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COUNTY OF ABERDEEN

EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Conditions of the County of Aberdeen

FOR THE YEAR

1932

E I G H T H

A N N U A L R E P O R T

By The

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

On The

Health and Sanitary Conditions of the

County of Aberdeen

For The Year

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

(For the Districts and all the Burghs).

		Districts.	Burghs.	Total.
1.	Acreage	1,251,735	3,917	1,255,652
2.	Population	107,641	39,090	146,731
3.	Density of population per acre.	·086	10·0	·12
4.	Birth-rate	20·6	22.3	21·1
5.	Infantile Mortality. ...	65·3	72·2	67·2
6.	Death-rate	12·3	12·8	12·5

PREFACE.

I herewith submit my Eighth Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1932, on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the County of Aberdeen. There are also incorporated reports by the County Bacteriologist, by the Veterinary Inspector on the operation of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, and by the District and Burgh Sanitary Inspectors.

POPULATION.

According to the estimation of the Registrar-General to the middle of 1932, the population of the eight Districts was 107,641, and, of the ten Burghs, 39,090. The Registrar-General estimated that since the last census was taken on 26th April, 1931, the population has increased by 218 and 912 in the Districts and Burghs respectively.

BIRTH-RATE.

In 1932, there were 2,221 births in the Districts of the County - 142 more than in 1931. The birth-rate was 20.6 per 1,000 of population as compared with 18.6 for the whole of Scotland. In the Burghs the birth-rate was 22.

DEATH-RATE.

In the Districts, the number of deaths was 1,328, which equals a death-rate of 12.3 per 1,000 of population. The Scottish death-rate was 13.5. As regards the Burghs, the death-rate was 12.8.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases notified as suffering from scarlet fever and from diphtheria.

The concentration of the County Infectious Diseases Hospitals took effect as from 16th May, 1932. The infectious diseases hospitals were reduced in number from twelve to five. The hospitals at Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Huntly, Inverurie, and Aboyne, were retained for ordinary infections, whereas those at Summerfield, Ellon, Alford, Turriff, Ballater and Braemar, ceased to function as infectious diseases hospitals. Strichen Hospital was converted into a Tuberculosis Institution, and, in its changed character, valuable work has already been performed.

It was hoped that the abandoned infectious diseases hospitals would be converted into "cottage" hospitals and be controlled by voluntary organisations, such as the Local District Nursing Associations. None of the disused hospitals has yet been re-opened. If they are to be used as "cottage" hospitals, they cannot be supported entirely by the County Council for the treatment of those suffering from general ailments, as no scheme for such provision has been submitted to the Department of Health for Scotland, and, under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929, such submission and subsequent approval are essential. Several of these hospitals, such as those at Ballater, Ellon, Alford, and Turriff, would be ideal "cottage" hospitals, but the only assistance meantime obtainable from the County Council would be in respect of statutory cases.

The changed conditions have caused no inconvenience. During the year, the retained infectious diseases hospitals were able to cope with all the cases requiring indoor treatment.

The/

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis in the whole County was 104 - the same number as in 1931. Seventy-one of the deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 33 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The death-rate from all forms of tuberculosis was ·71 per 1,000 of population, ·48 for pulmonary tuberculosis and ·23 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The Scottish death-rate was ·84 for all forms, ·61 for pulmonary tuberculosis and ·23 for non-pulmonary forms of the disease.

A scheme for the co-ordination of the veterinary services of the County and City of Aberdeen has been passed by the County and Town Councils. This will result in the intensive physical examination of dairy cows, which will ultimately decrease the incidence of and death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

MOTHER AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme is gradually developing, and, from the preventive point of view, is one of the most important of the social services.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

The scheme for the medical inspection and treatment of school children continues to be carried out in a most satisfactory manner.

The value of dental treatment is now universally recognised. The Dental Board of the United Kingdom generously offered to send a Dental Exhibit, accompanied by a trained demonstrator, to certain schools in the County of Aberdeen. This offer was gladly accepted by the County Council. There were eleven demonstrations, to which adults were invited. The demonstrations - at all of which the Chief County Dentist was present - were of very great educational value and were highly appreciated both by children and adults. Much of the success was due to the lucid methods adopted by the demonstrator. The medical and dental staffs consider that the demonstrations brought home to those concerned how necessary it is to have dental attention given early. It is likely that the Dental Board will again send the Dental Exhibit to the County. In this connection, it may be stated that the only expenditure by the Council is the cost of transport of the demonstrator and of the specimens.

BLIND PERSONS SERVICES.

Regional Clinics for the certification of blindness have been established throughout the country, under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929.

It is hoped that, by means of these, uniformity of standard in deciding whether or not a person is blind will be attained. Prior to their institution, considerable variation was found in the standards of different certifying Medical Officers.

The Town Council of Aberdeen are responsible for the organisation of the North-Eastern Regional Clinic. Cases from the City and the County of Aberdeen and the County of Kincardine, as well as occasional cases from Banffshire, are examined by two Ophthalmic Surgeons approved by the Department of Health for Scotland. The cost to the Counties is that proportion of the whole cost that the number examined from the Counties bears to the total numbers examined.

During 1932, the number of Aberdeen County cases examined at the Clinic was 66, at home 6, and there were 3 re-examinations.

The/

The number of applications for Industrial Training was four; three were accepted for training and one was under consideration at the end of the year.

The Clinic, which is solely for the purpose of certification and is not in any way a Treatment Clinic, is held weekly on Friday afternoons. The number examined at each meeting varies from six to eight.

New cases not on the register are brought to our notice mostly by the local Voluntary Association.

HOUSING.

Considerable progress has been made in the County both as regards new houses and the reconstruction of old houses. The provision of 200 new houses under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, with the demolition of an equal number of uninhabitable houses, will greatly improve the rural housing conditions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

I wish again to put on record my thanks to the Heads of Departments and to the members of the staff for their loyalty and their willing and effective assistance in the work of the Department.

HARRY J. RAE,
Medical Officer of Health.

County Public Health Department,
4, Albyn Place,
Aberdeen.
20th July, 1933.

SECTION I.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE DISTRICTS.

1. Vital Statistics.

The population of the eight Districts of the County, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1932, was 107,641. The population of the Districts, as ascertained at the last four decennial censuses, was as follows:-

In 1901	the	population	was	124,007
In 1911	"	"	"	119,209
In 1921	"	"	"	113,567
In 1931	"	"	"	107,423

Between 1901 and 1931, the actual fall in the population was 16,584, and in the ten years from 1921 to 1931, it was 6,144.

In 1932, the natural increase in the population, that is, the excess of births over deaths, was 893, as compared with 674 in 1931.

Marriages.

In 1932, 506 marriages were registered as against 462 in 1931. The marriage-rate - the number of marriages per 1,000 of population - was 4.7.

Births.

The total number of births, corrected for inward and outward transfers, was 2,221. Of these, 1,128 were males and 1,093 females. There were 142 more births than in 1931. The Scottish birth-rate in 1932 was 18.6 per 1,000 of population and the County District birth-rate was 20.6. The corresponding figures for 1931 were 19.04 and 19.35 respectively.

From 1924 to 1930, the birth-rates in the Districts were:-

22.3 in 1924; 22.02 in 1925; 20.02 in 1926; 21.2 in 1927; 21.9 in 1928; 20.3 in 1929; 20.4 in 1930.

Of the total births 356 were illegitimate. The illegitimate birth-rate was 16.03 per 100 births. In 1931, it was 17.17 per 100 births; in 1930, 16.7; in 1929, 17.3; in 1928, 17.5; and in 1927, 16.04.

Deaths and Death-rate.

After making correction for transfers, it was found that the net number of deaths in the Districts was 1,328, equivalent to a death-rate of 12.3 per 1,000 of population. The death-rate in 1931 was 13.08.

In the Burghs, there were 502 deaths, representing a death-rate of 12.8 per 1,000 of population as compared with 15.4 in 1931.

The total number of deaths registered in Scotland was 66,045, representing a death-rate of 13.5.

Causes of Death.

The principal causes of death in the Districts and in the Burghs, with the number of deaths attributable to the various well-defined diseases, appear in Table I.

TABLE/

TABLE I.

Causes of Death	Districts	Ballater	Ellon	Fraserburgh	Huntly	Inverurie	Kintore	Oldmeldrum	Rosehearty	Turriff	Peterhead	Total for Burghs
Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels ...	269	9	4	23	7	10	4	4	-	9	30	100
Respiratory Diseases -												
Pneumonia	75	-	1	9	4	1	-	1	1	2	10	29
Bronchitis	43	-	1	3	2	2	-	-	3	2	6	19
Other	20	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	5
Cancer	152	1	2	11	11	2	2	1	2	2	22	56
Tuberculosis -												
Pulmonary	50	1	-	8	2	1	1	-	-	-	8	21
Non-pulmonary	19	-	1	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	8	14
Kidney Diseases	39	1	5	1	3	2	-	1	-	1	3	17
Chief Epidemic Diseases -												
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	11	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8
Whooping Cough ...	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Measles	8	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	4
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Enteric Fever	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis	10	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
Influenza	15	-	-	10	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	12
Puerperal Sepsis, &c. ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Diseases of early infancy	85	2	-	9	3	3	-	-	-	2	13	32
Violence	69	1	-	4	5	2	2	-	-	1	5	20

In regard to the causes of death, the following facts are worthy of note:-

(1) As compared with 1931, there were 17 fewer deaths from organic disease of the heart and blood vessels, the most common cause of death.

(2) In 1932, cancer caused 208 deaths, as compared with 222 in 1931.

2. Morbidity and Mortality from Infectious Diseases.

(a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Under this heading the numbers of infectious cases notified and treated include - unless otherwise stated - both the Districts and the Burghs.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified from the Districts and Burghs since 1925 was as follows:-

1925	.....	398 cases
1926	.....	627 "
1927	.....	603 "
1928	.....	577 "
1929	.....	356 "
1930	.....	296 "
1931	.....	223 "
1932	.....	317 "

The number of cases notified in the Districts was 211, and in the Burghs 106. The corresponding figures in 1931 were 170 and 53 respectively - an increase of 41 in the Districts and of 53 in the Burghs.

Age Incidence.- Of the 211 notifications from the Districts, 122, or 58 per cent., were of school age, and 44, or 20.9 per cent., were under school age.

The ages of the notified cases are given in Table II.

TABLE II.

Scarlet Fever.

(Age Incidence of Cases (Districts).

Districts	Under 1 Year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Deer	-	14	44	8	9	-	-	75
Ellon	1	9	26	8	1	-	-	45
Garioch	-	-	8	1	1	1	-	11
Deeside	-	1	4	3	-	-	-	8
Turriff	-	4	3	2	-	1	-	10
Aberdeen	-	7	21	3	3	-	-	34
Alford	-	5	10	-	3	1	-	19
Huntly	-	3	6	-	-	-	-	9
Totals	1	43	122	25	17	3	-	211
Percentage	.47	20.4	57.8	11.8	8.06	1.4	-	-

Seasonal Prevalence. - As has been our experience in the past, the period of greatest prevalence was towards the end of the year. Table III. shows the monthly incidence in the Districts and Burghs.

TABLE/

TABLE III.

Scarlet Fever.

Monthly Incidence of Cases (Districts and Burghs).

Month	Districts	Burghs	Total
January	18	2	20
February	10	10	20
March	22	8	30
April	17	12	29
May	14	8	22
June	20	5	25
July	7	3	10
August	12	10	22
September	18	6	24
October	31	12	43
November	17	19	36
December	25	11	36
Total	211	106	317

Institutional Treatment. - Of the 317 cases notified, 298 cases, or 94 per cent., were treated in infectious diseases hospitals. In Table IV. are given details relating to the cases treated institutionally. The number of days in hospital per completed case was 41.2. At the 16th May, 1932, Strichen, Ellon, Turriff, Summerfield, Alford, Ballater and Braemar Hospitals ceased to function as infectious diseases hospitals, and consequently the areas served by the remaining hospitals were greatly enlarged. Under the Scheme for the re-organisation of the Hospital Services, cases occurring in the neighbourhood of the City of Aberdeen were transferred to the Aberdeen City Hospital. On 16th May, 1932, Strichen was converted into a tuberculosis institution.

In Table IV. under "areas served", those places underlined denote extensions of areas necessitated by the hospital re-organisation.

TABLE/

TABLE III.

Similar Years.

Monthly Incidence of Cases (Diarrhoea and Dysentery).

Month	Diarrhoea	Dysentery	Total
January ...	18 ...	2 ...	20
February ...	10 ...	10 ...	20
March ...	22 ...	8 ...	30
April ...	17 ...	12 ...	29
May ...	14 ...	8 ...	22
June ...	20 ...	5 ...	25
July ...	7 ...	3 ...	10
August ...	12 ...	10 ...	22
September ...	13 ...	8 ...	21
October ...	34 ...	12 ...	43
November ...	17 ...	19 ...	36
December ...	25 ...	11 ...	36
Total ...	271 ...	106 ...	377

Institutional Treatment. - Of the 377 cases notified, 298 cases, or 79 per cent, were treated in infectious disease hospitals. In Table IV, are given details relating to the cases treated institutionally. The number of cases in hospital, per complated case was 31.2. At the 16th May, 1932, Stanhope, Elton, Hurley, Sunnyfield, Orford, Hillside and Grosvenor Hospitals ceased to function as infectious disease hospitals, and consequently the cases served by the resulting hospitals were greatly enlarged. Under the scheme for the re-organisation of the Hospital Services, cases occurring in the neighbourhood of this City of Liverpool were transferred to the Sheffield City Hospital. On this day, 1932, Stanhope was converted into a tuberculosis institution.

In Table IV, under "cases served", these places (referred above) represent the cases necessitated by the hospital re-organisation.

TABLE IV.

SCARLET FEVER - DISTRICTS AND BURGHS.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

Hospital.	Area served.	Number of admissions to Hospital.	Period of institutional treatment in days per completed case.	Number discharged during year.	Number of days in Hospital per completed case.	Number of deaths.
Strichen	Deer District; Rosehearty Burgh.	12	1,058	23	46	-
Ellon	Ellon District and Burgh.	11	592	14	42.4	-
Inverurie	District of Garioch and Burghs of Inverurie, Kintore and Oldmeldrum. Part of Aberdeen District.	40	1,159	28	41	-
Aboyne	Deeside District. Part of Aberdeen and Alford Districts.	23	802	23	35	-
Turriff	Turriff District and Burgh.	1	33	1	33	-
Summerfield	Aberdeen District.	5	481	11	44	1
Alford	Alford District.	10	419	10	42	-
Huntly	Huntly District and Burgh. Turriff Burgh and part of Turriff District and remainder of Alford District.	20	693	17	40.8	-
Ballater	Ballater Burgh.	-	-	-	-	-
Fraserburgh	Fraserburgh Burgh. Rosehearty Burgh. Part of Deer, Ellon and Turriff Districts.	77	2,997	73	41	-
Braemar	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE IV. (contd.)

Hospital.	Area served.	Number of admissions to Hospital.	Period of institutional treatment in days per completed case.	Number discharged during year.	Number of days in Hospital per completed case.	Number of deaths.
Peterhead	Peterhead Burgh. Part of Deer and Ellon Districts.	87	3,323	78	42.6	1
City Hospital, Aberdeen.	Oldmachar and Petercultcr (from Bieldside eastwards).	12	321	10	32.1	-
	Total	298	11,878	288	41.2	2

Mortality. - Two deaths occurred from this disease in 1932.

Diphtheria.

There was a slight increase of diphtheria cases notified, there being 217 notifications in 1932, as compared with 205 in 1931. In the Districts, 71 cases were notified as against 78 in 1931. In the Burghs, 146 cases were notified, as compared with 127 in 1931.

Tables V., VI., and VII., show respectively the age incidence, the monthly incidence, and details relating to institutional cases.

TABLE V.

Diphtheria.

Age Incidence of Cases (Districts).

Districts	Under 1 year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Deer	-	4	17	8	2	3	-	34
Ellon	-	2	4	1	2	-	-	9
Garioch	-	1	1	2	1	2	-	7
Deeside	-	1	7	-	2	-	-	10
Turriff	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Aberdeen	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	5
Alford	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Huntly	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Totals	-	9	32	14	10	6	-	71
Percentage	-	12.7	45.1	19.7	14.1	8.4	-	100

TABLE VI.

Diphtheria.

Monthly Incidence (Districts and Burghs).

Month		Districts		Burghs		Totals
January	...	13	...	11	...	24
February	...	3	...	20	...	23
March	...	4	...	9	...	13
April	...	3	...	4	...	7
May	...	1	...	12	...	13
June	...	4	...	9	...	13
July	...	10	...	5	...	15
August	...	5	...	16	...	21
September	...	9	...	6	...	15
October	...	-	...	12	...	12
November	...	9	...	23	...	32
December	...	10	...	19	...	29
Totals	...	71	...	146	...	217

TABLE VII.

Diphtheria

HOSPITAL TREATMENT (Districts & Burghs).

Hospital	Number of admissions to Hospital	Period of Institutional treatment in days per completed case	Number discharged during year	Number of days in Hospital per completed case	Number of deaths
Strichen	4	76	4	19	1
Ellon	2	44	2	22	-
Inverurie	4	64	4	16	-
Aboyne	12	274	10	27	1
Turriff	3	75	3	25	-
Summerfield	3	117	5	23	-
Alford	-	-	-	-	-
Huntly	5	31	3	10	-
Ballater	-	-	-	-	-
Fraserburgh	54	1,216	53	23	1
Braemar	-	-	-	-	-
Peterhead	119	2,759	106	26	5
City Hospital, Aberdeen	4	136	5	34	-
Totals	210	4,792	195	225	8

Mortality. - Eight deaths occurred amongst the 217 cases, representing a case mortality of 3.7 per cent., as compared with 5.8 per cent. in 1931, 3.6 per cent. in 1930 and 2.7 per cent. in 1929.

TYPHOID AND PARA-TYPHOID FEVERS.

In the year under review, 15 cases of typhoid and para-typhoid fever were notified, as compared with 17 in 1931. The cases were distributed as follows:-

Turriff District	.....	10 cases
Deer "	.....	2 "
Garioch "	.....	1 case
Aberdeen "	.....	1 "
Peterhead	.....	1 "

The number of notifications and of deaths from the "enterica" group since 1914 is given in the following Table:-

TABLE/

TABLE VIII.

Year	Notifications	Deaths	Percentage Case Mortality.
1914	25	3	12.
1915	19	4	21
1916	17	-	-
1917	22	4	18.2
1918	26	4	15.4
1919	16	3	18.8
1920	28	2	7.1
1921	23	4	17.4
1922	19	1	5.3
1923	13	1	7.7
1924	3	-	-
1925	22	2	9.1
1926	3	-	-
1927	22	1	4.5
1928	16	2	12.5
1929	40	3	7.5
1930	22	3	13.6
1931	17	1	5.9
1932	15	2	13.3
Totals .	368	40	10.9

Of the 15 cases, 12 suffered from typhoid fever and 3 from para-typhoid fever. Two deaths occurred from this disease.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).

In 1932, there were no notifications of this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica (Sleepy Sickness).

Encephalitis lethargica, epidemic encephalitis, or sleepy sickness, became a compulsorily notifiable disease in 1925. Two cases were notified and were treated in the City Hospital. One case died, the cause of death being Landry's Paralysis.

Polio-Encephalitis.

In 1932, one case of polio-encephalitis was notified. The case resided in the Aberdeen District and received institutional treatment in the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

Three cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred during the year.

In November, 1932, there was a limited outbreak of this disease in a village in the Buchan area. One of the medical staff was called, in consultation, to see a case which was suspected to be suffering from influenza. Investigation proved that the patient suffered from cerebro-spinal meningitis and pneumonia. As the patient was moribund, removal to hospital was impossible and he died shortly after examination. The family consisted of eight persons and two showed definite signs of suffering/

suffering from this disease and were removed for special serum treatment to the Aberdeen City Hospital. The third case, who had suspicious symptoms, was removed for observation, and, although the cerebro-spinal fluid proved to be positive, definite clinical symptoms did not supervene. All three who were removed to hospital made complete recoveries.

In this instance, the extreme virulence of the causal organism was shown by the fact that four out of the eight members of one family were affected. There was no doubt that the prompt segregation of the affected members was largely instrumental in preventing the spread of the disease.

Undulant Fever.

Two cases of undulant fever were notified - one from the Turriff and the other from the Aberdeen District. Both cases received treatment in the Aberdeen City Hospital and made complete recoveries.

There is no doubt that undulant fever is much more common in this country than was usually supposed. The causal organism is the Brucella Abortus. The chief symptoms are rise of temperature and malaise and these may persist for months. The only definite method of diagnosis is by blood examination.

Dr. John Smith, Bacteriologist to the Aberdeen Town Council, has carried out an important investigation into the incidence of Brucella Abortus in the milk supply of Aberdeen, as determined by guinea-pig inoculation. He found that 279 samples of raw milk showed 28.3 per cent. infection, that 192 samples of "flash" pasteurised milk showed 18 per cent. infection and that 187 samples of "holding" pasteurised milk (145°F. for 30 minutes) showed no infection. Dr. Smith is of opinion that, when the serum agglutination and cultural tests are employed, the results suggest that the actual total incidence of Brucella Abortus in milk is underestimated by the guinea-pig inoculation method.

During the past four years, Dr. Smith has tested for the Brucella Abortus and Brucella Melitensis all specimens submitted for the Widal Reaction - the blood test for the typhoid group. In all, 373 specimens sent in from cases suffering from various types of "fever" were so tested. Of these, 10 specimens were definitely found to contain agglutinins for Brucella Abortus in a dilution of 1/100 or more. Thus, 2.72 per cent. of cases were found to be suffering from a fever due to infection with Brucella Abortus. Investigation into the source of infection in each of these 10 cases led to the conclusion that the disease is chiefly conveyed through drinking raw milk and eating raw-milk products; in only one instance, did the clinical findings indicate that the organism had gained admission through an abrasion of the skin.

Bovine contagious abortion is widely distributed and the relative paucity of known human cases may be due to the fact that the illness often appears so slight that medical aid is not sought, and, as only a small proportion of those consuming infected milk develop the disease, individual susceptibility must play an important part. Thus, undulant fever does not appear in epidemic form. It has hitherto been regarded as a mild disease, but it often runs so prolonged a course, with depressing mental and physical effects, that authorities on the subject hold that intensive investigation by teams of bacteriologists, epidemiologists and veterinary workers is called for.

Acute Infective Jaundice.

No cases of this disease were notified in 1932.

Erysipelas.

One hundred and two cases of erysipelas were notified, as compared with 76 in 1931. Fifteen cases received institutional treatment. Three cases died.

Pneumonia.

Acute primary and acute influenzal pneumonia are notifiable diseases. Broncho-pneumonia, if acute and primary, is also notifiable.

In 1932, the number of cases of pneumonia notified in the Districts and Burghs was 320. In 1931, the number of notifications of acute pneumonias was 301. Of the 320 notified cases, 112 received institutional treatment.

In Woodend (Municipal) Hospital, special wards are allocated for the accommodation of patients suffering from acute pneumonia. For the past three years, anti-pneumococcic serum has been administered in selected cases, under the direction of Professor L. Stanley P. Davidson, Regius Professor of Medicine at Aberdeen University. A circular letter was sent to the County practitioners advising them of the special facilities available in this Hospital and it was pointed out that full benefit could be derived from the serum method of treatment only if patients were sent to Hospital in the early stages of the disease.

The advantages accruing from the administration of serum treatment in suitable cases are (1) the liability to distressing complications is diminished, (2) the crisis, which usually occurs on the seventh day, is hastened, (3) the period of convalescence is lessened, and, (4) the mortality rate is reduced.

Malaria.

One case of malaria was notified in 1932.

Dysentery.

Fourteen cases of dysentery were notified, as compared with 43 in 1931. One case was treated at the Aberdeen City Hospital and the others were treated at home.

Chicken-pox.

In 1932, 477 cases of chickenpox were notified. In 1931, the number notified was 237. Chicken-pox ceased to be a compulsorily notifiable disease as from 31st December, 1932.

Small-pox.

No case was notified during the year.

(b) Non-notifiable Diseases.

The three principal non-notifiable diseases are measles, whooping cough and mumps. It is not possible to obtain a true measure of the actual incidence of these diseases because they are not compulsorily notifiable. The chief source of information as to their incidence is obtained from Head Teachers. In 1932, 379 cases of measles, 82 cases of mumps and 40 cases of whooping cough were reported to the Public Health Department by Head Teachers.

3. Housing.

In 1932, 77 new houses were completed and 177 were in course of erection at the end of the year. During the past seven years, the total number of new houses provided in the Districts was 805. The following are the particulars for each year since 1926:-

Year	New Houses	In course of erection at end of year.
1926	124	69
1927	111	107
1928	149	70
1929	169	33
1930	82	58
1931	93	25
1932	77	177

In Table IX. are given the numbers of new houses completed in 1932 or in course of erection at the end of the year in each of the eight Districts. The number of applications under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act is also given.

TABLE/

TABLE IX.

HOUSING IN COUNTY DISTRICTS - 1932.

	Deer	Ellon	Garioch	Deeside	Turriff	Aberdeen	Alford	Huntly	Total
A. - Completed during 1932.									
1. With aid of Subsidy -									
(a) By Local Authority.	4	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	14
(b) By private enterprise.	2	2	3	9	2	21	-	-	39
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	1	1	-	3	-	11	2	6	24
B. - In course of erection at 31st December, 1932.									
1. With aid of Subsidy -									
(a) By Local Authority.	-	-	-	4	-	138	-	-	142
(b) By private enterprise.	-	-	3	3	-	24	1	1	32
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Totals	7	3	6	29	2	197	3	7	254
Population									107,641
Number of new houses completed in 1932, or in course of erection, per 1,000 of population.									2.3
Number of applications lodged during 1932 under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.	53	21	4	19	22	33	13	3	168

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926 and 1931.

The most important housing enactment in rural areas is the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. The Housing (Rural Workers) (Amendment) Act, 1931, enables Local Authorities to continue to give grants or loans up to 1st October, 1936.

During 1932, 168 applications were lodged under these Acts, through which there is available a grant of two-thirds of the estimated cost of the work, or a maximum sum of £100, in respect of each dwelling. Two stipulations which must be observed are that the cost of the works must be at least £50 and that the house on completion does not exceed £400 in value.

Much credit is due to Dr. C. W. Sleigh, Vice-Convener of the County, for the active part which he has taken in popularising the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, which have done more than any other legislative measure to stem the tide of rural depopulation.

Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 1931.

The Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 1931, enabled further State assistance to be given to County Councils for the provision, in rural areas, of houses for agricultural workers, or for persons of similar economic station. Under this Act, the Aberdeen County Council made application for 400 houses, but only 40 were granted. Negotiations are meantime in progress for the erection of these 40 houses throughout the County.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930.

This Act provides that insanitary houses may be dealt with by means of:-

(a) Clearance areas;

(b) Improvement areas; or

(c) Closure and demolition of individual houses.

In the rural areas of the County, insanitary houses could best be dealt with by the "improvement area" or the "individual house" method.

It has been announced that the unit grant under this Act will be reviewed in November, 1934, and, in view of this, it is necessary that Housing Schemes should be put into operation as soon as possible. Recently, the Sanitary Inspectors were asked to survey their areas and to give the number of dwellings which, in their opinion, should be closed and demolished. The results of these preliminary surveys showed that the number of houses which should be closed and demolished in all Districts was 395, distributed as follows:-

Deer District	.....	98
Ellon "	.....	44
Garioch "	.....	40
Deeside "	.....	27
Turriff "	.....	75
Aberdeen "	.....	24
Alford "	.....	47
Huntly "	.....	40
Total	.....	395

From this information, the housing needs of the County were considered by the Council who decided that two hundred houses should be built/

built and that, of those said to be unfit for human habitation, steps should be taken to make fit those which were capable of being so made. It is proposed that, under this Scheme, the new houses should, so far as possible, be built where adequate water supply and drainage facilities are available.

Aberdeen County Council have, during the past two years, been most progressive in their housing policy, and the erection of two hundred new houses will go a long way to improve materially the unsatisfactory housing conditions which exist in several areas throughout the County.

4. Disinfections.

The number of official disinfections of premises carried out by the several Sanitary Inspectors appears in Table X.

TABLE X.

	Deer	Ellon	Garioch	Deeside	Turriff	Aberdeen	Alford	Huntly	TOTAL
After Scarlet Fever	44	42	16	6	12	34	12	7	173
" Diphtheria	33	8	6	7	2	5	1	2	64
" Enteric Fever	4	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	9
" Tuberculosis	10	1	8	4	5	8	-	3	39
" Other Infections	-	2	1	12	7	7	-	6	35
Totals ...	91	53	31	29	30	55	13	18	320

The number of premises officially disinfected is gradually decreasing, and rightly so. In the vast majority of cases, infection is conveyed by personal contact, the disease organisms passing from one individual to another. It is true that in diseases like smallpox and pulmonary tuberculosis, intensive disinfection is still practised, but, in such diseases as measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria and cerebro-spinal meningitis, infection is conveyed by direct contact. It is generally recognised that the money spent on spraying rooms with gaseous disinfectants is wasted. In most instances, efficient disinfection consists of thorough cleansing of the bed clothes and premises and of free exposure of the rooms to sun and air for several hours.

It must again be emphasised that the only method of cleansing schoolrooms in which cases of, say, scarlet fever and diphtheria have occurred, is the free use of soap and water and the free aeration of the rooms.

5. Factory and Workshops Act.

In 1932, there were 969 factories and workshops on the register. Details as to their number, the number of inspections, of notices served and of defects found and remedied, appear in the following Table:-

TABLE/

TABLE XI.

	Deer	Ellon	Garioch	Deeside	Turriff	Aberdeen	Alford	Huntly	TOTAL
Number on Register	260	105	108	127	86	143	78	62	969
" of Inspections	81	85	96	120	133	123	127	33	798
Notices served under Section 2 (3), &c.	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	7
Defects found ...	2	6	5	2	1	8	3	4	31
" remedied ...	2	6	5	2	1	8	-	4	28

SECTION II.

THE HEALTH OF THE BURGHS.

The population of the Burghs, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1932, was 39,090.

As compared with the 1931 census figures, there was an increase of 912, an increase of population being estimated in each of the ten constituent Burghs in the County.

The population of the Burghs is given in Table I.

TABLE I.

BURGHS	1931 Census.	Population, as estimated to middle of 1932.	Estimated increase.
Ballater ...	1,198	1,218	20
Ellon ...	1,300	1,323	23
Fraserburgh .	9,720	9,966	246
Huntly ...	3,779	3,910	131
Inverurie ...	4,524	4,566	42
Kintore ...	755	774	19
Oldmeldrum ..	980	991	11
Rosehearty ..	1,079	1,130	51
Turriff ...	2,298	2,367	69
Peterhead ..	12,545	12,845	300
Totals ...	38,178	39,090	912

Marriages. - There were 308 marriages, representing a marriage-rate of 7.9 per 1,000 of population. The marriage-rate in 1931 was 8.6.

Births. - In Table II. are shown the total number of births, the corrected birth-rates, the number of illegitimate births and the illegitimate birth-rates.

TABLE /

TABLE II.

BURGHS.	Number (including illegitimate births).	Birth-rate (corrected).	Illegitimate Births.	Illegitimate Birth-rate per 100 total births.
Ballater ...	21	17.2	2	9.5
Ellon ...	33	24.9	4	12.1
Fraserburgh ..	221	22.2	28	12.6
Huntly ...	68	17.4	5	7.3
Inverurie ...	98	21.5	4	4.08
Kintore ...	17	21.9	-	-
Oldmeldrum ...	17	17.1	3	17.6
Rosehearty ...	33	29.2	4	12.1
Turriff ...	40	16.9	6	15
Peterhead ...	325	25.3	36	11
Totals ...	873	22.3	92	10.5
Corresponding figures for 1931.	813	21.3	82	10.08

Deaths and Death-rate. - There were 502 deaths, representing a death-rate of 12.8 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 15.4 in 1931.

The number of deaths and the death-rate per 1,000 of population is given in Table III.

TABLE III.

BURGHS.	Number of deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000
Ballater ...	16	13.1
Ellon ...	18	13.6
Fraserburgh ...	85	8.5
Huntly ...	42	10.7
Inverurie ...	25	5.5
Kintore ...	10	12.9
Oldmeldrum ...	8	8.07
Rosehearty ...	7	6.1
Turriff ...	22	9.3
Peterhead ...	119	9.2
Total. ...	352	9.

INCIDENCE /

INCIDENCE of the COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In 1932, there were notified 106 cases of Scarlet Fever and 146 cases of diphtheria, the numbers notified in 1931 being 53 and 127 respectively.

One case of para-typhoid B., notified in 1932, was treated institutionally. It occurred in Peterhead.

Data relating to the incidence of infectious diseases in the Burghs is contained in Section I. of this Report.

HOUSING.

The housing activities in the Burghs are recorded in the following Table. The Housing (Rural Workers) Acts are applicable to Burghs. In 1932, 8 applications for grants were made under these Acts.

TABLE IV.

Housing in Burghs - 1932.

	Ballater	Ellon	Fraser-burgh	Huntly	Inverurie	Kintore	Oldmeldrum	Rose-hearty	Turriff	Peterhead	Total
A. - Completed during 1932.											
1. With aid of Subsidy											
(a) By Local Authority	-	8	12	16	26	8	-	4	16	48	138
(b) By private enterprise	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	2	8
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
B. - In course of erection at 31st December, 1932.											
1. With aid of Subsidy.											
(a) By Local Authority	-	-	68	-	-	-	8	2	30	52	160
(b) By private enterprise	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals. ...	-	8	82	16	31	10	9	6	46	103	311
Population ...	1,218	1,323	9,966	3,910	4,566	774	991	1,130	2,367	12,845	39,090
Number of new houses completed in 1932, or in course of erection, per 1,000 of population. ...	-	6.04	8.2	4.09	6.7	12.9	9.08	5.3	19.4	8.02	7.9
Number of applications lodged during 1932 under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.	-	-	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	8

SECTION III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme embraces the eight Districts and ten Burghs within the County. The Scheme has been very successful and this success has been largely contributed to by the continued co-operation of the general practitioners and the valuable assistance rendered by the district nurses and by voluntary workers. The preventive work, carried out by the several Women's Rural Institutes, the V.A.D. and other voluntary organisations throughout the County, deserves special mention.

In the County, there are five Child Welfare Clinics. The Clinics in Huntly and Inverurie were established in 1926 and that at Bucksburn in 1928. In 1929 a Child Welfare Clinic was started in Ellon. The Peterhead Child Welfare Clinic has been in operation for several years. These Clinics have operated with increasing success, which has only been attained by the assistance and enthusiasm of the local general practitioners in the respective areas. At these Clinics, periodic lectures are given by medical men, nurses, Red Cross workers, and others.

Births and Birth-rates.

The population of the County, including the Burghs, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1932, was 146,731. The number of births registered was 3,094 and the birth-rate, 21.1. In 1931, the birth-rate was 19.9. Of the 3,094 births, 448 were illegitimate, giving an illegitimate birth-rate of 14.5 per 100 births, a similar rate as pertained in 1931.

Infantile Mortality.

"Infantile Mortality" means the number of children who die under one year of age. In 1932, the infantile mortality was 208 and the infantile mortality rate - the number of deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 registered births - was 67, as compared with 84.7 in 1931.

The causes of the 208 infantile deaths are shown in the following table:-

Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.
Measles	8
Whooping Cough	3
Other Epidemic Diseases	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2
Bronchitis	3
Influenza	-
Pneumonia	26
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	12
Nephritis	1
Diseases of Early Infancy and Malformations	116
Violent Deaths	6
Other Defined Diseases	27
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ...	2
Total ...	208

Maternal Mortality.

During 1932, there were 18 deaths of women from causes associated with/

with pregnancy or child-birth, including 1 death transferred from Dundee. Of these 18 deaths, 13 were classified by the Registrar-General as due to pregnancy or child-birth. Details regarding all of these deaths were obtained from the attending medical practitioners.

In 4 cases, death took place during pregnancy. In 3 cases, death followed abortion, and, in 1 case, labour was stated to have occurred prematurely. Eleven cases were attended by private practitioners and 7 were treated in public institutions.

Five of the patients died at home and 13 in public institutions.

Thirty-seven cases of puerperal fever were notified. The number notified in 1931, was 22. Thirty-two of the 37 cases were treated in the special Puerperal Wards of the Aberdeen City Hospital, 1 at Huntly Cottage Hospital and 1 at Kincardine O'Neil War Memorial Hospital, Torphins, and of these 4 died. Three were treated at home, and of these 1 died. An additional death of a woman belonging to the County of Aberdeen was transferred from Dundee, making in all 6 deaths from puerperal fever.

Eleven cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. The number notified in 1931 was 17. Of the 11 cases notified, 6 were treated in institutions in Aberdeen. The remaining 5 were treated at home, and of these 1 died.

The Regional Medical Officer for Mother and Child Welfare made a special enquiry into all the cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia, and in several cases was called into consultation by the practitioners in attendance.

Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.

The report for the year 1932 under the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915, is herewith submitted.

The number of midwives who, during the year, intimated their intention to practise in the district was seven.

Births in Area or District.

Total Number of Births during 1932.	Total Number of Deaths of New-born Children (within ten days) during 1932.	Actual Number of Births attended by Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of Deaths of New-born Children (within ten days) occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of cases not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1932.	
				Births	Deaths
3,094	70	245	6	-	-

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Total Number of Cases during 1932.	Actual Number of Cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1932.
9	1	-

Cases/

Cases of Puerperal Sepsis.

Total Number of cases during 1932.	Total Number of deaths during 1932. (Corrected for Transfers)	Actual Number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1932.	
				Cases	Deaths
37	5	-	-	-	-

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Total Number of cases during 1932.	Total Number of deaths during 1932.	Actual Number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1932.	
				Cases	Deaths
11	2	-	-	-	-

Cases of Still-Birth (Dead Born)

Total Number of Cases during 1932	Actual Number of Cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1932.
46	8

Cases of Emergency.

Notifications were received from midwives of having in 48 cases sent for medical assistance. In all cases medical assistance was obtained. In 45 cases, the assistance was required for the mother and in 3 cases for the child.

Summary of Cases.

1.	During pregnancy.	2
2.	During parturition.	38
3.	After parturition.	5
4.	For infant.	3
		48

£80. 15. 6 was paid to doctors for the above services.

Provision/

Provision of Foods.

During 1932, foods and milk were granted to 102 mothers and to 50 children. A considerable amount of Virol and Glaxo was supplied at cost price. The total sum expended on foods was £120. 10. 11, as compared with £101. 12. 5, in 1931.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

There is no definite arrangement for the institutional treatment of County children contracting these diseases. Where the home circumstances do not permit of the patient being properly nursed and attended to at home, accommodation is obtained either in one of the County Infectious Diseases Hospitals or in the City Hospital, Aberdeen.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Nine cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year, as compared with 8 in 1931. All of these belonged to the landward area, and were all notified by general practitioners. Four of the cases received institutional treatment in the Aberdeen City Hospital, the remaining five being treated at home. In none of the cases was vision impaired.

Epidemic Diarrhoea.

Twelve deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis occurred amongst children under one year of age. During the year under review, there was no outbreak of epidemic diarrhoea in the County.

Provision for Sick Children.

Ailing children under five years of age may be admitted to (1) the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children, (2) the special Children's Wards of the Aberdeen City Hospital, and (3) Burnside Home. In 1933, the Town Council vacated Burnside Home, and, in its stead, have purchased Thorngrove, Mannofield. A limited number of beds is set aside in Linn Moor Convalescent Home, Culter, for the reception of pre-school children.

Home-Helps.

No home-helps were supplied by the County Council during 1932.

Maternity Hospital and Ante-Natal Annexe.

The arrangements made some years ago between the County Council and the Maternity Hospital Directors are still in operation. The County patients are admitted to this institution at a weekly charge of 30s.

In 1932, 62 County patients were treated in the Maternity Hospital and 53 in the Ante-Natal Annexe. The cost to the County was £116. 13. 0, as compared with £119. 3. 4, in 1931.

The following Table shows the attendances, during the year, at the various Child Welfare Clinics:-

	Huntly	Inverurie	Bucksburn	Ellon	Peterhead
Enrolled:-					
Mothers	67	80	98	26	203
Babies (-1 year)	55	46	58	12	203
Children (1-5 years)	31	73	56	22	53
Total Attendances:-					
Mothers	680	751	618	195	3,397
Babies (-1 year)	636	535	477	81	2,054
Children (1-5 years)	95	491	522	150	770

SECTION IV.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Number of Schools and Pupils.

The number of schools in the area is 235. The number of children on the register as at 31st July, 1932, was 26,413. The percentage of attendance was 92.1, as compared with 90.3 in the previous year.

Number of Visits to Schools.

The number of visits by the Medical Officers to schools for routine or systematic examination was 515. The number of special visits, that is, visits other than for purposes of systematic examination, was 390. The corresponding figures for 1930-31 were 484 routine and 479 special examinations.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

A. Total Number of Children examined -

(a) Systematic Examination -

Beginners	2,624	
Nine-year-olds ...	2,837	
Twelve-year-olds ...	2,986	
Sixteen-year-olds ...	156	
		8,603
(b) Special cases examined at special visits and re-examinations.		7,932
Total ...		16,535

B. Number of children notified to parents as suffering from defects ... 1,693

Number placed under observation for re-examination at subsequent visits, without treatment being recommended. 3,687

C. Number of children receiving attention -

Out of 1,515 defects in children, excluding teeth, 1,091 i.e. 72 per cent., received attention during the year.

In the following statements, 8,603 is the number of pupils who underwent the full systematic examination, the only exception being the statement relating to visual acuity. The eyesight of entrants is not tested, and the total number of systematic cases whose eyesight was tested was 5,979, as compared with 5,158 in the previous year.

D. Clothing -

Clothing was found to be insufficient, dirty, or in bad repair in only 40 cases or •4 per cent. Eight special cases were found to be unsatisfactory in this respect.

E. Footgear -

Footgear was found to be unsatisfactory in 9 cases or •1 per cent. and in two special cases.

F/

F. Average Height and Weight of Children -

Table I.

Boys.

No. of Children.	Average Age in years.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
65	4 7/12	39.4	38.8
808	5 3/12	42.2	42.5
425	6 3/12	44.5	45.2
75	7 4/12	45.1	47.1
775	8 7/12	47.6	51.7
626	9 3/12	49.3	57.2
844	11 7/12	51.2	68.1
678	12 2/12	55.3	74.1
24	15 5/12	64.3	119.3
39	16 1/12	65.2	123.5

Girls.

No. of Children.	Average Age in years.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
53	4 8/12	39.2	39.1
792	5 6/12	42.5	42.8
481	6 3/12	44.3	44.1
60	7 4/12	45.3	47.6
696	8 8/12	47.4	50.9
605	9 6/12	51.1	57.8
836	11 6/12	53.5	69.8
648	12 2/12	55.6	75.5
55	15 7/12	62.2	110.1
22	16 2/12	63.4	118.6

G. Cleanliness of Head and Body -

(a) Head -

Dirty or Nits	...	...	368 or 4.2 per cent.
Verminous	...	...	62 or .7 " "
Special Cases	...	...	190

(b) Body -

Dirty	...	...	36 or .4 per cent.
Verminous	...	...	11 or .1 " "
Special Cases	...	...	6

H. Condition of Skin -

(a) Head -

Ringworm	...	...	8 or .09 per cent.
Impetigo	...	...	33 or .3 " "
Favus	...	...	- -
Other diseases	...	...	2 or .02 " "
Special Cases	...	...	-

(b) Body -

Ringworm	...	...	- -
Impetigo	...	...	5 or .05 per cent.
Scabies	...	...	5 or .05 " "
Other diseases	...	...	11 or .1 " "
Special Cases	...	...	5

I/

I. Nutrition -

Above Average	486 or 5.6 per cent.
Average	7,999 or 92.9 " "
Below Average	116 or 1.3 " "
Very Bad	2 or .02 " "
Special Cases	38

J. Teeth -

Sound	1,019 or 11.8 per cent.
1-4 decayed	6,548 or 76.1 " "
5 or more decayed	942 or 10.9 " "
Oral Sepsis	94 or 1.09 " "
Special Cases	57

K. (a) Nose -

Catarrh	348 or 4.04 per cent.
Obstruction	83 or .9 " "
Other diseases	1 or .01 " "
Special Cases	34

(b) Throat -

Tonsils -

Slightly enlarged ...	982 or 11.4 per cent.
Markedly enlarged ...	260 or 3.02 " "

Adenoids -

Probably present ...	120 or 1.4 per cent.
Present	21 or .2 " "
Other diseases	13 or .1 " "
Special Cases	30

(c) Lymphatic Glands -

1. Submaxillary -

Palpably enlarged ...	2,012 or 23.4 per cent.
Markedly enlarged ...	76 or .9 " "
Suppurating	1 or .01 " "
Cicatrices	46 or .5 " "
Special Cases	29

2. Cervical -

Palpably enlarged	652 or 7.4 per cent.
Markedly enlarged ...	13 or .1 " "
Suppurating	1 or .01 " "
Cicatrices	25 or .2 " "
Special Cases	32

L. External Eye Disease -

Blepharitis	182 or 2.1 per cent.
Conjunctivitis	24 or .2 " "
Corneal Opacities ...	6 or .07 " "
Squint	153 or 1.8 " "
Other diseases	20 or .2 " "
Special Cases	112

M. Visual Acuity (number examined 5,979)

Good Vision	5,516 or 92.2 per cent.
Fair Vision	330 or 5.6 " "
Bad Vision	133 or 2.2 " "
Special Cases	118

(The vision of entrants is not tested)

N/

N. Ears -

Otorrhoea	... ...	40 or .5 per cent.
Wax	... ...	26 or .3 " "
Other Diseases	... ...	6 or .07 " "
Special Cases	... ...	19

O. Hearing -

Slightly deaf	... ...	17 or .1 per cent.
Markedly deaf	... ...	3 or .03 " "
Special Cases	... ...	12

P. Speech -

Defective Articulation	...	48 or .5 per cent.
Stammering	... ...	22 or .2 " "
Special Cases	... ...	15

Q. Mental Condition -

Backward	... ...	63 or .7 per cent.
Mentally Defective.	...	4 or .04 " "
Special Cases	... ...	71

R. Heart and Circulation -

Acquired organic disease	..	65 or .7 per cent.
Congenital " "	...	13 or .1 " "
Functional disease	...	210 or 2.4 " "
Anaemia	... ...	142 or 1.6 " "
Special Cases	... ...	18

S. Lungs -

Chronic Bronchitis	...	34 or .3 per cent.
Tuberculosis	... ...	2 or .02 " "
Suspected Tuberculosis	...	5 or .05 " "
Other diseases	...	25 or .2 " "
Special Cases	... ...	26

T. Nervous System -

Epilepsy	... ...	3 or .03 per cent.
Chorea	... ...	1 or .01 " "
Paralysis	... ...	14 or .1 " "
Other diseases	... ...	1 or .01 " "
Special Cases	... ...	12

U. Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)

Glandular	... ...	- -
Bones and Joints	. ...	5 or .05 per cent.
Abdominal	... ...	- -
Skin	... ...	- -
Other forms	... ...	3 or .03 " "
Special Cases	... ...	7

V. Rickets -

Slight Rickets	... ...	26 or .2 per cent.
Marked Rickets	... ...	- -
Special Cases	... ...	1

W. Deformities -

Congenital	... ...	91 or 1.05 per cent.
Acquired	... ...	66 or .7 " "
Special Cases	... ...	5

X/

X.	Infectious and Contagious Diseases	29 or .3 per cent.
	Special Cases.	35 or .4 " "
Y.	Other Diseases and Defects ...	177 or 2.5 per cent
	Special Cases	49

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

	Whole-time Dentists.	Part-time Dentists.
Inspection -		
Number of schools inspected ...	100	19
Number of scholars inspected ...	7,256	1,044
Number of scholars with sound teeth	2,751	372
Percentage with sound teeth ...	37.9%	35.6%
Number of cases where parents were notified	4,505	672
Number of Consents	3,122	476
Percentage of Consents	69%	70%
Treatment -		
Number of schools visited ...	97	26
Number of scholars recommended and treated	2,900	-
Total number treated including "specials"	3,102	988
Number of extractions -		
Temporary	3,357	1,486
Permanent	1,226	422
Number of fillings -		
Temporary	654	66
Permanent	1,435	352

Amount of fees received - £67. 5. 9.

As a general rule, a tooth that is found on inspection by a dentist to be sound will not within a year have become unsavable. Treatment visits to a school should, therefore, not be at intervals of more than a year. For some time it has not been possible to work up to this standard in the County and the intervals between visits to a school have perforce frequently been two years or even more. The number of schools in which dental inspection was made was 119 and the number visited for treatment of those children found on inspection to be in need of treatment was 123.

To overtake the whole of the work in each year an increase of staff would be required.

One factor that reduces the number treated is the treatment of children whose parents ultimately agree to treatment after several previous refusals. It was suggested some years ago that after, say, three refusals no further opportunity of treatment be given. This was not agreed to by the Education Authority. The result is that as much time is spent on putting into fair condition a mouth that should have been attended to years before as would suffice for the efficient treatment of possibly half a dozen children who, by reason of earlier consent, require less treatment each. In other words, the result is one/

one child with a mouth in fair dental condition instead of half a dozen children with mouths in really good condition.

Too many parents delay dental treatment for their children until toothache supervenes. On several occasions parents have, through the head teacher or directly, demanded treatment by the school dental staff. Even if it were possible and desirable to fulfil these demands, which would entail loss to many children for the slight benefit of a few, the only useful procedure would be extraction, as decay by that time is so advanced that no conservative dentistry can be practised.

School dentistry aims at preserving the teeth; extractions should be few relative to fillings, and toothache should be practically unknown.

Work on the temporary teeth is not wasted effort as is believed by some parents. The condition of the temporary teeth has a profound effect on the permanent teeth.

Parents are not so ignorant as to the benefits to their children of regular dental inspection and treatment as they were ten years ago. The percentage of consents has more than doubled in that time. Still there is need for more education of the public on this subject.

Dental Exhibit. - During the year the Dental Board generously sent a Dental Exhibit, accompanied by a trained demonstrator to the County. The Centres visited were Fraserburgh, Rosehearty, Peterhead, Ellon, Oldmeldrum, Inverurie, Turriff, Huntly, Bucksburn and Ballater. The Exhibit consisted of cases of models showing the structure of the teeth, the progress of decay, the development of the teeth at different ages, various irregularities caused by bad habits, and a perfect set of teeth contrasted with a dirty and neglected set of teeth. In addition to these, there was a case of mounted animals' heads showing the special dentition of different species. In the schools a short talk was given to the assembled children who then came up to the Exhibit in groups and had the models explained to them in more detail and the points made in the talk illustrated. The children attending were over eleven years of age.

The Local District Nursing Associations and the District Women's Rural Institutes were informed of the meetings and their co-operation was asked towards gaining the interest of the general public.

The demonstrations were of very great educational value and will, in all probability, be repeated periodically. Efforts will be made to secure a better attendance of the general public.

Eye Treatment.

Dr. Galloway examined 797 cases as compared with 668 cases in 1930-31.

Centres visited.	Number of cases treated.
Aberdeen	42
Huntly	82
Insch	39
Turriff	77
Maud	49
Peterhead	160
Ellon	26
Oldmeldrum	31
Inverurie	66
Strichen	12
Kemnay	25
Fraserburgh	97
Bucksburn	24
Aboyne	28
Alford	39
Total ...	797

Analysis of cases:-

Spectacles ordered	617
Glasses satisfactory or unnecessary	158
Corneal nebulae	6
Conjunctivitis	4
Blepharitis	3
Strumous ophthalmia	2
Corneal ulcer	1
Left intraocular neoplasm (enucleation advised)	1
Sequelae of ophthalmia neonatorum (re-examination)	1
Posterior polar cataract ...	1
Congenital amblyopia (right eye)	1
Right orbital fracture with divergent strabismus and optic atrophy ...	1
Fitting artificial eye ...	1
	797

In those children for whom spectacles were prescribed, the various errors occurred in the following proportions:-

Hypermetropia ...	308	=	49.91 per cent.
Hypermetropic Astigmatism.	122	=	19.77 " "
Myopia ...	57	=	9.23 " "
Myopic Astigmatism ...	84	=	13.6 " "
Mixed Astigmatism ...	46	=	7.45 " "

Convergent strabismus occurred in 14.5 per cent. of the cases of hypermetropia, and in only 1.2 per cent. of the cases of hypermetropic astigmatism.

Associated with refractive errors, the following affections were found:- 3 cases of corneal nebulae and blepharitis; 1 case each of congenital cataract (right eye); old iritis (left eye); posterior polar cataract; aphakia (left); partial dislocation of lens (right); ptosis; congenital coloboma of iris and choroid (both eyes); hydrocephalus with optic atrophy (right eye).

Thirty-four cases were notified for special observation and treatment, including the one for which enucleation was advised.

SECTION V.

TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES.

At the beginning of the present century, tuberculosis was regarded as a scourge of the first magnitude and diagnosis of the condition was, in many cases, a veritable death sentence. Happily, it need no longer be counted as such. The decline both in the incidence and severity of the disease has been rapid, especially during the last fifty years. The present conception with regard to tuberculosis is that the causal organism gains entrance to the body in early life where it may lie latent, but, in later life, debilitating factors may cause it to "light up" with disastrous results. Until a specific remedy is found against tuberculosis, preventive medicine must try firstly to guard young children against gross infection from tuberculous adults and from milk of tuberculous cows, and secondly, to obviate the further development of tuberculosis in later life by early recognition of the condition, followed by prompt treatment.

Aberdeenshire possesses a very complete scheme. Early or "suspect" cases are examined at one of the six dispensaries in the County or at the patients' homes. Diagnostic means, such as X-rays, are available to all. The occurrence of tuberculosis in children is minimised by a period of residence in the excellent "preventorium" at Linn Moor Convalescent Home, Culter. Early cases are sent to Newhills Sanatorium, while Strichen Hospital is now devoted solely to tuberculous patients and is the main sanatorium for the area. Woodend Hospital furnishes treatment of a highly specialised nature, and, in addition, accommodates all cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis requiring surgical intervention. A few pulmonary cases are still dealt with in Noranside Sanatorium, Fern, by Brechin, and a number of non-pulmonary cases are accommodated in the Cottage Hospitals at Fyvie, Insch and Torphins. In selected cases, open air shelters and grants for food and drugs are supplied under the domiciliary scheme.

STATISTICS.

During the year 1932, 278 new cases were notified as compared with 261 in 1931 and 255 in 1930. In addition to the 278 primary notifications, 13 cases were found to have been previously notified to the Medical Officers of Health of the areas where they previously resided and were thus "transfer" cases. There were also 27 re-notifications of cases who had been previously notified in the County or had been notified by more than one practitioner. Of the 278 cases notified, 124 suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis and 154 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The distribution of these cases in age and sex groups appears in Table I.

TABLE I.

Number of Cases notified as suffering from Tuberculosis in 1932.

		Under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Total.
Pulmonary	Males	2	3	6	10	16	2	18	1	58
	Females	2	7	7	24	11	9	6	-	66
Non-Pulmonary	Males	15	28	12	12	5	4	4	1	81
	Females	11	14	12	23	7	2	4	-	73
Total ...		30	52	37	69	39	17	32	2	278

Sources of Notifications.

The sources of the notified cases were as follows:-

1.	Notified by General Practitioners ...	247
2.	Notified by Medical Officers of Medical and Surgical Hospitals	23
3.	Notified by County Medical Officers of Health.	5
4.	Notified by Medical Officers of Mental Institutions	3
5.	Notified by Medical Officers of Health of other areas ("Transfers")	13
6.	Re-notifications	27
	Total	318

Localisation of Disease.

The parts of the body affected in the 154 non-pulmonary cases were:-

1.	Glands	83
2.	Bones and Joints ..	27
3.	Brain membranes ..	11
4.	Abdomen	15
5.	Other sites (including lupus)	18
	Total ...	154

Occupational Incidence.

The vocations of the 278 cases notified are given in the following Table:-

TABLE II.

Occupation.	Number of Cases.		
	Total	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
Schoolboys ..	49	9	40
Schoolgirls ..	38	14	24
Housewives ..	35	25	10
Children ..	30	4	26
Domestic Servants	24	10	14
Farm Servants ..	23	16	7
At Home ..	11	6	5
No occupation ..	9	6	3
Fishermen ..	7	6	1
Labourers ..	7	5	2
Farmers ..	7	5	2
Stonemasons ..	4	3	1
Gardeners ..	4	3	1
Joiners ..	4	2	2
Carters ..	2	1	1
Clerks ..	2	1	1
Miscellaneous ..	22	8	14
Total ..	278	124	154

The above table, read in conjunction with Table I. which gives the/

the age distribution, shows that pulmonary tuberculosis continues to be more prevalent in females, housewives, schoolgirls and domestic servants being especially susceptible. It is possible that the anaemia, recently shown to exist in females of the poorer class from puberty to middle life, serves as a predisposing factor. On the other hand, non-pulmonary tuberculosis is, if anything, commoner in males, and, of the total 154 cases notified, actually 40 were schoolboys; tuberculosis of the glands of the neck form the bulk of these cases. Non-pulmonary tuberculosis due to infection from milk of tuberculous animals is preventible and it is of the utmost importance that children should receive tubercle-free milk. Frequent inspection of dairy herds eliminates many infected cattle, but the milk of unsupervised animals in small crofts may cause serious and even fatal illness to children.

Mortality.

The number of cases who were notified in 1932, and who died before the end of the year, was 30. The percentage of deaths to notifications within the year was 10.8, as compared with 15 in 1931, 11 in 1930, 9.8 in 1929 and 10.9 in 1928.

All forms of tuberculosis accounted for 104 deaths, of which 71 were pulmonary and 33 non-pulmonary. The total number of deaths in 1931 was 104; in 1930, 108; in 1929, 113; in 1928, 139; and in 1927, 132.

The total number of deaths from tuberculosis in the County, namely, 104, represents a death-rate of 0.71 per 1,000. The 71 deaths attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis represent a death-rate of 0.48 per 1,000.

Throughout Scotland, in 1932, deaths from all forms of tuberculosis numbered 4,124, equivalent to a death-rate of 0.85 per 1,000. Of the 4,124 deaths, 2,992 were ascribed to tuberculosis of the lungs, and this number equals a death-rate of 0.61 per 1,000.

In Table III. are given the ages at death, in five age-groups, amongst pulmonary deaths during the past six years.

TABLE III.

Age Groups	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927
Under 15 years	6	7	5	5	3	5
15-25 years	11	13	18	13	31	20
25-45 "	33	32	26	37	44	47
45-65 "	17	18	17	20	21	25
Over 65 years	4	4	-	5	3	5
Totals.	71	74	66	80	102	102

TREATMENT.

1. Institutional Treatment.

The distribution of the 278 primary cases is shown in Table IV.

TABLE/

TABLE IV.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary	
A. Admitted to approved institutions ...	87	-	..	79	-
B. Not admitted to approved institutions because:-					
(1) Refused to go to institutions	-	1	..	-	3
(2) Died before commencement of institutional treatment	-	1	..	-	-
(3) Inmates of Asylum, &c.	-	2	..	-	1
(4) Inmates of Voluntary Hospitals ...	-	2	..	-	20
(5) Visitors or left area	-	-	..	-	-
(6) Unsuitable for institutional treatment or such treatment not required ...	-	28	..	-	50
(7) Awaiting institutional treatment at end of year	-	3	..	-	1
	87	37	..	79	75
Total	124		..	154	

It will be seen that 166 of the notified primary cases received institutional treatment.

In addition, several patients received treatment who had been notified previous to 1932, and others were admitted for diagnostic purposes only. Few of the children admitted to Linn Moor Home were notified cases.

In the following Table is given the distribution in Sanatoria and Hospitals of the cases primarily notified in 1932, of those who were notified prior to 1932 but who received treatment for the first time in that year, and of observation and pre-tuberculous cases:-

TABLE V.

Institutions	Insured		Uninsured		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Sanatoria ..	6	2	2	7	17
Hospitals ..	38	22	30	53	143
Linn Moor Convalescent Home	-	-	22	14	36
Totals ..	44	24	54	74	196

Duration of Treatment.

The average duration of stay in institutions was 191 days.

Dental Treatment.

The whole-time County dental Surgeons visit the tuberculosis institutions/

institutions and treat annually a number of patients. The scope of their work during 1932 is shown in the following Table.

TABLE VI.

Name of Institution	Treatment carried out			Total number of "Treatments"	Total number of patients treated.
	Extraction	Filling	Scaling		
Newhills Sanatorium	15	3	5	23	16
Noranside Sanatorium	5	-	8	13	8
Linn Moor Convalescent Home ..	20	-	1	21	15
Thomas Walker Hospital, Fraserburgh ..	4	6	1	11	11
Peterhead Burgh Hospital ..	5	2	1	8	4
Strichen Hospital	5	-	1	6	6
Totals.	54	11	17	82	60

2. Domiciliary Treatment.

A large number of patients have applied for domiciliary help and it has been found convenient to issue an application form with a questionnaire regarding their resources, number of dependents, &c.

Special foods to the value of £395. 19. 5d., and drugs costing £243. 6. 10½d., were supplied to 64 patients. The corresponding figures in 1931 were £369. 0. 2½d., and £223. 5. 2d., for food and drugs respectively. Fifty-six selected patients had the use of open air shelters.

3. Dispensary Treatment.

An increasing number of patients attend the 6 dispensaries operating at the following centres:- The Central Dispensary at 4, Albyn Place, Aberdeen, and branch dispensaries at Huntly, Inverurie, Peterhead, Fraserburgh and Bucksburn. At the Central Dispensary, patients are examined every Friday, and at the branch dispensaries clinics are conducted fortnightly. In Table VII. are given the numbers who attended the individual clinics and also the total number of visits to these clinics:-

TABLE VII.

Dispensary	Number of Patients	Total Number of Visits.
1. Central	167	224
2. Huntly	30	96
3. Inverurie	24	103
4. Peterhead	59	114
5. Fraserburgh	39	100
6. Bucksburn	40	180
Totals	359	817

During/

Institutions and Lupus annually a number of patients. The scope of their work during 1932 is shown in the following Table:-

TABLE VI.

Place of Institution	Treatment carried out: Extraction	Filling	Scaling	Total number of "treatments"	Total number of patients treated
Cumbria Sanatorium	45	3	5	23	16
Cumberland Sanatorium	5	-	6	15	8
Lancashire Moor Convalescent Home	20	7	1	21	15
Manchester Welsby Hospital, Prestwich	6	5	1	11	11
Sutherland Burgh Hospital	5	2	1	9	4
Wrekin Hospital	5	-	1	5	6
Totals	86	17	17	82	60

2. Domiciliary Treatment.

A large number of patients have applied for domiciliary help and it has been found convenient to issue an application form with a questionnaire regarding their occupation, number of dependants, etc.

Special funds to the value of £293. 19s. 5d., and drugs costing £241. 8. 10d., were supplied to 63 patients. The corresponding figures in 1931 were £320. 4. 3d., and £227. 9. 2d., for food and drugs respectively. Fifty-six patients received both the use of open air shelters.

3. Dispensary Treatment.

As in previous years, a number of patients attend the 6 dispensaries connected with the Tuberculosis Scheme. The Central Dispensary at 4, Aitken Place, Blackburn, and branch dispensaries at Bamfurlong, Burnley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Stockport and Darlington. At the Central Dispensary patients are examined every Friday, and at the branch dispensaries clinics are held once a fortnight. In Table VII. are given the numbers who attended the individual clinics and also the total number of visits to these clinics.

TABLE VII.

Dispensary	Number of Patients	Total Number of Visits.
1. Darlington	181	324
2. Burnley	30	36
3. Stockport	31	104
4. Ashton-under-Lyne	29	114
5. Bamfurlong	50	100
6. Blackburn	40	180
Totals	359	847

Dentry/

During 1932, 194 radiograms of the chest and 110 of other parts of the body of patients referred by the Tuberculosis Medical Officers, were taken at Woodend Hospital.

SECTION VI.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL SERVICES.

Buchan Combination Home.

Following on the suggestion of the Department of Health, the County Council had proposed that the Chief Medical Officer of Health be appointed Administrative Officer for the Home. Banff County Council concurred as also did the Board of Management. In accordance, therefore, with the Circular Letter, dated 7th January, 1933, the Annual Report of Dr. James Ritchie, Clinical Medical Officer, is herewith appended:-

"I beg to submit my Annual Report regarding the Buchan Combination Home for the year ended 31st December, 1932, as follows:-

This Institution, which was built in the year 1867, is of substantial construction, being built of stone and lime; it is in a good state of preservation both outside and inside. It is situated in close proximity to Maud Railway Junction and is quite accessible and near the main roads leading to the various parts of the County.

The accommodation has been in no way taxed during the year; this is probably due to the fact that almshouses and Homes in the County were utilised for the accommodation of the aged and infirm. The Institution is heated by low pressure hot water circulation which is comparatively modern and maintains an equable temperature throughout the building.

An electrical plant for illuminating purposes was installed three years ago and has proved to be a great boon to patients and staff alike. The only method of ventilation in use is the natural system, the windows serve as the chief fresh air inlets, and the vitiated air is extracted by the chimneys. In addition there are "square boxes" about 16 inches in diameter passing along the ceiling; these are pierced at intervals by small holes and finally enter the chimneys on a level with the ceiling; there are also valved openings into the chimneys. The chief disadvantage of the ventilating arrangements is that the majority of the rooms are so arranged as not to permit of cross ventilation.

The inmates are classified according to physical condition. There is no special period fixed for the revision of their classification, but any inmate found to be requiring extra attention is transferred to the appropriate class.

There is one nurse who attends to both the male and female sick wards; she is supervised by the Matron who is a trained nurse. At times the work involved in attending to every essential detail is too much. I am given to understand that the patients who are classified as sick are to be removed to some hospital more appropriate for their medical condition, but I am of opinion that some provision must remain for inmates suffering from trivial and transitory illness.

The dietary of the inmates both in the ordinary and sick wards is quite sufficient and satisfactory both for adults and young children. During the year there were 76 inmates treated in the sick wards, comprising 30 men, 45 women and 1 boy. There were 63 discharged - 22 men, 40 women and 1 boy. There were 15 deaths - 9 men and 6 women.

The cases under treatment with the exception of a number of cases of influenza were chiefly of the chronic sick type. The cases under treatment may be classified as follows:-

Disease/

Disease of the Nervous System	...	10
" " " Circulatory System	..	10
" " " Respiratory "	...	8
" " " Digestive "	...	2
General Disease ...	...	25
Epidemic " ...	...	12
Senility ...	...	8
Injury ...	...	1

Special treatment for venereal disease is provided at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary under a Joint Scheme for the Aberdeen City and North Eastern Counties.

Cases requiring operations or special treatment are treated by arrangement at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Woodend Hospital.

Obstetrical cases are examined in the Maternity Ward before confinement and treated as required. Fourteen cases were admitted during the year; of these it was found necessary to send one case to the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen, in order to obviate any risk during parturition. All the other cases were normal in every respect. One case was instrumental. All cases of newly born children have their eyes irrigated with boracic solution and then one per cent solution of nitrate of silver is dropped into the eyes.

The Home is visited by me on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, when the sick inmates are seen and attended to. At the same time, any other inmate complaining of any ailment is seen, examined and removed to the sick ward, if necessary. In addition, I visit the Home at any time when specially sent for.

Medicine and medical appliances are sufficient and are supplied as required.

The supply of hot and cold water is quite adequate. The sick are bathed weekly and, if necessary, cases unable to go to the bathroom are often sponge-bathed.

There is a good system of sewage disposal; the separate system is the one in use; the drains are in good order and efficiently trapped. The ultimate disposal of the sewage is into a cesspool which has been recently constructed. The water closets are of a modern type, a number of which have been recently installed. There are no isolation wards, but isolation can be provided for in rooms adjoining the Porter's Lodge.

The Maternity Ward, which is also the day and night Nursery, is not up to modern requirements, and, if confinements are to continue to be admitted, will require improvements."

In the past, Combination Homes have accommodated the ordinary poor, the sick poor, harmless lunatics and a certain number of mental defectives. The wards in the Buchan Combination Home are licensed for 26 male and 26 female lunatic patients. It is highly advisable that the sick should be treated elsewhere, and, during the year under review advantage has been taken for this purpose of the accommodation available in the Thomas Walker Hospital, Fraserburgh, and in Aboyne Hospital. The Buchan Combination Home is unsuitable from the viewpoint both of structure and staffing for the treatment of sick persons, but, as the Clinical Medical Officer points out in his Report, a certain number of beds will always have to be set aside for inmates suffering from trivial or transitory illnesses.

The ideal system in the treatment of the sick, whether they suffer from physical or mental dishealth, is to have "one-purpose" Institutions, and/

and thus one institution would provide accommodation for the able-bodied poor, another for the sick poor, another for lunatics and another for mental defectives. Such arrangements could, of course, be made only on a regional basis, and no doubt will receive careful consideration in the immediate future.

Special reference should be made to the following statement of the Clinical Medical Officer:-

> "The Maternity Ward, which is also the day and night nursery, is not up to modern requirements, and, if confinements are to continue to be admitted, will require improvements."

In 1932, the confinements numbered 13, with an average institutional stay of 35 days. During 1933, however, the numbers have been much greater. As the sick will cease to be treated in the Home, it follows that other more suitable arrangements should be made for lying-in cases. For example, they could be sent to the Thomas Walker Hospital or to the several County Cottage Hospitals in which the Local Authority have reserved beds under the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme. This procedure is most desirable, as one of the ideas underlying the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929, was that no stigma of pauperism should be attached to any sick person.

SECTION VII.

NURSING SERVICES.

The County Nursing Association came into operation in 1921. The number of District Nursing Associations was then 24, and these became affiliated to the newly constituted County Nursing Association. There are now 39 District Nursing Associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association and each of these employs one nurse, with the exception of the Stoneywood District Nursing Association, which employs two nurses. Thirty-seven of the 40 nurses are Queen's Nurses.

The following report was submitted by the Inspector of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing on the work performed by those District Nurses who are Jubilee Nurses:-

Report by Queen's Institute Inspector.

"An inspection of the work of the 37 Queen's Nurses employed in the County of Aberdeen was carried out during the months of December, 1932, and February, 1933.

The general nursing work was found to be of a good standard. Full advantage is being taken of the Nurses' services in all areas and the people appear to appreciate the facilities provided by the local Nursing Associations for their benefit. The past winter has been a busy one throughout the County and it was gratifying to learn that many of the local Committees had planned a short break in the work for their nurses, an act of consideration on their part which would be deeply valued.

The Public Health services undertaken by the nurses are carried out satisfactorily, but in the busier districts the number of visits tends to be curtailed at times of pressure.

In Fraserburgh, the Nursing and Public Health work could with advantage be developed by the appointment of a second Nurse.

Housing is satisfactory in most areas. In some cases where the housing conditions leave something to be desired, it is realised that, pending the erection of new houses, the position is not likely to improve.

As regards transport, 18 of the Nursing Associations now provide motor cars for their nurses' use. At Methlick, the nurse uses her own motor cycle, but is assisted by her Committee in its upkeep. The work in the Mid Deeside area is developing very well and motor transport is becoming a necessity and the matter is likely to be given some consideration at no distant date."

Grants for Statutory Work.

Apart from Peterhead and Fraserburgh, each District Nursing Association in the County undertakes the full service for its area and receives the grant of £80 per annum, allocated as follows:-

(1) For Mother and Child Welfare Work		£40
(2) For School work	...	£20
(3) For Tuberculosis work	...	£20

Special arrangements exist in regard to the nursing services in Peterhead and Fraserburgh. In the former, the Hector Sick Nursing Institute is in charge of all general nursing, including a proportion of/

of sick poor cases. The Council's whole-time Health Visitor undertakes school work, cases coming within the ambit of the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, some of the sick poor cases, and also attends the fortnightly Tuberculosis Clinic. Thus, the only public health work carried out by the nurse employed by the Hector Institute is in connection with home visiting of tuberculosis patients for which service the Institute receives an annual grant of £20.

In Fraserburgh, the Association - which is not affiliated to the County Association - does not undertake statutory duties. The District Nurse does a part-service in Maternity and Child Welfare, and for this the County Council make an annual payment of £40.

A Table is appended which shows the time spent by the District Nurses on statutory duties and on general nursing work. The statutory work occupied approximately 45.6 per cent. of the nurses' time whilst their general nursing work represented 54.4 per cent.

Year.	Hours spent on				Total
	Maternity	Tuberculosis	Schools	All other work	
1932	25,179	2,902	2,614	36,663	67,358
Percentages	37.4	4.3	3.9	54.4	100

Progress during the year.

No new District Nursing Associations were formed during the year. A large portion of the coastal area of the County is not covered by District Nursing Associations, and in several inland districts, nurses are urgently required. Aberdeenshire is relatively well-equipped as regards its nursing services, but it cannot be said to have a comprehensive nursing scheme. The nursing services of the area will never be entirely satisfactory until the County is covered by a network of nurses.

From experience gained since the inauguration of the County Nursing Association, it is now acknowledged by the Council's medical staff that co-ordination of the nursing services would be hastened by the appointment of a Lady Superintendent, who would arrange for holiday leave, would take relief duty in case of illness and would ensure that adequate attention was being paid to the statutory and general cases. Such an appointment would in no way interfere with the autonomy of the several District Nursing Associations.

Another useful suggestion might be made, namely, that the Local Authority should send a small proportion of the nurses to the Refresher Courses for Health Visitors which are held each year at different centres. This has a parallel in the fact that the Department of Health for Scotland send annually a number of practitioners to attend post-graduate courses and give to each attender a grant sufficient to pay for fees, for personal maintenance and for the provision of a locum tenens.

SECTION VIII.

THE TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

The arrangements for the treatment of venereal diseases have been detailed in previous Annual Reports. The Venereal Diseases Scheme, which is a combined one, came into operation in 1919 and at that date it embraced the City of Aberdeen and the North-Eastern Counties. In 1922, the Counties of Zetland and Orkney also became contributors to this Joint Scheme.

There are two treatment centres, one at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and the other at the Aberdeen City Hospital. No sub-centres exist in the County of Aberdeen.

Number of New Cases.

The number of new cases attending for treatment during each year since 1925 was as follows:-

1925	94 cases
1926	96 "
1927	98 "
1928	108 "
1929	131 "
1930	124 "
1931	172 "
1932	133 "

Of the 133 new cases treated in 1932, 22 suffered from syphilis, 64 from gonorrhoea and 1 from mixed infections; 46 persons attended for conditions other than venereal.

Number of New Cases Treated Institutionally.

Thirty-five cases were admitted to the special wards of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Of these, 21 were males and 14 females. Ten suffered from syphilis, 16 from gonorrhoea, and 1 from mixed infection and 8 from conditions other than venereal.

The number of new cases treated in institutions since 1925 was as under:-

1925	16 cases
1926	15 "
1927	20 "
1928	31 "
1929	25 "
1930	22 "
1931	34 "
1932	35 "

Number of Attendances of Outdoor Cases at Treatment Centres.

In 1932, the total number of attendances at the Treatment Centres was 3,959, as compared with 3,803 in 1931, 3,930 in 1930, 3,227 in 1929, 3,061 in 1928, 3,301 in 1927, and 2,231 in 1926.

Supply/

Supply of Special Drugs for Syphilis.

In 1932, 176 doses of anti-syphilitic drugs were supplied to six practitioners. No drugs were supplied to institutions, other than Venereal Centres.

The figures relating to the last 8 years are shown hereafter:-

YEAR	Institutions		Private Practitioners	
	Number of Institutions	Number of doses	Number of Practitioners	Number of doses
1925	-	-	10	46
1926	-	-	36	288
1927	-	-	13	92
1928	3	62	21	120
1929	3	48	24	161
1930	-	-	14	136
1931	4	313	13	117
1932	-	-	6	176

Laboratory Examinations.

The total number of laboratory examinations performed since 1925 in connection with the Venereal Diseases Scheme was, so far as concerned the County, as follows:-

1925	.....	850	examinations
1926	.....	1,014	"
1927	.....	1,130	"
1928	.....	1,207	"
1929	.....	1,161	"
1930	.....	1,361	"
1931	.....	1,347	"
1932	.....	1,210	"

In 1932, the Wassermann Reaction was performed in 687 cases, with positive results in 238 cases. The exudate was examined in 2 cases, and of these 1 was positive. Examination for the gonococcus was made in 521 instances, and in 91 the results were positive.

Of the 1,210 specimens examined, 29 were sent by general practitioners.

"Incomplete Cases"

A proportion of cases always fails to complete treatment, and, unfortunately, owing to lack of legislative control, patients may avail themselves of free treatment but may discontinue it at will. The greatest defect in all Venereal Diseases Schemes is that there is no power to enforce continuity of treatment until the patients are free from infection or are cured.

In 1932, 14 patients failed to complete treatment - 7 males and 7 females suffering from syphilis. The numbers who failed to complete treatment in the previous seven years were:- 1931, 2; 1930, 9; 1929, 13; 1928, 7; 1927, 14; 1926, 20; 1925, 24.

Supply of Special Drugs for Syphilis.

In 1929, 178 doses of anti-syphilitic drugs were supplied to six institutions. No drugs were supplied to institutions, other than Veterans' Bureau.

The figures relating to the last 8 years are shown herewith:-

Year	Institutions		Private Practitioners	
	Number of Institutions	Number of doses	Number of Practitioners	Number of doses
1926	-	-	24	44
1927	-	-	38	320
1928	-	-	15	52
1929	3	62	21	120
1930	7	48	28	161
1931	-	-	14	56
1932	-	213	13	117
1933	-	-	8	124

Laboratory Examinations.

The total number of laboratory examinations performed since 1922 in connection with the Venereal Diseases Scheme, so far as concerned the Country, is as follows:-

1922	.....	825 examinations
1923	.....	1,014 "
1924	.....	1,121 "
1925	.....	1,097 "
1926	.....	1,164 "
1927	.....	1,324 "
1928	.....	1,347 "
1929	.....	1,310 "
1930	.....	1,259 "

In the 1922, the Wassermann Reaction was performed in 827 cases, with positive results in 232 cases. The reaction was repeated in 2 cases, one of whom was positive. Examinations for the gonococcus was made in 227 instances, and in 34 the results were positive.

Of the 1,040 gonococcus examinations, 27 were made by private practitioners.

Prophylactic Drugs.

A proportion of cases always fails to complete treatment and, consequently, going to look for infectious material, whether by clinical examinations or from gonococci, has any disadvantages to as well. Some practitioners defer in all Venereal Diseases Scheme, in that there is power to enforce continuity of treatment until the patients are free from infection or are cured.

In 1930, it practically failed to complete treatment - 7 males and 7 females suffering from syphilis. The numbers who failed to complete treatment in the previous seven years were:- 1924, 3; 1925, 8; 1926, 11; 1927, 7; 1928, 10; 1929, 20; 1930, 20.

SECTION IX.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SERVICES.

Report on Bacteriological Work performed in the County Bacteriological Laboratory during the year ending 31st December, 1932, by Dr. J. F. Tocher, Director of the County Bacteriological Laboratory.

I beg to report on the work performed in the County Bacteriological Laboratory, Crown Mansions, 41½, Union Street, Aberdeen, for the year ending 31st December, 1932.

During the year, 3,897 specimens were received for examination, of which 3,374 specimens were received from Public Health sources and 523 specimens were examined under the Tuberculosis Scheme for the County.

Examinations for B. Diphtheriae:-

Two thousand, Six hundred and forty-five swabs were examined from cases of diphtheria or from contacts, of which 318 swabs gave positive results. General practitioners sent 470 swabs for examination, with 78 positive results. From County Hospitals, 1,688 swabs were examined, with 229 positive results. County Medical Officers had 487 swabs examined, of which 11 were positive.

The following table gives the numbers, sources, and results of the swabs examined for B. Diphtheriae:

TABLE I.

	Positive	Negative	Throat	Nose	Ear	Total
General Practitioners.	78	392	69	8	1	470
County Hospitals ..	229	1,459	170	54	5	1,688
County Medical Officers.	11	476	4	6	1	487
	318	2,327	243	68	7	2,645

Examinations for Haemolytic Streptococci:-

Eighty swabs were examined from cases of Scarlet Fever and from contacts for S. haemolyticus. Positive results were obtained in 11 swabs, of which 9 were throat swabs and 2 were nasal swabs.

Examinations for organisms of the "Enterica" Group:-

One hundred and fifty-six specimens were examined for organisms of the "Enterica" Group or for their agglutinating properties to these organisms.

Faeces. - Eighty-nine specimens of faeces were examined, with 3 positive results, the organisms isolated being B. typhosus, B. enteritidis Gaertner and B. paratyphosus B.

Urine. - Thirty-six samples of urine were examined, all of which gave negative results.

Widals. - Twenty-five samples of blood were examined for the Widal reaction; 6 of these gave positive reactions, 5 being positive to B. paratyphosus B. and 1 sample positive to B. dysenteriae Flexner.

Blood Cultures. - Six samples of blood were examined, all of which were sterile except a single specimen from which staphylococcus aureus was isolated.

The following table shows the number of specimens examined and results obtained/

obtained.

TABLE II.

	Faeces		Urines		Widals		Blood Cultures		Totals
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	
General Practitioners	1	59	-	9	5	16	1	5	96
Hospitals ...	2	27	-	27	1	3	-	-	60
	3	86	-	36	6	19	1	5	156

Examinations of Pus:-

Sixty-five specimens of pus were examined for the causal organisms; 21 specimens were due to staphylococcus aureus; in 11 samples streptococci were the causal organisms, while 3 samples were due to streptothrix actinomyces and 1 sample showed the presence of the pneumococcus. Twenty-nine specimens were examined for gonococci, of which 15 were positive and 14 negative.

Blood Examinations:-

One hundred and fifty-seven samples of blood were examined during the year, either microscopically or for their chemical contents. Sixty-eight blood films were examined from cases of primary or secondary anaemia and 15 films from cases of pernicious anaemia. Fifty-one blood counts and differential counts were made. Six blood films were examined for malaria, from which 2 positive results were obtained.

Thirteen samples of blood were examined for their urea content, while the blood sugar was estimated in 4 samples of blood.

Urine Examinations:-

Ninety-one urines were examined either bacteriologically or for their chemical contents.

Sixty-six urines were examined for B. coli, of which 53 were positive and 13 negative. Twenty-three urines were examined for albumen, with 19 positive results. Two urines were examined for glucose, both of which were negative.

Faeces Examinations:-

Fifteen samples of faeces were examined for occult blood, 3 samples giving positive results. A sample of faeces was examined chemically for its fat content.

Swabs for Meningococci:-

Twelve swabs from the naso-pharynx were examined for meningococci, all of which were negative.

Pleural Effusions:-

Four pleural effusions were examined for the causal organisms; 2 samples were positive for streptococci, in another sample the pneumococcus was isolated, while one sample gave negative results.

Vaccines:-

Fourteen autogenous vaccines were prepared from samples of pus, urine,&c.

Examination/

Examination of Milks:-

Fifty-four samples of milk were examined for B. tuberculosis, 15 of which were positive, while 39 were negative.

Milk counts were performed on 27 samples of milk, most of which gave satisfactory results.

Four samples of human milk were received for chemical analysis.

Waters:-

Thirty samples of water were received for bacteriological examination; the majority were of a satisfactory character. A deposit from a reservoir was examined for the presence of protozoa, such as, peridinium and glenodinium, both of which were present in the deposit.

Two waters were examined for the presence of lead and were found to contain that metal.

Miscellaneous Examinations:-

Cerebro-spinal fluid.- One specimen of cerebro-spinal fluid was found to contain pneumococci.

Anthrax. - One blood film from a suspected case of anthrax contained an organism morphologically B. anthracis.

Ova, &c. in faeces. - Three specimens of faeces were examined, in 2 of which the ova of oxyuris vermicularis were present. A sample of faeces examined for entamoeba histolytica gave negative results.

Ringworm. - A sample of hair and scalp scrapings was positive for the microsporon causing ringworm.

Vomit. - One vomit was examined for the presence of free hydrochloric acid.

Tumours. - Nine tumours were examined, of which 2 were malignant and 7 non-malignant.

The following table shows the number and nature of specimens received for examination from general sources:-

TABLE III.

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs B. diphtheriae ...	318	2,327	2,645
" haemolytic streptococci .	11	69	80
Faeces B. typhosus, &c. ...	3	86	89
Urines	-	36	36
Widals	6	19	25
Blood Cultures	1	5	6
Pus	51	14	65
Blood Films, Blood Counts &c. .	-	-	157
Urines, B. coli, Chemical ...	-	-	91
Faeces, Blood and Chemical ...	-	-	16
Swabs, meningococci	-	12	12
Pleural effusions ...	3	1	4
Autogenous Vaccines	-	-	14
Milks, Tuberculosis	15	39	54
Milk Counts, &c.	-	-	31
Waters	-	-	33
Miscellaneous	-	-	16
			3,374

Examinations/

Examinations under the Tuberculosis Scheme:-

During the year, 523 specimens were received for examination under this scheme.

Examination of sputa for B. tuberculosis. - Four Hundred and forty-seven specimens of sputa were examined, of which 145 gave positive results while 302 sputa were negative. One hundred and twenty-four sputa were received from Newhills Sanatorium, of which 73 were positive and 51 were negative. One hundred and sixty-one sputa were obtained from the County Hospitals, of which 51 were positive and 110 were negative. General practitioners sent 158 sputa for examination; of these, 21 were positive and 137 negative. County Medical Officers had 4 specimens of sputa examined; all of these were negative.

Urines. - Twenty-eight urines were examined for B. tuberculosis, 3 of which were positive.

Faeces. - Five samples of faeces were negative.

Pus. - Negative results were obtained in 11 specimens of pus submitted for examination.

Cerebro-spinal fluid. - Three samples of cerebro-spinal fluid were negative.

Pleural Effusions. - Three samples of pleural effusion were due to organisms other than B. tuberculosis.

Autogenous Vaccines. - Twenty-six autogenous vaccines were prepared from specimens of sputum for treatment of various bronchial affections.

The following table shows the number and nature of specimens examined under the Tuberculosis Scheme:-

TABLE IV.

Source of Specimens	Positive	Negative	Total
Sputa:- Newhills Sanatorium .	73	51	124
County Hospitals . .	51	110	161
General Practitioners.	21	137	158
County Medical Officers.	-	4	4
Urines	3	25	28
Faeces	-	5	5
Pus	-	11	11
Pleural Effusions	-	3	3
Cerebro-spinal Fluid . .	-	3	3
Autogenous Vaccines . .	-	-	26
Totals	148	349	523

Sera and Vaccines:-

During the year, the following sera and vaccines were distributed to hospitals and to practitioners throughout the County.

Diphtheria/

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.			Diphtheria Anti-toxin - Concentrated.		
1,000 units	...	4 phials	2,000 units	...	74 phials
			3,000 "	...	90 "
			4,000 "	...	194 "
			6,000 "	...	177 "
			8,000 "	...	194 "

Anti-Streptococcal Sera -			
Scarlet Fever	...	...	13 phials
Polyvalent .	...	...	26 "
Puerperal .	...	...	12 "
Erysipelas .	...	...	24 "
Anti-meningococcal Serum		...	4 "
Tetanus Anti-toxin		...	131 "
Vaccines - T.A.B.		...	16 doses
Calf Lymph - .		...	35 tubes

SECTION X.

VETERINARY SERVICES.

REPORT BY COUNTY VETERINARY INSPECTOR ON THE OPERATION OF THE MILK AND DAIRIES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1914.

No special difficulties have arisen in the administration of the above Act during 1932 and no points of outstanding interest have to be recorded. It was found possible again to increase the annual number of visits over the previous years by inspecting herds at milking times in the summer, but owing to difficulties mentioned in previous reports, the number of inspections per annum are still inadequate and many diseased cows must perforce be overlooked in the intervals between inspections.

As the bulk of the milk consigned to Aberdeen is pasteurised, an endeavour has been made to inspect herds more frequently in the districts where the milk receives no treatment, and a proportion of these have been inspected three times during the year. This procedure appears to be the only method of safeguarding the milk consumers in these areas with the present staff, and although it may not be a satisfactory way, it is the best that can be done until there is some addition to the personnel. No regular routine inspections of unregistered premises have been possible, but all cows on such farms have been examined when visits were being made in connection with the Tuberculosis Order.

General Condition and Cleanliness of Cows.

The condition of the cows has been very satisfactory, and the class of cow kept is good, as the majority of the farmers are aware that it is uneconomical to keep a cow far short of the best. It has also been noticed that many farmers are keeping their best cows and serving them again instead of fattening them off and selling them after a single lactation, as the price received for fat cows has been so much less than that which has to be paid for a newly calved one. If this practice of keeping the best cows should be continued it will eventually result in the somewhat unintentional building up of better dairy herds.

The cleanliness of the cows has also been quite satisfactory, the reconstruction of the standings has done much to encourage this improvement as it is now much easier to keep cows clean than formerly and many cattlemen take a very real pride in their cows' condition. A word of congratulation from the inspector has also a wonderful effect with an enthusiastic cowman.

Total Number of cows in Registered Dairy Herds.

Landward Area ... ... 9,690.

Burgh of Fraserburgh/

Burgh of	Fraserburgh ...	147.
"	Huntly ...	28.
"	Kintore ...	18.
"	Oldmeldrum	16.
"	Peterhead ...	45.
"	Rosehearty ...	42.
"	Turriff ...	24.

Methods of Feeding.

The feeding of the cows has been generally satisfactory as it is now realised that dairying will not pay unless a cow is fed on the right lines. Many more farmers are adopting proper and economic methods of rationing, their mixtures are varied, but the quantities given are all more or less based on the milk yield. This is a very different state of affairs to that obtaining only a few years ago when all the cows received the same quantity whether they were heavy milkers or not. The installation of separate water bowls has also had a marked effect on the general health of the cows, and from reports received there seems to be far less sickness in the dairy herds and rationing has been simplified, as dry mashes can now be given in place of the almost universal wet sloppy mash which was unsatisfactory and unsanitary and entailed far greater labour in preparation.

Health of the Cows.

The diseases, with the exception of tuberculosis, encountered during the course of the inspection of dairy cows were as follows:-

Mastitis	384.
Atrophy	247.
Eruptions (including cowpox)..	69.
Suppurating udders and teats..	21.
Retained placenta	10.
Total	781.

The affected cows were removed temporarily or permanently as the case required, and isolated in some cases, where possible, but in many of the smaller dairies, isolation, or even a separate stall cannot be provided, and very few dairies have made any provision for sick animals. On many farms some form of provision is made for sick horses, but it would be in the farmers' own interests if the same facilities were provided for their cows, and each dairy farm of any size should have a properly fitted loose box set apart for ailing cows, or those which should be isolated.

Mastitis is, as usual, at the top of the list of diseases, and this disease and its attendant after-effects are responsible for an enormous loss to the dairy farmer annually. The cows are rendered useless temporarily or permanently, partially or wholly, and usually at the time when they are giving their heaviest yield. It is a difficult disease to diagnose in its early stages, except in acute or subacute cases where evidence of disease is soon very apparent, and causes little or no trouble as far as contamination of the milk supply is concerned. The greatest number of cases are, however, chronic and show little evidence of inflammation and very little change in the milk for some considerable time. These/

These cases cause very considerable loss to the dairyman in the shape of returned bad consignments of milk in addition to the eventual decreased value of the cow when the diseased condition is discovered.

Very little can be done to prevent the onset of mastitis and there is yet no sure method of treatment whereby the affected quarter can be rendered completely functional again. A remedy is very urgently called for and the research institutes which are now investigating this disease should be encouraged by the provision of necessary funds, if they are in need of them, as a preventive and reasonably sure cure is badly needed.

Tuberculosis in Dairy Cows.

During the year 88 dairy cows on registered dairy farms were found to be tuberculous within the meaning of the Tuberculosis Order and were dealt with in terms of that Order.

The forms of tuberculosis found were as follows:-

Tuberculosis of the Udder	32.
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough	43.
Tuberculous Emaciation	13.
Total	88.

In an area where "Flying Herds" are predominant and cows have to be bought regularly, tuberculosis is likely to be more prevalent than in districts where the herds are self-supporting, and more frequent inspections should be made in these than in the latter districts. An area where tubercle-free cows could be purchased at a reasonable price is badly needed but it will be impossible to obtain an adequate supply of such cows until some scheme of tubercle eradication is adopted. Any scheme to form a tubercle-free area should be supported by all Public Health Authorities.

Milk Samples.

During the year 51 samples of milk were taken from cows suspected to be suffering from tuberculous mastitis and examined microscopically and biologically.

Fifteen samples were found positive and the cows slaughtered. All fifteen cases were diagnosed by microscope and found positive on post-mortem examination.

Inspection of Cowsheds.

The sanitary condition of the registered dairy premises and the methods in handling milk continue to show improvement. More dairymen are installing milking machines and in consequence they have had to instal more efficient boilers for the production of steam and hot water and quite a number have now up-to-date sterilising cabinets. It/

It is encouraging to note that the tendency is all the time towards improvement and there is no doubt that the improvement would be more rapid if economic conditions were better.

Graded and Certified Herds.

Name.	Address.	Average number of Herd.	Gallons produced per annum.
Major Jas. Keith	Bonnyton	48	43,060.
do.	Cairnbrogie	80	60,425.
Duthie Experimental Stock Farm.	Rowett Research Institute, Bucksburn.	52	61,703.
J. D. Paton	Grandhome.	30	23,500.
Messrs. The Flemington Dairy Co.Ltd.	Clinterty Home Farm.	25.	15,500.
Hon. C. M. Barclay-Harvey.	Clarack, Dinnet.	15	12,928.
Mrs. F. W. Gordon	Home Farm, Cairness, Lonmay.	27	6,836 (for 6 months).

As will be seen there is an increase of four herds producing Certified Milk since last report, but the supply is greater than the demand. If the demand could be stimulated there is not the slightest doubt but that the supply would be forthcoming. It cannot be altogether the increased cost that keeps people from buying Certified Milk because it can be obtained cheaper in Aberdeen than in any other town in Britain; it must therefore be that the public do not fully realise the benefits to be obtained from consuming Certified Milk. Its use should be encouraged more enthusiastically by the medical profession and the nomenclature of graded milks should be amended; there is too much confusion in the minds of the consumers over the various grades at present and there should be only two kinds of milk, viz., milk from tubercle-free cows and milk.

SUMMARY OF VISITS OF INSPECTIONS IN THE DISTRICTS AND BURGHS.

Districts and Burghs.	Number of Visits.	Cows in Milk.	Cows (dry)	Total Number of Cows.	T.B. Udder.	T.B. Chronic Cough.	T.B. Emaciation.	Mammitis.	Atrophy.	Eruptions.	Suppurating Conditions.	Retained Placenta.
Aberdeen District	314	4,165	590	4,755	16	18	4	98	42	25	8	1
Deer "	212	2,629	496	3,125	5	5	3	74	51	3	2	1
Ellon "	141	2,987	423	3,410	2	6	2	75	60	17	3	5
Garioch "	112	1,987	298	2,285	1	4	1	62	46	11	2	2
Deeside "	51	647	122	769	3	3	1	14	12	2	2	-
Turriff "	78	897	165	1,062	2	2	-	24	12	2	1	-
Alford "	16	162	41	203	2	-	-	10	8	3	-	-
Huntly "	33	534	100	634	1	3	1	16	11	2	2	-
Fraserburgh Burgh	36	264	34	298	-	-	1	2	1	3	-	1
Peterhead "	9	141	37	178	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Rosehearty "	32	192	31	223	-	1	-	4	2	-	-	-
Huntly "	3	36	5	41	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Turriff "	15	68	10	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oldmeldrum "	3	42	6	48	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Kintore "	3	35	5	40	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	-
Totals	1,058	14,786.	2,363.	17,149	32	43	13	384	247	69	21	10.

SECTION XI.

REPORTS BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

I. DEER DISTRICT.

DRAINAGE:- The drainage works in the Deer District and the Burgh of Rosehearty, are all in good condition and being maintained in good condition.

The laying of the new sewers and the installation of purification works in the Village of New Pitsligo have been completed, and are giving satisfaction. While many of the houses have been connected to the sewers, a number have not and are receiving attention.

Work was commenced towards the end of the year in laying new sewers in the Village of St. Combs, this work will meet a long felt want.

Throughout the district generally many improvements have been carried out in introducing new drainage, baths, and water closets into houses.

I again call special attention to the want of proper drainage services in the villages of Fetterangus, Mintlaw and New Deer.

WATER SUPPLIES:- The water supplies within the Special Areas even in the dry early summer were well maintained with the exception of the Cairnbulg and Inverallochy Special Area, where there was great scarcity of water. This district has always been short of water in a dry year. The great difficulty is to find a new source of supply at a reasonable cost. There is in my opinion no gravitation supply available. The only hope is for a scheme for a supply which could be obtained by pumping. Plans were prepared for it but when the scheme was put before the inhabitants they decided against it owing to the initial and annual cost of upkeep.

In the Village of New Deer there was shortage of water. The supply here is obtained by pumping, a water wheel being used for working the pump. There has been at other times a shortage of water, but this year was worse than usual. This village should be formed into a Special Water Supply District, and a more adequate supply provided.

Throughout the District generally, a number of new supplies have been introduced into houses under the (Rural Workers) Act.

The water supply of the Burgh of Rosehearty has been well maintained.

SCAVENGING:- The scavenging in the Special Areas has been well attended to with the exception of the village of New Pitsligo. This village was formed into a Scavenging Area two years ago, but so far no scavenging has been done. The difficulty of obtaining a dump for the refuse is partly to blame for this. A site has now been obtained and cleansing commenced at the beginning of this year.

The community ashpits in the village of Boddam have now been discontinued and a collection of refuse instituted in their place. Public Lavatories have been erected to take the place of the old privy midden, which is a great improvement on the old system.

In/

In the district generally scavenging has been fairly well attended to.

NUISANCES:- All nuisances which came under my notice were immediately attended to. Several nuisances not remedied were reported to the Local Authority who served the Statutory Notices with good results.

SCHOOLS:- The Schools so far as visited were all found in good condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES:- The Slaughter Houses were all regularly visited and found in good order. Four hundred and thirty nine visits were made, 650 animals inspected, and 4,342 lbs. of diseased beef were seized and destroyed with the owners consent.

WORKSHOPS:- So far as visited the workshops were found to be well kept. Three defects were found and attended to upon the occupiers attention being called to them.

HOUSING:- In the Villages of Fetterangus and New Pitsligo, the housing conditions are bad; there is also shortage of houses in both these Villages which prevents the application of closing orders owing to the want of alternative accommodation for displaced tenants. In New Pitsligo many houses have been reconstructed under the (Rural Workers) Act, but many more could be done if it were not for the economic conditions prevailing at the present time.

Work is still proceeding under the (Rural Workers) Act, but has slowed down this year compared with former years. Fifty three applications dealing with 76 houses were dealt with during the year.

In the Burgh of Rosehearty a housing scheme dealing with the closure of 6 houses, and the erection of 8 houses in their place was adopted. Four of the latter are now occupied, 2 others will soon be ready, and the others have to be contracted for.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES:- There are none either in the District or the Burgh of Rosehearty.

DAIRIES:- In the Burgh of Rosehearty the dairies were regularly inspected, the premises and utensils were always found in a clean condition.

W. J. SIMPSON, Sanitary Inspector.

II. ELLON DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES:- Newburgh - The laying of the new mains and other improvement works which were commenced at the end of last year were completed early in the spring, and since then, a great improvement in quantity and pressure has been felt throughout the village. An extension of the water main was carried out later to meet the needs of a new bungalow.

COLLIESTON - A definite scheme has now been prepared by the County Engineer for the improvement of this supply, and the proposed works have been sanctioned by the County Council. A crude oil engine will replace the existing rams, and increased storage accommodation is to be provided at the reservoir. The estimated cost of the works is £675.

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An extension of the water and drainage services may be necessary next year to several houses at the outer edge of the Cliff, where sanitary conveniences are proposed to be installed.

PORT ERROLL and HATTON - Despite the dry summer, these supplies were well maintained, and no complaints were received during the year.

TARVES - This supply gave some concern during the late summer, when it was found that several of the main springs had dried up, and the reservoirs were rapidly emptying. A speedy adjustment was made to the windmill engine which pumps water from a low lying spring back to the lowest reservoir, and as this spring was still running at its normal rate, the water was pumped direct to the main supplying the village. This improved matters, but several of the high lying houses were without water during the middle of the day, for several weeks. By the end of October, the reservoirs were again overflowing. Several new springs have been examined, and the question of improving and augmenting this supply is at present under the consideration of the County Engineer.

METHLICK - This village is not a Special Water District, the supplies coming from various sources. Several complaints have been received from the occupiers of the Council houses regarding the dirty state of this supply during rains, and the matter has been reported to the County Council, and is likely to be dealt with at an early date.

PITMEDDEN, UDNY - This village water supply is under the care of a local Committee, and it is not a Special Water District. During the summer a shortage was experienced, but this was found to be due to leaks and defects on the mains, which were promptly repaired, when discovered. The small reservoir on this system, however, is far too low to give an adequate supply to all the houses, and as there is practically no storage accommodation, the possibility of forming this village into a Special Water District should be considered in the near future.

GENERAL - During the year 43 houses have had water supplies improved and introduced to the dwellings, or in one or two cases, water brought as near as was possible. Several wells were protected and improved, and four new wells were built. Eighteen water samples were submitted for analysis; ten were reported as good, four as fair and four were bad.

DRAINAGE - Port Erroll, Tarves, Collieston and Newburgh Spedial Districts continue to give satisfaction. During the year, an extension of the sewer was carried out at Newburgh. The villages of Methlick and Pitmidden should be considered for formation into Special Districts. In the near future, Hatton Village will have to be formed into a Special Drainage District, for since the Scavenging Scheme was introduced here a little over a year ago, several difficulties have arisen regarding the disposal of pail privy contents, and it would seem that drainage and flush closets will be the only satisfactory remedy.

GENERAL - During the year, 41 new or improved drainage systems were examined and smoke-tested at individual houses.

SCAVENGING - The Scavenging Districts of Port Erroll and Newburgh continue to give satisfaction. Collieston is also gradually improving with the reduction in the number of pail privies in the village. Hatton Special District has given a good deal of concern since its inauguration a little over a year ago. Many difficulties have arisen regarding the disposal of pail privy contents and the suggested discontinuance of ashpits. Several schemes have been suggested to the Special District Committee, and at present the question of providing a/

a galvanised bin in the dust cart for the reception of pail privy material, is under their consideration. The dumps, generally, are kept in fair order, but at most of these places, there is a difficulty in getting a suitable and cheap supply of covering material. Rat poisoning was carried out at all the dumps during the year.

NUISANCES - Fifty eight nuisances were reported or discovered during inspections, and these were duly brought to the notice of the persons concerned. The nuisances were of the usual nature.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS - Regular inspections were made where new buildings, water supplies and drainage works were in progress, and special inspections were made in all cases of infectious diseases. Since the Building Bye-laws came into operation in the County, a considerable amount of extra supervision has been necessary, and much help and advice have been given, so that the works could be carried out to meet the new requirements.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - The following cases were notified during the year; Scarlet Fever 42, Diphtheria 8, Pneumonia 8, Tuberculosis 4, Erysipelas 4, Chickenpox 3, Measles 2; total 71. Removed to Hospital 57, premises and bedding disinfected 53.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - Regular weekly visits were made to the slaughterhouses in the district. Six were in full operation, and two were practically disused. Altogether, three hundred and thirteen inspections were made and 984 cattle, 166 sheep and 5 pigs were examined. A total of 2814 lbs. was detained and condemned by the Meat Inspector. Fourteen pounds of tinned meats were also surrendered and destroyed.

SCHOOLS - The 27 schools in the district were visited, and all were found in good order. Two have had improved water supply and drainage, and flush closets have been introduced at Udny Green. It was noted that several playgrounds had been provided with surface drainage. This must mean a distinct improvement for the comfort of the children during damp, wet weather. Collieston School which had been closed for some time, was re-opened after the summer vacation.

WORKSHOPS - Eighty five inspections were made, and six defects were brought to the notice of the occupiers. These were rectified in due course.

DAIRIES - Regular and systematic inspections were made at all dairies during the year, and it is gratifying to report that despite the depressed condition of agriculture, structural improvements continue to be carried out. Cement trevisses are now being more widely adopted, and shortened stalls are gradually finding favour, since the cows can be kept much cleaner with considerably less labour. Drinking bowls are also being introduced at most of the larger dairies. An exceedingly high standard of cleanliness is always maintained at the Cairnbrogie and Bonnyton dairy farms, where "Certified" milk is produced.

HOUSING - Building Bye-laws came into operation in the County during the year, and a general standard of building requirements can now be enforced.

The Housing (Rural Workers) Act continues to play an important part in the improvement of rural housing, and during the year 21 applications embracing 30 houses were lodged and approved. Work at 25 houses was completed by the end of the year. Two houses were approved and completed under the 1923 Act.

One bungalow was built and one house was reconstructed without Assistance.

Two/

Two hundred and thirty two houses were inspected and 33 were found to be unfit for human habitation. Twenty of these houses were reconstructed under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act. Thirty seven informal repair notices were served and by the end of year 35 had been complied with.

One house is under a Demolition Order, 2 have been reported for demolition. One house was demolished voluntarily and another built on the same site.

Five houses have been voluntarily closed by the owners , and one cottar house was burned down.

Three houses are at present under consideration for reconstruction.

GRAVEYARDS - The new graveyard at Tarves was completed during the year and is shortly to be in use. Plans have been completed for the extensions at Cruden and Logie Buchan and the works are likely to be completed next year. The other graveyards in the district are all kept in good order.

JOHN PAGE, A.R. San.I., Sanitary Inspector.

III. GARIOCH AND HUNTLY DISTRICTS AND THE BURGHS OF OLDMELDRUM AND KINTORE.

GENERAL - The Garioch and Huntly Districts embrace an area of 330 square miles and have a population of 20,500, who are mainly engaged in agriculture, granite quarrying, paper making, engineering and cognate industries. Other than the general need of improved housing for part of the population there are no special influences or conditions which can be regarded as injurious or dangerous to the health of the area. In spite of unemployment and agricultural depression notable progress continued to be made with measures designed for the welfare of the community.

WATER SUPPLY - Among the first demands of improved housing conditions are the provision of improved water supply and drainage services. Several of such services, both public and private, were in hand during the year.

INSCH AND ROTHNEY - The supplementary water supply from Lenchie was completed at a cost of about £4,500. The cost to the ratepayers was lessened by a grant from the Unemployment Grants Committee of 75 per cent. of the loan charges for the first period of 15 years and 37½ per cent. for the second period of 15 years. The special district was divided into two separate sections for distribution of the water supplies - the new supply was reserved for Insch and the former supply for Rothney, which was the best geographic arrangement and ensured an abundance of water of excellent quality for the whole area.

KEMNAY - The distributing reservoir and relative pipe lines which were added to those works in 1930, at a cost of £1,765, continued to provide an excellent supply of water in all parts of the Special District.

MONYMUSK - Extensions to those works are meantime under consideration.

RHYNIE - This/

RHYNIE - This was the only Special District in which shortages occurred during the year. They were of comparatively short duration and took place at the higher situated houses at times of maximum demand. Nightinspections and systematic searches were made for the detection of waste or leakages, but the works were found to be in perfect order in this respect. The quantity of water available at the source was flowing at the rate of 100 gallons per head per day of a population of 380, and the shortages were mainly due to the smallness of the pipes, to which attention was drawn in former reports. Dismantling and cleaning of corrosion from street valves, together with a new rose inlet at the reservoir, resulted in an improved distribution of the supply. Two sections were recently cut from the main pipe for examination by the County Engineer, who will report on improved methods of distribution.

GARTLY STATION - The water supply was ample and of good quality.

RUTHVEN - I designed and supervised the construction of new works consisting of 1230 yards of 2 inch diameter cast iron piping, with reservoir and other necessary fittings, which were completed towards the end of the year at a cost of £225. The water is collected from underground springs at Drumhead and is certified to be of excellent quality. The quantity flowing into the reservoir at the date of completion was at the rate of 240 gallons per head of the population per day of 24 hours.

OLDMELDRUM - The Town Council purchased the farm of Greenford, Bourtie, from which a substantial addition to the water supply of the Burgh is meantime being made.

The new works are in charge of Messrs. Walker & Duncan, Civil Engineers, Aberdeen, and they consist of connecting on to the existing aqueduct 1450 yards of 4" diameter bitumen lined steel pipes for the purpose of carrying water to the distributing reservoir from copious springs on the upper reaches of the farm. Those improvements should tend towards the increase and prosperity of the Burgh by allowing its sanitary state to be brought to a high standard.

KINTORE - The water supply was of excellent quality and sufficient in quantity.

OUTWITH SPECIAL DISTRICTS - Samples of water supplies submitted for analysis numbered 14, of which, 9 were good, 2 fair, and 3 bad. I accompanied the County Engineer and Mr. W. Ross Young of the Department of Health for Scotland, in a brief survey of the water supplies and drainages of all villages and hamlets throughout the area.

DRAINAGE - As in the case of water supply the provision of improved services becomes greater as the demand for water closets, sinks and baths increases. The Special Districts formed for this purpose are, with the exception of Ruthven, co-extensive with those for water supply. Seventy yards of a new 8 inch diameter sewer, with manhole, were laid in Market Street, Insch, to take the drainages from improved conveniences at the Public Assistance Hostel and from a new Public Convenience.

Owing to road subsidence or heavy motor traffic, over a mossy foundation, collapse of an 8 inch diameter pipe sewer and consequent renewals took place at Station Road, Kemnay. The need for improved outfall works at Monymusk is receiving consideration along with a proposed extension to the area of that Special District, and the filters at the sewage purification works for the Burgh of Oldmeldrum were improved by the provision of new channels for distribution of the effluent from the tanks. Accumulations of waste oil and sand, from garages, which form a putty-like substance that is not easily removed from sewers, led to a systematic inspection of those premises and to reconstruction of numerous intakes, with a view to obviating damage to public drainage works.

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In connection with housing improvements 40 new private drainages were laid down and smoke tested.

SCAVENGING - The Town Council of the Burgh of Oldmeldrum were successful in securing a suitable piece of ground for a new refuse dump, and the ashbin system of storage and removal, every second week-day, was begun on the 1st October, 1932. Special features at the dump were the provision of an incinerator, for the destruction of waste papers and edible offals, and the remarkably neat and tidy manner in which the refuse was disposed of. All the houses in the Burgh have not yet been fitted with water closet accommodation, but this work is being accelerated with the improved system of cleansing. The Burgh of Kintore and the Special District of Insch and Rothney had storage and removal every second week-day, and the Special District of Rhynie twice a week. The two former were fairly well equipped with water closets and good progress was made with the provision of these in Rhynie notwithstanding the precarious position of the water supply already referred to. The hugh amount of ironware, including everything from food canisters to motor cars, forms one of the problems of satisfactory disposal at the refuse dumps.

HOUSING - Eighteen new houses were completed in 1932, and 13 were in course of erection at the end of the year. They were distributed as follows:- Garioch District, 6; Huntly District, 7; Burgh of Oldmeldrum, 9; and Burgh of Kintore, 9. Under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act applications were approved for the reconditioning of 14 dwellings, of which, 7 were in the Garioch District and 7 in the Huntly District.

Improvements and repairs carried out without assistance included:- sinks and water supply inside, 24; new W.Cs. in lieu of dry closets, 21; floors renewed and walls strapped and lathed and plastered or lined, 10; new bathrooms, 9; and new water supplies, 6.

A notable advance was the making of Building Bye-laws, which supply a long-felt want in connection with the proper housing of the people. They entail that prior to the commencement of building or re-building of houses, or any alteration in the mode of occupancy of any existing house in such a manner as will increase the number of separate houses, plans shall be lodged with and be approved by the Local Authority. They are also useful, in conjunction with section 49 of the Housing Act of 1930, for fixing a standard of habitability for existing houses.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND OFFENSIVE TRADES - Licences were renewed for the private slaughterhouses at Kemnay, Kintore and Rothney, also for the Knackery at South Cottown, Kintore, and those premises have always been found in a satisfactory condition of cleanliness.

A new licence was granted for Rhynie Slaughterhouse, but necessary repairs to the buildings were not executed and slaughtering operations were not re-commenced. There were nine licensed slaughtermen.

MEAT INSPECTION - There were destroyed,as being unsound, 2170 lbs of beef, 84 lbs. of pork, 52 lbs. of mutton and 23 lbs. of tinned foods.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - Inspections numbered 96 in Garioch District; 33, in Huntly District; 14, in the Burgh of Oldmeldrum and 12, in the Burgh of Kintore. Four workshops in Rhynie, two in Insch, and one in Oldmeldrum, were provided with improved sanitary conveniences.

BURIAL GROUNDS - An extension costing £600, for which I prepared the plans and schedules, was completed at Kemnay, and a contract was let for improvement works at Oldmeldrum costing £26. Negotiations were in hand for extensions to the burial grounds at Insch, Rayne and Leslie, and various improvements were made to the grounds at Chapel of Garioch, Gartly, Ythanwells and Oyne.

GEORGE WATT, Sanitary Inspector.

IV. DEESIDE DISTRICT.

1. WATER SUPPLY - The Special Water Supply Districts are Aboyne, Braemar, Kincardine O'Neil, Lumphanan, Tarland and Torphins. The Water Supplies within the Special Districts were well maintained during the year and no scarcity of water or trouble found at any of them, with the exception of Kincardine O'Neil. As in the previous summer, the Water Inspector, by turning off the water during the night and as far as possible preventing wastage throughout the day, eliminated any actual scarcity. The Council have now found a new source of supply, and the matter is in the hands of Messrs. Jenkins & Marr, Civil Engineers, Aberdeen. It is expected that the new supply will be available for the coming Summer. Outwith the Special Districts, improvements continue to be made. Six new gravitation supplies were laid down, six had new supplies by pump, while several old pumps were renewed.

2. DRAINAGE - The Special District Sewers have all worked satisfactorily, except the Belwade Branch at Aboyne, which was choked on three occasions during the year, and had to be cleared. In Torphins, at the top of Bridge Road, a flushing tank has been put in for the purpose of flushing the sewer, which at this place is rather flat. It is working very satisfactorily. Outwith the Special Districts many improvements have been carried out. Three houses, exclusive of those renovated under the Rural Workers Act, were provided with Bath, W.C., and Sink, four with W.C., and Sink, two with W.Cs., and three with Sinks only. Four had new pail privies. All new drainage was smoke tested before being covered up.

3. SCAVENGING - The scavenging of the Special Districts has been carried out as formerly and has given every satisfaction. Cleansing of Ashpits throughout the District has been fairly well attended to, but the abolition of Ashpits and the adoption of a scavenging system in the villages of Kincardine O'Neil, Lumphanan and Tarland would be of great improvement. So far as Lumphanan is concerned, a Requisition to form a Special Scavenging District was duly formulated: but, as certain ratepayers had lodged objections, the matter is still undecided and is in the hands of the County Council.

4. INSPECTIONS - General inspections were carried out as formerly and all nuisances coming under my notice or reported to me were attended to. Special inspections were made in all cases of Infectious Diseases notified, and where Building, Water Supplies or Drainage works were being carried out.

5. SCHOOLS - All the Schools were visited and found clean and well kept. A few of them were distempered during the Summer Holidays. A new school has been erected at Corse, with an up-to-date system of drainage and Sanitary Arrangements. Central Heating has also been adopted instead of the open fireplace.

6. WORKSHOPS - All the Bakehouses and most of the Workshops were visited and on the whole were found to be fairly well kept. One hundred and twenty visits of inspection were made and only two causes for complaint were found which were dealt with at once.

7. DAIRIES - Thirty one dairymen and three milkshops were on the Register at 31st December, 1932, two of the milkshops being registered to sell Grade A.(T.T.) Milk. One hundred and eight one visits were made and two cases of neglect to limewash were found and dealt with.

8. SLAUGHTERHOUSES - The Slaughterhouses as 31st December numbered 11. They were regularly visited and always found clean and in good condition. Two hundred and twenty visits were made and no cause for complaint found.

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9. COMMON LODGING HOUSES - There arenone in the District.

10. BURIALS - Undertaken in terms of Section (69). None.

11. BURIAL GROUNDS - The Burial Grounds have all been kept in good order and no complaints found or received regarding any of them.

12. HOUSING, etc., Acts. - During the year three houses were erected privately without assistance. Nine were erected privately with aid of Subsidy and Ten by the Local Authority, Six at Aboyne and Four at Torphins. Five were reconstructed privately and Six under the Rural Workers Act. Fifteen had repairs carried out under Section 16 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

ALEX. MORRICE, Sanitary Inspector.

V. TURRIFF DISTRICT.

WATER - The water supply for Cuminestown is still in the same unsatisfactory state. Nothing has been done to secure an adequate supply of water although various suggestions have been made by the County Engineer. Complaints are being received regarding the continued insufficienty of the supply.

NEW BYTH - This supply is more than sufficient for all purposes. The County Engineer is to visit the source at an early date to see what can be suggested to raise head to give more pressure in the highest part of the village. Owing to decay the main burst again this year. Whatever is done to improve this supply must be carried out at the least expense possible as the villagers are as a whole very poor.

GARMOND - This supply is still meeting all requirements and the Pumping Plant is in good working order.

FYVIE - This supply is meantime sufficient for all requirements. This village should be formed into a Special Water and Drainage District.

ROTHIENORMAN - This place was formed into a Special District some time ago but as yet nothing has been done to improve this service.

Outside the villages 20 new supplies of water have been taken into houses.

DRAINAGE - NEW BYTH:- At present this drainage system is giving satisfaction and is not requiring any immediate attention.

CUMINESTOWN:- This sewage system is giving satisfaction but up to now the Committee have not provided ground on which to treat the sludge. Owing to failure to provide this it was found necessary again to empty the tanks to clear the sludge. Sludge got into the filter bed and a considerable amount of this had to be cleared out and washed.

ROTHIENORMAN:- Although this place was formed into a Drainage District some time ago nothing has been done to improve the drainage. A four inch drain has to carry all the sewage from ten houses, a bakery, two garages and four shops; the outfall ditch is a disgusting mess.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE/

SLAUGHTERHOUSE - Weekly visits are made to this place. Very little business is done owing chiefly to the cutting in of butchers from larger centres. The place has always been kept clean and in good order.

UNSOUND FOOD - Fish destroyed, about 56 lbs. Tinned meat, about 15 lbs., Tinned Fruit, 15 one pound tins.

All bakers' and butchers' shops and vans were inspected.

KNACKERY - This place is being conducted in a satisfactory way and kept clean. The premises are visited once a week and on special occasions when there is a big run of work on.

BURIALS - One interment under Section69 was made and part of the expenses was recovered.

SCHOOLS - All the schools were visited during the year and found in a fair state of cleanliness.

The water supply for Steinmanhill School was found to be contaminated to such an extent that a new source of supply will have to be got at once.

WORKSHOPS - One hundred and thirty-three visits were made to these places and one complaint was attended to and the nuisance removed. One workshop was burned down and has been rebuilt.

HOUSING - Twenty-five houses were renovated under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act and two houses built under the 1924 Act. Two new sleeping places were also provided. Six houses are being reconstructed. Four of the worst houses were reported to the Local Authority and two of them are being taken down. Owing to the shortage of houses in the villages the work of improvement is being kept back as there is nowhere for the tenants to go. In New Byth 16 houses could be closed and in Garmond Village practically all the houses could be closed.

Cuminestown has been very much improved, but there are still a dozen houses which could be improved or closed down.

Cottar houses. This district is well supplied with good cottar houses, but under the present state of agriculture it will be difficult to get water taken into all of them since so many of the farms are self owned.

Name of Village.	W.C's.	Tenants per W.C.	Without Water in Sinks.	Dry Closets.	Ashpits.
Cuminestown.	44	1	39	55	24.
New Byth	15	1	48	60	63.
Garmond	-	-	18	30	27.
Fyvie	35	1	0	3	20.

BURIAL GROUNDS - These have been visited and found in good order.

TENTS AND VANS - Camping grounds have been the source of many complaints. Notice was served in one case, and as nothing was done the case was referred to the County Clerk. In this case, there is no water supply, drainage, or privy accommodation and the surroundings are in a filthy state.

A. B. FINDLAY, Sanitary Inspector.

VI. ABERDEEN DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY - I recorded in my previous report that the work on the scheme for an improved supply for the Dyce and Waterton Special Districts had just commenced. This work was finished before the close of the year under review, and included a 6" main connected up with Aberdeen City supply which can be put into service when necessary. The supplies in the other Special Districts gave very little trouble during the year, and call for no comment. I had sixteen samples of water analysed by the County Analyst, three were reported as being of good quality, three fair, and ten unsafe for drinking and domestic purposes; three of the ten were plumbo-solvent.

I am glad to report that before the end of the year eight of the defective supplies had been satisfactorily attended to, and that the remaining two were receiving attention.

Apart from new houses, all of which have water and sink inside, 67 old houses have water and sink provided inside the house.

BATHROOM AND W.C. ACCOMMODATION - Good progress continues to be made in the modernising of old houses with sanitary conveniences. At 24 houses W.C's. were provided to take the place of existing privies. Sixteen properties had additional W.C. accommodation introduced, and bathrooms with fixed baths were fitted up in 14 houses.

DRAINAGE - Several complaints were received in connection with one of the sewers in the Cults Special District, and the matter is having the attention of the County Engineer. The sewers in the other Special Districts worked satisfactorily, and required only the usual routine inspection and attention.

Several extensions, but none of an extensive order, had to be carried out for the drainage of new houses.

Complete new drainage systems were laid down for 32 new houses and 65 reconstructed houses. Drainage improvements of a greater or less degree were made in connection with 41 houses. During the year, I made 88 smoke tests with the smoke testing machine.

NUISANCES - Very few complaints of a serious nature, were received, and all were duly attended to. The majority of nuisances dealt with were discovered on inspection. At 54 houses, repairs or improvements of a minor nature were carried out.

HOUSING - During the year 11 houses were erected within the district without any State Assistance, - 1 of 3 apartments, 2 of 4 apartments, 4 of 5 apartments, and 4 of 6 or more apartments. No houses were built for the purpose of letting.

Under the scheme for assisting private enterprise, 21 houses were built and occupied, and 24 were in course of erection at the end of the year, as against 13 and 6 respectively the previous year. No doubt the reason for the increased numbers was the increased subsidy offered by the County Council. Several sets of plans were in course of consideration, and others were being prepared when the Government suddenly gave orders that no more Grants under the Scheme for assisting private enterprise were to be considered. One often hears the remark that all the subsidy goes to the pocket of the builder. This may be true to a certain degree, when work is plentiful. Contractors are not really anxious whether they obtain the contract or not, except when work is scarce and every one trying to cut the price in order to get the job, as it has been for several years back in this part of the country at anyrate; then the benefit goes to the right party, as intended under the Scheme.

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In previous reports I pointed out the urgent need for more new houses being provided in the district, and more particularly in the Waterton Special District area. I am glad to state that 100 new houses are now in course of erection in this area - 32 of 4 rooms bathroom and scullery, and 68 of 3 rooms, bathroom and scullery. A very fine site has been obtained for the Scheme, the new road running practically East and West.

The area of the Special District had to be extended in order to take in the site, and this latest extension now includes some of the finest feuing ground at Bucksburn and Bankhead.

To meet the demands in the Culter Special District, the County Council are erecting 3 blocks of houses of 6 tenants each. At the Bridge of Don, parish of Oldmachar, the Council are also erecting 5 blocks of houses of 4 tenants each.

The Culter Scheme is for the purpose of trying to meet the shortage of houses, and the Waterton and Bridge of Don Schemes are partly because of shortage, and partly to replace insanitary houses, and more particularly the latter in the Waterton Area.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT - Under this Act, 33 Forms of Application were received during the year, which covered a total of 108 houses.

Included in the applications was one derelict house, one for conversion of old laundry into dwelling house, and five for the reconstruction of existing men's sleeping apartments at farms.

Two cottar houses were reconstructed under the Act, after Closing Orders had been served. All the reconstructed houses have water and sink inside the house; and where W.C's. were being provided, one W.C. for each tenant was recommended, and practically in every case, the request was carried out. There was no case where a Grant was given where one W.C. was common to more than 2 tenants. Splendid work continues to be done with the assistance under the Act, and much more might be done if it were not for the difficulty in finding temporary accommodation for the tenants, during the period of reconstruction.

BUILDING BYELAWS AND TOWN PLANNING - During the year I inspected and reported upon 97 sets of plans in connection with new houses, additions and improvements to existing houses, and the erection of other buildings.

HOUSING TABLE.

Houses completed.		In course of erection.
By Local Authority	0	138.
Assisted private enterprise	21	24.
Unassisted	11	3.
Totals	33	165.

Applications under Rural Workers Act, 33. Number of houses included, 108.

DAIRIES - During the year 8 were removed from the register, and 12 were added, making a total of 296 registered dairymen, for the production and sale of milk. Licences were granted for premises at Rowett Research Institute, Home Farm of Grandhome, and Home Farm of Clinterty, for the production of Certified Milk at the first mentioned, and Grade A (T.T.) milk at the latter.

Visits/

Visits to the number of 366 were made, and the average number of cows in the cowsheds registered for the production of milk was 4023. Notices had to be served upon 16 parties for inattention to verbal request to have repairs or improvements carried out. In one or two cases the whole of the works was carried out, but wherever the more essential defects were remedied, I allowed the less essential to be held over until the coming summer.

One complete new byre was erected at the Home Farm of Balgownie, 8 byres were gutted out and brought up to the required standard. One single byre had one wall taken down and rebuilt, and was converted into a double byre, and at 18 other dairies repairs and improvements of a greater or less degree were carried out.

One party was dealt with for supplying milk with a high bacterial count, several samples were examined, and the morning milk had always a much higher count than the evening milk. When investigating the cause of this, I found that the whole trouble was due to the farm people staying rather long in bed in the morning, and thus being left with insufficient time to take the necessary precautions. There is really no excuse for producing dirty milk, and the best way to bring it home to the dairy farmer, is to return the milk, and refuse payment as was done in the case mentioned.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - During the year the following cases were notified:- Scarlet Fever, 34; Diphtheria, 5; Para-typhoid, 1; Puerperal Fever, 5; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1; Erysipelas, 22; and Pneumonia, 47; Total:- 115. Fifty-five houses, and 64 sets of bedding and clothing were disinfected.

SCHOOLS - Two complete new schools with schoolhouse attached, have been built within the district, and several schools and schoolhouses have had considerable improvements carried out. There are several schools where the playgrounds are badly in need of being bottomed with stone and surfaced with tarmacadam. After heavy rain, or when a thaw sets in after severe frost, these playgrounds are regular quagmires and require to be seen to be believed.

In addition to the danger to the health of the children, the amount of dirt that is carried inside the schoolrooms renders thorough cleaning a practical impossibility.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - One hundred and twenty-three inspections were made and eight defects were found, and these were duly attended to.

WILLIAM PARK, Sanitary Inspector.

VII. ALFORD DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY - There is no change in the Special Water Districts. They comprise the villages of Alford, Lumsden, and Montgarrie. All the systems are in good order, and no scarcity of water was experienced at any of them during the year.

No further progress has to be reported in connection with the formation of the hamlet of Kirkhill, Kennethmont, into a Special Water District.

The improvement of rural water supplies continues, and in the course of the year, 20 dwelling houses were provided with new gravitation supplies.

DRAINAGE/

DRAINAGE - The village of Alford is the only Special Drainage District. The system has now been in operation for over a year and while the main sewer is in every way satisfactory, trouble has been experienced at the disposal works, the pumps being unable to deal with any abnormal flow such as occurs during a spell of wet weather. The engineers are however dealing with the matter. The formation of the village of Lumsden into a Special Drainage District is still under consideration, plans have been prepared, and the Scheme is likely to be proceeded with on an early date. Thirty two dwelling houses had new drainage systems provided, while at a number of others improvements were carried out.

NUISANCES - The only nuisance of interest dealt with during the year was that of camping by tinkers and hawkers on the old Market Stance at Alford, which is situated practically in the centre of the village. For many years this has been a recurring nuisance. Some years ago the proprietor of the ground closed it at my request for camping, but recently the ground changed hands and the new proprietor opened the place as a camping ground. No water, or proper sanitary arrangements were provided, and the place was allowed to get into such a filthy state as in my opinion to constitute a nuisance within the meaning of Section 16 (1) of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. Intimation was sent to the proprietor but no steps were taken by him to abate the nuisance. The matter was then reported to the Local Authority who served a Statutory Notice, requiring the removal of the nuisance within twenty one days. Within the time allowed the ground was closed for camping and has since remained closed.

Other nuisances dealt with were routine, such as choked drains and filthy ashpits.

SCAVENGING - The scavenging of the village of Alford continues to give every satisfaction. Since the Scheme was inaugurated the sanitary condition of the village has greatly improved. No further progress has to be reported in connection with the formation of the village of Lumsden into a Special Scavenging Area. The ashpits continue a source of nuisance.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE - There are very few cases of infectious disease in the District during the past year. Twenty eight visits of inquiry were made; 13 houses, and 14 sets of bedding were disinfected.

HOUSING - The number of houses inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations was 164. Twenty houses were on inspection considered to be in such a condition as to be injurious or dangerous to health. Five notices were served by the Local Authority under Section 14 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and ten were dealt with by informal notice. In the case of five houses Demolition Orders were made.

Two houses were built unassisted private enterprise. One house was built with aid of subsidy. Fifteen houses were reconstructed or improved under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - Regular inspections were made of the slaughterhouses and no cause of complaint was found.

MEAT INSPECTION - Two hundred and sixty nine carcases were inspected at the slaughterhouse, and five were detained for inspection by the meat inspector. 2351 lbs. of meat, and 404 lbs. of offal were condemned and destroyed. 105 inspections of meat and other foods were made at shops, 6 lbs. of tinned meat and 8 tins of peaches were seized and destroyed with the owners' consent.

SCHOOLS - All the schools in the District were visited. Twelve schools have still the dry closet system. A new school was built at Semeil, Strathdon, to take the place of the old school at Tillyduke which

is now closed.

WORKSHOPS - The number of workshops on the register is 78. One hundred and twenty seven visits of inspection were made. Three defects of a minor nature were found and remedied by the occupiers.

BURIAL GROUNDS - Most of the burial grounds were inspected and all found to be kept in decent order.

JAMES ALLANACH, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF BALLATER.

WATER SUPPLY - The water is drawn from the River Gairn about one and a half miles distant from the Burgh. It is filtered through filters of sand and shingle which give very satisfactory results, as samples of the water have shown, after having been tested before and after filtration. It is stored in a reservoir which easily keeps the burgh in water for forty eight hours, though the supply be shut off at the intake. From the reservoir it is conveyed to the burgh in two cast iron pipes of seven inches and four inches each in diameter. The water itself is of first class quality, and before filtration shows very little foreign matter. There is a very plentiful supply and never in the greatest drought is there any danger of a shortage.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE - All drains and sewers are always kept in good working order, and are more than able to meet the needs of the burgh. All drains are laid with fire-clay pipes, no stone drains or anything of that sort being used within the Burgh. All sewers are flushed out at regular periods, and oftener if thought necessary. There is a natural fall on the ground all the way to where the sewer discharges into an irrigation farm which is under the charge of the Town Council of Aberdeen. All houses are connected into the main sewers so that there is nothing in the nature of cesspools in the Burgh. There are about forty outside closets with one tenant to each closet, twenty outside closets with two tenants each, three outside closets with three tenants each, two outside closets with four tenants each. Mostly the rest of the houses are self-contained, and have all sanitary and water arrangements within the house. There are about thirty tenants who have no water or sinks in their houses. No dry closets, privy middens or ashpits are allowed within the Burgh. No common lodging-houses, factories or burial grounds are within the Burgh.

WORKSHOPS - There are three bakehouses, which are always kept in a first-class sanitary condition, having ample working space, and ventilation, and are lime washed at regular periods or just as often as found necessary. All have good lavatory and water systems, likewise all other workshops within the Burgh have good sanitary arrangements and all are well looked after.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING - Two men are employed in scavenging and street cleaning. All street sweepings are conveyed by hand-cart to suitable dumps outside the burgh boundary. A collection of household and shop refuse is made daily and is done by horse drawn lorry which is contracted for yearly. One of the burgh workmen goes round with the lorry and assists with the collection and disposal of refuse. The disposal dump is about one mile and a half from the Burgh on a piece of waste ground, which is kept well fenced against cattle etc. The Burgh is responsible for keeping down all vermin at the dump, which is done by laying/

laying down poisoned baits and by shooting.

ALEXANDER ORD, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF ELLON.

WATER - There was a good supply of water nearly the whole year with the exception of the last week of August and the first half of September, when the rain came on and relieved the shortage. I went out a few nights and found some leaks and running taps. With the assistance of the rain and getting the leaks repaired the supply came all right again with the exception of the supply to the high houses at Gordon Place.

The carrying mains from the reservoir to the Burgh are insufficient to give the necessary supply during the hours of maximum demand. This causes occasional complaint about want of pressure. The distribution system within the Burgh has greatly improved since the 2" main in Station Road was lifted and replaced by a 4" main.

There is a 2" main in Schoolhill Road for about 240 yards which is going to be lifted and replaced by a 4" main. This will further improve the distribution. There is also a proposal before the Town Council to replace the 4" cast iron main from the end of Hornhillock Road to the bottom of Bridge Street a distance of 1,716 yards with a 6" cast iron pipe which would be a great improvement to the distribution system if the Town Council decide to go on with it.

DRAINAGE - Drains and Sewers have all been working well during the whole year.

Drains and Sewers in Station Road, Ythan Terrace and the Square require to be properly cleaned every second year to keep them in proper order. The drainage system of the Burgh discharges into the River Ythan and requires to be cleaned every other week during the dry season when the river is low.

NUISANCES AND THE CLEANSING OF THE BURGH - All nuisances which have come under my notice have been dealt with. Intimation of these nuisances has been sent to the Authors as soon as Inspections were made. All were removed or are being removed.

Under the present system the refuse is collected by two carts every morning between the hours of 7 and 9 a.m. This is working quite satisfactorily. The dump is outside the Burgh boundary and the dumping is carried out according to the Department of Health regulations.

The provision of better dust bins is still desirable but it is gratifying to note that some improvement in this direction has been made during the year.

Householders should be reminded that dust bins should have good fitting lids so that the contents may be kept properly dry and that the contents of these receptacles should contain little more than ashes.

GENERAL INSPECTION - General Inspections were carried out as formerly.

Special/

Special Inspections were made in all cases in regard to complaints and also in connection with houses where Sanitary improvements were being carried out.

SANITARY CONDITION OF SCHOOLS - The cleansing of the School has been well attended to and the School is in a first class sanitary condition.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - There are 34 Factories and Workshops in the Burgh. Inspections were carried out as formerly and these premises were found to be kept in good condition.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS - There is only one house let in lodgings within the Burgh. This, on inspection, showed that the byelaws were being well attended to.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS - These come under control of the County Veterinary Inspector and Sanitary Inspector but visits of inspection were made in the ordinary course of work and these have been brought up to a good standard.

BURIAL GROUND - There is only one Burial Ground within the Burgh - the old Churchyard - where there are very few interments. The burial ground is kept in good order.

HOUSING - There are 16 houses within the Burgh which are really not fit to live in. The Town Council have a Slum Clearance Scheme in hand just now which if proceeded with will do away with all these houses.

These houses were principally damp and defective, had leaking roofs, lack of and defective eaves, gutters and conductors; irregular floor surface, sagging and low ceilings, insufficient light and ventilation, broken plaster and want of domestic and sanitary conveniences.

Houses without water and sinks				.....	64.
2 houses of 6 tenants				.....	1 W.C.
4	"	" 5	"	.....	1 "
12	"	" 4	"	.....	1 "
15	"	" 3	"	.....	1 "
23	"	" 2	"	.....	1 "

GEORGE DUNCAN, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF FRASERBURGH.

WATER SUPPLY - The water supply to the Burgh proved sufficient for all purposes during the year.

Fedderate Supply - A considerable amount of improvement works were carried out at Fedderate Reservoir during the Autumn of 1932. One of the two burn inlets was cleared of all silt and growth, some 300 cubic yards of silt being removed. The whole of the reservoir area exposed during low water was also cleared of all growth. To protect the banks of the reservoir against erosion reported last year, a commencement was made to pitch with rock the north east bank, and some

430/

430 lineal yards of pitching has been completed. It is hoped that further pitching will be carried out each year until the banks of the reservoir are fully protected. The cleaning out of the south burn inlet (omitted last year) should be done during 1933.

Three of the six Mechanical Filters were emptied during the early summer and thoroughly cleaned. All nozzles were taken out, cleaned and replaced and new quartz filtering medium supplied.

Hillhead Supply - The filtered water reservoirs and gravel filter beds on this supply have been regularly cleaned. The water supply from this system proved sufficient for the area generally supplied during the whole season and it was not found necessary to augment this system from the Fedderate System as done in previous years.

General - A commencement has been made to the renewal of valves on the distribution mains within the Burgh and the insertion of new valves where found necessary for the better control of all mains. A Plumber Water Inspector has been employed by the Local Authority and regular inspections of all water fittings will be carried out with a view to checking the waste of water, which has been considerable.

DRAINAGE - The main drainage of the Burgh is in a satisfactory condition. During the year new 9 inch, 7 inch and 6 inch sewers were laid in Gallowhill and College Bounds Housing Areas to allow for the Housing Development aftermentioned.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING - The area of ground occupied and used by the Local Authority as a toom for all refuse collected, and which is situated outwith the burgh boundary, was extended during the year. As in previous years the policy of land improvement is being continued. At an early date consideration will be given to acquire further tipping area for the disposal of refuse and I trust the policy of controlled tipping and land improvement will continue.

NUISANCES - Choked drains formed the greater part of nuisances complained of during the year. Eighty-five complaints were received and attended to. No legal proceedings were taken.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES - Four hundred and seventy six houses were inspected with a view to ascertaining the sanitary conveniences, water supplied inside houses, general accommodation and numbers occupying various apartments. The table at end of Report gives the area over which the inspections were made and which proves to be a very small area indeed. Of the houses inspected I consider 16.2 per cent to be over-crowded and it may be noted that 50 per cent of the one-apartment houses in Castle Street are in this category. Allowing 1 W.C. for the use of two tenants 59 per cent of the houses have insufficient lavatory accommodation. 49 per cent of the houses have no inside water supply and 12 per cent have sinks used in common, leaving 39 per cent of the houses with sinks and water supply inside.

Of the 476 houses inspected 22 per cent were one-apartment, 38 per cent were two-apartment, 23 per cent were three-apartment, 11 per cent were four-apartment and 6 per cent were of five-apartments and over.

These figures must not be taken for the general situation over the whole of the Burgh but merely over the area inspected. Where practicable, the owners of properties where lavatory accommodation is insufficient should be called on to improve these conditions, the worst cases, as shown in columns 18, 19 and 20 of table, being first considered. Consideration should also be given to the calling upon proprietors to introduce into each house occupied by a separate family, where not already done, a sufficient water supply; and to fit into each house a sink with all necessary piping and drainage to carry off foul water.

INFECTIOUS/

INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 148 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year including - 23 of Scarlet Fever, 37 of Diphtheria, 37 of Pneumonia, 1 of Malaria, 12 of Tuberculosis, 7 of Erysipelas and 31 of Chickenpox.

60 patients were removed to the local hospital.

65 visits of inquiry were made, 67 houses and 63 sets of bedding were disinfected, and 117 intimations and clearance certificates were issued to schools.

FOOD INSPECTION - Two factories now exist within the Burgh where curing and tinning of herring and the tinning of meat are carried out. These premises are well kept, clean and in good condition.

At the public slaughterhouse, the only one within the Burgh, 58 seizures of unsound food were made, all with Owners' consent, the total weight seized being 11,507 lbs., comprising 11,257 lbs. meat and offal, 182 lbs. mutton and offal, and 63 lbs. of pork. 535 lbs. of preserved foods were also destroyed, with owners' consent, as being unsound and unfit for food. These consisted of tinned meats, fish, fruit and milk.

HOUSING - PRIVATE ENTERPRISE - One house was completed during the year and one house was under construction at the end of the year, for which Subsidy was granted by the Local Authority under the Housing Act of 1923.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926 - Two houses were under construction at the end of the year, on which the Local Authority granted subsidy under this scheme.

SLUM CLEARANCE SCHEME - HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930 - Twelve houses were completed and 36 under construction at the end of the year, under the above Act.

Before the end of the year representation to the Local Authority under Section 16, Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, was made regarding 42 dwelling houses considered unfit for human habitation, and in each instance notices to appear before the Local Authority were sent to the respective Proprietors and Factors as required by the Statute. In 14 cases the Proprietors agreed to demolition and in one case an undertaking was given that the house would not be used for human habitation. All other cases were pending further consideration at the end of 1932.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1924 - Under this Act, 68 houses were under construction at the end of the year.

GENERAL - The schools in the Burgh are all kept in a good sanitary condition.

OFFENSIVE TRADES - There is only one registered business within the Burgh, that of tallow melting, which is carried on satisfactorily.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES - There are no registered common lodging-houses within the Burgh.

BURIAL GROUND - The Burial Ground is outwith the Burgh boundary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT - The County Police carry out the administration of the Food and Drugs Acts.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS - These now come under the control of the County Veterinary Inspector, but visits of inspection were made in the ordinary course of work, and all these premises were found to be kept in good condition.

W. F. HAMILTON, Sanitary Inspector.

Street.	No. of houses inspected.	One-roomed.	Two-roomed.	Three-roomed.	Four-roomed.	Five rooms and over.	No. of occupants. Adults.	Children.	No. of houses overcrowded.	No. of houses with sink inside.	No. of houses without sink inside.	No. of houses with common sink inside.	No. of houses with bathroom accommodation.	No. of instances where 1 W.C. serves. One tenant.	Two tenants.	Three tenants.	Four tenants.	Five tenants.	Six tenants.	Seven tenants.	No. of vacant houses.
College Bounds.	18	18	-	-	-	-	35	22	4	5	11	2	-	-	4	9	2	3	-	-	-
	42	-	42	-	-	-	111	42	5	19	11	12	3	-	7	16	10	9	-	-	1
	34	-	-	34	-	-	123	26	2	19	11	4	-	2	12	9	8	3	-	-	1
	16	-	-	-	16		82	7	1	11	5	-	-	6	7	3	-	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	6	26	4	-	4	2	-	1	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
	7	7	-	-	-	-	13	11	1	-	4	3	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-
	13	-	13	-	-	-	38	13	2	1	6	6	-	-	6	3	4	-	-	-	-
George Street.	5	-	-	5	-	-	18	4	-	1	4	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
	9	-	-	-	9	-	38	1	-	3	6	-	-	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	7	-	-	-	-	7	34	3	-	1	6	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	22	22	-	-	-	-	49	23	8	3	8	11	1	-	4	8	-	10	-	-	-
	46	-	46	-	-	-	140	49	11	26	15	5	2	4	25	3	10	4	-	-	-
High Street.	37	-	-	37	-	-	161	27	3	32	3	2	2	3	20	6	7	1	-	-	-
	20	-	-	-	20	-	73	10	-	18	2	-	1	5	12	1	2	-	-	-	-
	11	-	-	-	-	11	50	4	-	10	-	1	2	9	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	27	27	-	-	-	-	64	32	13	3	19	5	1	-	-	12	5	8	-	2	-
	33	-	33	-	-	-	108	41	9	7	23	3	1	1	7	8	10	3	-	4	-
Castle Street.	17	-	-	17	-	-	66	13	1	7	8	2	1	2	3	5	4	3	-	-	-
	7	-	-	-	7	-	37	3	1	5	1	1	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	1	-
	3	-	-	-	-	3	15	1	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	19	19	-	-	-	-	38	18	2	-	18	1	-	-	4	2	2	7	4	-	-
North Street and Lane.	36	-	36	-	-	-	101	43	5	-	36	-	-	1	6	4	6	18	1	-	-
	10	-	-	10	-	-	39	13	2	2	8	-	-	-	7	2	-	-	1	-	-
	3	-	-	-	3	-	17	4	1	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Broadsea Road and Noble Street.	11	11	-	-	-	-	22	9	4	-	9	2	-	-	-	1	8	2	-	-	-
	11	-	11	-	-	-	34	4	2	-	11	-	-	-	1	1	4	5	-	-	-
	5	-	-	5	-	-	16	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	-
Totals	476	104	181	108	55	28	1550	429	77	181	234	61	15	54	142	105	83	79	6	7	2

BURGH OF HUNTLY.

WATER SUPPLY - QUALITY AND SUFFICIENCY - The water supply continues to be of good quality, but, unfortunately, the supply is insufficient, and only by drawing upon the water from the enclosed catchment area and exercising the greatest care during the summer months was the supply enabled to meet the requirements of the Burgh.

The attention of the Council has been directed towards augmenting the present supply and early in the year, visits of inspection were made to the gathering ground with a view to taking in additional springs from the hill at Easter Collonach situated south-east of the farm steading of Wellheads. These springs were estimated by the proprietor to yield about 15,000 gallons per day dry weather flow. During the month of May I sent to Dr. Tocher, County Analyst, several samples from these springs, who writes:-

> "The samples were clear and gave only a very slight deposit of organic matter on standing for 24 hours. The proportions of both free and albuminoid ammonia were extremely low and well within the limits usually prescribed for a potable water. The water was very slightly acid in reaction and was entirely free from poisonous metals, nitrates, and phosphates. This water is chemically of excellent quality."

In order to check the dry weather flow regular readings were taken over a period of four months, with the following results:-

May 13th, 1932	28,329	gallons per day.
June 28th, "	14,880	" " "
July 16th, "	8,574	" " "
August 16th,"	4,547	" " "

which must be considered most disappointing when contrasted with the estimate, and no further action was taken. Examination of all the other springs in the area was made during the dry period, but only a slight flow was observed coming from one or two springs, all the others having dried up.

Weekly readings were also taken of the flow of water into the Reservoir at Craighead. These showed that the flow of water from the springs fell very considerably during the year during the period June to September. The lowest reading was taken on August 16th - 156, 240 gallons per day equal to about 39 gallons per head of the population.

The flow from the catchment area was measured and gave a flow of 56,000 gallons or about 14 gallons per head of the population, this being maintained during the dry period when the additional water mentioned in the first paragraph was necessary.

The experience gained during the past year is sufficient evidence that there are no other springs in the area worth taking into the supply, and any additional water will require to be taken from the Collonach Burn. Readings were taken of the flow of water running in the Mill Lade and Collonach burn, and the lowest readings were taken during August - 185,240 gallons per day, equal to about 46 gallons per head of the population.

The consumption of water per head of the population is steadily increasing while the quality of suitable water tends to decrease. Efforts have been made to restrict the consumption and lessen waste, but working-class houses are now being provided with modern appliances and the consumption is bound to be increased.

The/

The concrete of the Reservoir at Craighead requires attention, being badly cracked. Reports have been submitted to the Council, and certain suggested repairs are proposed to be carried out during the ensuing year. The outstanding defect in the water supply system of the Burgh is want of storage capacity - in other words, our supply would be sufficient for present needs if we could conserve that which now runs to waste for want of storage accommodation.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM - EFFICIENCY - The drainage system of the Burgh has generally proved satisfactory and little or no flooding has been experienced, while periodical flushing has had to be undertaken on certain sewers which have insufficient fall. Certain complaints made regarding offensive smells from the sewers proved defects in house drain connections, traps, etc. Sewer gases are present in the sewers and additional ventilators at certain points throughout the system would effect some improvement. A number of improvements in existing house drainage has been carried out during the year, and new drainage has been laid down at several properties, which were all supervised and smoke-tested before covering.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING - METHODS AND EFFICIENCY - DISPOSAL OF REFUSE - The cleansing work of the Burgh throughout the year has given satisfaction; no complaints have been received. For the collection of refuse the town is divided into two districts, certain modifications were made in regard to the districts and the scheme now in operation is a bi-daily collection from all houses in the Burgh. The dumps situated at Green Road and the Auction Mart have been permanently closed, all available space being filled up. The refuse, up to the end of the year, was taken to the depot at Corvichen Quarry on the east side of the Burgh. Efforts have been made to improve both the methods of collection and disposal of refuse; the dump is being kept in a neat and tidy condition, all papers being burned, while tins and other rubbish are buried.

One defect in our Cleansing system is that household refuse is placed on the edge of the pavement by occupiers for collection by the scavengers (in some cases, over-night, to the danger of pedestrians) in a great variety of receptacles, mostly uncovered, and this heterogeneous collection presents anything but a pretty scene on the streets, and on windy mornings the light particles of refuse are liable to be blown about. This is to be deplored, and can hardly be regarded as satisfactory at this date of advancement in sanitary science and public cleansing.

The total cost of the cleansing services, which includes collecting and disposal of refuse, street sweeping, emptying of gullies, collecting and burning papers, for the year ending 15th May, 1932, was £878:16:2d., after deducting interest and sinking fund charges and the income for removing garden and other refuse; the net cost of these services was £835:17:6d., or 4/5½ per head of the population.

NUISANCES - The number of complaints received have been fewer than in past years. The principal complaints were due to choked drains, defective houses, offensive smells, etc. The complaints made were all carefully investigated and dealt with, verbal and written intimations were given where necessary. One Notice was served in terms of Section 20 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. There is no doubt that the number of drain chokages could be much reduced, for while some of these were caused by defects in the drainage system, quite a number have been due to carelessness on the part of the tenants, and if the cost had to be borne by these offenders their number would be substantially decreased.

HOUSING PROCEEDINGS UNDER HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS -

(a) Sufficiency of working-class houses. - The Housing situation in the town is still difficult, and additional houses are yet required to meet the demand for homes, particularly for a number of families living in furnished apartments. No working-class houses have been built to let by private/

private enterprise during the past year.

(b) Habitability of existing houses - action taken to deal with defective or uninhabitable houses. - Quite a number of houses are unfit for habitation, owing to considerable disrepair and dilapidation, dampness, insufficiency or unsuitability of domestic and sanitary conveniences. Judged by not too high a standard, these houses certainly fall short of modern requirements, and only a few (on account of special features in their condition) could be regarded as fit for reconstruction. As to the large majority the external structures show signs of age and wear and tear; roofs leaking, well worn, and, even if in better external condition, the internal arrangements are objectionable, such as settlement and dangerous floors, broken plaster on walls and ceilings, paper peeling off, defective fire-places, smoky apartments, broken windows, decaying woodwork, lack of cupboards and accommodation for storing food, etc.

Definite action is now being taken to deal with these unfit houses. This is an onerous task, full of detail, and requiring meticulous care in preparation and of sustained concentrated effort. It is a work of social betterment and, in short, the introduction of a new era of good health for the working classes.

(c) Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. - Slum clearance carries with it the provision of alternative accommodation, and in this task the Council have done good work, as during the last two years 20 houses of three apartments of the flatted type have been erected and occupied at Bleachfield Street. Unfortunately, twelve of these houses had to be transferred to the Housing (Financial) Provisions Act, 1924, as the scheme of decanting was unsatisfactory. The other eight houses were erected under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. Contracts have now been accepted for the erection of 20 additional houses on the King Street site, and are expected to be ready for occupation towards the end of August.

(d) Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. - The scheme for assistance under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926, has not been taken advantage of to the extent one might desire; only four applications for assistance were received during the year. The improvements carried out on the properties consist of the provision of inside water supplies and sinks, water closets and bathroom. In certain cases the whole building is being gutted out and reconstructed, and, in addition, provided with larders, water closet accommodation and suitable drainage. Work on two houses is presently proceeding; but lack of alternative accommodation has held up for an indefinite period the improvements on three houses at Princes Street where an undertaking has been given, as the work necessary to make these fit for habitation cannot be carried out while they are occupied.

An amendment to the scheme has been made by the Council and approved by the Department of Health, whereby no grants will be given in respect of any house with rental in excess of £10 per annum.

REPORT for the year ended 31st DECEMBER, 1932, on PROCEEDINGS TAKEN as regards the INSPECTION, IMPROVEMENT and DEMOLITION and CLOSURE of DWELLING HOUSES

Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland) 1928.

1. Number of dwelling houses inspected 69

2. Number of dwelling houses which, on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 50

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930.

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (1) 41

2./

2. Number of dwelling houses referred to in 1. ... 41.

(a) Number which have been rendered fit for human habitation. ... ... Nil.

(b) Number in respect of which an undertaking has been given that the house will not be used for human habitation until it is rendered so fit. 8.

(c) Number in respect of which demolition orders have been made under Section 16 (3) ... 32.

(d) Number in respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4) ... Nil.

General information or observations as to the character of the defects usually found to exist, as to the extent to which overcrowding was found to prevail and the steps taken to remedy it, or as to the work of inspection generally:-

Defects in structure internally and externally, dampness, low ceiling heights, floor levels below that of the external ground, want of sub-floor ventilation, defective roofs, rones and conductors, broken plaster, general disrepair and want of inside water supply and sanitary conveniences.

OTHER MATTERS CALLING FOR COMMENT -

(a) Public Conveniences.

Recent reports have dealt with the need for additional sanitary conveniences in the town. At present there is only one public convenience consisting of two water-closets and five urinal stalls; no provision is made for ladies. The matter has been receiving the consideration of the Council and it is hoped that progress will be made before long.

(b) Sanitary Conveniences.

Every house without a proper water supply should have it introduced as soon as possible, unless the property is in such a poor state that no further expenditure can be profitably made upon it, or if the houses are not worth the cost to be incurred, then they will fall to be dealt with under the Slum Clearance Act.

During the year 7 water-closets were installed, 3 serving one tenant, 1 serving two tenants, and 2 serving three tenants, while 27 inside water supplies and sinks were introduced into individual houses. There are several houses, not unfit, still to be fitted, but the present financial position of the proprietors does not allow the work to be carried out.

Statement as to the number of:-

(a) Water-Closets. There are 256 common water-closets in the Burgh; 106 serving two tenants, 75 serving three tenants, 56 serving four tenants, 19 serving five or more tenants.

(b) Dry Closets. Two. One serving one tenant and one serving three tenants.

(c) Privy Middens. None.

(d) Ashpits. None.

(e) Number of houses without inside water supply and sink.

210, being a reduction of 30 since last report. There are five sinks used in common, 3 serving two tenants and 2 serving three tenants.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES -

Routine inspections of the three licensed private slaughterhouses in the Burgh continue to be made daily, where a steady, average, weekly trade/

trade amounting to about 170 carcases is handled. The total number of animals slaughtered for the year ended 31st December, 1932, was:-

Cattle	2,653
Sheep	6,214
Pigs	161
Total	9,028

The situation of these premises, in close proximity to dwelling-houses, calls for careful supervision, regular lime-washing, and prompt removal of offal, manure and other wastes. The carcases of all animals slaughtered are inspected, and during the year, 8,437 lbs. of beef and mutton were detained and condemned by the Meat Inspector as unfit for human food.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES -

These have been kept in a satisfactory condition without other than verbal intimations being necessary to remedy any defects from time to time.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES -

There are no common lodging houses within the Burgh.

BURIAL GROUNDS -

There are no burial grounds within the Burgh.

BURGH POLICE and PROCEEDINGS -

Five notices were served on owners of property under Section 146 of the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, to repair rones and rain-water conductors for conveying water from roofs. Twelve notices were served under Section 246 of the above Act calling for the introduction of inside water supply and sinks into 24 houses. In 16 houses the work has been carried out and in the remaining 8 is still pending.

THOS. S. HUTSON, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF INVERURIE.

WATER SUPPLY -

The water supply to the Burgh of Inverurie is obtained from three different sources, namely:- Mill of Easterton, Keithhall, and Port-Elphinstone.

Each source of supply is visited at varying intervals during the year, when all operations and apparatus are carefully examined to ensure their working in a satisfactory manner.

The settling Tanks and Reservoirs are thoroughly scoured and cleaned out and the Filter Beds renewed.

A plentiful supply of water is maintained during the whole year as is shown by the aftermentioned tables.

The water is of an excellent quality, clear and transparent, and very suitable for all domestic and trade purposes.

In order to ascertain the quantity of water being supplied to the Burgh, readings are taken at various intervals during the year and the average of these has been found to work out as follows:-

Mill/

Mill of Easterton	... ...	300 Gallons per Minute.
Keithhall ...	... ...	73 " " "
Port-Elphinstone.	... ...	15 " " "
	Total ..	388 Gallons per Minute.

By taking the foregoing rate of supply at the average of 388 Gallons per minute, we have a total of 23,280 Gallons per hour, or an average of 558,720 Gallons per day of 24 Hours.

If we divide this total supply by the average population of say 4,450, we have a daily supply at the rate of about 125 Gallons per head per day, which is more than sufficient to meet all requirements.

The water mains throughout the Burgh are scoured practically every month and oftener if found necessary. This enables the Public to secure as pure a water supply as it is possible to obtain.

Thirty-eight yards of 3" water main were laid along Kemnay Road to meet the requirements of the two new Houses erected there. This work cost approximately £14.

During the alterations and reconstruction of the Roadway at High Street and the corner of St. James's Place, the opportunity was taken to remove all private service stop cocks from the carriageway to the foot pavements. Practically all the Fire Hydrants on this section of road had to be lowered to suit the new levels. Two new valves were also fitted, one on the 4" main and one on the 6" main, opposite the corner of Old Station Road and the Kintore Arms Hotel.

SEWERS AND DRAINS -

All the main Sewers and private drains are being kept in a very satisfactory condition.

The outfall Sewer from the Mill Lade Port-Elphinstone to the point where it discharges into the river, was all thoroughly overhauled, any damaged or broken parts repaired and the whole sewer cleaned out.

The overflow from Brandsbutt Reservoir connects up with the main sewer at the top of North Street and the water therefrom tends to keep the sewer at this part of the Town in a very clean condition,

During the year new drains were laid in connection with the following:-

16 Houses, Blackhall Road; 8 Houses, North Street; 2 Houses, Kemnay Road; 2 Houses, Upperboat Road; 1 House, Westfield Gardens; 1 House High Street; 2 Houses, Mill Road, Port-Elphinstone; Shop, Port-Elphinstone.

In addition to the foregoing, several other house drains were renewed or overhauled for the installation of Water Closets, Sinks, &c.

SCAVENGING -

The Scavenging of the Burgh is still being carried out in a very satisfactory manner. In order that every street receive the attention of the Scavenger, the Burgh is divided into three sections namely:-

No. 1 Section - Victoria Street, North Street, Constitution Street, Harlaw Road and other side Streets and Lanes leading off.

No. 2 Section - West High Street, Market Place, (East and West sides) High Street, St. James's Place and all side Streets and Lanes leading off.

No. 3 Section - Port-Elphinstone.

Each of the foregoing Sections is swept daily with the exception of Port-Elphinstone which is cleaned every Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

This/

This is now the third year that the Council have adopted the alternate system of removal and everything has worked out very economically and efficiently.

The method of removal is as follows:-

Monday, Wednesday and Friday forenoon:-

Keithhall Road, High Street, Market Place, (East and West Sides), Souterford Road, West High Street, Westfield Gardens, Middlemuir Road, Blackhall Road, and Victoria Street with all side Streets and Lanes leading therefrom.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon:-

St. James's Place, Upperboat Road, Manse Road and Port-Elphinstone.

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday forenoon:-

North Street, Saphock Place, Watt Crescent, Gallowfold Lane, Mortimers Lane, Piries Lane, Constitution Street, Harlaw Road, Garioch Road, King Street, Queen Street and Princes Street with all other Lanes and Courts included.

All refuse from shops and other business premises is removed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

The only ashpits now used within the Burgh are those in connection with Schools and Houses in the outlying District together with those used by the Scavengers.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE BURGH -

List of Houses having the use of and without Sinks, Water Supply and Water Closets.

Distribution of Tenants, and the Number of Blocks where there is:-		Use of Water Closet Inside	Use of Water Supply	Use of Wash-House	Use of Bath-Room	Houses without Sinks or Water inside
Blocks -						
Containing -						
One House	580	580	570	287	287	10
Two Houses	83	83	57	-	-	26
Three Houses	50	50	50	33	-	50
Four Houses	52	52	52	52	-	184
Five Houses	10	10	10	10	-	27
Six or more Houses	14	16	14	14		84
Total	789	791	753	396	287	301

During the year several proprietors were called upon to install sufficient Water Closets, Sinks, and Water supply into their premises. Meantime, some of these appliances are being fitted.

During the year 32 new Water Closets were installed, together with 29 Baths, 29 sets Sinks and Tubs and 29 Wash-hand Basins, also 3 separate Sinks.

HOUSING -

Year after year the housing conditions within the Burgh are becoming more and more satisfactory.

With the additional houses erected by the Town Council and by private enterprise there is an apparent desire among all classes for better housing accommodation.

During/

During the year 26 houses were erected by the Town Council; 24 three apartment Flatted Type, and two three apartment Bungalow Type. Three houses were erected by private enterprise under the Housing Subsidy Acts, and three under the Rural Workers' Act.

The Town Council purpose erecting several houses during the year 1933 under the Housing Act of 1930.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE -

During the year the following cases of Infectious Disease were notified:- Scarlet Fever 22; Erysipelas 2; Chickenpox 15; Pneumonia 3; Puerperal Fever 2; Dysentery 1; Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1; Tuberculosis 1.

Inspections were made in nearly every case and where necessary disinfection was carried out.

NUISANCES -

Systematic inspection is made throughout the year of the whole Burgh in order to ascertain what nuisances exist and require the attention of the parties responsible. Altogether 362 inspections were made, 21 complaints were received and 54 nuisances were dealt with and remedied.

The nuisances consisted principally of defective water-closets, drains, rones, roofs, and water pipes.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE -

The Public Slaughterhouse which is owned by the Town Council is situated in premises off North Street, and consists of Six Cattle Booths, Pig Booth and two Byres. It might be mentioned at this point that the portion previously used as open Pens for the accommodation of Cattle was covered during the year with a corrugated iron roof and divided into four large Pens with water-proof floor.

The various Booths are let yearly to local Cattle Dealers and Butchers, who are held responsible for the keeping of the same in a clean and satisfactory condition. The walls and floors are washed down daily after slaughtering is over.

The number of animals killed at the Slaughterhouse during the year ending 31st December, 1932, was as follows:-

Oxen	Bulls	Heifers	Cows	Sheep	Calves	Pigs	Total
5,108	233	5,749	629	37,057	-	157	48,933

OFFENSIVE TRADES -

There are four offensive Trades carried on within the Burgh namely:- Two Hide and Tallow Companies and two Gut and Pudding Manufacturers. The Hide and Tallow Companies' works are visited practically every other day while the Gut premises are visited monthly.

All these premises are kept in a very clean condition, being washed down daily and the rubbish removed.

SCHOOLS -

There are three schools in Inverurie and one at Port-Elphinstone. These four schools are kept in a very good state of repair. The Schools are kept very clean and tidy and opportunity is taken during the week ends or holidays for disinfecting the Class Rooms &c.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS -

There are twenty-three Factories on the Register, including Laundries and twenty-three Workshops. Altogether, sixty-three inspections were made of these premises during the year.

Only on two occasions was it found necessary to call upon the owner to clean his workshop.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE -

There are no houses in the Burgh within the definition of Common Lodging Houses.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS -

The following were on the Register for the year ending 31st December, 1932:-

Cowkeepers. There are eight persons who keep one or two cows principally for their own use, and any milk left over is generally sold to friends or neighbours.

Retail Purveyors of Milk. There are seven persons who retail milk to customers throughout the Burgh.

Wholesale and Retail Purveyors. There are three persons on the Register, mostly Farmers, who sell their milk wholesale to dairies in Aberdeen and retail the balance to customers within the Burgh.

Inspections are made during the year of all premises and vehicles but these are generally kept in a very satisfactory condition.

WILLIAM W. CONNER, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF TURRIFF.

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION -

The Burgh of Turriff with all Sewers, Drains and Water closets well ventilated and sufficiently trapped, and with streets and gullies cleaned daily, may be considered to be in good condition which is further maintained by the collection of all ashes, papers, and household refuse and by a modern system of water-closets. There are no ashpits, neither are there any earth closets.

WATER SUPPLY -

The principal water supply has its source about three miles distant, on the Town Council's own estate. The supply is collected from springs on high ground cut at a depth of about 12 to 16 feet. The subsoil being originally of gravel, filters and produces the purest of water. An additional supply was secured a few years ago to augment the principal supply for a period of from 8 to 12 weeks during the dry summer months. The distributing mains throughout the Burgh are divided into two services, a high and a low, which gives a good and sufficient pressure to both services.

SEWERS - The sewers throughout the Burgh are in good condition and well ventilated. Storm drains were recently laid down in the lowest part of the town where flooding occurred on several occasions during thunder storms. The new sewage purification works have given entire satisfaction.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE -

During the year 1,133 beds were supplied in this house which has accommodation to hold 12 lodgers. The premises are inspected weekly and found to be well kept, and the sanitary condition is satisfactory.

SCHOOLS -

The schools are modern with ample accommodation and well ventilated. There is a range of modern W.Cs. with automatic flushing tanks. All the sanitary arrangements are well kept.

WORKSHOPS /

WORKSHOPS -

There are in all 35 workshops and 16 factories falling under the regulations of the Factory & Workshops Act. All are sufficiently lighted and ventilated and kept in a satisfactory and sanitary condition. There are no workshops or bakeries underground and no home workers come under the regulations of the Home Work Order.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES -

These are the property of the Town Council and consist of five compartments. Three are let, one used for slaughter of pigs, and one is empty. They are visited and inspected mostly daily and the sanitary arrangements are kept satisfactorily. The numbers of animals killed during the year are as follows:-

Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
1,140	773	145

Ten carcases were submitted for examination, resulting in the seizure, with the owners' consent, of 2,293 lbs. of beef, 38 lbs. of mutton, and 120 lbs. of pork, and also 23 lbs. of preserved spiced ham and 18 lbs. of preserved fruit. The animals were as follows, namely:- 5 Heifers, 3 Bullocks, 1 Sheep and 1 Pig. Eight cattle suffered from tuberculosis and the sheep and pig from inflammation. All meat condemned is sent to the local knackery.

DAIRIES -

Falling under the regulations of the Dairy Order, there are within the Burgh, five Dairies embracing 23 cows. The principal supply is brought in from large dairies outside the Burgh. Mr. Howie, Veterinary Inspector for the County and Burgh carries out the regulations under the Dairy Order.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES -

During the year 17 cases have been notified, namely:- Diphtheria 3, Pneumonia 5, Chickenpox 6, Erysipelas 3. The first mentioned three and one pneumonia case were removed to hospital and the others were treated at home.

HOUSING -

The population of 2,298 live in 710 houses, 241 of which have a rental of £16 or over. During the year, four blocks of 16 houses with four apartments in each were built and occupied by tenants from condemned houses, and an additional 30 houses have been let to contract. Nineteen condemned houses are now vacated and one demolished. Referring to sinks and W.C. conveniences, 151 sinks were put in and W.Cs. were erected where necessary. Seventy-four remain to be put in to complete the scheme, the bulk of which are in the hands of the plumbers and will be completed soon.

BURIAL GROUNDS -

Two Burial Grounds lie within the Burgh. One is the Old Churchyard, which is practically closed and the other is in connection with the Episcopal Church, where there are only one or two burials annually. The principal cemetery lies outside the Burgh. They are all kept in a satisfactory condition.

No proceedings have been taken under the Burgh Police Act during the year.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH/

BURGH OF PETERHEAD.

WATER SUPPLY -

The water supply to the Burgh has been plentiful throughout the year and the quality all that could be desired. The Analyst has reported very favourably on all samples submitted to him.

The filtering media in the three filter beds was completely renewed during the year in view of the unfavourable reports on the quality of the water and the presence in large quantities of protozoa during the year 1931. The new filters came into operation in the beginning of March and have given very satisfactory results, but they require cleaning at more frequent intervals than the old filters, the filtering media being of a much finer quality.

The three reservoirs were all emptied during the year for examination and cleaning.

The other sources of supply in the Burgh have not been favourably reported on by the Analyst, viz:-

Mineral Well, Geddle Braes -	B.coli was present in		3 c.c.
Wellington -	Do.	Do.	10 c.c.
Well, Cairntrodlie -	Do.	Do.	5 c.c.

Complaints continue to be received from time to time and especially during the fishing season of an intermittent supply to the houses in Balmoor Terrace. I have already given an explanation with regard to the cause of the shortage but no steps have yet been taken by the householders affected to provide the necessary storage cisterns. I would again repeat the statement made in my last year's report, that these complaints will in all probability become more numerous in view of the fact that the large housing scheme being built in the locality is served by the same water main.

RAINFALL -

The rainfall for the year was 29.32 inches compared with 29.92 inches for 1931.

DRAINAGE -

There is nothing new to report in connection with the main drainage of the Burgh. As in previous years, a number of the sewers had to be artificially cleansed as the gradients are insufficient to render them self cleansing.

The open water course between Kinmundy Road and the West Road referred to in my last year's report has now been enclosed with an 18" diameter fireclay pipe. This has made a decided improvement in the locality and there will be no further cause for complaint.

All the sewage of the Burgh is discharged in its crude state from ten separate outfalls into the sea below or near low water mark. There has never been a complaint regarding this means of disposal.

SCAVENGING -

The cleansing of the Burgh continues to be carried out in a satisfactory manner. Household refuse is collected four times weekly, Tuesday and Thursday being omitted. The refuse is disposed of by tipping into the sea at Keith Inch where it is washed away daily. This is a very economical and satisfactory method of disposal and I am pleased to report that I have never received a complaint about it.

The practice of certain householders in placing ashbins on the foot-pavement in the evening previous to the day of collection still continues. Many of these receptacles are kicked or thrown about and the contents scattered on the street long before morning, which entails extra labour on/

on the Cleansing Department. The practice is very common in the principal streets of the town. Steps should be taken to have it discontinued.

Little or no improvement has taken place regarding the waste paper nuisance within the Burgh. It is to be regretted that the practice of packing waste paper, straw and other combustible material, into uncovered ashbins and boxes still continues. The Cleansing Department supplies bags to shopkeepers and others and collects the paper free of charge at regular intervals, but even this concession has not had the desired effect and the waste paper nuisance on the streets remains unabated.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES (used in common) -

The number of water closets serving:-

2 Tenants	3 Tenants	4 Tenants	5 or more Tenants
280	227	146	98

There are no ashpits within the Burgh. There are 33 privies each serving one tenant nearly all in connection with fishcuring premises.

The number of houses without a water supply and sink inside the house is 1,338.

These are the figures given in my last year's report. There has been little or no alteration.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES -

There are no common lodging houses within the Burgh.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS -

The number of workshops on the register remains the same as last year, viz:-

Tailoring	12
Baking	15
Dressmaking and Millinery	6
Fishcuring	41
Others	39

These as a rule are well kept and there has been no cause for complaint.

BURIAL GROUNDS -

There are two burial grounds within the Burgh both of which are satisfactory in every respect.

BURGH POLICE ACT -

The following notices were served under the Burgh Police Act.

Cleansing and washing of common stairs and passages ..	6
Whitewashing Do. Do. ..	65
Repair rones and pipes	10
Cleansing of water closets used in common	7

OFFENSIVE TRADES -

There are three offensive trades within the Burgh, viz:-

Fishmeal Factory.
Guano Factory.
Tripe and Gut Cleaning.

There/

There were a few complaints during the year regarding offensive smells which emanated from the Fish Meal Factory on the Smith Embankment during certain winds, but every precaution is taken to give as little trouble as possible. The works are everything that could be desired, of modern construction, and well kept in every way. It is quite possible that during any summer when these works are dealing with the maximum quantity of fish offal there may be complaints, but the season is of short duration and, on the whole, there is not much to complain about.

HOUSING (Rural Workers) Act, 1926 -

There were no applications for grants in aid of reconstruction and improvement of houses under the above Act during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1923 - Private Subsidy -

Two applications for grants under the above Act were approved of during the year, amounting to £133. 6. 8.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930 -

The first instalment under the above Act consisting of 36 three-apartment houses was all completed during the year, also 12 four-apartment houses of the second instalment. The third instalment, consisting of 28 three-apartment houses under the 1930 Act and 8 three-apartment houses under the 1924 Act was approved of during the year, - in all, 72 three-apartment houses and 28 four-apartment houses, totalling 100 houses.

Thirty-six three-apartment and 12 four-apartment houses were occupied during the year. The work on the others is progressing satisfactorily.

The rents of these houses are 4/9d per week for a three-apartment house and 5/3d per week for a four-apartment house, exclusive of rates. The rents are collected weekly.

Tenants with more than four children under 14 years of age are granted a rebate of sixpence per week for each child in excess of four, but such rate is not to exceed two shillings per week.

Sufficiency of Working Class Houses.

When the above scheme is completed it will have solved to a large extent the important question of housing a large number of the tenants who have been displaced from properties dealt with under the slum clearance, but really it has done nothing to solve the question of overcrowded houses in properties which cannot be dealt with under this scheme. I have no hesitation in stating that a large number of these overcrowded cases are as urgently requiring improved housing conditions as the slum dwellers. Unfortunately just as a large scheme was being prepared to provide accommodation for families living under overcrowded conditions, the Government intimated the reduction of the £9 subsidy under the 1924 Act to £3, which of course will bring to an end all thought of proceeding with a housing scheme under these conditions. It is estimated that the Town Council annual liability would not be less than £10. 10/- per house.

Habitability of existing Houses.

Under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, 108 separate dwellinghouses containing 493 inmates have been reported upon as unfit for human habitation, and a large number have already been dealt with. Twenty-eight families consisting of 176 persons from these properties have been provided with new houses at Ugie Park, the remaining tenants have been selected from overcrowded houses in various parts of the town.

The next question to be dealt with will be the unsatisfactory condition of a number of properties which do not come within the category of uninhabitable but which require extensive structural alterations/

alterations and repairs, the provision of a water supply and sink inside the house &c., in order to render them more reasonably fit for human habitation.

Forty-eight tenants have been provided with new houses at Ugie Park during the year. Thirty-six in three-apartment and 12 in four-apartment houses. The average number of persons per house is 6.7 and the average per room is 2.13.

A report on overcrowding is annexed.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE -

There is only one slaughterhouse within the Burgh which belongs to the Local Authority. It is a modern building, well equipped, well managed, and always in a cleanly condition.

During the year 1,470 cattle, 1,093 sheep and 152 pigs were slaughtered compared with 1,613 cattle, 1,014 sheep and 202 pigs for the year 1931.

Forty-two carcases were affected with tuberculosis, viz:- 33 whole and 9 part, weighing 4 tons, 12 cwts., 3 qrs., all of which were condemned as unfit for human food and sent to Messrs. W. Sim & Company, Aberdeen.

JAMES DICKIE, Sanitary Inspector.

UNSOUND FOOD.

I. MEAT -

Number of Seizures, Weights of Meat seized, and reasons for seizure

	BEEF		
	Number	Weight	
Tuberculosis	42	4 tons 12 cwts.	3 qrs.
Unsound condition	21		121 lbs.
	63	4 tons 13 cwts.	93 lbs.

II. OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD -

Articles	Where seized	Quantities or Weights	Reasons for seizure
Tinned Fruit	Various Shops	68 tins	Decomposed

HOUSING/

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND) 1928.

1.	Number of dwellinghouses inspected	350
2.	Number of dwellinghouses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	108

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1925.

3.	Number of cases where intimations were given under Section 20 (1) as to insufficient water-closet accommodation:-	
	(a) cases where requirements complied with ...	Nil
	(b) cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so. ...	Nil
	(c) cases still pending	Nil
4.	Number of houses of (a) one apartment, and (b) two apartments, for the erection of which the consent of the Local Authority has been given in terms of Section One hundred and eleven	(a) Nil (b) Nil

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &C., (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1919.

5.	Number of cases where notices were served under Section 40 (1) to provide dwellinghouses with water supply:-	Nil

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

6.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served under Section 14 (1)	Nil
7.	Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation following on notices under Section 14 (1) ...	Nil
8.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which work has been done by the Local Authority under Section 15 (1) ..	Nil
9.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which in terms of Section 17, a demolition order or closing order under Section 16 (3) has been substituted for a notice under Section 14 (1)	Nil
10.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (1)	89
11.	Number of dwellinghouses referred to in 10:-	
	(a) which have been rendered fit for human habitation.	13
	(b) in respect of which undertaking has been given that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit.	Nil
	(c) in respect of which orders have been made under Section 16 (3)	76
	(d) in respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4)	Nil
12.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders have, in terms of Section 16 (3) been determined by the Local Authority, following upon the houses having been rendered fit for human habitation.	Nil
13.	Number of houses in respect of which advances have been made in terms of Section 34 towards cost of repairs and amount so advanced.	Nil