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BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer

of Health

1955.



BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

Alderman E. J. Horlock, J.P.

Health Department,
Council Office,
Arunel.

June, 1955.

For His Worship the Mayor
Chairman of the Public Health Committee

ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen
Alderman A. G. Whitaker, J.P.

I have the honour to send you my eighth Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1955.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1955.

Population 2,670

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Alderman E.J. Herington, J.P.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor L.A. Franklin

The Mayor

Alderman A.G. Whittaker, J.P.

Councillor R. Gibbons

Councillor L.B. Glossep

Councillor Miss M.E. Langford

Councillor C.J. Lewis

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

V.P. Geoghegan, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Engineer.

H.W. Simmonds, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff

Mrs. L. Stevens

Miss S.M. Dobbs

Health Department,
Council Offices,
Arundel.

June, 1956.

TO: His Worship The Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Eighth Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1955.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the Borough's population at mid-1955 was 2,650 - the same as for mid-1954.

The Principal Vital Statistics were :-

	<u>Arundel Borough.</u>		<u>England & Wales.</u>	
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Population ..	2,650	2,650	-	-
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	13.58	12.07	15.0	15.2
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.33	14.33	11.7	11.3

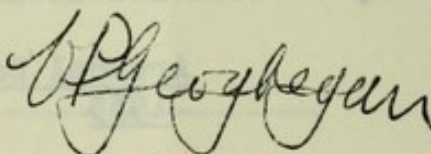
In a small population fluctuations in annual birth and death rates are of no significance.

The continuing importance of Diphtheria Immunisation is stressed in Section VI of the Report.

I wish to express my thanks to members of the Council for their help, to Mr. H.W. Simmonds, your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, who has supplied most of the material for the report, and also to Mr. J. Westbrook, Chief Clerk of the Chichester Rural District Health Department, who has been largely responsible for its preparation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

This small country town lying on the banks of the River Arun is a shopping centre for the surrounding villages.

The population finds employment in agriculture and its ancillary industries, on the Norfolk Estate and in the retail and catering trades encouraged by the increasing number of summer visitors.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	2,054
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1954 mid-year) .	2,650
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1955 mid-year) .	2,650
Number of inhabited dwellings	963
Rateable Value (1st January, 1956)	£ 23,513
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£ 94

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

ARUNDEL BOROUGH							BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION			
Year	Total Number (after adjustment for transfers)					Birth Rate per 1,000 population		West Sussex		England and Wales
	Total	Sex		Illegitimate		Crude	Corr.	Rural (Uncorrected)	Urban	
		M	F	No.	%					
1954	32	17	15	2	6.25	12.07	14.72	15.43	12.26	15.2
1955	36	21	15	3	8.3	13.58	16.56	15.24	11.69	15.0

Stillbirths

Year	Total Number (after adjustment for transfers)			Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Rate per 1,000 population
	Total	Sex			
		M	F		
1954	2	1	1	58.82	0.75
1955	1	-	1	27.02	0.37

1. 10. 1958

Deaths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH				WEST SUSSEX				ENGLAND AND WALES
Total Deaths (after adjustment for transfers)			Death Rates per 1,000 Population		Death Rates per 1,000 population (Uncorrected)		Death Rate per 1,000 population	
Year	Total	Sex		Crude	Corr.	Rural Districts		Urban Districts
		M	F					
1954	38	19	19	14.33	9.88	11.67	15.50	11.3
1955	38	19	19	14.33	9.88	11.56	15.44	11.7

The chief causes of death were:-

	1955	(1954)
(i) Cancer	10	(7)
(ii) Diseases of heart and circulatory system	9	(14)
(iii) Diseases of respiratory system ..	6	(3)

The above three causes accounted for 25 or 66% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Of the total deaths, 34 or 89% occurred in persons aged 65 years or over, and 23 or 60% in persons aged 75 years or over.

A table showing the causes of death, ages and sex distribution, is set out on page 7.

No deaths occurred from the following causes :-

<u>R.G. List</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>R.G. List</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>
2.	Tuberculosis, other.	27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.
3	Syphilitic Disease.	28	Nephritis and Nephrosis.
4	Diphtheria.	29	Hyperplasia of prostate.
5	Whooping Cough.	30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.
6	Meningococcal Infections.	31	Congenital malformations.
7	Acute Poliomyelitis.	33	Motor Vehicle accidents.
8	Measles.	35	Suicide.
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	36	Homicide and operations of war.
16	Diabetes.		
22	Influenza.		
25	Other diseases of respiratory system.		

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life
during the Year 1955.

R.G. List No.	Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Y e a r s				
				Under 4 Wks.	55-	65-	75-	85-
	All Causes	M	19	-	2	5	11	1
		F	19	1	1	6	6	5
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	1	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	M	1	-	-	1	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1
11	Ditto lung, bronchus	M	1	-	1	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Ditto breast	F	3	-	-	1	2	-
13	Ditto uterus	F	1	-	1	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
		F	2	-	-	1	1	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	2	-	1	-	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	1	-
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	1	-	-	1	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	1	-
20	Other heart disease	M	2	-	-	1	1	-
		F	2	-	-	-	1	1
21	Other circulatory disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	1	-	-
23	Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	3	1
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Bronchitis	M	2	-	-	-	2	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill- defined diseases	M	2	-	-	2	-	-
		F	4	1	-	2	-	1
34	All other accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were registered as directly due to pregnancy or childbearing.

Infant Mortality

Infant Deaths under 1 year					Rates per 1,000 live births			
ARUNDEL BOROUGH					ARUNDEL BOROUGH	WEST SUSSEX		ENGLAND AND WALES
Year	Total	Sex		Illegit- imate		R. D's	U. D's	
		M	F					
1954	1	-	1	-	31.25	22	26	25.5
1955	1	-	1	-	27.77	19	24	24.9

The single deaths recorded during 1954 and 1955 referred to infants under 4 weeks of age.

Various Death Rates for England and Wales, and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex, are shown in the following table of comparative statistics :-

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>West Sussex</u>		<u>Arundel Borough</u>	
		<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Maternal Mortality					
Rate per 1,000 births	0.64	-	0.37	Nil	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.37	Nil
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	2.05	2.74	2.08	3.77	2.64

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals.

The hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents of the Borough are administered by the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and are as follows :-

St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester.
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington.
Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
Bognor Annex to Aldingbourne House.
Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing.
Arundel and District Hospital.
Worthing Hospital.

Laboratory Service.

Examinations carried out for this Authority by the Public Health Laboratories at Brighton and Portsmouth during 1955 were as follows :-

<u>Nature of Specimen.</u>	<u>Number Examined.</u>
Water	33
Milk	26
Faeces	4
Blood	2

Ambulances.

The Local Health Authority (the West Sussex County Council) provides an ambulance service with ambulances operating from Littlehampton.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Chichester, Bognor Regis, Worthing and Horsham.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The West Sussex County Council provides nursing services.

One District Nurse in Arundel is responsible for Home Nursing, Midwifery, School and Health Visiting duties.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Held at:

- Maternity and Child Welfare Centres -)
 - Ante-Natal Clinics -)
 - School Clinics (Minor Ailments) -)
 - Eye Clinics -)
 - Orthopaedic Clinic -)
 - Speech Therapy Clinic -)
 - Aural Clinic -)
 - Chest Clinic -)
 - Venereal Diseases Clinics -)
- Arundel,
Chichester, and
Littlehampton
- Chichester
- Aldingbourne House
Sanatorium
- Werthing Hospital
and St. Richard's
Hospital, Chichester.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Sections 47 and 50.

No action was necessary.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

No changes have been made to the water supply of the Borough which is provided by the Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd., from a borehole and well situated in Mill Road near Swanbourne Lake, and pumped unfiltered to a reservoir in Arandel Park.

Water consumed in the Borough is purchased in bulk. In November the Corporation agreed to the request of the Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd. to increase their charge from 9d. to 10d. per thousand gallons supplied as from 1st April, 1956.

All water is chlorinated at the Waterworks by the Corporation before distribution, and a constant supply is maintained to almost every house in the Borough. Only two isolated cottages depend on underground rainwater storage tanks for a water supply. The quantity of water available is estimated to be sufficient for the steady development of the district for many years to come.

The Chlorination plant consists of an Ammoniator, Chlorinator and Reagent Feeder using Sodium Hypochlorite. Constant supervision of this plant by resident staff is maintained.

One new 4" main with a total length of 33 yards was laid during the year. Four new sluice valves were also installed, the works in each case being carried out by direct labour.

Whilst the Gas Board were laying new mains in Maltravers Street and the Parade the opportunity was taken to renew all of the service pipes in these streets from the mains to the stopcocks.

Specimens of raw water from both the borehole and the well, and of chlorinated water from consumers' taps were submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals. A total of 33 samples were submitted, and the following table gives details of the reports received :-

Water Supply (Contd.)

No. of Samples Submitted	Source	PATHOLOGIST'S REPORT			
		R a w W a t e r			Chlorinated Supply
		Satis- factory	Contamination		
			Moderate	Marked	Satisfactory
11	Borehole	3	7	1	-
11	Well	1	8	2	-
11	Distribution Mains	-	-	-	11
33	TOTALS	4	15	3	11

No samples were taken for chemical analysis from the bore or well during the year.

The 11 samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers' taps were found to be of satisfactory purity. The bacterial quality of the water is therefore at times dependent upon efficient chlorination. Interruption of chlorination is avoided as far as possible by careful supervision of the plant and its operation.

Water Statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1955.

Water Consumption in the Borough.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(1) Domestic and unmetered supplies	34,278,146	93,913
(2) Industrial and trade supplies by meter	3,340,310	9,151
Total for area of supply	<u>37,618,456</u>	<u>103,064</u>

Supplies through Corporation mains for Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd., under Water Agreement.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(a) Tortington	402,550	1,103
(b) Lyminster	20,184,900	55,300
Totals	<u>20,587,450</u>	<u>56,403</u>

Water Supply (Contd.)

	<u>Gallons</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Per Day</u>
Decreased consumption of water supplied through Borough mains over 1954 ..	684,084	1,875
Increased consumption of water supplied by Corporation over the year 1954 ..	1,503,746	4,120
Maximum weekly consumption	802,500	gallons
Minimum weekly consumption	669,270	gallons
Gallons per head per day (exclusive of metered supplies).. ..	34.1	gallons
Gallons per head per day (inclusive of metered supplies).. ..	37.5	gallons
Number of metered supplies	36	
Length of mains owned by the Corporation ..	6.25	miles
Estimated population supplied	2,750.	

During the year detection of misuse and waste of water continued. A number of defective appliances were found and rectified, and leaks remedied.

The Corporation have adopted Byelaws regarding the misuse and waste of water and before the close of the year had approved the revision of these Byelaws.

There were no major water mains bursts during 1955, but four minor bursts were quickly detected and repaired.

Owing to an unfortunate series of breakdowns of the pumps the Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd. have decided to install an electrically driven centrifugal pump at the Waterworks and to use the existing larger pump as a reserve standby. The necessary cable from the Mill Lane Sub-Station to the Waterworks had been laid by the end of the year and the installation of the pump and ancillary equipment will be completed during 1956.

By agreement, the Corporation provide water to their Stewards Copse Housing Estate situated within the statutory supply area of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council, and with the extension of this Estate it is becoming clear that some means of boosting the supply is needed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No alteration in the methods of sewage treatment and disposal at either of the Council's Sewage Disposal Works was made during the year.

The sewers are partially separated. Some rain water is received into the sewage works, the rest runs to separate sewers which discharge into the River Arun.

In past years, complaints of bad smells have been received from residents in the neighbourhood of the Ford Road Sewage Works. During the summer of 1953, treatment of the sewage with Sodium Hypochlorite was carried out as an experiment at the detritus tank. This has proved very satisfactory and only an occasional complaint has been received during heavy humid weather. As the summer of 1955 was exceedingly dry the trial of such treatment has been well justified.

The main sewage works are very antiquated, being designed for chemical precipitation and sludge pressing - a method long since abandoned by Local Authorities. The sludge pressing machinery has not been used since about 1914. The volume of sewage is getting greater each year with new houses being erected, together with improved sanitary appliances in the older houses. In addition, with the growth of the Torton Hill Estate, the works are rapidly becoming surrounded and are no longer isolated as they were when established.

Owing to the collapse of a storm water sewer in one street, a section of the sewer had to be renewed. In addition, three major blockages of sewers necessitated extensive rodding and hosing to clear.

No new foul sewers were laid during the year. As a result of backflooding in the Queens Lane area it was necessary to renew the floating arm in the tidal tank on the nearby wharf.

Two of the few remaining earth closets in the Borough were converted to water closets, one draining to the main sewer and the other to a cesspool.

There are 10 premises still using bucket closets with soakaway drainage for sullage water, whilst 31 other premises have water carriage sanitation and either run to cesspools or soakaways. All these premises are situated in positions which make it impossible to connect to a sewer or where main drainage is not available.

Public Conveniences

The Corporation owns two public conveniences, the one on the Town Quay having been in service for a number of years.

A new building for females was erected by the Corporation in Mill Road in 1953, and can be extended if necessary.

Rivers and Streams

No action was necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

A varying number of vessels are moored to wharves on the River Arun. One such vessel, which was used permanently for habitation, ceased to be so occupied during the year.

Public Cleansing

The collection of household refuse throughout the Borough is carried out weekly by the Corporation. Trade refuse is also removed by agreement.

The Council continued the salvaging of waste paper, textiles, etc., and the following materials were sold during 1955 :-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Revenue</u>		
				<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Baled Waste Paper ..	28	3	2	213.	16.	10.
Non-ferrous metals ..		2	1	9.	18.	0.
Ferrous metals ..	1	2	2	4.	19.	6.
Textiles		2	1	2.	17.	0.
	<u>29.</u>	<u>10.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>£231.</u>	<u>11.</u>	<u>4.</u>

The revenue from salvaged materials shows an increase of £152 over the figure for the previous year, mainly due to the favourable market for waste paper.

Refuse tipping has continued in the Old Quarry at Scotland Barn in the Tortington Parish of Chichester Rural District. Every effort has been made to carry out "controlled tipping", and one employee is engaged full time on the tip for this purpose. Unfortunately the tip is some 2½ miles from the town centre which slows down collection and adds to its running costs.

Public Cleansing (Contd.)

Tipping of earth is still permitted on the old tip in Canada Road, and is indeed welcomed, to help in levelling the surface.

Three full days per week are devoted to refuse collection and disposal, and with the erection since the war of 230 new houses, it will be appreciated that this essential service is gradually becoming a full time job for which men will have to be solely employed.

Every effort is made to keep under control the potential menace of flies and rats on the tip. The tip is sprayed with "Gammexane" for flies, and regularly treated for rats.

The Council continued to give assistance to the West Sussex County Council in the clearance of snow and dealing with icy conditions on all roads in the Borough.

The scavenging of both County and District roads by the Corporation has continued, as has also the routine emptying of street gullies in the District Roads.

Shops Act, 1950.

Eight visits were made to shops under the above Act. As a result of these inspections two defects were found, both of which were remedied by the end of the year.

Smoke Abatement

No action has been necessary in this direction.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Fleas.

Two complaints of flea infestations were received. Three houses were inspected and the premises sprayed with D.D.T. solution.

No evidence of bed bug infestation was reported or discovered.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

One site in the Borough is licenced for camping purposes under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It comprises .715 of an acre, is licensed for three movable dwellings, and has a main water supply and dry conservancy sanitary facilities. No formal action was necessary during the year.

The Corporation have not adopted Byelaws to control Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in use in the Borough.

Rats and Mice Destruction

The West Sussex No. 2 Workable Area Committee set up in 1944 has continued to meet quarterly in Littlehampton, the Sanitary Inspector being the representative of the Borough on this Committee.

Complaints regarding rats are dealt with by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator. As a result of independent investigations and complaints received, only a few minor infestations were discovered and dealt with. No infestations were referred either to the Agricultural Executive Committee or to the West Sussex Rivers Board.

Council properties are regularly treated as a precautionary measure.

The test baiting of the sewers was carried out at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The inspection of some 37 manholes revealed no evidence of infestation.

The part-time Rodent Operator attended a refresher training course arranged by the Ministry.

Schools.

One school in the Borough still requires modernisation of its sanitation.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 39 factories and workplaces in the Borough, of which 28 are provided with mechanical power.

Visits to:	factories with mechanical power	33
	factories without mechanical power	9
	workplaces	3
Number of:	defects found	7
	defects remedied	5

Section 34.

One certificate of 'adequate means of escape in case of fire' was issued during the year.

Summary of Visits and Inspections
under Public Health and Housing Acts

Infectious Disease	15
Fried Fish Shops	2
Ice Cream Premises	6
Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouse	146
Dairies	1
Other Food Premises	32
Shops Act	12
Tents, Vans and Sheds	6
Offices	2
Marine Stores	6
Public Conveniences	29
Water Supplies and Appliances	201
Refuse Disposal Tips	19
Sewage Works	20
Building Byelaws	298
Dangerous Structures	23
Miscellaneous	151
Re-visits	147

Summary of Visits and Inspections (Contd.)

Other Visits.

District Roads	..	..	..	194
Street Lighting	..	..	..	28
Petroleum Regulations	..	..	..	9
Advertisements	..	..	..	27
Civil Defence	..	..	..	21

Works and Improvements.

Premises disinfected after infectious disease				1
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	20
Drains tested	..	..	..	36
Drains re-laid	..	..	..	7
Drains cleared	..	..	..	22
New drains laid	..	..	..	30
Earth Closets converted to Water Closets				2
Premises connected to main drainage	..			14
Premises connected to water main		..		12

Summary.

Total number of :

Inspections made for all purposes				1,556
Notices served:				
(a) Informal	..	..	..	33
(b) Statutory	..	..	..	2
Complaints received	..	..	..	56
Nuisances found and abated		..		34

Section IV.

Housing.

Thirteen families were rehoused by the Corporation during the year, 6 into new Council Houses and 7 to fill casual vacancies in existing Council Houses.

A considerable number of alterations and works of repair and improvement of the older type houses have also taken place.

The Corporation has endeavoured to continue an effective policy of demolition and closing of houses in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation. During the past eight years 28 such houses have been demolished in the Borough and another 11 closed. In addition, 4 other properties are the subject of Demolition Orders but two houses have yet to be vacated. One Closing Order has also been made but the house is still occupied.

Since the war the Corporation have acquired ten unfit houses with the object of demolition. Of these, five have been demolished, one let as a stores and two are still occupied, while the remaining two await demolition.

The Corporation have informed the Minister of Housing and Local Government that they propose dealing with 40 unfit houses within the next five years.

At the close of the year the application register for Council Houses recorded some 65 applicants, chiefly from persons residing or working within the Borough; applications are not otherwise accepted.

Works of repair and maintenance to the Council's property are carried out by direct labour, four men being permanently employed for this purpose.

New Building.

(a) Council Houses.

Six dwellings were completed during the year, comprising 4 bungalows and 2 three bedroomed houses. Ten three-bedroomed houses of the 1955 Scheme were still under construction at the end of the year.

Also under construction was the link road between Jarvis and Chichester Roads which will facilitate the 1956 Housing Scheme.

New Building.

(a) Council Houses (Contd.)

Further works of site clearance were also in hand at the close of the year. This land which some five years ago formed part of a well wooded area known as Stewards' Copse has been almost entirely cleared of tree roots and scrubwood. The 1956 housing site has been roughly levelled.

The Corporation had under consideration the erection of 10 dwellings for 1956. The Borough Surveyor was instructed to prepare this scheme, and at the close of the year, plans and layout details had been approved by the Corporation for utilizing a site at the entrance to Jarvis Road and adjoining the Chichester Road. A tender was under negotiation with one of the Corporation's present Contractors.

The 1956 scheme will be the seventh and last stage of a comprehensive scheme approved by the former Ministry of Health for the Stewards' Copse Area.

The final street works have been effected to the top section of Canada Road.

At the end of the year the Corporation had works in progress on Housing Contracts to the value of £19,442, road-works £2,055 and site clearance works of £403.

Improvements in pre-war Council Houses are to be considered by the Housing Committee.

Summary of Housing Accommodation administered by the Corporation.

Set out herewith are details of accommodation administered by the Corporation as at 31st December, 1955 :-

Council Houses:

Erected pre-war	..	..	81	
Erected post-war	..	..	<u>142</u>	223
Almshouses	..	..	6	
Premises for demolition	..	..	4	
Miscellaneous	..	..	<u>2</u>	<u>12</u>
			Total	<u>235</u>

New Building (Contd.)

(b) Private.

Six houses have been completed by private enterprise and four further houses were under construction at the end of the year.

Requisitioned Property.

All properties previously requisitioned by the Corporation were released by the end of 1950.

Housing Statistics

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)	84
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	225
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	30
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	103
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	7
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	76

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	70
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Housing Statistics (Contd.)

3. Remedying of defects during the year with service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action taken by the Local Authority 1

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9-13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(i) Demolition Orders made 3
(ii) Houses demolished 1
(iii) Closing Orders made 4
(iv) Houses closed 3
(v) Undertaking accepted to do works and complied with 1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1
(ii) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:
(a) By owners 2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

5. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 6
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 8
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 49
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported 4
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 11
(d) Number of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil

Civil Defence

A separate Committee deals with Civil Defence matters. The Borough Surveyor is Civil Defence Officer and Controller designate; the Headquarters Section is under the control of The Mayor, Alderman A.G. Whittaker, J.P., and Mr. T.A. Healey is Evacuation and Billeting Officer and Head Warden.

Training courses for Headquarters, Wardens, Welfare and Rescue Sections were held during the year.

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

All farms in the Borough are supplied with mains water. The position at the end of the year was as follows :-

Number of farms in the Borough	..	..	6
Number actually producing milk	..	..	3
Number of Dairymen (Milk Sellers)	..	..	3
Number of inspections made of Milk Shops	..	..	1
Number of contraventions found	..	..	Nil

Milk Sampling.

Twenty-six samples of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milks were taken during the year. The results were as follows :-

Designation	Number of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory (Methylene Blue Test)
Pasteurised	13	13	-
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	6	6	-
Tuberculin Tested	7	6	1
TOTALS	26	25	1

Four samples of milk from cowkeepers within the Borough were submitted for Biological examination by a neighbouring authority and were reported upon as satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The following licences were granted during 1955 :-

(1) Supplementary licences to retail:

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	3
(b) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	..	1
(c) Pasteurised Milk	.. ..	4
(d) Sterilised Milk	.. ..	2

Milk Supply (Contd.)

The Borough was included in a "Specified Area" as from the 1st April, 1954. The effect of the Order defining this Specified Area is to make illegal the sale in the Borough of any milk which is not designated, i.e., Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. In fact, no undesignated milk has been sold in the town for some time.

Meat and Other Foods.

One private slaughterhouse is licenced in the Borough.

Three butchers obtain their supplies of English meat from slaughterhouses outside the Town.

The following table gives the number of animals killed and inspected at the Slaughterhouse during the year, together with details of the number of carcasses affected with various diseases :-

	Cattle exclud. Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambe	Pigs
Number killed	46	9	34	137
Number inspected	46	9	34	137
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	24	-	-	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	52.2	-	-	4.3
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.7

No carcasses were affected with Cysticercosis.

Meat and Other Foods (Contd.)

Fifty-nine visits were made to the slaughterhouse for meat inspection purposes. The quality of the animals slaughtered has been very high as may be noted from the following items which were condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

1 Carcase of Pork and all Offals	- Tuberculosis
22 Ox Livers	- Distomatosis
1 Part Ox Liver	- Distomatosis
1 Ox Liver	- Necrosis
2 Pigs Livers	- Necrosis
2 Pigs Livers	- Parasitic
2 Pigs Plucks	- Pneumonia

Total Weight of Meat Condemned - 455 Lbs.

Unsound food at the slaughterhouse is coloured and taken by a Portsmouth firm of fertiliser manufacturers.

Periodic inspections of butchers' shops and vehicles have been carried out during the year, and the following items, weighing 486 lbs., have been surrendered and condemned :-

1 Hindquarter of Argentine Beef	- Bone taint
1 Side of English Beef	- Bone taint
1 Buttock of English Beef	- Bone taint

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows :-

(a) Butchers' Shops	..	87
(b) Vehicles	..	1

One sanitary defect was remedied by informal action.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954.

Eight renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Corporation during 1955.

Food Premises.

Byelaws concerning the "Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air" have been made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These were confirmed by the Ministry of Food on the 14th June, 1950.

There are 69 food premises in the Borough, details of which are as follows :-

Bakehouses	..	..	..	2
Butchers Shops		..	..	4
Catering Establishments			..	16
Chemists	..	..	..	2
Confectioners	..	..	..	9
Dairies	..	..	..	2
Fishmongers	..	..	..	2
Greengrocers	..	..	..	3
Grocers	..	..	..	12
Licenced premises		..	..	16
Corn Stores		..	..	1

Forty visits of inspection were made to food premises during the year in addition to the figures already recorded for the Slaughterhouse and Butchers' Shops. Generally, the cafes and food shops maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

Foods Condemned at Food Shops.

The following items of foodstuffs, weighing a total of 17½Lbs. were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned :-

- 1 Tin Corned Beef
- 1 Tin Luncheon Meat
- 6 Tins Evaporated Milk
- 1 Tin Peas.

Bakehouses.

At the commencement of the year there were four bakehouses in the Borough, but two premises have since ceased to be used for this purpose.

Ten visits were made to bakehouses and three defects observed, all of which were remedied by informal action.

Ice Cream.

Twenty-two premises in the Borough are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice cream. The premises previously registered for the manufacture of ice cream were closed down during the year. Other vendors visit the district offering for sale ice cream manufactured elsewhere.

The results of ice cream samples taken by the Food and Drugs authority for fat content are not available for inclusion in this report.

Fried Fish Shops.

Visits of inspection were made to the one Fish Frying Establishment in the Borough. Satisfactory conditions are maintained and no complaints have been received.

Mortuary.

The Corporation own and maintain a mortuary which is situated in Ford Road adjoining the Cemetery. The building is well equipped and kept in a satisfactory condition.

Petroleum and Carbide.

Ten licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during 1955, and nine visits of inspection were made for this purpose. No licences for the storage of carbide were issued. The storage arrangements of the applicants were satisfactory.

Dangerous Structures - Public Health Act, 1936 - Sec.58.

Informal Notices regarding the repair or renewal of nine dangerous buildings or structures were served during the year and entailed 23 visits. In all cases the notices were complied with.

Street Lighting.

The Corporation is responsible for street lighting in the Borough and operates 136 street lamps illuminated by gas. During the year, three lamps were added to the lighting system and three lamps were re-sited to give improved lighting.

Street Lighting (Contd.)

Ten lamps were damaged during the year by motor traffic.

Twenty-eight visits of inspection in regard to street lighting were made during the year.

The Corporation has a seven year contract with the South Eastern Gas Board for street lighting which was renewed as from the 1st April, 1952.

Food Adulteration.

The West Sussex County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Details of the samples taken in the Borough are not available for inclusion in this report.

Water Cress.

Visits of inspection were made to the watercress beds in the Borough and no complaints were received during the year.

Section VI.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES.

Fifty cases of infectious disease were notified of which thirty-nine were cases of Measles.

There has been no case of Diphtheria notified in the Borough since 1945, and this disease belongs, for the present generation of parents, to the past. They would do well to reflect, however, upon the fact that Diphtheria has not yet been eliminated from this country, that outbreaks still occur and that children who have been immunised are either immune from the disease or suffer a very mild attack. Every unprotected child increases the danger to itself and to others. At present, the proportion of immunised children under 5 years of age falls far short of 75%, the level which is desirable, and all parents of young children must realise that they bear a heavy responsibility in this respect.

Cancer.

Ten deaths (3 male, 7 female) were attributed to Cancer during the year (seven in 1954).

The Cancer Death Rate for 1955 is 3.77 per 1,000 of the estimated home population, compared with a rate of 2.64 for the previous year. Corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex are 2.41, 2.74 and 2.08 respectively.

Diphtheria.

(a) Notifications. No cases of Diphtheria were notified during 1955, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

(b) Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin. Serum can be obtained by Medical Practitioners for the treatment of suspected cases and contacts, from the Royal West Sussex Hospital and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, and from the Isolation Hospital, Worthing.

(c) Immunisation. Forty-eight children under five years of age, and twenty-four children over five but under fifteen years, received a complete course of protective inoculations in 1955. In addition, eighty-seven children received 'follow-up' injections.

Enteric Fever.

One case of Paratyphoid Fever was notified.

A child whose home is outside the Town was admitted to Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing, on January 11th. and a diagnosis of Paratyphoid Fever was subsequently made. She had stayed with her grandparents in Arundel from the 4th to the 9th January, and the grandmother fell ill on the 22nd. She was admitted to Hospital on the 26th and died on the 31st. Her husband and her daughter, who had come to Arundel to nurse her, were subsequently found to be carriers of the paratyphoid organism.

It seems likely, in view of the time intervals involved, that the child was already infected before coming to Arundel and was the source of infection of the second case and two carriers. The other possibility, that the grandfather was a carrier at the outset and that the infection had originated from him, is very unlikely. No further cases occurred.

Measles

Thirty-nine cases were notified, 34 in the second quarter of the year and the remainder in the third quarter. These were the first cases since 1953 when 61 notifications were received. All were sufficiently mild to be treated at home.

Poliomyelitis

One case was notified, the first since 1953. The patient had no paralysis at first but a partial paralysis of the left arm developed after admission to hospital. He subsequently made a good recovery with very little disability.

Scarlet Fever

Four cases were notified during the year (7 cases in 1954. Home isolation was possible in each case.

Tuberculosis

One primary notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was received during 1955, and one death was recorded as due to this cause.

Tuberculosis (Contd.)

The following table gives details of the number of cases on the notification register at the end of the year :-

		Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases			Total Cases (all forms)		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1	No. on Register at 1.1.55.	6	7	13	2	2	4	8	9	17
2	Primary notifications received during 1955	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
	TOTALS	6	8	14	2	2	4	8	10	18
3	Cases removed from register during 1955	2	1	3	1	-	1	3	1	4
4	Number on Register at 31. 12. 55.	4	7	11	1	2	3	5	9	14

Whooping Cough

Four cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year (39 in 1954).

Immunisation.

The West Sussex County Council, as the Local Health Authority, has recently received approval from the Ministry of Health for a scheme of Immunisation against Whooping Cough, and in the near future, parents who so desire may have their children protected against this disease at the same time as they are protected against Diphtheria, at Welfare Clinics. This combined inoculation is already being carried out by general practitioners.

Other Diseases

No notifications were received during the year of the under-mentioned diseases :-

Cholera	Malaria	Plague
Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Pneumonia
Dysentery	Meningococcal	Puerperal Pyrexia
Encephalitis (Acute)	Infections	Relapsing Fever
Erysipelas	Ophthalmia	Smallpox
Food Poisoning	Neonatorum	Typhus

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the Year 1955.

Disease	Cases Notified		Age Distribution										Total		
	M	F	Total	0-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-		45-	65-
Measles	16	23	39	-	3	6	6	7	17	-	-	-	-	-	
Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Scarlet Fever	2	2	4	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis (Pul.)	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Whooping Cough	1	3	4	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS	20	30	50	-	4	8	7	7	20	1	-	1	1	1	

Details of Notifications received of Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough since 1946.

Disease	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Measles	-	2	17	52	7	127	7	61	-	39
Scarlet Fever	1	3	2	6	14	-	8	2	7	4
Whooping Cough	1	-	30	-	1	44	-	5	39	4