

**[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Feltham].**

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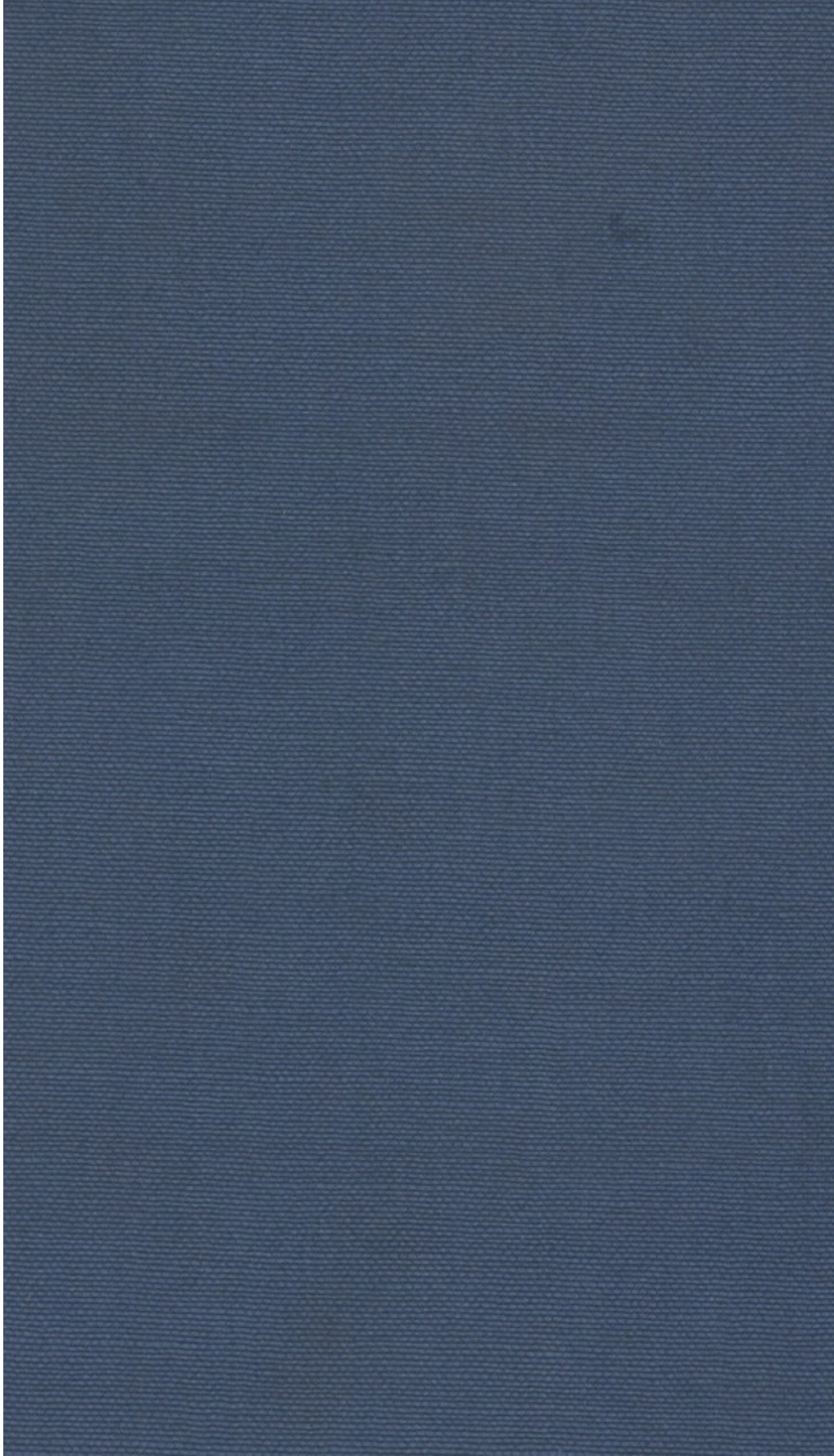
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of

FELTHAM



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year ending 31st December,

1946.

*Feltham, Middx.*

*June, 1947.*





FEL9

Urban District Council  
of  
Feltham

Public Health Department

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*Medical Officer of Health (part time) :*

F. H. WOODS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector :*

R. J. ROWDON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (retired 24.1.46)

F. V. BELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., F.R.S.A.  
(Appointed 25.1.46)

*Additional Sanitary Inspectors :*

A. W. KENT, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

R. B. GIRLING, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.  
(Appointed 1.4.46, Resigned 20.7.46)

G.E. GORAM, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
(Appointed 1.11.46)

Urban District Council

Public Health Department

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Council Offices,  
Feltham.  
June, 1947.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District for the year 1946.

The District is divided into three Wards: Bedfont, Feltham and Hanworth, with a total acreage of 4,925.

The population as estimated by the Registrar General is 38,740 (mid. 1946). This is an increase, the 1945 figure being 35,670. The day population is increased by people working at the various factories and shops. A small number continue to work at agriculture.

The sum represented by a penny rate is

£1,125 10 1.17d.

All classes of inhabited houses ... 10,322

Working-class dwellings ... 9,608

New working-class dwellings erected ... 216

Total number of new houses erected ... 226

### Vital Statistics.

<i>Live Births—</i>				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	747	398	349
Illegitimate	...	...	...	38	20	18
Total	...	...	...	785	418	367

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—  
20.26 (1945 19.20).

### *Still Births*

Legitimate	...	...	...	12	6	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Total	...	...	...	13	6	7

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)—16.29 (1945 11.49)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—0.33  
(1945 0.22)



<i>Deaths</i>	Total	Male	Female
	309	156	153

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—  
7.96 (1945 8.94)

*Deaths from Puerperal causes—*  
(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

	Deaths	(Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births)
No. 29 Puerperal and Post- Abortion Sepsis ...	—	— (1945 — )
No. 30 Other Maternal causes	1	1.25 (1945 — )
Total ... ..	1	1.25 (1945 — )

*Death rates of Infants under one year of age*

All infants per 1,000 live births (26)	33.12	(1945 55.23)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti- mate live births (24) ... ..	32.12	(1945 55.98)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegi- timate live births (2) ... ..	52.63	(1945 44.44)

	Total	Rate per 1,000 of estimated population
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	47	1.21 (1945 1.71)
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	— (1945 .028)
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	1	0.02 (1945 — )

Rate per 1,000  
live births

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) ... ..	2	2.54 (1945 8.71)
---	---	------------------

*Birth and Death rates for England and Wales, 1946—*

Birth rate ... ..	19.1
Still Birth Rate ... ..	0.53
Death rate ... ..	11.5
Deaths under one year of age ... ..	43.0
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age) ... ..	4.4

*Maternal Mortality—England and Wales, 1946—*

Abortion with Sepsis ... ..	0.13
Abortion without Sepsis ... ..	0.06
Puerperal Infections ... ..	0.18
Other ... ..	1.06

# Causes of Death in your Area.

	Male	Female	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ... ..	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	—	—	—
3. Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—
4. Whooping cough ... ..	—	1	1
5. Diphtheria ... ..	—	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ... ..	7	11	18
7. Other forms of tuberculosis ... ..	2	2	4
8. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	1	1
9. Influenza ... ..	2	4	6
10. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) Uterus (F) ... ..	1	4	5
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	4	5	9
15. Cancer of breast ... ..	—	3	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	19	11	30
17. Diabetes ... ..	—	2	2
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	11	14	25
19. Heart disease ... ..	50	39	89
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system ... ..	3	7	10
21. Bronchitis ... ..	11	6	17
22. Pneumonia ... ..	7	5	12
23. Other respiratory diseases	2	2	4
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum ... ..	4	1	5
25. Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... ..	1	1	2
26. Appendicitis ... ..	—	2	2
27. Other digestive diseases ...	2	1	3
28. Nephritis ... ..	2	—	2



		Male	Female	Total
29.	Puerperal and post-abor- tive sepsis ... ..	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes ...	—	1	1
31.	Premature birth ... ..	4	4	8
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ... ..	5	6	11
33.	Suicide ... ..	1	2	3
34.	Road traffic accidents ...	4	—	4
35.	Other violent causes ...	3	7	10
36.	All other causes ... ..	11	10	21
		<hr/> 156	<hr/> 153	<hr/> 309

### Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Disease	Total Nos. Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria ... ..	2	1	1
Measles ... ..	2	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	6	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	12
Scarlet Fever ... ..	24	23	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium ...	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	2	1	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis ... ..	1	1	—

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Encep- halitis	Puer. Py.	Eryipelas	Pneu- monia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro- Spinal Fever
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
1—3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
3—5 „	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—10 „	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
10—15 „	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15—25 „	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 25 „	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Total	24	2	1	—	2	—	2	6	1

### Ophthalmia Neonatorium

Notified ... ..	1
Cases treated at home ...	—
Cases treated in hospital ...	1
Vision unimpaired ... ..	1
Total blindness ... ..	—
Death ... ..	—



**Tuberculosis.**

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	—
5—15 „	3	3	1	2	—	—	1	—
15—25 „	10	8	1	1	1	2	—	—
25—35 „	7	11	—	2	2	5	—	—
35—45 „	4	5	1	2	—	1	—	—
45—65 „	7	2	—	—	4	2	—	1
Over 65 „	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	32	29	4	9	7	11	2	2

**Tuberculosis.**

Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis show an increase of approximately ten per cent, deaths from this cause are also higher than in 1945. The overcrowded conditions under which many people are living, resulting from the acute shortage of houses has almost certainly helped to bring about this unsatisfactory condition. The adequate housing of persons suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis and their families is essential if further increases in new cases of this disease are to be prevented.

**Housing.**

There is still a considerable amount of overcrowding in the district, three and even four families having to live in a single house. These families are mostly young couples, living often with their parents and in many cases trying to raise a young family under most difficult and trying conditions. There are many instances of these mothers having their babies at home, because of shortage of maternity beds, under conditions of overcrowding which would once have been considered intolerable. The need for houses is extremely urgent.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Two clinic sessions a week are held at the Public Health Department, Feltham, The Institute, Bedfont, or The Village Hall, Hanworth, and in addition facilities are available at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics of the County Council. The day nurseries and St. Anthony's Home have been visited regularly.



During the summer months a propaganda campaign was undertaken in connection with the national campaign organised by the Ministry of Health. Advertisements were inserted in the local press, films and slides shown at cinemas, posters and handbills were distributed throughout the district at doctor's surgeries, chemists' shops, public notice boards, etc, but the results were disappointing. It is a sad reflection, that a death from diphtheria is far more effective in bringing children for immunisation. A Birthday card has been sent to each child living in the district on its first birthday for the past three years, and the County Council Health Visitors give special attention to the question of immunisation when visiting.

From the commencement of the year the Middlesex County Council, as the Welfare Authority, became primarily responsible for the immunisation of children under 5 years of age.

The number of children immunised during 1946 and the estimated percentage of the child population immunised up to 31st December, 1946, are as follows:—

Under 5 years.	5—14 years inclusive.
----------------	-----------------------

869	391
-----	-----

40.05%	77.88%
--------	--------

250 children received reinforcing injections during 1946.

### **Scabies Clinic.**

Facilities continue to be available at the Public Health Department for the treatment of scabies. I am glad to say, however, that there has been a gradual decline in the number of cases.

### **Factories.**

A number of factories in the area have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors and action has been taken in several instances which has resulted in improvements to the existing sanitary accommodation or the provision of new or additional accommodation. This work is often delayed by the necessity of obtaining licences and



1. The Bedfont and Feltham Wards of the District are supplied by the South West Suburban Water Co. and the Hanworth Ward by the Metropolitan Water Board. The water supply has been satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality, although concern has been expressed at the results of some of the chemical analyses, the bacteriological results have been satisfactory due to effective chlorination.

2. Bacteriological and chemical analyses are made by the supply companies, seventy-two by the South West Suburban Water Company and by the Metropolitan Water Board 662 from the Hampton Works and 819 from Kempton Park Works. In addition, samples of each supply were taken quarterly by my department. There is an arrangement between my Council and the Councils of the following districts:

Hayes and Harlington  
Windsor  
Egham  
Bagshot  
Easthampstead

by which the water supplied by the South West Suburban Water Company to the combined districts is sampled twenty-five times a year on a rota.

### Average Results of Analyses of Metropolitan Water Board Supply. (Parts per million.)

	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Oxidised Nitrogen	Chlorides as Cl.	Oxygen abs. from Permanganate 3 hours at 80° F.
Hampton ...	.131	.080	2.9	26.4	1.33
Kempton Park	.127	.098	2.8	26.2	1.38

	Turbidity in terms of Silica	Colour m.m. brown 2ft. tube Burgess's Tintometer	Hardness Total
Hampton ...	0.7	21	257
Kempton Park	0.9	22	259

	Hardness (Permanent)	pH Value	Conductivity
Hampton ...	80	7.8	475
Kempton Park	77	7.9	475



## Bacteriological Results

				BACT. COLI TEST			
				No. of Samples	Colony Count on agar at 37°C	Negative per 100 ml.	Bact coli per 100 ml.
Hampton	...	...	662	16.9	97.4	.060	
Kempton Park	...	...	819	19.1	99.0	016	

### Typical Analysis of South West S.W. Co. Supply. (Parts per 100,000.)

#### 1. Chemical.

Total solids (dried at 120°C.)	...	...	...	32.0
Combined chlorine (as Cl)	...	...	...	3.3
equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	...	...	...	5.5
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	0.34
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	faint trace present
Ammoniacal nitrogen	...	...	...	0.0074
Albuminoid nitrogen	...	...	...	0.0134
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	...	...	...	0.120
Lead or Copper	...	...	...	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	...	...	...	21.0
Permanent hardness ( " " " )	...	...	...	4.0
Total hardness ( " " " )	...	...	...	25.0

#### 2. Bacteriological.

The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates, at 20°—22°C. for three days				9 per millilitre
At 37°C. for two days				14 per millilitre
Faecal B. coli	...	...	...	not found in 100 ml.
Probable number of coliform bacilli present	...	...	...	equals none per 100 ml.
Streptococci	...	...	...	not found in 30 ml.
Cl. welchii (spores)	...	...	...	present in 25 ml.

3. The water supplied has no plumbo-solvent action but samples are tested for presence of metals.

4. No action has been required in respect of contamination of the water.

5. With the exception of a very few outlying cottages (which are likely to be scheduled for demolition when the housing position permits) all the houses in the area are supplied from the public water mains. All dwelling-houses are supplied direct.

by the general shortage of building materials and labour.

### Water Supply.

F. H. WOODS,

Medical Officer of Health.



**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

Council Offices,  
Feltham,  
Middlesex.  
June, 1947.

To Dr. F. H. Woods, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
Medical Officer of Health,

Sir,

I beg to present a report upon the work of the department which I administer.

The housing position is the cause of many bad cases of overcrowding which have been visited. Many people living under overcrowded conditions solicit the aid of the department in advancing their applications to the Council for rehousing. These cases are visited and, if considered necessary, are reported for consideration by the Housing Committee. Unfortunately, there are cases where much inconvenience and unhappiness is caused by the occupation of a house by more than one family, but where there is no illegal overcrowding, and one feels that some of these people will have to tolerate such conditions for a considerable time. Applicants for rehousing have been visited by the Sanitary Inspectors before interview by the Housing Committee, and I am hopeful that these fact-finding inspections have helped the Committee to assess those applicants with the greatest need.

The urgent necessity of providing new houses also affects our efforts in connection with the repair of dwelling-houses. It is necessary to concentrate upon the most urgent defects, other works, necessary though they often are, have to be deferred. This position is not satisfactory, but is unavoidable. Some of the older houses present problems. There is only one real course of action and that is demolition; but as there are no replacements available for the occupiers, efforts have to be made to keep these worn-out houses habitable.



A serious nuisance to the residents in one area of the district was caused by the contamination of the water in a disused gravel pit during tipping operations. Action was taken and the company concerned co-operated fully. After a number of methods had been experimented with it was found necessary to discharge many thousands of gallons of water into the West Middlesex Main Drainage Board's sewers, the dilution of the remaining water and large scale aeration. This necessitated constructing a pumping main and several pumping and aeration plants, two of which had to be mounted on steel floats and launched upon the offending water. The nuisance was completely abated and arrangements made for the quick filling in of the pit by the large scale tipping of shelter rubble, etc.

After statutory action had been taken, the use of a private sewerage disposal plant serving 128 dwellings, which had given rise to nuisances on a number of occasions, was discontinued and the effluent diverted to the Council's sewers.

The supply of dustbins has much improved, enabling a speeding up of action taken under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to be effected.

Rodent destruction, in accordance with the methods advocated by the Ministry of Food, has been continued. The house refuse tip has been kept under observation, but no serious infestation has occurred.

Nomad caravan dwellers have been a source of considerable trouble, as they have been to surrounding districts.

The wholesale meat distribution depot No. 16, which has operated at Bedfont since the early days of the war, returned to Smithfield on the 16th March, 1946. The distribution of meat to this and adjoining areas continues through the depot at its new location.

Fifty-seven samples were taken of graded milks, most of which were satisfactory. One or two odd samples failed, but it was usually possible to attribute this failure to some temporary fault. They were not due to consistently faulty methods.



A great deal of work is required in connection with premises where food is prepared, stored, etc., and as much time as possible is spent on this work, but it is, of necessity, limited by the number of inspectors available and the calls upon their time by the many other activities of the department.

In concluding I should like to thank you, Sir, for the consideration you have shown me, and the members of the staff for their support in carrying out the work of the department.

### **Summary of Sanitary Work and Improvements** **Eradication of Bed Bugs**

- (1) The number of Council houses infested ... 11  
       The number of Council houses disinfested 11  
       The number of other houses infested ... 12  
       The number of other houses disinfested ... 12  
       The number of other premises disinfested 1
- (2) The methods of disinfestation employed are the spraying with contact insecticides incorporating D.D.T., mainly "Pyagra" or "Zaldecide" or the use of fumigants, such as "Cimex" or "Thermatox" fumigators. Occasionally fumigation with hydrogen cyanide gas is carried out.
- (3) The furniture, etc., of prospective Council house tenants is inspected before removal to the Council's houses and if necessary is treated for the eradication of bugs.
- (4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by the local authority except when hydrogen cyanide gas is used, when a contractor is employed.

### **Infectious Disease**

The following number of premises have been disinfected after cases (or suspected cases) of infectious disease :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	13
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	21
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	41



## Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-1946

The number of persons licensed in the district to sell or bottle graded milks is as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	4
Accredited	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4

### Supplementary Licences : —

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	4
Accredited	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

### Carcases examined at Slaughter-houses and Butcher's Shops

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	—	1	—	69	387
Number inspected	—	1	—	69	387

### Diseases excluding Tuberculosis—

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Whole carcase condemned ...	—	1	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	—	—	—	2	76
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	100.0	—	2.80	20.22

### Tuberculosis only—

Whole carcase condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

### Meat Inspected at Distributing Depot No. 16—

The following number of carcasses have been examined after slaughter and removal to the depot:—

Beasts	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
—	—	—	7



In addition a large number of carcasses, quarters, parts of carcasses and organs have been examined.

The following has been declared unfit for human consumption : —

**Whole Carcasses—**

				Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Other Disease	...	...	...	—	—	—	2

**Part Carcasses and Organs—**

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	Nil	
Other Disease	...	...	...	...	11 cwts.	14 lbs.

In addition the following amount of canned meat was found to be unfit for human consumption :—

1 ton 3 cwts. 30 lbs.

FRANCIS V. BELL,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.