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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1937

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BY

WILLIAM JAMES BUTCHER,

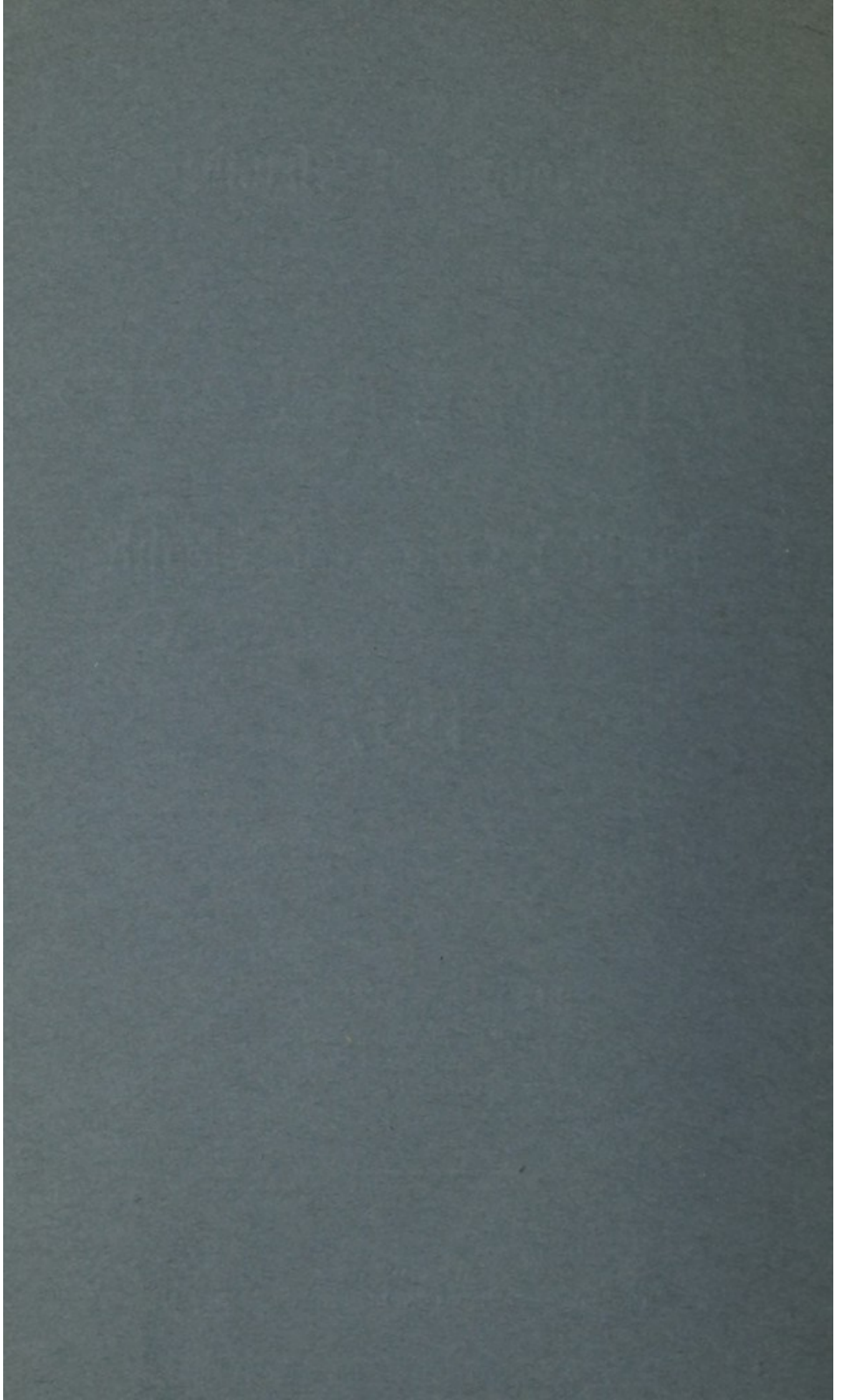
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# Borough of Arundel

"MILL HOLT,"

HILLSIDE AVENUE,

WORTHING.

*April, 1938.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1937, which has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1650, issued by the Ministry of Health on the 4th October, 1937.

The rates for 1937 as compared with the average rates for the past six years are as follows :—

	<i>Average 1931-36.</i>	<i>1937.</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	12.0	12.0
Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.8	15.3
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	—	11.2
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births ... ..	35	Nil

These rates have been calculated on the estimated resident population supplied to me by the Registrar-General, for the mid-year 1937.

The Corrected Death Rate (11.2) is obtained by multiplying the uncorrected rate by the factor of correction for Arundel, viz., 0.73. The corrected death rate represents what the death rate for Arundel would be if the population contained proportionately the same number of males and females in each of the age groups as enumeration in 1931 census revealed in England and Wales as a whole. The factor of correction being less than 1, indicates that the population of Arundel consists of a larger proportion of people at the ages at which death is more likely to occur than does the population of England and Wales as a whole.

The various mortality rates of the district during the past year as compared with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the urban and rural districts of West Sussex are shown in a comparative table on page 4.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM JAMES BUTCHER.

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

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Arundel is an ancient Borough situated on the River Arun, about four miles north of Littlehampton. Geologically the underlying stratum is chalk, though the Reading clay bed comes to the surface at one small area.

Agriculture, the Norfolk Estate, retail shop-keeping and the entertainment of holiday visitors provide between them occupation for the majority of the inhabitants.

The Council are developing a building estate, comprising 30 acres, situate at the west end of the Borough. The main road through the estate has been constructed, 85 houses have already been built upon it, including 44 Council houses.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,054.

Resident Population (1937) estimated by Registrar-General, 2,414

Population (1931), Census, 2,490.

Rateable value (1937), £17,853.

Sum represented by a 1d. rate, £71 4s. 6d.

No. inhabited houses end of 1937, according to Rate Books, 755.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	... 29	15	14	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.0.
Illegitimate	... —	—	—	
Stillbirths	... —	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, Nil.
Deaths	... 37	15	22	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15.3.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :—

From Sepsis—None.

From other causes—None.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, Nil.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, Nil.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), Six.

„ „ Measles (all ages), None.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages), None.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), None.

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

#### Comparative Statistics, 1937.

	England and Wales.	West Sussex		Arundel
		Urban.	Rural.	
Birth Rate ... ..	14.9	13.3	14.6	12.0
Death Rate ... ..	12.4	13.8	11.8	15.3
Infantile Death Rate ...	58	46	45	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis				
Death Rate ... ..	0.58	0.5	0.3	Nil
Zymotic Death Rate ...	—	0.07	0.08	Nil
Cancer Death Rate ...	1.6	2.2	1.7	2.5
Maternal Mortality Rate	3.1	0.5	3.5	Nil
Scarlet Fever, Incidence				
Rate per 1,000 popu- lation ... ..	—	—	—	Nil
Diphtheria, Incidence Rate				
per 1,000 population	—	—	—	1.2
Enteric Fever, Incidence				
Rate per 1,000 popu- lation ... ..	—	—	—	Nil

#### Infantile Mortality.

No deaths occurred of children under one year of age.

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.**

Arundel is one of the constituent Authorities of the West Sussex (Southern) United (M.O.H.) Districts, and the Public Health Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, and Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Gates). The Council contribute to the District Nursing Association for the services of the District Nurse to visit sufferers from Measles and German Measles.

### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

(a) **GENERAL.** The Arundel District Nursing Association employs one nurse who does all the district nursing and some midwifery.

(b) For Infectious Diseases the Local Sanitary Authority pay an annual fee of £6 6s. to the Local District Nursing Association, so that the services of the nurse shall be available to visit and provide nursing services to all cases of Measles and German Measles that come to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the schools, or to the knowledge of the nurse herself in the course of her duties.

### **Midwives.**

There are three Midwives practising on their own account in the district.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

#### **Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.**

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is provided by Her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk at Granville House, Maltravers Street. A meeting is held every Tuesday at 2.30, a doctor attending alternate Tuesdays.

#### **Day Nurseries.**

There is no day nursery in the district.

#### **School Clinics.**

A School Clinic for minor ailments is held at Granville House, Maltravers Street, on Wednesday mornings.

An Eye Clinic is held at the same address on Wednesday afternoons, when there are school children in need of eye treatment.

Also Dental Clinics are arranged from time to time for the treatment of school children.



Children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids are treated by arrangement at the Arundel Cottage Hospital.

Orthopaedic Clinics are held periodically at Granville House, Maltravers Street, for the treatment of school children with crippling defects. The Orthopaedic Nurse supervises children who have been prescribed exercises at these Clinics.

Ear Clinics are held from time to time at the School Clinic, Chapel Street, Chichester, and appointments are made for children suffering from ear disease to attend.

#### **Tuberculosis Clinic.**

The West Sussex County Council hold a Tuberculosis Dispensary at the Worthing Hospital on Mondays at 10 a.m., and at The Clinic, Chapel Street, Chichester, on Tuesday at 10 a.m., both of which are available to the residents of Arundel. The Tuberculosis Officer also attends as required (usually an afternoon session once a month) at Granville House, Maltravers Street, Arundel, to see local cases of Tuberculosis. Appointments are made through the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Chichester.

#### **Venereal Disease.**

The West Sussex County Council have made arrangements entitling residents of the County to attend the Clinics for Venereal Disease held at the following Hospitals :—

Worthing Hospital—Wednesdays, women 3—4, men 4—5  
Fridays, women 5—6, men 6—7.

The Royal Portsmouth Hospital—for men on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays at 4 p.m.; and for women on Mondays, 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., Wednesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

#### **Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.**

##### **1.—TUBERCULOSIS.**

i. Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, near Chichester, the property of the West Sussex County Council, 70 beds. (Adults 61 ; Children 9).

ii. A Tuberculosis Pavilion at the Worthing Isolation Hospital, Durrington, near Worthing. This Pavilion has been provided by and is under the control of the West Sussex County Council, 12 beds.

iii. The West Sussex County Council have an agreement with the Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester, to receive patients suffering from Surgical Tuberculosis at a fee of two and a half guineas per week.

## 2.—MATERNITY.

The West Sussex County Council have entered into agreements with :—

- (1) The Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, 79-80, Buckingham Road, Brighton, for the reception of abnormal cases.
- (2) The East Sussex County Council for the reception of normal cases whose home circumstances are unsatisfactory, at Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
- (3) The Worthing Hospital for the reception of abnormal and other cases in the Maternity Home.
- (4) The Brighton Corporation for the reception of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.

## 3.—CHILDREN.

The West Sussex County Council have an agreement with the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Dyke Road, Brighton, whereby two cots are reserved for the admission of Children under one year requiring in-patient treatment.

## 4.—FEVER.

The Local Sanitary Authority have no Isolation Hospital. When infectious cases occur which cannot be isolated at home, arrangements are made with a neighbouring Sanitary Authority for the patient to be removed to their Isolation Hospital.

## 5.—SMALLPOX.

The West Sussex County Council have undertaken responsibility for the isolation of cases of Smallpox, and have made arrangements with the Brighton Corporation for their reception into the Brighton Smallpox Hospital at Fulking.

**Institutional Provision** for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children—None.

**Ambulance Facilities.**

(a) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES. When an infectious case is removed to the Isolation Hospital of a neighbouring Sanitary Authority, the ambulance of such Sanitary Authority is used for removal.

(b) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES. There is a Motor Ambulance stationed at Littlehampton which is worked by the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Secretary, to whom application must be made when it is required, is Mr. A. G. King, 57a East Street, Littlehampton. The cost of the journey is paid by the users unless their means preclude this, when it is met out of the funds of the Brigade.

**Legislation in Force.**

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Bye-laws relating to Public Health have been brought into force during the year.

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

From the figures given below it will be seen how free from notifiable infectious diseases the Borough has been. No case of Scarlet Fever or of Typhoid occurred, and only three cases of Diphtheria.

No use has been made of the Dick or Schick tests nor of methods of immunization.

The following figures indicate the use that has been made of the facilities arranged for the examination of pathological specimens.

	Total.	Positive.	Negative.
Swabs (?Diphtheria) ... ..	23	4	19

**Notifiable Diseases during the year.**

	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria ... ..	3	0	0
Pneumonia ... ..	8	0	1

The ages of the patients notified were as follows :—

	1—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	Over 65
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	2

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

No case was notified during the year.

**TUBERCULOSIS.—New Cases and Mortality.**

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS  
1925.**

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations, which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of milk.

**Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.**

No action has had to be taken by the Council under this Section, which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a Magistrate's Order for the removal of tuberculous persons to an institution for isolation.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

There is no change in the Sanitary Circumstances of the district.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

##### (a) Milk Supply. Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of Dairymen (Cowkeepers and Milksellers) etc., in the district ... ..	6
No. of these registered as Wholesalers ... ..	2
No. registered as Retailers ... ..	4
No. of Dairymen exempt from registration by reason of not selling milk from their cows ... ..	1
No. of Inspections made :—	
(1) Cowsheds ... ..	64
(2) Milkshops ... ..	12
No. of Inspections during milking time ... ..	26
No. of Contraventions of the Regulations found ... ..	12
No. of Premises found to require :—	
(a) Cleansing ... ..	3
(b) Structural or Sanitary improvements ... ..	9
(1) Manure accumulations ... ..	4
(2) Surface drainage ... ..	3
(3) Repairs ... ..	2
(c) Other contraventions ... ..	0
No. of these requirements carried out :—	
(a) Cleansing ... ..	9
(b) Structural or Sanitary improvements ... ..	3

##### Water Supply to Dairy Premises.

	Public Supply.	Well Water.
Cowsheds ... ..	5	0
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	1	0

##### Sediment Tests.

No. of samples tested ... ..	9
No. of filters clean ... ..	9

##### Licences.

Four licences were granted by County Council to produce Accredited Milk.

**Bacteriological Examination of Milk.**

	No of Samples taken.		No. complying with standard.	No. failing to comply with standard
	By County Council.	By Local Authority.		
Accredited ...	24	—	9	15
Ordinary ...	—	4	no standard	

**(b) Meat.**

Under the Meat Regulations the Inspector has examined the following carcasses :—

	Cattle, excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ...	83	Nil	47	412	279
Number inspected ... ..	83	Nil	47	412	279
All diseases except T.B.—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	.01	—	—	—	.0035
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	.039

Condemned parts are soaked with disinfectant and either burned or sent to Soap Works at Kingston-by-Sea.

No. of inspections of Slaughter-houses under Meat Regulations ... ..	264
No. of inspections of Butchers' shops and delivery vans	134

**Slaughter Houses.**

There are two slaughter-houses in the Borough, both registered. Seven contraventions of the Regulations were found during the past year. Manurial accumulations (2), distemping (2), offal accumulation (3). All were remedied on service of notice.

Licences were granted to seven slaughtermen.

**(c) Bread.**

There are four Bakehouses in the Borough, none of them underground, of which 48 inspections were made. One notice

was served in respect of defective wall and limewashing, which was complied with.

**(d) Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.**

The following table shows the number of samples taken by the County Council (who are the Administrative Authority for this Act) and the results of analysis.

Sample.	No. Taken.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
New Milk ... ..	3	3	—
Sausages ... ..	1	1	—
Butter ... ..	1	1	—
Mince Meat ... ..	1	1	—
Ice Cream ... ..	1	1	—

**(e) Ice Cream.**

No. of places of manufacture in district...	...	...	2
No. of inspections	...	...	6

One notice was served for uncleanliness and method of storing, and complied with.

**(f) Other Foods.**

48 inspections have been made of other foods but none has had to be seized nor was any voluntarily surrendered.

**(g) Shell Fish.**

There are no shell fish beds or layings in the district.

### HOUSING STATISTICS, 1937.

Number of houses erected :—

Total.	By Private Enterprise.	WITH STATE ASSISTANCE.	
		By the Local Authority.	By other bodies or persons.
5	5	0	0

**1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	117
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	143

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	*1
*This house has been closed and demolition commenced.							
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

**2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
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**3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—**

No action was taken under any of the following Statutory powers during the year :—

Sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.  
Public Health Acts.

**4.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.**

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

**Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Inspections made :—

Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

Six notices were served in respect of nine defects : Want of Cleanliness, 4 ; Defective Sanitary Accommodation, 4 ; other nuisances, 1. All were complied with.

There are no outworkers in the district.



**Eradication of Bed-Bugs.**

It has not been necessary to take any action with regard to bed-bugs.

**Shop Acts.**

No. of shops in district	...	...	...	...	...	80
„ „ inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	80
„ „ defects found :—						
(a) Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Warming	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c) Sanitary defects	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ defects remedied :—						
(a) Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Warming	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c) Sanitary defects	...	...	...	...	...	4

No applications were made under Section 10 (6) of the Shops Act, 1934, for exemption.

**Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

No Licences were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

**Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are two swimming baths belonging to the Council (one free to the public and one open on small payment). These are cleaned twice weekly by the Council's own staff, and Voxsan used for purification.

**SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK AND IMPROVEMENTS  
UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.**

No. of inspections in regard to Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	22
No. of premises disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	8
No. of verminous premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	0
No. of nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	...	27
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	27

Offensive accumulations found	...	...	...	...	9
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	9
Keeping animals so as to be a nuisance—instances					
				ascertained	1
				abated	1
Defective W.Cs. repaired	...	...	...	...	4
No. of defective drains repaired	...	...	...	...	7
No. of choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	7
No. of ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	23
No. of defective windows repaired	...	...	...	...	10
No. of windows made to open	...	...	...	...	1
No. of roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	11
No. of houses where guttering and rainwater pipes have been repaired	...	...	...	...	7
No. of defective walls and ceilings where plastering has been repaired	...	...	...	...	11
No. of damp walls treated, repointed or rendered	...	...	...	...	14
No. of floors repaired	...	...	...	...	7

### Smoke Abatement.

Many observations have been made *re* the Smoke Nuisance of Chimney at Timber Yard, and reported to the Council. Informal notices have been given, and calls made on occupier, who promised to do all reasonably possible and use smokeless coal. The Council do not feel disposed to take drastic action, as there is a feeling of uncertainty as to whether the business might have to move, if a road is made through the property.

### SUMMARY.

Total number of inspections made for all purposes	...	824
Total number of notices served :—		
Informal	...	52
Statutory	...	0
Total number of summonses issued	...	None
Complaints received	...	1
Complaints found justified and dealt with	...	1

### Schools.

No. of schools in district	...	3
No. with public water supply	...	3
No. with water closets	...	3

**Rats and Mice Destruction Act.**

Poison is periodically laid on Town property. During Rat Week the Council took action by posters, handbills, and the offer of three-pence per rat brought in. The number brought in during Rat Week was 285, but prior to Rat Week, from July and until November 26th, the number caught and paid for was 919.

