

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Surbiton].

Contributors

Surbiton (Surrey, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

[1944]

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BOROUGH

OF

SURBITON.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1943.

B O R O U G H O F S U R B I T O N .

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor J.F. Scott (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. L. Cudbird (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman H. Reynolds.	Councillor Evans. .
" Sanger.	" Kennett.
" Mrs. Woodgate.	" Roberts.
Councillor Armitage.	" Ward.
" Dommett.	" Young.

With the Mayor (Alderman Bridge) the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Ames) and Alderman Dowson, ex-officio.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - PERSONNEL.

Medical Officer of Health:

+ NEVILLE H. LINZEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

/ + GEOFFREY McCLELLAND, M.S.I.A., M.R. San. I., A.R.P.S.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

/ + H.J. ELDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., M.R. San. I., L.A.G.C.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

/ + G.H. COCKELL, M.S.I.A., M.R. San. I. {In H.M. Forces}
/ + H. HANDSCOMB, M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I. { " " }
/ + R.H. STREET, M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I. (Commenced 11.10.43)

General Assistant:

E.C. REEVE, (Temporary) Appointed 1.1.43.

Clerks:

E.D. ELMS.	(In H.M. Forces)
W.F. ACRES.	"
P.E. WHITTON.	"
Miss V. CRYER.	

Mrs. R.M. OWENS.	(Temporary)	(Resigned 31st January, 1943.)
B.E. COOPER.	"	(Appointed 28th December, 1942.)
Miss J.D. BRADBURY.	"	(Appointed 8th February, 1943.)
Mrs. R.F. JONES.	"	(Appointed 5th July, 1943.)

Disinfecter and Mortuary Attendant:

A.C. BALL.

- + Contributions made to salary from Exchequer.
- / Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
- / Royal Sanitary Institute Smoke Certificate.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1943.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
2, Shalston Villas,
Surbiton.

November, 1944.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Surbiton.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my 22nd Annual Report which concerns the health of Surbiton during the year 1943.

In spite of the war, the health of the district compares favourably with previous years.

An important feature is the increasing number of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases which is attributed to the fact that there is an acute shortage of houses, which in turn leads to overcrowding and a lower standard of living.

It is imperative that the Council should proceed with the erection of houses to prevent a further deterioration of the health of the people, particularly in the case of Tuberculosis.

The deaths of infants below 1 year still show an improvement on past years in spite of the four years of war.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,709
Resident Population (Census 1931)	29,396
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	8,116
Rateable value at 1st October, 1943	£576,947
Sum represented by a penny rate ... Approximately	£2,300

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

(Based on National Registration Office population figure
and on Public Health Department records)

LIVE BIRTHS: (Unadjusted figures)	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	580	312	268
Illegitimate	12	3	9
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			11.21
DEATHS:	565	257	308
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			10.70
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions and Nursing Homes			52.03
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:			
All infants per 1,000 live births			52.36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			50.00

(Based on Registrar-General's Population figure
on statistics supplied by Registrar-General) and

LIVE BIRTHS:	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	897	465	432
Illegitimate	55	28	27
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			18.61
England and Wales			16.5
STILL BIRTHS:			
Legitimate	36	20	16
Illegitimate	2	2	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			38.38
DEATHS:	565	257	308
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			11.04
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor not available)			-
England and Wales (all causes)			12.1
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:			
All infants per 1,000 live births			32.56
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			32.33

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1943.

	Male.	Female.
All causes	257	308
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-
Cerebrospinal fever	1	-
Scarlet fever	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	12
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	3
Syphilitic diseases	3	1
Influenza	9	8
Measles	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-
Cancer of B. cav. and oesoph (M).	5	-
uterus (F).	-	7
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	6
Cancer of breast	-	13
Cancer of all other sites	35	34
Diabetes	1	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	8	35
Heart disease	74	93
Other diseases of circulatory system	11	11
Bronchitis	9	15
Pneumonia	18	16
Other respiratory diseases	5	3
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years	3	1
Appendicitis	2	3
Other digestive diseases	5	7
Nephritis	5	6
Puerperal and post abort. sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	1
Premature birth	10	3
Congenital malformations, birth injuries,		
infantile diseases	6	2
Suicide	2	1
Road traffic accidents	2	-
Other violent causes	5	4
All other causes	20	21

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 31 deaths of children under 1 year of age. 29 were legitimate and 2 were illegitimate.

Of the infant deaths 18 occurred in hospitals or public institutions, outside the district of Surbiton. The ages at death were as follows:-

One at 5 minutes; one at 1 hour; one at 2 hours; one at 5 hours; one at 6 hours; one at 13 hours; three at 1 day; one at 2 days; one at 3 days; two at 4 days; three at 1 week; three at 2 weeks; one at 3 weeks; one at 4 weeks; one at 1 month; one at 3 months; three at 4 months; two at 5 months; one at 9 months; and two at 11 months.

The causes and ages at death of the children were as follows:-

Atelectasis and prematurity	...	...	...	...	1 hour
Broncho pneumonia	...	...	...	...	11 months
Broncho pneumonia	...	...	...	...	4 months
Broncho pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1 month
Intracranial haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	1 day
Intracranial haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	1 week
Exhaustion and gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	11 months
Exhaustion and gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	9 months
Acute gastro-enteritis, infective type	...	...	...	...	2 weeks
Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	4 months
Multiple cerebral haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	4 days
Cerebral haemorrhage; precipitate labour	...	...	...	...	5 minutes
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	6 hours
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1 day
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	2 days
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	13 hours
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	4 weeks
Prematurity; gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	3 weeks
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1 day
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	2 weeks
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1 week
Spina bifida	...	...	...	...	3 months
Acute capillary bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5 months
Nonviability; prematurity	...	...	...	...	4 days
White asphyxia	...	...	...	...	5 hours
Congenital heart disease	...	...	...	...	2 weeks
Debility and prematurity	...	...	...	...	3 days
Asphyxia by pressure of clothes on face	...	...	...	...	4 months
Fractured skull following forceps delivery	...	...	...	...	2 hours
Pyelonephritis	...	...	...	...	5 months
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1 week

INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

The following table shows the death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

	SURBITON.	ENGLAND AND WALES (Smaller Towns)
1932	50.46	58.0
1933	41.83	56.0
1934	27.78	53.0
1935	37.19	55.0
1936	38.51	55.0
1937	42.04	55.0
1938	31.14	51.0
1939	50.98	40.0
1940	35.85	54.0
1941	54.20	56.0
1942	37.52	46.0
1943	32.56	46.0

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The Clerk to the Tolworth Joint Hospital District Board has kindly supplied me with the following figures for 1943.

ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE TOLWORTH ISOLATION HOSPITAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1943.

	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Other Diseases</u>	<u>Total</u>
Surbiton	4	288	59	351
Malden and Coombe	2	137	62	201
Esher	2	329	61	392
Paying patients (admitted from outside of the Constituent District)		6	21	27
	8	760	203	971

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1934 to 1943.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Diphtheria	49	22	10	27	6	5	9	16	11	2
Scarlet Fever	87	78	90	82	80	24	60	24	80	299
Enteric Fever	2	1	2	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	3	2	5	8	10	6	3	4	3
Pneumonia	40	30	51	39	33	37	45	46	14	34
Erysipelas	7	12	9	13	9	6	10	3	4	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	4	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	1	1	1	3	-	4	1	2	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Malaria	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles						1	839	327	433	323
Whooping Cough						4	6	369	65	176
Chicken Pox							6			
Total -	201	152	167	171	141	90	1003	793	616	845

An interesting feature shown from the above table is the decline of the numbers of Diphtheria. Immunisation and Schick Testing was started in 1935 and from that date the decline has continued. A slight increase is shown in 1941-1942 probably due to falling off in immunisation, removal due to war conditions and bombing etc.

Scarlet Fever shows a remarkable increase, but fortunately the disease is not so severe as was the case in earlier years. The increase is not readily explained, but overcrowding and the fact that all cases are not sent to hospital may account for this rise.

There have been a few return cases.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.
At ages.

TOTAL DEATHS.
At ages.

	Under 1 year.	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over.	Under 1 year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over.
Diphtheria						1	1																	
Scarlet fever		6	12	26	28	168	36	5	14	2	2													
Pneumonia				2	1	2			2	2	16	9	3									1	7	23
Erysipelas	1								1		1	3									1			
Cerebro-spinal fever																								
Ophthalmia neonatorum																								
Puerperal pyrexia									3															
Dysentery		1						1																
Measles	6	26	42	51	36	136	13	6	5	2														
Whooping cough	9	17	18	21	33	75	3																	

Note: Total deaths include Transferable Deaths occurring outside the district which are not included in the total cases notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations a register of all notifications is kept and weekly returns of cases are sent to the County Medical Officer. The continual movement of cases from one district to another requires constant supervision so that particulars may be brought up to date and represent a true record.

At the end of the year 362 persons were shown to be suffering from the disease and living within the district:-

				Pul.	Non-Pul.
Males	...	...	...	154	39
Females	...	...	...	133	36
				287	75

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	6	11	3	3	1	2	-	1
25 - 34	13	12	5	1	1	9	-	-
35 - 44	10	5	1	1	2	1	-	-
45 - 54	5	-	-	3	6	-	-	1
55 - 64	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals-	40	29	17	10	12	12	-	3

As in the previous year Pulmonary Tuberculosis shows an important increase, particularly at age groups 15 - 24 and 25 - 34, but the number of new cases is less than 1942.

War conditions, want of proper and efficient nourishment, bad living conditions (overcrowding both in homes and in shelters) are, no doubt, a contributory cause.

The building of houses, in my opinion, should be greatly accelerated.

of the 96 new cases tabulated overleaf 22 cases are transferred from other districts.

The table shows an increase compared with last year of 35 pulmonary cases of tuberculosis, and the non-pulmonary cases show an increase of 9. The deaths show a decrease of 1.

At the commencement of the year there were 318 cases of tuberculosis on the register and at the end of the year this figure had increased to 362.

During the year 1 case was notified as recovered from the disease, 24 patients left the district, and there were 27 deaths. of the 96 new cases it is interesting to note that 73 of these were cases first notified in the district.

Ward	Cases added to Register						Cases on Register 31st Dec. 1943.
	Primary Notifications			Transfers, etc.			
	1941	1942	1943	1941	1942	1943	
Berrylands	6	8	7	3	3	2	43
Chessington	10	10	8	3	7	2	50
Hook and Southborough	8	10	15	3	4	4	45
Seething Wells	7	4	2	3	1	3	22
St. Mark's	4	12	10	3	3	2	36
Surbiton Hill	3	7	8	2	1	3	30
Tolworth East	14	10	5	3	8	2	53
Tolworth West	6	4	8	1	2	3	31
Tolworth South	6	11	10	3	3	2	52
Totals -	64	76	73	24	32	23	362

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

It was not necessary to take any action under these regulations during the year.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under this Section.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

	Treatments	
	Completed.	Incompleted.
Children treated at clinic	709	81

The division into children of school age and those under 15:-

	Treatments	
	Completed.	Incompleted.
Children of school age	214	29
Children under school age	495	52
	709	81

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

The general provision of health services in the area, including ambulances, clinics, treatment centres, hospital and other facilities remain as in previous years.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are made for the Corporation by the Clinical Research Association and Victoria Hospital, Kingston.

During the year the following examinations were carried out:-

Disease suspected.	Nature of specimen.	Result		Total
		Positive	Negative	
Diphtheria	Swabbings	1	110	111
Tuberculosis	Sputums	10	69	79
Typhoid	Blood		1	1
Dysentery	Faeces		1	1
Scarlet fever	Throat swabs	4	21	25
	Total -	15	202	217

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply throughout the district is furnished by the Metropolitan Water Board, and is a constant supply of excellent quality. I am supplied with monthly reports by the Board giving details of their chemical and bacteriological examinations.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

Publicly owned baths.

Surbiton Lagoon, situated in Rasburn Avenue, Surbiton, is an open air pool 165 feet long and 90 feet wide with a depth of 3 to 9 feet.

The water is treated by continuous pressure and filtration, sterilisation by injection of chlorine and oxygenation over an ornamental cascade.

Periodic samples of the water are taken by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and the plant adjusted accordingly. In addition, check samples are taken by the Public Health Department.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

NEVILLE H. LINZEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Surbiton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1943.

This report is compiled in accordance with the directions of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2067.

COMPLAINTS.

During the year 475 complaints were received and dealt with. This does not include complaints from Council House tenants.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts.)	241
Number of houses visited for other than housing defects.	540
Number of premises other than houses inspected	569
Premises re-inspected	524
Visits to works in progress	159
Miscellaneous visits	308
Number of Council House inspections	693
Number of Council House re-inspections	738
Visits re rat and mice infestations	81
	<u>3,853</u>

Included in the above are the following classified visits:-

Visits to food premises	166
Visits to cowsheds, dairies, milkshops and milk vehicles	13
Visits to bakehouses	21
Visits to fish friers' premises	3
Visits to factories	168
Visits to outworkers premises	5
Visits re overcrowding	25
Visits to schools	6
Visits re cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis and scabies)	471
Interviews with owners, tradesmen, etc.	51
Visits re Food and Drugs Act	164
Visits to Council House applicants	10

In addition to the foregoing a large number of visits were made in connection with Civil Defence duties, including billeting, rehousing and food treatment squad.

TESTING OF DRAINS AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Drains tested with water	14
Drains tested by other methods	5

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal notices	150
Statutory notices under Section 287 of the Public Health Act 1936 to enter premises	3
Statutory notices under Sections 93 and 259 of the Public Health Act 1936 to abate nuisance	2
Statutory notices under Section 157 (d) of the Housing Act 1936 to measure up premises	1
Statutory notices under Section 277 of the Public Health Act 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	<u>6</u>
Total	<u>162</u>

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS ETC. EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR (EXCLUDING COUNCIL HOUSES)

Drainage.

Defective drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	83
Drainage systems completely reconstructed	1
Drainage systems partly reconstructed	4
Additional drains provided	12

Water Closets, etc.

Additional provided	15
Cleansed or repaired	27
New pans fixed	27
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	30
Lighted, ventilated or screened	9

Sinks, Baths, etc.

New fixed	36
-----------	----

Waste Pipes, etc.

Repaired or trapped	15
New provided	36

Water Supply.

Draw off taps disconnected from storage cistern	1
Service pipes and cisterns repaired, etc.	9

Paving.

Yard paving repaired	1
----------------------	---

Dust Receptacles.

Provided	35
----------	----

Dampness.

Roofs repaired	44
Eaves gutters or rain water pipes repaired or renewed	26
Site of house concreted	1
Ventilation under floors provided	2
External walls pointed or rendered	4
Walls treated with solution	2

General.

Windows provided, repaired or renewed	44
Windows made to open	3
Doors repaired or renewed	12
Floors repaired or renewed	22
Stoves or coppers repaired or renewed	16
Rooms ventilated	1
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	44
External walls re-built	2
New staircase provided	1
Anti-flooding interceptors installed	4
Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed	10
Rooms cleansed	66
Animals removed	4
Accumulations removed	4
Houses disinfested to destroy bugs	20
Bakehouses cleansed	2
Miscellaneous	1
Dilapidated outbuildings demolished	1
Fleas eradicated	1
Means of escape from factories in case of fire put in order	11

MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

Works effected during the year.

Drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	27
W.C.'s cleansed or repaired	10
New W.C. pans fixed	6
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	104
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	31
Taps repaired or renewed	120
Hot and cold water pipes and cisterns repaired	200
Yard paving repaired	1
New dustbins provided	7
Roofs repaired	117
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed	21
Window sills repaired	4
Windows repaired or renewed	109
Floors repaired or renewed	7
Doors repaired or renewed	87
Stoves, coppers and ranges repaired or renewed	74
Flues or chimneys repaired	7
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	18
Rooms decorated	280
Handrails repaired	2
Gates and fences repaired or renewed	26
Draining boards supplied and fitted	1
Draining boards repaired	12
Disinfestations	10
Miscellaneous	24

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year	Nil
1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year (excluding Council Houses)	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	241
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	241

(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) overleaf) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	-
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	180
2.		Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices (excluding Council Houses):-	
		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	146
3.		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	Nil
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
	(a)	By owners (from 1942)	1
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
	(1)	Number of dwelling houses, in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a)	By owners (1 from 1942)	2
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	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	Nil
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
	(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were suspended (Circular 1866)	Nil
	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	Nil
	(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

One hundred and sixtyeight visits were made to factories and 21 to bakehouses, and as a result, the following works were carried out to remedy contraventions:-

Sanitary Conveniences.

Additional W.C.'s provided	11
New W.C. pans fixed	12
Cleansed or repaired	11
Screened	4
Separated from factory by ventilated space	2
Ventilated and marked	1
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	11

General.

Bakehouses cleansed	2
Drains repaired or cleansed	1
Additional drains provided	9
Additional washbasins provided	16
New waste pipes provided	16
Water service pipes repaired	1
Means of escape in case of fire put in order	11
Means of escape in case of fire certificates issued	17

There were 14 outworkers on the Register at the end of the year. Five visits of inspection were made.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foodstuffs found to be unfit for human food, were surrendered by the owners, and either salvaged for animal feeding or destroyed:-

Article.		lbs.	ozs.	
Pilchards	40 tins	34	6	Blown or damaged.
Evaporated Milk	1,081 tins	998	11	do.
Condensed Milk	55 tins	64	13	do.
Party Loaf	3 tins	2	4	do.
Lunch Tongues	1 tin		12	do.
Canadian Pork Loaf	1 tin	6	-	do.
Beef Loaf	5 tins	3	12	do.
Chopped Pork	3 tins	2	4	do.
Morrell Snack	1 tin		12	do.
Curried Mutton	1 tin	1	-	do.
Quick Meal	1 tin	1	-	do.
Potatoes	1 tin	2	8	do.
Malt and Eggs	3 tins		9	do.
Ox Tongues	1 tin	6	-	do.
Herrings in Tomatoes	19 tins	16	2	do.
Sardines	7 tins	4	8	do.
Spaghetti	5 tins	5	-	do.
Grape Jelly	2 tins	4	-	do.
Beetroot	2 tins	4	-	do.
Celery	1 tin	1	-	do.
Rabbit	4 tins	8	-	do.
Jam	19 tins	29	4	do.
Chopped Ham	11 tins	22	4	do.
Carrots	19 tins	37	8	do.
Peas	84 tins	166	4	do.
Haricot Beans	1 tin		8	do.

Total carried forward 1,423 1

Total brought forward		1,423	1	
Salmon	40 tins	36	12	Blown or damaged.
Stewed Steak	22 tins	22	-	do.
Tinned Fruit	370 tins	865	5	do.
Pork Loaf	5 tins	30	-	do.
Pork Sausage Meat	6 tins	9	-	do.
Pork Luncheon Meat	37 tins	92	8	do.
Pork Tongues	2 tins	12	-	do.
Spiced Luncheon Meat	3 tins	5	12	do.
Lobster	2 tins		8	do.
Soup	43 tins	33	6	do.
Beans in Gravy	143 tins	134	4	do.
Crawfish	2 tins	1	-	do.
Prem	2 tins	1	8	do.
Asparagus	1 tin	1	-	do.
Golden Syrup	3 tins	6	-	do.
Mixed Vegetables in Gravy	13 tins	19	8	do.
Diced Vegetables	4 tins	3	8	do.
Fish Paste	2 tins	2	-	do.
Tomatoes	1 tin	2	-	do.
Corned Beef	1 tin	6	-	do.
Broad Beans	1 tin	2	-	do.
Spinach Leaf	1 tin	2	8	do.
Salad Dressing	28 jars	12	4	Damaged.
Marmalade	9 jars	17	-	do.
Bovril	1 jar		2	do.
Apple Jelly	1 jar	1	8	do.
Apple Sauce	12 jars	12	-	do.
Meat Paste	1 jar		8	do.
Fish Paste	1 jar		2	do.
Pickled Cabbage	1 jar	1	-	Sour.
Pickles	154 jars	148	12	Sour and mouldy.
Pickles	4 jars	3	12	Broken.
Fish Roes	1 jar		4	Unsound.
Lemon Curd	2 jars	2	-	Sour.
Lobster Paste	1 jar		2	Unsound.
Butterscotch Drops	1 jar	5	8	Damaged and contaminated.
Broken Biscuits		6	-	Stale and mouldy.
Lungs of two Pigs		10	-	Pneumonia.
Crow of Pig		2	-	Tuberculosis.
Bacon		124	8	Unsound.
Shredded Beef Suet		10	-	Mould.
Mint Sauce	1 jar		4	Sour.
Household Milk	14 tins	14	-	Deteriorated.
Cocoa	1 packet		4	Contaminated.
Fish		462	-	Unsound.
Sandwich Spread	3 jars	1	8	Unsound.
Pickled Cauliflower	1 jar		10	Sour
Horseradish Sauce	1 jar		4	Deteriorated.
Mint Sauce	1 jar		4	do.
Mincemeat	1 jar	1	-	do.
Pickling Spice		1	8	Weevils.
Butter Beans		444	-	do.
Rabbits	41	112	-	do.
Cocoa	1 tin		4	Mites.
Flour		51	-	Mouldy.
Bovine Livers		24	-	Flukes.
Lentils		14	8	Glass splinters.
Onions		77	-	Unsound.
Milk	1 tin		14	Tainted.
Rolled Oats		112	-	Contaminated.
Chocolate Dates		9	4	Contaminated with oil
Toffees		13	-	do.
Carrots		115	-	Unsound.
Sauce	1 bottle		8	Deteriorated.
Grand total		4,523	14	

During the year the carcasses and offal of 37 pigs slaughtered in the Borough were inspected. One mesentery was affected with tuberculosis and 2 lungs with pneumonia.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following is a summary of samples taken during the year:-

Articles.	Analysed.			Adulterated or below standard.			Prosecutions.	Convictions.
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
Sausage Meat		2	2					
Ginger Wine		1	1					
Milk	47	-	47	1		1		
Malt Vinegar		3	3					
Non Brewed Vinegar		1	1					
Leaf Gelatine		1	1					
Powdered Gelatine		4	4		2	2		
Broken Gelatine		1	1					
Ale		1	1					
Prepared Meal		1	1					
Mustard	1		1	1		1		
Pepper	1	1	2					
Lemon Flavoured Bun Mixture		1	1					
Scone Mixture		1	1					
Pudding Mixture		2	2					
Egg Substitute Mixture		2	2					
Sponge Cake Mixture		2	2					
Cake Flour	1	1	2					
Omelette Mixture		1	1		1	1		
Curry Powder		2	2					
Spice		6	6		3	3		
Salmon & Shrimp Paste		1	1					
Pickling Spice		1	1					
Real Egg Self Raising Flour		2	2					
Total c/f.	50	38	88	2	6	8		

Articles.	Analysed			Adulterated or below standard.			Prosecutions.	Convictions.
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
Condensed Milk		1	1					
Ground Cinnamon		1	1					
Nutmeg		1	1					
Ground Ginger		1	1					
Camphorated Oil		2	2					
Coffee with Chicory	1		1					
Rissole Mixture		1	1					
Baking Powder		1	1					
Chicken and Ham Paste		1	1					
Macaroni		1	1					
Dried Eggs		1	1					
Brought forward	50	38	88	2	6	8		
Total	51	49	100	2	6	8		

Action taken on non-genuine samples was as follows:-

- No. 200. Milk. Contained a small proportion of added water. This was mixed milk bottled at a dairy outside the Borough. The Inspector for the area concerned was informed, and he was subsequently able to bring proceedings against a farmer supplying the dairyman, a heavy fine being imposed.
- No. 212. Mustard. Shopkeeper warned.
- No. 235. Omelette Mixture. Informal sample. Formal sample could not be obtained. Matter referred to the Ministry of Food as article manufactured under licence.
- Nos. 246) Ground
248) Mixed
and 250) Spice. Informal samples. In the absence of a definite standard, and having regard to other difficulties, this matter was referred to the Ministry of Food. The article has now been the subject of a controlling Order.
- Nos. 264) Powdered
and 283) Gelatine. Informal samples. Samples contained excessive proportions of zinc and efforts to trace manufacturer were unavailing. Attention of Ministry of Food drawn to matter.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are now 43 persons registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, as follows:-

Wholesale Traders or Producers of Milk	7
Retail Purveyors of milk residing in the district	28
Retail Purveyors residing outside the district but retailing in the district	<u>7</u>
Total	<u>42</u>

In consequence of the Rationalisation Scheme only 13 retailers are now selling milk in the Borough, but the others have expressed a wish not to be removed from the register.

Thirteen Dealers' Licences to sell "Pasteurised" milk, 9 to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, 1 Supplementary Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 1 to sell "Pasteurised" milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Forty samples of milk were taken for phosphatase test to ascertain if pasteurisation had been properly carried out. All were found to be satisfactory. Four samples were taken for bacteriological examination, including animal inoculation test for tuberculosis in two cases. All were satisfactory.

DISINFECTION.

During the year disinfection was carried out at 88 civilian premises in which the following diseases occurred:-

Scabies	3
Tuberculosis	13
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1
Scarlet fever	66
Diphtheria	1
Typhoid	1
Gastro-enteritis	1
Miscellaneous	2

In addition disinfection was carried out at military and civil defence premises following these diseases:-

Scabies	18
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1
Tuberculosis	2
Scarlet fever	2
Gastro-enteritis	1
Miscellaneous	<u>8</u>

Total 32

Disinfection was also carried out at 32 premises after cases of non-notifiable diseases, the occupiers in each case paying the expense.

Number of rooms disinfected.....	116
Number of library books disinfected ...	236

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1.	Council Houses		Other Houses.	
	Found to be infested.	Disinfested.	Found to be infested.	Disinfested.
	10	10	20	20

2. Methods employed for disinfection.

	Council Houses.	Other Houses.
Thermatox	-	2
Vermicine	10	12
Vermicine and paraffin	-	2
Vermicine and sulphur	-	3
Unknown insecticide	-	1

3. To ensure that the belongings of new Council House tenants are free from vermin an inspection is made by a Sanitary Inspector before removal.

Where bed bugs are found, the furniture and other belongings are treated by spraying with insecticide and the bedding by steam disinfection, or, with the tenants consent, the bedding is destroyed.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year 58 bodies were received into the Mortuary, 58 post mortem examination were carried out and 14 inquests were held.

This does not include deaths from war operations.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, has hitherto been administered in this Borough by the Surrey County Council.

In 1942 Ministerial responsibility under that Act in Urban areas was transferred from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to the Ministry of Food.

In May 1943 the Minister of Food, under powers conferred on him by the Defence Regulations, made the Infestation Order, 1943. This Order, amongst other things, gave power to the Minister of Food to give "directions" to local authorities to perform the following functions:-

- (a) To make a comprehensive report to the Minister with regard to infestations by rats and mice and the measures taken or proposed to deal therewith.
- (b) The remedying of such infestations, and
- (c) The enforcement of any "direction" in relation to infestations given by the Minister to any occupier or other responsible person.

A conference of representatives of authorities in the London Area was called by the Ministry of Food, and subsequently a Committee comprising fifteen members appointed by those authorities was formed to assist the Ministry in administering a scheme of rodent control.

The first "direction" issued was for the making of a survey in each local authority area to locate the large colonies of rats ("reservoir" and "major" infestations). This survey was to be made by each local authority whether or not it possessed statutory powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The survey was duly carried out in this Borough with the co-operation of the Surrey County Council's Supervisor of Rat Destruction, and revealed one "reservoir" and two "major" infestations. These infestations were subsequently dealt with by the County Council under contract with the occupiers of the premises concerned.

To facilitate this survey the Ministry of Food embarked upon a publicity campaign, urging the public to report the presence of rats. This brought a considerable number of complaints to the Department and, on the whole, the information was valuable. Unfortunately there was

some misconception of the duties of the Corporation, many people getting the impression that they were to be relieved of responsibility in the matter and that the Corporation would forthwith proceed to disinfest their premises free of charge.

The position was rather confused, because, although the Corporation had received a "direction" from the Ministry of Food under the Infestation Order, the County Council was still administering the 1919 Act.

The Ministry therefore arranged for the County Council to delegate its powers under that Act to the Corporation, and urged the Corporation to accept such delegation. After some negotiation the Corporation accepted such powers in May 1944.

On the 31st August, 1944, the Corporation was "directed" by the Minister of Food to "take such action as may be necessary to remedy infestation of land within your administrative area."

From the foregoing it will be seen that the only duty of the Corporation in connection with rat destruction during 1943 (the year under review in this Report) was that of making the Survey, all operational duties being performed by the Surrey County Council.

CONCLUSION.

Examination of the staff shown on the first page explains the manpower difficulty the Department was in until the close of the year, and is the explanation of the decreased total number of visits made during the year. In spite of this shortage, and the fact that I was away ill for a considerable period, the actual works of sanitary improvements effected compare very favourably with other years; this observation applying equally to the work done on Council Houses. An energetic drive was made on the industrial area to ensure adequate means of escape in case of fire in factories; sampling under the Food and Drugs Act was considerably increased and in general food inspection work there was a very heavy increase in the amount of food dealt with, which, as the report shows, was of great variety.

No detail is given in this report of the multifarious duties carried out consequent upon enemy action, nor to the volume of day and night work put in by the staff and voluntary helpers in connection with evacuation, rehousing, billeting and general care of the homeless.

I can confidently say that no essential public health matter has been neglected, and this is due to the efficient, loyal service rendered by members of my staff, and the co-operation of colleagues in all departments.

I particularly commend my Deputy Mr. Eldridge, for the able way in which the functions of the Department were maintained during my absence, and his valuable help throughout the whole of the year.

I am, ladies and gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY McCLELLAND,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

