CITY OF PERTH.

REPORT

BY

WILLIAM ASHER, A. R. San. I.

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1930.

"CONSTITUTIONAL" OFFICE, PERTH.

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INDEX.

BURGH OF PERTH.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1930.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,
22 YORK PLACE,
PERTH, *31st March, 1931.*

To
The Department of Health for Scotland and the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Burgh of Perth.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the Department of Health's Circular of 12th February, 1931, I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the Burgh and particulars of work done in connection with same during the year.

The Department call for a report on:—

(*a*) A general account of the sanitary state of the Burgh. This account should deal specifically with Water Supply, Drainage (including Sewage Disposal), and Scavenging (in counties, in Special Districts, and other populous centres), and with any suggestions for the improvement of these services. It should also deal with Nuisances and other matters affecting public health.

In populous and closely-built centres where closets on the conservancy system remain, the Report should show the number converted to the water-carriage system during recent years, as well as the number of privies, earth-closets, and privy middens remaining at the end of the year. Attention is particularly directed to the Scottish Board of Health's circular of 1st September, 1925; and the Department request Sanitary Inspectors again to deal specially with this subject in their Report for the current year, and also to give the additional information therein requested, viz.:—Particulars with reference to the populous places in the district, as to (1) the number of common water-closets in use, shewing separately the number serving 2, 3, 4 and 5 or more tenants respectively; (2) the number of houses without water supply and sink inside the house; and (3) the number of (*a*) dry closets, (*b*) privy middens, and (*c*)

ashpits, shewing for each separately the number serving 2, 3, 4 and 5 or more tenants respectively.

(*b*) An account of his general inspections, and of any special inspections or enquiries, including the supervision of slaughter-houses and other offensive trades; and the sanitary condition of schools and of factories and workshops. The report on the supervision of slaughter-houses should include a statement as under:—

Class of Animals	Number of Animals.			Weight (in lbs.) of Condemned Meat and Offals.
	Slaughtered.	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned	
Cattle, -				
Sheep, -				
Pigs, -				

(*c*) An account of the condition of the common lodging-houses.

(*d*) An account of the condition of the Burial Grounds.

(*e*) Observations on Food Inspection, Imported Food, and particulars of the sanitary condition of premises where Foods are manufactured, prepared, stored, or exposed for sale.

(*f*) A report on the work done under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, and the Orders relating to Milk.

(*g*) Where the Sanitary Inspector has been appointed to carry out the sanitary inspection of Registered Dairies and Exempted Premises.

(1) A statement of the conditions found and of any particular points that are of outstanding interest or that require remedy;

(2) Particulars of the extent to which (*a*) the dairies conform with the structural and sanitary requirements of the Dairy Bye-laws; (*b*) dairymen and their employees comply with the requirements of the Bye-laws relating to methods of milking, handling, and generally the production of clean milk;

(3) Notes of improvements obtained in the condition of dairies, including observations regarding any complaints received or dealt with;

(4) (*a*) The number of registered dairies in the district, and the approximate total number of cows therein;

(*b*) the number of premises exempted from registration (if available) and the approximate number of cows in such premises, with observations on this class of premises;

(5) A statement of the extent to which Articles 5 to 16 of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1925, are being complied with;

(6) A comparative statement of the results of inspection of dairies.

I.—STATISTICS.

Valuation of Burgh, ...	£342,226
*Population (Registrar's Computation), ...	32,200
Area in Acres, ...	3,139
*No. of Persons per Acre, ...	10.26

* Next year, on account of the Census being taken, these figures will be much more reliable.

II.—WATER SUPPLY.

This year "Finis" was written to a very long story. For many years the water question agitated the minds of the Local Authority, and five or six years ago the crisis was reached when it was finally decided to introduce a new supply from the River Tay at Woody Island. This scheme was inaugurated by the Secretary of State for Scotland in September last, and it is hoped that it will provide an adequate supply of pure water for a very long time to come. In last year's report I mentioned that new storage accommodation had been provided, and this, along with an ample supply and sufficient means of pumping it, should enable us to face the future without any misgiving on the score of water.

The total quantity of water pumped during the year for all purposes was 916,497,800 gallons, as compared with 914,483,000 gallons last year, being an increase of 2,014,800 gallons.

This includes the supply to Scone, which is outwith the Burgh.

The consumpt is equal to a supply of 49.95 gallons per head per day for all purposes, exclusive of meters and other trade purposes, and is calculated on a population which includes Scone and the districts outside the Burgh which are supplied with Perth water.

The above figures are as supplied by the Water Manager.

An increase in the consumpt per head of population must be looked for in view of the fact that many more W.C.s and baths are being provided in the new houses, and also the insistence on the provision of W.C.s and sinks for all old houses.

The following is a comparative table of consumpt for the past five years.

Year.	Total Consumpt in Gallons.	Consumpt per head per day (exclusive of Meters).
1930,	916,497,800	49.95
1929,	914,483,000	49.65
1928,	861,745,150	50.0
1927,	830,799,600	45.0
1926,	792,489,300	43.6

Rain fell on 203 days, the total rainfall being 781.9 millimeters or 30.7 inches. The greatest rainfall in 24 hours was on the 17th September, when 31.5 millimeters or 1.24 inches fell.

III.—DRAINAGE.

One thousand, five hundred and sixty-seven yards of new pipes have been laid in connection with extensions to the sewerage system at Viewlands Terrace, Pitheavlis, Glasgow Road, Windsor Terrace, Darnhall Crescent and Knowelea Place.

The following are particulars of sizes:—

35 lineal yards— 7-in. fireclay pipe.
462 lineal yards— 9-in. fireclay pipe.
110 lineal yards—15-in. fireclay pipe.
660 lineal yards—18-in. fireclay pipe.
300 lineal yards—21-in. fireclay pipe.

The smoke test was applied to 3 drainage systems, all of which were found defective, and the necessary work has been carried out.

Ninety-eight intimations under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served on Owners in connection with choked or defective drains and gullies.

IV.—NUISANCES.

During the year 532 nuisances were discovered by the Department or complained of, and 389 intimations under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served.

Fifteen notices under Section 20 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were also served where the work was not done following intimations.

Eleven hundred and forty-six visits of inspection were made in connection with these.

The following are the particulars of the nuisances dealt with:—

Choked or defective drains, ...	46
Choked or defective gullies, ...	42
Choked or defective rhones, ...	25
Choked or defective traps, ...	26
Choked or defective W.C.s, ...	22
Choked or defective sinks, ...	10
Choked or defective rain-water conductors, ...	22
Choked or defective waste-pipes, ...	8
Defective W.C. cisterns, ...	5
Defective roofs, ...	20
Defective stairs, ...	5
Dampness in houses, ...	30
Defective vents, ...	23
Broken plaster in houses, ...	31
Broken floors in houses, ...	26
Broken woodwork in houses, ...	19
Broken firegrates, ...	15
Accumulations of rubbish, ...	36
Smoke nuisances, ...	14
Defects in outhouses, ...	11
Nuisances from domestic animals, ...	13
Overcrowding, ...	13
Offensive smells, ...	15
Verminous houses, ...	30
Defective back courts, ...	10
Miscellaneous, ...	15
	532

V.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There were 138 workshops on the Register at the end of 1929. During the year 3 were removed and 2 added, leaving a total of 137.

A table of the various trades carried on will be found in Appendix No. 11.

One hundred and six inspections were made of these during the year, and 9 notices were served under Section 2 (3), and 5 under Section 9 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Two notices under Section 5, and five under Section 9 were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. These referred to dirty walls and ceilings of workshops, and insufficient W.C. accommodation. The necessary work has been carried out.

Eight lists were received referring to 4 outworkers.

Four lists were received from other Authorities.

VI.—SCHOOLS.

The Schools in the Burgh continue to be kept in a very satisfactory condition.

VII.—OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The offensive trades licensed within the burgh are three in number, viz. :—

Slaughter-house, ...	1
Tallow Melting Works, ...	1
Manure Manufactory, ...	1

Fifty-one inspections were made of these premises during the year. All were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition. No complaints were received during the year.

VIII.—COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

At the end of 1929 there were five common lodging-houses on the Register. The number at the end of 1930 was the same. The common Lodging-house in Castlegable has been discontinued in view of the purchase by Mr Burns of larger and more suitable premises in Meal Vennel. The old premises in Castlegable will probably be demolished in connection with a Slum Clearance Scheme in Castlegable area.

Three hundred and fifty-two inspections were made of these houses—298 during the day, and 54 during the night. No overcrowding was found.

Sixteen notices were served on Keepers as to contraventions of the Bye-laws. These referred to—5 dirty walls and ceilings, 2 broken plaster on walls, 2 dirty stairs, 2 dirty W.C. apartments, 2 dirty beds, 1 choked W.C., 1 defective W.C. cistern, and 1 broken woodwork.

The following table gives the particulars of the various Lodging-houses, number of rooms, accommodation, and the average number of lodgers found at night:—

Situation of House	No. of Rooms	Accommodation	Average No of Lodgers Found
1. Skinnergate -	2	90	86
2. 59 South Street -	14	30	21
3. 34 Meal Vennel -	2	12½	9
4. 91 South Street -	4	25½	21
5. 26 28 Meal Vennel -	4	57	*54
6. 39 Castlegable -	13	42	†34

* One month. †Eleven months.

IX.—HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS.

Princes Street Hostel is the only House Let-in-Lodgings on the Register. This house continues to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Forty-two visits of inspection were made during the year.

This house consists of 28 rooms, with accommodation for 81 persons. The average number of lodgers found was 38½.

X.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease shows an increase of 86 over last year, 457 as compared with 371.

Of these 457 cases, 215 were removed to Friarton Hospital.

The cases notified and removed were as follows:—

	Notified.	Removed.
Scarlet Fever, ...	113	94
Diphtheria, ...	110	102
Erysipelas, ...	36	10
Phthisis, ...	30	—
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis), ...	29	—
Puerperal Fever, ...	13	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum, ...	8	3
Pneumonia, ...	9	—
Chickenpox, ...	107	—
Dysentery, ...	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, ...	1	—
	457	215

Comparing the cases notified with those of the previous year:—

Diphtheria shows an increase of	37
Erysipelas shows an increase of	9
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis) shows an increase of	2
Puerperal Fever shows an increase of	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum shows an increase of	5
Chickenpox shows an increase of	84
Dysentery shows an increase of	1
Scarlet Fever shows an decrease of	13
Phthisis shows a decrease of	3
Pneumonia shows a decrease of	39
Malaria shows a decrease of	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis shows a decrease of	1
Encephalitis Lethargica shows a decrease of	1

The following comparative statement shows the number of cases of each disease notified and removed for the last five years, and the average over that period:—

Disease	1930		1929		1928		1927		1926		Average	
	Notified	Removed	Notified	Removed	Notified	Removed	Notified	Removed	Notified	Removed	Notified	Removed
Scarlet Fever	113	*94*	126	*106*	116	*92*	140	*104*	172	*130*	133	*105*
Diphtheria	110	*102*	73	*67*	114	*109*	63	*60*	17	*12*	75	*70*
Erysipelas	36	*10*	27	*6*	23	*4*	19	*3*	24	*2*	26	*5*
Phthisis	30	—	33	*4*	28	*3*	28	*7*	17	—	27	*3*
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis)	29	—	27	*3*	22	—	23	*2*	26	—	25	*1*
Puerperal Fever	13	*5*	7	*1*	2	*1*	3	*1*	4	*1*	6	*2*
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	*3*	3	—	5	*1*	6	*3*	4	*1*	5	*2*
Pneumonia	9	—	48	*1*	19	—	11	—	21	—	22	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1	—	3	—	3	—	3	—	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Chickenpox	107	—	23	—	35	—	196	*1*	—	—	72	*1*
Dysentery	1	*1*	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Malaria	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	*2*	1	—
Total	457	*215*	371	*188*	370	*210*	493	*181*	290	*148*	396	*189*

The incidence of the various diseases, both as regards the season of the year and the various Wards of the City, can be seen from the following tables:—

(a) Seasonal Incidence.

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Notified	Total Removed
Scarlet Fever														
Notified ...	11	9	9	6	13	9	11	12	11	9	4	9	113	
Removed ...	*8*	*9*	*6*	*4*	*11*	*6*	10	*11*	*9*	*9*	*2*	*9*		*94*
Diphtheria														
Notified ...	6	9	5	6	4	2	—	4	10	20	24	20	110	
Removed ...	*6*	*9*	*5*	*6*	*4*	*2*	—	*3*	*10*	*18*	*24*	*15*		*102*
Erysipelas														
Notified ..	2	2	4	1	—	1	1	2	3	9	5	6	36	
Removed ...	—	—	*1*	—	—	*1*	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*2*	*2*		*10*
Phthisis														
Notified ..	—	—	5	4	5	3	1	—	1	2	6	3	30	
Removed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis)														
Notified ...	3	2	2	5	5	1	3	1	—	1	4	2	29	
Removed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Puerperal Fever														
Notified ..	—	4	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	2	13	
Removed ..	—	*2*	—	—	—	*1*	—	*1*	—	—	—	*1*		*5*
Ophthalmia Neonatorum														
Notified ...	1	—	4	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	8	
Removed ...	—	—	*2*	—	—	*1*	—	—	—	—	—	—		*3*
Pneumonia														
Notified ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	9	
Removed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Chickenpox														
Notified ...	2	5	8	9	37	28	12	1	—	1	1	3	107	
Removed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Dysentery ...														
Notified ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Removed .	*1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		*1*
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis														
Notified	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Removed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Totals Notified	26	31	40	33	65	47	30	25	25	43	45	47	457	—
Totals Removed	*15*	*20*	*14*	*10*	*15*	*11*	*10*	*16*	*20*	*29*	*28*	*27*	—	*215*

(b) Incidence in the Various Wards.

Disease	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Total
Scarlet Fever	12	14	10	36	36	5	113
Diphtheria	16	21	12	29	28	4	110
Erysipelas	4	11	4	8	6	3	36
Phthisis	7	6	10	4	3	...	30
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis)	2	7	6	4	6	4	29
Puerperal Fever	3	1	1	6	1	1	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	1	...	3	...	8
Pneumonia	1	3	1	1	1	2	9
Chickenpox	30	23	11	10	27	6	107
Dysentery	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...	77	92	54	97	112	25	457

The sizes of the houses in which the Infectious Diseases occurred and the number of inmates per room in these houses may be seen from the following tables:—

		1-Roomed Houses	2-Roomed Houses	3-Roomed Houses	4-Roomed Houses and over
Percentage of Houses occupied per Census Return of 1921.		4.3	32.7	28.1	34.9
Disease	No. of Cases.	%	%	%	%
Scarlet Fever ..	113	5 or 4.4	33 or 29.2	33 or 29.2	42 or 37.2
Diphtheria	110	2 or 1.8	36 or 32.8	25 or 32.7	47 or 42.7
Erysipelas	36	4 or 11.1	13 or 36.1	12 or 33.3	7 or 19.5
Phthisis	30	2 or 6.6	11 or 36.7	3 or 10.0	14 or 46.7
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis)	29	3 or 10.3	13 or 44.8	5 or 17.3	8 or 27.6
Puerperal Fever ...	13	1 or 7.6	3 or 23.1	4 or 30.8	5 or 38.5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	...	7 or 87.5	...	1 or 12.5
Pneumonia	9	...	3 or 33.3	4 or 44.5	2 or 22.2
Chickenpox	107	4 or 3.7	40 or 37.4	30 or 28.1	33 or 30.8
Dysentery	1	...	1 or 100.0	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	...	1 or 100.0	...	...
Total ..	457	21 or 4.6	161 or 35.2	116 or 25.4	159 or 34.8

		Number of Cases in Houses where the Persons per Room Number				
		Not More than 2 in a room	More than 2 in a Room	More than 3 in a Room	More than 4 in a room	Institutional
Number of Persons living per Room per Census Return of 1921		% 77·4	% 17·3	% 4·5	% 0.8	
DISEASE.	No. of Cases.					
Scarlet Fever	113	62 or 54 9	28 or 24.8	9 or 7.9	1 or 0.9	13 or 11.5
Diphtheria	110	63 or 57.3	28 or 25.5	3 or 2.7	2 or 1.8	14 or 12.7
Erysipelas	36	25 or 69.4	7 or 19.4	2 or 5.6	1 or 2.8	1 or 2.8
Phthisis	30	18 or 60.0	6 or 20.0	1 or 3.3	...	5 or 16.7
Tuberculosis (other than Phthisis)	29	17 or 58.6	4 or 13.8	5 or 17.2	1 or 3.5	2 or 6.9
Puerperal Fever	13	7 or 53.8	2 or 15.4	...	...	4 or 30.8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .	8	1 or 12.5	4 or 50.0	2 or 25.0	...	1 or 12.5
Pneumonia	9	5 or 55.6	1 or 11.1	2 or 22.2	...	1 or 11.1
Chickenpox	107	76 or 71.1	27 or 25.2	3 or 2.8	1 or 0.9	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1	...	1 or 100.0	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	...	1 or 100.0	...	...	...
Total	457	274 or 59.9	109 or 23.9	27 or 5.9	6 or 1.3	41 or 9 0

The work of disinfection done in connection with the foregoing, and also in connection with 9 deaths from Phthisis and Tuberculosis reported by the Registrar, is contained in the following table of particulars:—

Houses, ...	203
Rooms, ...	323
Beds, ...	359
Sets of Clothing, ...	406
Books, ...	866

The total number of visits of inspection and enquiry made in connection with Infectious Disease was 890.

Two hundred and eighteen notices in terms of Section 50 (2) and Section 53 (2) of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served on Occupiers, 166 on Schoolmasters, 27 on Employers and 34 on Librarians.

Twelve cases of Measles were removed to Friarton Hospital. Five rooms, 8 beds, and 7 sets of clothing were disinfected.

Four rooms, 4 beds, and 2 sets of clothing were disinfected after 2 deaths from Cancer. Two beds were destroyed.

The Medical Practitioners' Notification Fees in connection with Infectious Disease cases amounted to £47 12s 0d:—

330 cases @ 2/6, ...	£41	5	0
127 cases @ 1/-, ...	6	7	0
	£47	12	0

XI.—DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of 1929 there were 16 Cowkeepers on the Register, and 64 Purveyors of Milk, making a total of 80.

During the year two Cowkeepers have been removed from the Register, leaving a total of 14. Two Purveyors of Milk were removed and two added, which leaves the total 64. The number on the Dairy Register at the end of the year was therefore 78.

The average number of cows found in the byres during the year was 140, as compared with 172 in 1929. The number at the end of the year was 154.

All the dairy premises were inspected at regular intervals during the year, and 3 cows and 3 byres were found dirty. The general standard of cleanliness, both of cows and byres, was found to be very satisfactory.

All the cows were examined by the Veterinary Surgeon during the year. The total number of udders examined was 561. Two cows were found with suspicious udders, and samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. The following were the results :—

No. 1—Negative T.B.
No. 2—Positive T.B.

Seventy-six inspections of byres, and 64 inspections of milk-shops were made.

Bacterial Counts.

Sixteen samples of pasteurised milk were procured for bacteriological examination. The following are the results :—

1. 1,520	5. 3,100	9. 4,300	13. 3,420
2. 3,420	6. 1,700	10. 68,000	14. 11,100
3. 4,780	7. 7,400	11. 2,500	15. 4,300
4. 7,800	8. 13,800	12. 57,000	16. 18,800

XII.—FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

One hundred and seventeen samples were taken under the above Act, as compared with 120 last year. Of these, 111 were reported genuine samples, and 6 not genuine.

The average quality of milk supplied (fat 3.47 and non-fatty solids 8.84) continues to be satisfactory, although there are still some samples showing a low analysis.

Three of the deficient samples were from one herd. One was taken at shop and two at the byre before the trouble was discovered.

The seller of No. 57 was obviously tampering with his milk, and was prosecuted. A fine of £2 or twenty days was imposed. A similar fine was imposed on the seller of No. 60, where the milk had been watered. It is doubtful if small fines like these will deter a purveyor from tampering with his milk. It must be a somewhat lucrative process if done consistently and judiciously.

One seller of sausages was found guilty of using an excessive quantity of Sulphur Dioxide and fined £1.

The following table gives the analyses of all Sweet Milk samples taken during the year:—

No. of Sample	Milk Fat	Milk Solids	No. of Sample	Milk Fat	Milk Solids	No. of Sample	Milk Fat	Milk Solids
*1	2.84	7.49	18	3.05	8.54	59	3.19	8.71
2	3.18	8.98	19	3.01	8.49	*60	2.86	8.30
3	3.06	8.82	32	3.65	9.01	61	3.10	8.77
4	3.02	8.98	33	4.57	9.23	62	3.80	8.77
5	3.19	9.23	34	4.26	9.29	63	3.62	8.70
6	3.05	8.84	35	4.22	9.15	64	4.15	8.93
7	3.44	8.99	36	3.67	9 24	65	3.91	8.99
8	3.51	8.56	37	4.59	9.17	66	4.69	8.55
9	3.08	8.84	38	3.70	8.74	67	4.10	8.73
*10	2.92	8.96	39	3.46	8.92	68	3.25	8.67
11	3.15	8.87	40	3.49	9.04	69	3.32	8.51
12	3.04	9.03	41	3.72	8.67	112	3.59	8.98
*13	3.18	7.98	42	3.79	9.07	113	3.26	9.29
14	3.06	8.64	43	3.81	9.24	114	3.12	8.92
15	3.44	8.83	56	3.72	9.06	115	4.17	9.05
16	3.55	8.91	*57	2.55	8.51	116	3.46	8.94
17	3.27	9.15	58	3.04	9.02	117	3.07	8 51

* These are "not genuine" samples.

The average analysis of 51 samples gives 3.47 per cent. of milk fat and 8.84 per cent. of milk solids other than milk fat.

Thirty-five test samples of Sweet Milk were procured, and the average analysis of these gives 3.1 per cent. of milk fat and 8.8 per cent. of milk solids other than milk fat. Any test sample procured and found to be at all suspicious was immediately followed by an official sample.

The following table shows the nature of the samples taken and the number of each, with the number and percentage of not genuine articles:—

Articles	No. of Samples taken	No. 'Genuine'	No. 'Not Genuine'	Percentage of 'Not Genuine' Samples
Sweet Milk	51	46	5	9.8
Butter	6	6	...	...
Margarine	12	12	...	...
Cheese, ...	6	6	...	...
Tea	6	6	...	...
Sugar	6	6	...	...
Preserves, ...	6	6	...	...
Condensed Milk ...	6	6	...	...
Mince	12	12	...	...
Sausage	6	5	1	16.4
Total ...	117	111	6	5.1

Comparative statement shewing number of samples, and number of "not genuine" articles during the last five years, Sweet Milk being shewn separately:—

Year.	No. of Samples excluding Sweet Milk	No. of same "Not Genuine"	No. of Sweet Milk Samples	No of same "Not Genuine"	Total Samples Taken	No. of same "Not Genuine"
1930	66	1	51	5	117	6
1929	56	3	64	7	120	10
1928	48	5	65	10	113	15
1927	49	4	50	2	99	6
1926	48	...	60	2	108	2
Average for 5 Years	53.4	2.6	58	5.2	111.4	7.8

XIII.—CONDENSED MILK REGULATIONS.

Six samples were procured under above. These were found to conform to the Regulations.

XIV.—MARGARINE ACT.

Twelve samples were procured under the Margarine Act. All were found to conform to the requirements of the Act.

XV.—MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

Regular inspections have been made under the above as to proper marking of imported fruits, etc., and several retailers, chiefly Fruit Merchants, were warned by letter re failing to show tickets bearing the necessary information as to the country of origin.

One hundred and fifty-seven inspections were made and 14 warning letters sent to shopkeepers who were not conforming to the requirements of the Act.

XVI.—UNSOUND FOOD AND REGULATIONS AS TO FOOD ORDER.

The following quantities of unsound food were seized and condemned in shops as unfit for human consumption:—

12 6-lb. tins of Corned Meat.
10¼ lbs. of Hormel Ham.
6 lbs. of Spiced Ham.
1 6-lb. tin of Lunch Tongue.
23 lbs. of Boneless Meat.
1 3-lb. tin of Hormel Pork Tongue.

Seven carcases of sheep were also seized in the Cold Stores and condemned. These had been killed or dressed on a farm without notice having been given to the Local Authority. The matter was reported to the County Authorities when a prosecution followed and the farmer fined.

The number of animals slaughtered in 1930 was:—

Class of Animals.	Number of Animals.			Weight (in lbs.) of Condemned Meat and Offals
	Slaughtered.	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned.	
Cattle, -	4,325	54	37	35,018
Sheep, -	13,391	74	28	3,639
Pigs, -	2,174	3	1	665
Calves, -	129	9	3	518

XVII.—BURIALS.

Three burials (all adults) were undertaken by the Department under Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, at a cost of £7 19/-.

XVIII.—BURIAL GROUNDS.

The three Burial Grounds in the Burgh are now all under the supervision of the Town Council, and continue to be kept in a good condition.

XIX.—PIGSTYES.

At the end of 1929 there were 27 Pigkeepers on the Register. Two of these have ceased keeping pigs, which leaves a total of 25 at the end of 1930.

The 25 piggeries comprise 129 styes, and at the end of the year 529 pigs were kept.

Two hundred and thirty-three inspections were made, and 15 styes were found in a dirty condition. Notices were served with regard to these.

XX.—RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

No samples of Rag Flock were taken during the year.

XXI.—RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS, 1920 AND 1923.

Three certificates were granted to tenants under the above Acts re the following defects:—Broken plaster, broken hearthstone, broken firegrate, defective and leaking roofs, and defective pointing.

XXII.—RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT.

Three hundred and thirty-one visits of inspection and enquiry were made under the Act. Fifty-five complaints were received by the Department, and 31 notices were served on Occupiers calling upon them to adopt sufficient means to deal with the nuisance.

Poison was laid at the Refuse Depot several times throughout the year, and continual attention is given to the nuisance at this point.

BURGH POLICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1892.

(a) Water Closets and Water Supplies.

During the year 11 W.C.s for 8 properties and 8 sinks for 2 properties were provided. Thirty-three W.C.s for 26 properties and 29 sinks for 6 properties are still pending, and an effort is being made to have these properties supplied with the necessary conveniences.

(b) Sweeping and Washing of Common Passages, Stairs, etc. (Section 115).

One hundred and forty-four inspections were made, and forty-four notices were served on Occupiers for failing to clean common passages, stairs, etc., in rotation.

(c) Whitewashing of Stairs and Passages (Section 117).

During the year 1107 inspections were made of common passages, stairs, etc., as to white-washing and painting, and 365 notices, referring to 268 properties, were served under Section 117. Fifty-three final notices, referring to 34 properties, were served where work was not done following first notice.

(d) Dirty Houses (Section 119).

Thirty-eight visits of inspection were made, and 12 notices were served under this Section with regard to dirty houses.

(e) Cleaning of Areas (Section 120).

Two hundred and eighty-one inspections were made regarding cleanliness of back courts, areas, etc.; and 57 notices served on occupiers calling on them to perform the necessary cleaning.

(f) Public Conveniences.

A new lavatory for ladies has been provided at Speygate and a caretaker installed there. This was rendered advisable in view of the amount of 'bus traffic in the vicinity of Tay Street. It has proved to be of great convenience to passengers from outside.

The amount drawn from the penny-in-slot locks during the year was £434 8s 3d, as compared with £454 1s 2d last year. £159 7s was drawn from the men's lavatories, and £275 1s 3d from the ladies' lavatories.

In 1929 there was a decrease of £11 on the previous year, and this year shows a decrease of almost £20 on last year. Two things may account for that. First, there is the number of W.C.s being provided both in the old property and in the new houses, and secondly, depression in trade has a distinct bearing on the drawings.

HOUSING.

During the year, by the passing of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, a definite attempt has been made to deal with slum clearance throughout the country. This Act, which came into force on the 1st of August, generally tightens up the methods by which houses not in a reasonable state of repair can be dealt with, and introduces several novel features, chief of which undoubtedly is the grading of a subsidy according to the size of family rehoused. The preamble to the Act states that it is " an Act to make further and better provision with respect to clearance or improve-

ment of unhealthy areas, the repair, demolition or closing of insanitary houses, and the housing of persons of the working classes in Scotland."

The Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland), 1928, call upon Local Authorities to make inspections from time to time of the houses within their district, and the new Act requires them to review periodically the conditions disclosed by these inspections, and in particular, in the year 1930, to submit to the Department of Health a statement of the measures proposed to be taken in the next three years and in each succeeding five years respectively for dealing with housing conditions in their District, and for the provision of further housing accommodation.

Conforming to the above requirements, a report over the signatures of the Medical Officer and myself was submitted to the Local Authority. We reported as follows:—

Housing—Slum Clearance Scheme.

"Referring to the Circular issued by the Department of Health, with the provisions of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and particularly with regard to Slum Clearance Schemes, and systematic inspections and report on insanitary houses, the Local Authority are required—in the present year 1930, the year 1933, and in every fifth year thereafter to submit to the Department a general statement of the measures they propose to take between 1930 and 1933, and in each five year period after 1933 respectively for dealing with the housing conditions in their district, and the provision of further housing accommodation.

"For the information of the Local Authority, we beg to report that a systematic inspection with regard to houses unfit for habitation has been made, and this shows that 254 houses are necessary to replace houses which should be closed or demolished.

"The Clearance Area Scheme is that area lying between Castlegable, Bridge Lane, and George Street, and a summary of the houses, persons affected, and new houses required is herewith submitted in Table I. The number of dwelling-houses to be closed here is 70, and the persons affected number 203 adults and 68 children under 10 years of age. The other properties are summarised in Table II., and comprise 184 houses affecting 475 adults and 228 children under 10 years of age. Full particulars of these properties as required by the Housing Regulations have been tabulated, but we think the particulars given in the accompanying tables are sufficient for the purposes of report to the Department."

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930—Overcrowding.

"We have to report that, as the result of a survey as to overcrowding, the total number of houses necessary to abate existing overcrowding is 80.

"There has never been a definite interpretation of overcrowding, and the standard has varied in different districts. Usually the number of cubic feet per person has been the basis of calculation, and little or no account has been taken of floor space or the adequate separation of sexes. The basis which we have adopted for this report is to treat a house as overcrowded if there are more than two persons per room (counting children under 10 years as a half) and if there is no possibility of the proper separation of the sexes.

"The following is a summary of the houses presently overcrowded:—

(1) One-room houses—total 5.

1	with	3	persons	(including children).
1	,,	5	,,	,,
2	,,	6	,,	,,
1	,,	7	,,	,,

(2) Two-room houses—total 82.

3	with	4	persons	(including children).
21	,,	5	,,	,,
15	,,	6	,,	,,
21	,,	7	,,	,,
11	,,	8	,,	,,
7	,,	9	,,	,,
3	,,	10	,,	,,
1	,,	11	,,	,,

(3) Three-room houses—total 12.

1	with	7	persons	(including children).
2	,,	8	,,	,,
2	,,	9	,,	,,
5	,,	10	,,	,,
1	,,	11	,,	,,
1	,,	12	,,	,,

(4) Four-room houses—total 2.

2 with 15 persons (including children).

"This makes a total of 101 houses overcrowded, exclusive of the overcrowding (over 40 cases) included in the part of report dealing with slum clearance.

"Details of the houses required to abate the overcrowding are as follows:—

2-room	houses,	3
3- ,,	,,	62
4- ,,	,,	25
5- ,,	,,	9
6- ,,	,,	2
	Total,	101

"The overcrowded one-room houses could be decanted into two-room houses, and some of the two-room houses into the three and four-room houses which would be rendered available.

"We therefore estimate that after allowing for this stepping up process, 80 houses would be sufficient to meet overcrowding. These might be of the following sizes:—

46	three-room.
23	four- ,,
9	five- ,,
2	six- ,,
80	

"Attachted hereto is a detailed list, Table 3, of the overcrowded houses reported on."

For Natural Growth of Population.

"It is rather more difficult to be definite with regard to the number of houses necessary to meet the natural growth of the population. It would be easier, perhaps, after the publication of the 1931 census return to form an idea of the actual growth, if any. While the population may not be increasing, there has been a tendency in recent years for the number of persons per inhabited house to decrease. The Census for 1911 showed the average number of persons occupying each house to be 4.41. In 1921 this figure was 4.14. If this process were continuing, it is quite easy to see that more houses would be required for a stationary population.

"We think, however, that a safe basis to go on would be the number of persons married and staying in apartments, or with parents, plus the number of persons applying for houses in anticipation of marriage, plus the number of persons living outside

but working and desiring houses within the city. The total of these, as per report recently considered by the Housing Committee, is 243. Of that number we understand that 71 have been allocated houses in Florence Place and Darnhall Drive, leaving a total of 172. Seventy-nine other tenants have been granted houses under the last Scheme, and the houses vacated, or to be vacated, by them will also be available. In addition, we believe that at least other 50 could be accommodated in the overcrowded two-room houses referred to above, and we compute that 40 houses would be necessary to meet the remaining demand. These might be in the proportion of 20 two-room and 20 three-room houses.

"Reviewing, therefore, the whole of the housing requirements of the city, it would appear that it is still necessary to provide the following:—

(a)	For Slum Clearance, ...	254
(b)	To abate overcrowding, ...	80
(c)	To meet the requirements for new housing, ...	40
		374

"The sizes of houses on the basis of the above report would be:—

		No. of Rooms.				
(a)	For Slum Clearance, ...	2	3	4	5	6
	(1) Castlegable Area, ...	41	18	11	—	—
	(2) Other areas, ...	131	44	7	2	—
(b)	To abate overcrowding, ...	—	46	23	9	2
(c)	To meet new requirements,	20	20	—	—	—
		192	128	41	11	2."

The Local Authority, after considering these reports, estimate the number of houses required to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the district to be as follows:—

(a)	To replace houses unfit for human habitation, ...	254
(b)	To abate overcrowding (See Note 1 below), ...	80
(c)	To meet the normal growth of population (See Note 2 below), ...	40

Note 1.—The Local Authority are of opinion that the figure of 80 houses mentioned above might be reduced if a more free exchange of houses between tenants were possible.

Note 2.—This figure is subject to reconsideration when the figures obtained at the forthcoming census are available.

One hundred and fifty-two houses, comprising the Darnhall and Florence Place Schemes, referred to in my last report, have now been completed.

Plans passed the Dean of Guild Court for the following houses to be built by private enterprise:—

4-room houses, ...	31
5- ,, ,, ...	3
6- ,, ,, ...	5
	39

CLEANSING.

There is nothing of special importance to report in connection with the cleansing of the city. Perth has the reputation of being one of the cleanest burghs in the country, and from personal observation and reports that reputation is well deserved. The aim of the Local Authority and the endeavours of the administration are to have things as sweet as possible both for our own citizens and for visitors. I often wish, however, that citizens themselves would help a little more towards these laudable ends. I know that thoughtlessness is more to blame than anything else. Shopkeepers unpack goods on the pavements and straw and other packing are left to the vagaries of the wind. The sweepings from shop floors are brushed across the pavement into the channel, very often just after the scavenger has passed. Pedestrians and others throw unwanted litter promiscuously from them, and, in fact, if a thing is not wanted, the street seems to be considered quite a legitimate medium for getting rid of it. So far as shopkeepers are concerned, it might be useful if they considered that the little trouble necessary to keep things tidy would pay them through the good impression made on visitors, and besides that, it is a duty which they owe to their neighbours and those who pass by. The expense to the Cleansing Department may not affect them individually very much, but in the aggregate the cost is considerable.

To assist pedestrians litter receptacles have been provided in the busiest parts of the town where unwanted trifles such as match boxes, cigarette cartons, 'bus tickets, etc., may be placed, and it is hoped that these may be systematically used.

An experiment is also being tried out in scavengers' barrows. Bins on wheels and having covers are being tested in two districts,

and if they prove satisfactory, an endeavour will be made to provide them as standard. The new type of scavenger's receptacle appears to meet two needs. It prevents papers and light dust blowing from the barrow and does away with the necessity of emptying barrows on the street pending the arrival of the dust cart. The bins, when full, are unhooked, empty ones substituted, and the full bins are emptied direct into the cart.

In spite of all that has been said above, however, the most prolific source of street littering is the practice of putting household refuse on the kerbside in the morning. It is true that this is finally cleared up before ten o'clock in the morning, but the additional work is very considerable. It will be recollected that this was discussed in my last two Annual Reports. During the year the opportunity was taken of having the question discussed at a meeting of the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland. A resolution was then passed and a deputation appointed to interview the Department of Health with a view to bringing forward legislation giving local authorities the necessary powers in the matter, and the present position is that the representations made will be duly considered when a suitable opportunity arises for legislation. In the present position of affairs at Westminster I wonder if we must despair of the early consideration of this matter!

In my last report I mentioned the increasing size of the Burgh and the consequent necessity of providing an additional horse and cart and two scavengers. These have now been provided, and several of the districts re-arranged to make the best use of them.

There is little to report with regard to the disposal side of Cleansing. The plant at Friarton continues to give satisfaction. There has been a slump in prices so far as most of the salved material is concerned, but this is not to be wondered at in view of the conditions of trade throughout the country. All kinds of metals have suffered—baled tins, brass, aluminium, light and heavy scrap—and while prices have suffered, the best that can be said is that a market has been found so that these do not accumulate on our hands. It is to be hoped that with better trade prospects the returns from salved materials will also improve.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ASHER,
Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX I.

Statement by Sanitary Inspector of Proceedings under the Public Health and other Acts during 1930.

	No
Subordinate Sanitary Inspectors employed, ...	1

I.—Nuisances.

Complaints received, ...	532
Intimations served under Section 19, ...	389
Notices served under Section 20, ...	15
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

II.—Workshops.

Inspections, ...	138
Notices served under Section 2 (3) of Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, ...	14
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

III.—Tents and Vans.

Inspections, ...	47

IV.—Underground Dwellings.

Reported to Local Authority, ...	—
Notices to Owners (Section 74), ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

V.—Common Lodging-houses.

On Register at 31st December, 1930, ...	5
Common Lodging-houses belonging to the Local Authority, ...	—
Inspections between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., ...	298
Inspections between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m., ...	54
Intimations of Irregularities sent to Keepers, ...	16
Cases of Infectious Disease reported to Medical Officer (Section 97), ...	—
Unregistered Premises dealt with, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken (Breaches of Bye-Laws, etc.), ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful.	—

VI.—Houses Let in Lodgings.

On Register at 31st December, 1930, ...	1
Inspections, ...	42
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

VII.—Infectious Disease.

Visits of Enquiry, etc., ...	890
Patients removed to Hospital, ...	215
Notices served under Section 53 (2), Notices served under Section 50 (2), ...	218
Intimations to Education Authorities, Teachers, etc., ...	227
Houses or Premises disinfected, ...	203
Sets of Clothing, Bedding, etc., disinfected or destroyed, ...	406
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

VIII.—Burials.

Burials undertaken in terms of Section 69, ...	3

IX.—Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

On Register at 31st December, 1930, ...	78
Inspections, ...	140
Contraventions of Orders or Regulations dealt with, ...	8
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

X.—Slaughter-houses and Other Offensive Trades.

Applications under Section 32 for sanction to establish, ...	—
Applications granted, ...	—
Applications under Section 33 for Licence or Renewal of Licence, ...	—
Applications granted, ...	—
Public Slaughter-houses (if any) belonging to the Local Authority, ...	1
Private Slaughter-houses, ...	—
Unlicensed Slaughter-houses dealt with, ...	—
Inspections of Slaughter-houses, ...	30
Inspections of other Offensive Businesses, ...	21
Number of such other Offensive Businesses at 31st December, 1930, ...	2
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken (Breaches of Bye-Laws, etc.), ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

XI.—Unsound Food.

Inspections under Section 43 (*a*) Meat, ...	27
(*b*) Other Foods, ...	24
Seizures of Unsound Food (*a*) Meat, ...	7
(*b*) Other Foods, ...	—
Animals or Carcases or Articles of Food destroyed with Owner's Consent by or at the instance of the Sanitary Inspector, ...	7
Cases in which Owners of Unsound Food were prosecuted, ...	—
Convictions in connection with above cases, ...	—

XII.—Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Samples procured for Analysis, ...	117
Certified to be genuine, ...	111
Certified not to conform with Board's standard, ...	6
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	3
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	3

XIII.—Condensed Milk Regulations.

Samples procured for Analysis, ...	6
Certified to conform with Board's standard, ...	6
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

XIV.—Rag Flock Act, 1911.

Samples procured for Analysis, ...	—
Certified to conform with Board's standard, ...	—
Certified not to conform with Board's standard, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were taken, ...	—
Cases in which legal proceedings were successful, ...	—

XV.—Bye-Laws.

Inspections in carrying out Bye-Laws relating to—	
(a) Pigstyes, ...	233
(b) Public Conveniences, ...	—
(c) Buildings, ...	—
(d) Cleansing in Special Scavenging Districts, ...	—
(e) Other Sanitary matters, ...	—

APPENDIX II.

Workshops on Register.

Bakers,	18
Basket Makers,	2
Bee Appliance Makers,	1
Beer Bottlers,	2
Bootmakers,	9
Blacksmiths,	2
Brushmakers,	2
Cabinetmakers and Upholsterers,	6
Carpet Repairers,	1
Cycle Repairers,	4
Dressmakers and Milliners,	15
Electrical Engineers,	2
Golf Club Makers,	2
Ham Curers,	2
Jewellers,	9
Joiners,	9
Laundries,	1
Motor Repairers,	2
Painters,	2
Photographers,	3
Picture Framers,	3
Plumbers,	9
Rag Sorters,	1
Ropemakers,	1
Rubber Repairers,	1
Saddlers,	5
Sculptors,	1
Tailors,	16
Tinsmiths,	2
Wigmakers,	1
Window Blind Makers,	2
Wire Workers,	1
	137