterhouse which opened in July and involved evening and weekend duties.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

General inspections of the district have been carried out periodically and all complaints investigated.

The process of serving a preliminary or intimation notice upon the person

in default, specifying the works necessary to remedy the defects found, is usually followed. It was found necessary to ask your authority to serve fifty-nine Statutory Notices, where persons failed to comply with the preliminary notice, or the strict legal procedure was necessary in the first instance.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

The following is a list of the number and nature of visits and inspections:-

Visits re: Housing Acts	324
Visits re: nuisance and sanitary defects.	1187
Visits re: infectious diseases.	129
Visits re: Petroleum Acts	226
Visits re: factories.	62
Visits re: outworkers' premises	25
Visits re: food manufactories, cafes etc.	378
Visits re: ice cream and sampling	230
Visits re: overcrowding	24
Visits re: aged and infirm persons.	80
Visits to inspect meat and other foods	574
Visits re: schools.	9
Visits re: pollution of watercourses.	159
Visits re: Tents, Caravans and Sheds.	99
Visits re: Shops Acts	53
Visits re: keeping of animals	55
Visits re: Rodent Infestations.	2293
Visits re: other infestations	118
Miscellaneous visits.	181

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING YEAR.

Number of Informal Notices.	158
Number of Statutory Notices	59
Informal Notices complied with.	135
Statutory Notices complied with	36

SANITARY WORK AND REPAIRS.

The following is a list of repairs effected as a result of informal and formal notices served:-

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof.	32
Gutters, downspouts repaired or renewed	23
Exterior brickwork repaired or repointed.	11
Walls, dampness remedied.	30
Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed	7
Yard surfaces repaired or repaved	1
Ceilings repaired or renewed.	32
Wall plaster repaired or renewed.	26
Walls and ceilings cleansed and decorated	39
Floors repaired or renewed.	16
Sub-floor ventilation rectified	3

Doors and frames repaired or renewed	12
Windows repaired	27
Stair treads and balusters repaired.	14
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	4
Drains cleared	23
Drains repaired or reconstructed	24
Inspection chambers repaired or reconstructed.	14
Soil or vent pipes repaired or renewed	6
Gullies, channels and fenders repaired or renewed.	7
Water Closet pans, fittings, repaired or renewed	28
Sinks, waste pipes, etc., repaired or renewed.	18
Storage cisterns, cleaned, repaired or renewed	6
Water services, repaired, renewed or re-instated	5
Dustbins renewed	11
Refuse accumulations removed	11
Animals and fowls: nuisance from improper keeping	12

HOUSING.

Eighteen houses were demolished by the owners during the year. Fifteen houses formed one terrace and as these houses have become vacant, over several years now, they have remained closed. The other three houses were demolished consequent upon Demolition Orders made in the previous year. Two Demolition Orders were made but not carried out during the year; two Closing Orders were made, demolition being impracticable for the time being.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, permitted owners to increase standard rents of houses subject to conditions. In the event of dispute over certain matters, the tenant may apply to the Council for a Certificate of Disrepair which, if issued, enables the tenant to withhold the rent increase. Many enquiries were made both by landlords and tenants, but only three applications were made for Certificates and these could not be reported upon to the Council before the end of the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. INFECTIOUS DISEASE, INVESTIGATION AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations have been carried out of the more important cases of infectious disease listed in the Medical Officer of Health's Report, and twenty-two premises were disinfected.

Where necessary, bedding is taken for disinfection to the Barnet General Hospital under arrangements made with the Barnet Group Hospital Management Committee.

One hundred and twenty-two library books were disinfected before return to libraries.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

The process of taking informal action whenever possible still prevails, and every opportunity is taken to discuss with management and staff all matters concerning food hygiene.

Our high hopes of being able to require a more positive and higher standard of food hygiene in food premises under impending legislation have not materialised, owing to opposition from various quarters in the standards to be set by the Bill which has not yet become law.

However the number of visits to this class of premises shows an increase and the amount of repair and maintenance works carried out is summarised below.

Ceilings renewed or repaired	2
Wall plaster renewed or repaired	2
Walls and ceilings cleansed.	15
Floors repaired.	1
Windows repaired	3
Yard and Gully cleansed.	1
Dustbins renewed	3
Hot water supplies provided.	6
Handbasins provided.	5
Soap and towels provided	4
Accumulations removed	2

FOOD POISONING.Annual Return of Food Poisoning Notifications.Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to Registrar General.

1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.	Deaths.
Nil.	Nil.	1	8	9	Nil.

Outbreaks Due to Identified Agents.

Total Outbreaks. 1 Total cases. 5

Outbreaks of undiscovered cause.

Total Outbreaks. Nil Total cases. Nil

Single cases. 4

Agent Identified 3 Unknown Cause 1 Total 4

There is an increase in the number of food poisoning cases, mainly due to a minor outbreak of five cases in a local hospital. Extensive enquiries were made by the hospital staff and this department without any positive results. The cases occurred in different wards and so far as could be

ascertained there was no connecting link between them individually or collectively with the kitchen, although this latter is the more likely means of transmission.

ICE CREAM.

Two hundred and three samples of ice cream were taken during the year with the following results:-

Manufacturer.	Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.	Total.
A	65	8	1	-	74
B	69	7	-	-	76
C	-	1	-	-	1
F	26	4	-	-	30
G	4	1	-	2	7
N	-	-	1	-	1
O	14	-	-	-	14
Total	178	21	2	2	203

All samples of ice cream are taken to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale for testing by the Methylene Blue Test.

During the year new premises were constructed in the district for the manufacture of ice cream. This factory was registered and went into production towards the end of the year and all samples taken (14) were in Grade 1.

There is a further reduction in the number of samples falling into Grades 3 and 4 despite an overall increase in the number of samples taken. The unsatisfactory samples represent 2% of the total, compared with 10% in 1953.

There are now 42 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, including 5 new registrations effected during 1954.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The control of the production of milk is now vested in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The local authority is responsible for the inspection and registration of milk distributors and other dairy premises not directly concerned with the actual production of milk, and for licensing for the sale of Designated Milks.

This district is within the London area which was designated, as from 1st October, 1951, a "Specified Area" under an Order made by the Minister of Food. This Order is enforced by the Hertfordshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority for the area. Briefly, the Order prohibits the retail sale of any raw ungraded milk in a specified area: only milk from tested herds or heat treated milks may be sold by retail.

Twenty-five samples of milk have been taken, in course of delivery to the consumer, and submitted to the appropriate tests with the following results:-

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested.	1	1	Nil
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).	4	4	Nil
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled).	3	2	1
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled) (Channel Islands).	3	2	1
Pasteurised.	9	8	1
Pasteurised (Homogenized).	2	2	Nil
Pasteurised (Channel Islands).	3	3	Nil
TOTALS	25	22	3

The three unsatisfactory samples of milk were obtained from one dealer. Copies of the unsatisfactory reports are forwarded to the County Milk Regulations Officer for his action.

Two samples of milk were submitted for biological examination one being negative and one positive to *Brucella Abortus*. The farm concerned sends all milk produced direct to a local plant for pasteurisation, before being sold by retail.

No official action was taken under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, to stop or restrict the sale of milk.

No cases of disease were notified which could be attributed to the consumption of infected milk.

Nine Dealer's Licences and twenty-four Supplementary Licences were granted for the retail sale of milk under the Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950, and the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950, viz:-

Designation.	Dealer's Licences.	Supplementary Licences.
Tuberculin Tested.	3	8
Pasteurised.	3	8
Sterilised.	3	8

MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED.

The following is a list of the articles of food condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.

Meat.

Fresh Meat.

Beef (English and Scotch)	lbs.	15
" (Imported)	lbs.	121
Lamb and Mutton (Irish)	lbs.	3
Sausages (Pork)	lbs.	86
Kidneys (Porcine)	lbs.	112

Canned Meat.

Veal	lbs.	19
Stewed Steak	lbs.	70
Stewed Mutton	lbs.	6
Tongue	lbs.	18
Ham (Imported)	lbs.	33
Luncheon Meat	lbs.	22
Corned Beef	lbs.	24

Fish.

Herrings	tins	5	Brisling	tins	2
Salmon	tins	1	Pilchards, Sardines		
Crab and Lobster	tins	2	and Silde	tins	38

Fruit.

Blackcurrants	tins	51	Grapefruit	tins	18
Plums	tins	33	Apricots	tins	18
Gooseberries	tins	19	Oranges	tins	12
Pineapple	tins	19	Miscellaneous	tins	37

Vegetables and Cereals.

Beans	tins	20	Carrots	tins	2
Peas	tins	26	Miscellaneous	tins	3
Tomatoes	tins	36			

Groceries.

Milk and Cream	tins	54	Cooking Fat	lbs.	11
Soup	tins	12	Cheese (Processed)	pkts	24
Puddings	tins	1	Cake Mixtures	pkts	5
Jam, Marmalade and Jelly	tins	38	Muscateles and Figs	pkts	2
Paste and Spreads	jars & tins	6	Pickles and Sauces	bottles	2

The weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouse is shown elsewhere in the report.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Those sections of the above Act concerning sampling of food-stuffs for adulteration and sophistication are enforced by the County Authority in this district.

The following details show the number and nature of the samples taken in the Urban District of Barnet during the year, and the results of the analyses.

Article.	No. of Samples Taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated
Milk Pasteurised.	2	2	-
Milk Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised.	3	3	-
Milk Tuberculin Tested.	1	1	-
Beef Sausages.	1	1	-
Dripping.	1	1	-
Porage Oats.	1	1	-
Shredded Suet.	2	2	-
Strawberry Jam.	1	1	-
Total	12	12	-

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, the Council has made application to take over these duties but the result of the application is not known.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

As envisaged in the 1953 report it was found necessary to re-open private slaughterhouses, throughout the country, and in this district two applications for licences were received. Both were initially refused on public health grounds and eventually one owner did proceed to recondition the premises and a licence was issued in July. This has entailed additional duties and considerable evening and weekend work in order to inspect the meat produced as to its fitness for human consumption.

Number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected			8663
	Inspected	Entire Carcase Condemned.	Part Carcase Condemned.
Bovines excluding Calves	1040	10	12
Calves	3441	2	-
Sheep and Lambs	2207	-	-
Pigs	1975	5	2

Total weight of Carcase Meat condemned:-

Bovine	6774 lbs.
Porcine	<u>765 lbs.</u>
Total	<u>7539 lbs.</u>

Total weight of Heads and Offals condemned 4590 lbs.

The Council agreed to act as agents for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the matter of Deadweight Certification of Pigs.

This system enables producers to obtain the Government subsidy on a dead-weight basis where pigs are sold by private treaty and do not go through a market where they would be graded by a Ministry Grader on a liveweight basis. Since the scheme came into operation locally at the end of July, your Inspectors have issued 74 certificates covering 401 pigs.

For this service the Council receives from the Ministry 6d per pig certified, with a minimum of 3/- per certificate.

There are eleven persons licensed by the Council as fit persons to slaughter animals. Although licensed by this authority most of the men are employed outside the district. No complaint has been received from the districts in which they work concerning the conduct of any of these men, nor was there any need for adverse report on the men locally employed.

DRAINAGE.

In addition to the normal cleansing and repair works required to house drains, the construction of domestic sewage plants to three new properties was approved and supervised by the department.

After investigation notices were served in respect of two properties where the existing sewage disposal plants were considered inadequate to deal with the existing flow through them, but the works had not been commenced during the year. Alterations and additions to one plant were required and effected, and one plant was dispensed with by connecting the drainage of the property to the Council's sewer.

The relaying of a "combined drain" was in progress at the end of the year the work being carried out by a contractor under supervision of the department. The expenses of this are recoverable from the owners concerned.

REPORT REQUIRED BY
SECTION 128 (3) OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	9	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	75	47	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	10	6	-	-
Total	93	62	2	-

The notices required, in one instance, the adequate screening of a sanitary convenience, and the other, the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences for the number of persons employed. This latter has not complied with in the year.

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111).

Section 110.	Section 111.	
No. of outworkers on lists received.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices Served.
73	-	-

In addition to the above, twenty-five outworkers' premises were visited.

Two certificates as to means of escape in case of fire were issued under Section 34 of the Act during the year, after alteration works were completed.

Inspections were made and notice of alterations given in a further case, but it was not possible to issue the certificate by the end of the year.

Discussions were held with H.M. Inspector of Factories with respect to the issue of one certificate in respect of a factory through which runs the district boundary. This was not found practicable by the neighbouring Council. It has been agreed that in future contact will be made with our

neighbouring authority and the inspections will be made simultaneously by the Officers of both authorities and due regard will be paid to circumstances affecting the means of escape in either area.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935.

Provision is made in this Act for the conduct and regulation of:-

- (1) Tents, Caravans and Sheds;
- (2) Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises;
- (3) Swimming Baths and Pools, and
- (4) Employment Agencies.

Tents, Caravans and Sheds.

One individual caravan site was approved during the year subject to compliance with the requirements of the Act in respect of water supply, roads and paths, drainage and layout. Court action was necessary to secure the removal of one caravan from an unauthorised site and informal action secured the removal of another.

The vans attending the Barnet Fair were visited to enquire as to any infectious diseases and as to their sanitary condition.

The provision of temporary sanitary accommodation was required in different sections of the fair for the use of the caravanners and public, and regular removal of refuse was arranged.

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises.

The Council made Bye-laws for securing the cleanliness of these premises in 1937. There are fifteen such establishments in the district. No complaints were received concerning their cleanliness or conduct nor were any serious breaches of the Bye-laws noted during inspections of such premises.

Public Swimming Baths and Bathing Pools.

The only swimming pool in the district, viz, at "The Barn", Barnet Bye-Pass, is not now in use.

Employment Agencies.

Prior to the war there were four employment agencies in the district. These, however, are no longer in existence owing to the control of labour and it seems unlikely they will re-open.

RODENT CONTROL.
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A full time rodent operator is employed for treatment of infestations of rats and mice. The table below gives details of the work carried out during the year:-

	Type of Property.				Total.
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
1. Number of properties inspected during 1954 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise.	(a) 4	169	-	24	197
	(b) 5	259	12	42	318
2. Number of properties (under 1) found to be infested by rats.	Major -	1	4	3	8
	Minor 4	212	5	6	227
3. Number of properties (under 1) found to be infested by mice.	Major -	8	-	5	13
	Minor 4	65	-	16	85
4. Number of infested properties (under 2 and 3) treated by the Local Authority.	8	286	9	28	331
5. Number of "block" control schemes carried out					63

One statutory notice under Section 4 of the Act requiring the execution of works in connection with an infestation, and one statutory notice under Section 6, requiring a treatment for rat infestation spread over several premises, were served.

Three informal notices were served requiring removal of accumulations harbouring rats: all notices were complied with.

More mice infestations than hitherto came to our notice and the results of investigations being carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are awaited with interest. From the preliminary findings, it is considered that the methods at present in use are correct but not necessarily for the reasons originally conceived.

A test bait was made of 10% of the soil sewer manholes in the district, from the results of which are based the two maintenance treatments of the sewers required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as one of the conditions under which the Ministry pay 50% of the Council's rodent control expenses.

During this calendar year only one maintenance treatment was carried out and this immediately following the test bait.

Fifty-five manholes were poisoned which is a slight increase on last year's treatment. The second maintenance could not be carried out as planned owing to inclement weather, but was arranged within the financial year which ends after the period covered by this report.

No charge is made for the use of the Rodent Operator's services in treating private domestic premises, provided that the occupiers co-operate in carrying out their duties under the Act.

The cost of treatments at all other premises is recoverable.

OTHER INFESTATIONS.

Members of the public seem more concerned with infestations than previously and advice was given in respect of eighteen infestations of a wide variety of insects, e.g. woodworm, carpet beetles, larder beetles, ants, lice, cockroaches etc.

Small quantities of liquid or powder insecticides are distributed and only in rare cases do the department carry out the necessary work. This we did in eradicating fifty-four wasps' nests using Cyanide or a power sprayer with liquid insecticide.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act gives the local Authority, inter alia, power to grant licences to persons to keep pet shops for the sale of pet animals and to attach to the licences conditions concerning the cleanliness and general management of the premises: there are four persons licensed in the district. No complaints were received nor were any major contraventions of the conditions observed during visits of inspection.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951.

This Act which came into force on the 1st November, 1951, creates controls over the use of filling materials in the making of upholstery. There are no premises liable to registration within the district.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

This Act and the Regulations made thereunder came into operation on the 1st October 1953, after which date it became an offence to manufacture a heating appliance which does not comply with the standards set.

Retailers had until October 1954, in which to dispose of stocks of fires manufactured before the operative date; the appropriate shops were visited and in only one shop were any fires found which did not conform. These were immediately withdrawn from sale and arrangements made for their return to the manufacturer.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936.

There are thirty-five persons licensed to store petroleum and petroleum mixtures upon the Register. Six licences lapsed and the necessary safety precautions were taken in connection with the underground tank which was involved in one case.

Two new licences were issued, for underground storage of petrol served via pumps; one after reconditioning and testing of the existing tank, pump and lines, and the other being a new installation constructed under the supervision of the department.

The total quantity of petroleum spirit and mixtures which may be kept in the various stores is 39,435 gallons. Two hundred and twenty-six inspections were made to secure compliance with the Council's revised conditions attaching to licences. In one instance it was necessary to report serious breaches of the conditions, i.e. an empty tank not safeguarded and the opening of the flame proof electrical circuit to provide an additional external light.

The scale of fees for Licences to Store Petroleum ranges from 5/- for a quantity not exceeding 100 gallons to £1 for 1,000 to 5,000 gallons, and £2 for 10,000 gallons.

I am,

Yours obediently,

J. B. WILSON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

