

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Ashby-de-la-Zouch Local Board U.D.C.

Contributors

Ashby-de-la-Zouch (England). Local Board of Health.

Publication/Creation

1948

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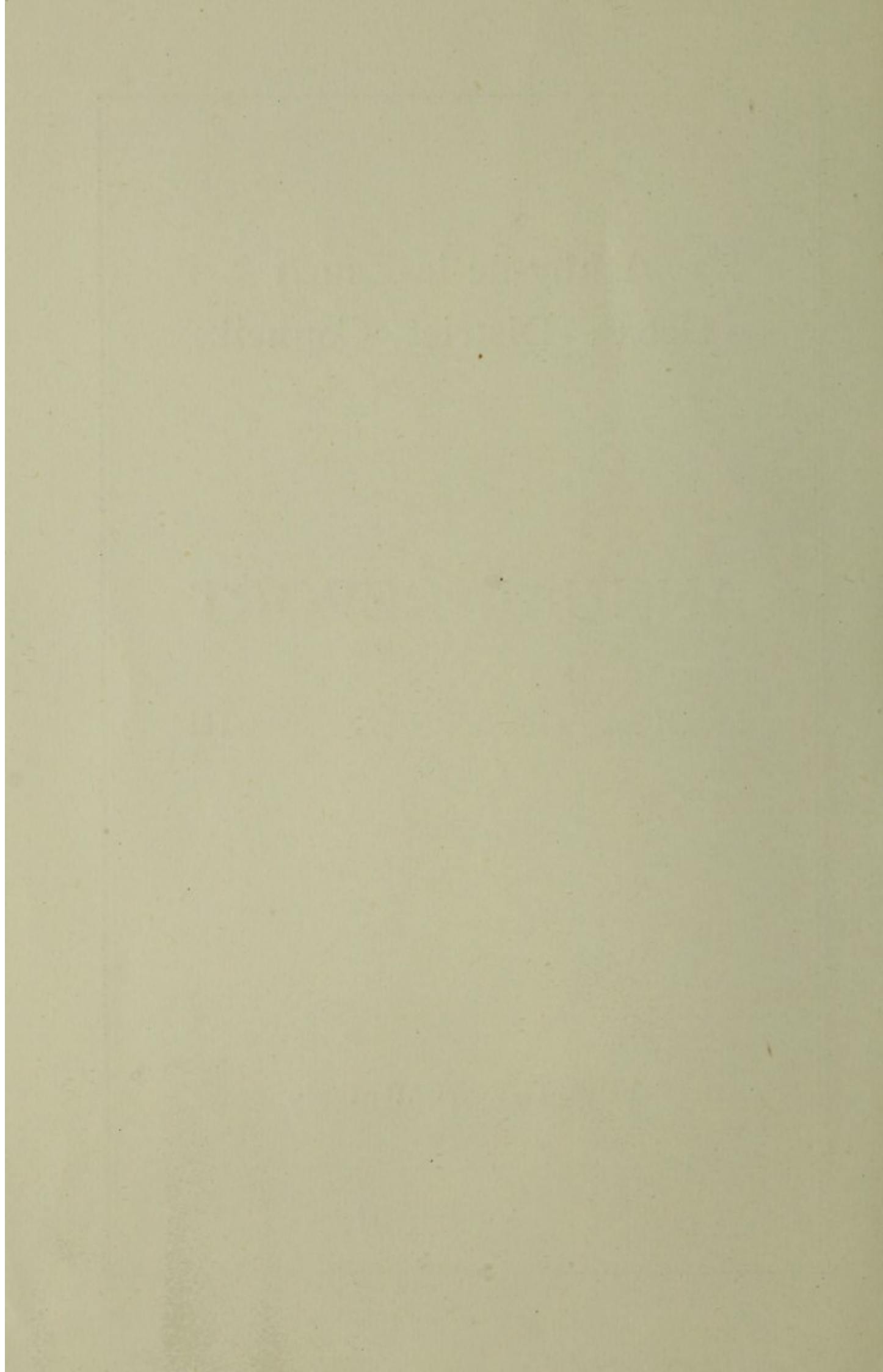


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Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948



Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council

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Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1948

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

- (1) *Medical Officer of Health (part time) :*
A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.
- (2) *Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (full time) :*
GEORGE E. MARLOW, M. Inst. Mun. E., Cert. R.S.I.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1948.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population has increased from 5,951 in 1947, to 6,352 in 1948.

The birth rate for England and Wales fell from 20.5 per 1,000 population in 1947 to 17.7 in 1948, for Ashby from 22.2 to 15.5.

The death rate has also dropped from 14.4 to 9.6, England and Wales from 12.0 to 10.8 per 1,000 population.

It will be noted that the sewerage of Blackfordby has been commenced and good progress is being made, and a scheme has been formulated for New Packington.

During the year 83 houses were completed as compared with 11 in 1947.

Measles were prevalent during the first half of the year, 164 cases being notified. There were no deaths. The cases of Measles occurred in the following months : March (22), April (121), May (20) and November (1).

Fifteen cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, all mild, and did not necessitate removal to Hospital.

One very mild case of Diphtheria in an unimmunised adult was notified.

It will be noted that the County Council are now responsible for Immunisation after July 5th.

I should like to express my thanks to the Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation.

Finally, it remains for me to express my appreciation to Mr. G. E. Marlow, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable help during the year, and in the compiling of this Report which would have been impossible without him, and to you Ladies and Gentlemen for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	6,190 acres
Population (Registrar General's estimate)						6,352
Number of Inhabited Houses				...		1,869
Rateable Value		...	...	...		£36,679
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			...			£145 9s. 11d.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a market town, the chief industries of the District are :—Agriculture, Coalmining (open cast), Biscuit making, Soap Manufacturing and Glove Manufacturing. A number of workers engaged in Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking are resident in the town. There is a camp for Displaced Persons, and a Hostel run by the Leicestershire Agricultural Executive Committee for the members of the Women's Land Army. There are also two Public Parks and an Open-Air Swimming Bath in the town. No industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on the health of the population.

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS :				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	96	47	49
Illegitimate	...	...	...	3	3	0
				—	—	—
				99	50	49
				—	—	—

Live Birth Rate—15.5 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate—17.9 per 1,000 population.

STILL BIRTHS :				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
				—	—	—
				2	1	1
				—	—	—

Still Birth Rate—.31 per 1,000 population.

England & Wales Still Birth Rate—0.42 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS :				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
				61	30	31

Death Rate—9.6 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate—10.8 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death in 1948

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory) ...	0	1	1
Cancer of Buc. Cav. Oesoph. M.			
Uterus F.	0	1	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2
Cancer of Breast	0	1	1
Cancer of all other sites	4	3	7
Diabetes	0	2	2
Intracranial vascular lesions ...	5	4	9
Heart diseases	12	8	20
Other diseases of Circulatory system	0	2	2
Bronchitis	3	0	3
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	0	1
Other Digestive Disease	0	2	2
Nephritis	2	0	2
Premature Birth	0	1	1
Congenital Mal., Birth Injury,			
Infant disease	0	2	2
Other violent causes	0	1	1
All other causes	0	1	1
	—	—	—
	30	31	61
	—	—	—

Death Rate from Total Maternal Causes per 1,000 Live and Still Births—0. (England and Wales—1.02).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	0	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
				—	—	—
				4	0	4
				—	—	—

Death Rate under 1 year of age—40.4 per 1,000 Live Births. (England and Wales—34 per 1,000 Live Births).

Death Rate from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age—.0 per 1,000 Live Births. (England and Wales—3.3 per 1,000 Live Births).

Chief Causes of Death in 1948 :—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	20
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	...	11
Intracranial Vas. Lesions	...	...	...	...	9

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

General Provisions for Health Services up to July 4th were the same as in my previous Report for 1947, and the following embodies the changes that have taken place from July 5th to the end of the year.

HOSPITALS

From July 5th all except a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes, such as Fairhaven, Shellbrook, were taken over by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Those operating prior to July 5th are still mainly used, but other hospitals under the Board are available, and occasionally some outside the area of the Sheffield Region.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist Schoolroom, Ashby, as formerly. Venereal Disease Clinics are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital

Board. Cases of Scabies are still treated at Swadlincote Urban District Council Treatment Centre. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Ante-natal Clinic and Tuberculosis Dispensary are still available, the latter being under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

From July 5th all ambulance facilities were provided by the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade undertook the work as agents of the County Council and in this area the service is mainly provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at Coalville and Church Gresley, and partly from the County Ambulance Depot, Leicester. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulance provided by the National Coal Board stationed at the Central Ambulance Station, Nailstone Colliery and at Moira.

NURSING IN THE HOME

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home is under the County Council as from July 5th.

HEALTH VISITING

This work is provided as before by the County Council, and is very ably carried out in the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

County Council Laboratory, 8 St. Martin's, Leicester.

The examinations performed on behalf of the District in the County Laboratory are as follows :—

Milk Examinations	...	...	...	49
Water Examinations	...	...	...	0
				—
<i>Total</i>	...			49
				—

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The following examinations were made :—

Pus	...	...	...	...	...	1
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The whole District is supplied by the Ashby and Swadlincote Joint Water Board from the Milton Water Works.

There are still a few wells in use.

Number of Wells closed—3.

Number of Wells cleansed—Nil.

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water—3.

Number of parishes with piped water supply :—

(a) From Public Mains—Whole area.

(b) From Private Reservoirs—Nil.

Number of houses without a piped water supply—47.

The quality of the existing supplies is satisfactory. The water exhibits no plumbo-Solvent properties. It has been necessary to continue night time restrictions during the year owing to a shortage of water at the source of supply. Steps are being taken to obtain an additional supply of water from Leicester Corporation, Derwent Valley Water Main.

No extensions of the Public Water supply were carried out in 1948.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of cesspools constructed during the year—Nil.

Number of cesspools abolished during the year—6.

Total number of cesspools in District on 31st December, 1948—131.

Particulars of any extension during the year :—

(a) Sewerage.—The sewerage of the village of Blackfordby has been commenced.

(b) Sewage Disposal.—Willesley Lane Sewage Disposal Works are being enlarged to deal with the sewage from Westfields and Blackfordby.

Post War Proposals.

Plans have been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health of a system of sewerage for New Packington and connecting up the same to the Sewage Disposal Works at Packington.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number in District on 31st December, 1948 :—

(a)	Privies	...	...	...	61
(b)	Pail closets	...	...	...	54
(c)	Water closets	...	...	...	1203

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year.

(a)	Privies	...	...	...	5
(b)	Pail closets	...	...	...	2

Number of privies (middens) converted to pail closets during the year : Nil.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse is collected weekly by Council workmen with a covered motor vehicle, and conveyed to a tip where it is deposited in shallow layers and covered with earth. 149 New Ashbins were provided in place of unsuitable or defective receptacles.

Earth closets, privies and ashpits are cleansed by Council workmen, the contents being disposed of on arable land and ploughed in.

At Blackfordby, the removal of house refuse and the cleansing of earth closets and privies is carried out by a Contractor and dealt with in a manner similar to the rest of the District.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total number of complaints received during 1948	...	...	...	120
Total number of defects and nuisances discovered	...	...	...	210

Particulars of Inspections Made

<i>Type of Inspection.</i>	<i>Number of Inspections.</i>	<i>Number of Revisits.</i>
Animal Keeping	30	6
Bakehouses	8	3
Dairies and Cowsheds	30	19
Drainage Works	46	28
Dwelling Houses (all purposes) ...	140	48
Food Premises	40	16
Offensive Trades	2	1
Rats and Mice Destruction ...	56	29
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	49	18
Schools	2	0
Shops	8	3
Slaughter Houses and Meat Inspection	0	0
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	1	0
Verminous Premises and Scabies	4	4
Water Supplies	81	40
Workshops, etc.	18	5
Other Inspections	116	38
Totals	631	258

Results of Notices Sent

Preliminary Notices.

	<i>Housing.</i>	<i>Public Health.</i>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1948	6	9
Issued during year	82	109
Complied with during year ...	80	111
Statutory action necessary	0	0
Outstanding 31st December, 1948	8	7

Statutory Notices.

	<i>Housing.</i>	<i>Public Health.</i>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1948	0	0
Issued during year	0	0
Complied with during year ...	0	0
Outstanding 31st December, 1948	0	0

Summary Action : Number of summonses issued—Nil.
 Number of convictions obtained—Nil.

Shops.

Particulars of action taken during year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

	<i>Outstanding 1st Jan., 1948.</i>	<i>Defects found.</i>	<i>Defects remedied.</i>	<i>Outstanding 31st Dec., 1948</i>
Sanitary				
Conveniences	0	3	3	0
Temperature	0	0	0	0
Ventilation	0	1	1	0
Cleansing	0	1	1	0

Camping Sites. Nil.

Regulated Buildings.

<i>Class of Building.</i>	<i>No. in District.</i>	<i>No. of Inspections.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>	<i>General Conditions.</i>
Common Lodging				
Houses	Nil.	0	0	0
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	1	1	0	satisfactory
Canal Boats	Nil.	0	0	0
Offensive Trades	1	2	0	satisfactory

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken :—

Number of Council Houses infested	...	...	0
Number of other dwelling houses infested	...	...	4
Number of houses disinfested	...	...	4

The disinfection was carried out by the Local Authority by spraying with D.D.T. fluid and dusting with D.D.T. powder.

Rat and Mice Destruction.

All properties found to be infested with rats were dealt with by the Councils Rodent Operator. The refuse tip and sewers and Sewage Disposal Works received attention during the year.

Schools.

All the Schools are supplied with Water from the Public Main and all are on the Water Carriage System except Blackfordby Church of England School.

Schools Disinfected	...	...	...	...	0
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public.

No. in Area :—

(a) Publicly owned	...	...	...	1
(b) Privately owned	...	...	...	Nil.

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Cowkeepers—

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	38
Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	45
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	...	...	...	...	4
Number of contraventions found during year	...	...	...	...	18
Number of contraventions remedied during year	...	...	...	...	20
Number of contraventions outstanding on 31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	2

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers)—

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	14
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	...	...	...	...	1
Number of contraventions found during year	...	...	...	...	6
Number of contraventions remedied during year	...	...	...	...	5
Number of contraventions on 31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	2

Total Contraventions

Type of	Outstanding from previous year.	Found during year.	Remedied during year.	Outstanding on 31st Dec., 1948	
Cleansing	...	2	9	9	2
Structural Alterations	...	1	6	6	1
Utensils	...	0	2	2	0
Other	...	2	7	8	1

Milk Sampling

<i>Class of Milk.</i>	<i>Total samples taken for bact. exam'n.</i>	<i>Number Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Number Unsatisfactory.</i>
Tuberculin Tested	0	0	0
Accredited ...	0	0	0
Pasteurised ...	5	3	2
Ordinary ...	5	4	1

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936 - 1946.

Three licences were issued during the year, one for a Pasteurising Plant, one for Supplementary Retail Distribution of Pasteurised Milk and one for a Bottling Licence.

The pasteurising Plant for which the Licence was issued, was of the Holder type, capacity 100 gallons per hour, hand temperature controlled.

Number of Plants for heating milk not licenced as Pasteurising Plants—Nil.

Ice Cream.

Number of Premises registered :—

Manufacture	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Retail	...	...	...	...	4

Number of Samples—4 :—

Results—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	2
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	1
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	1
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	0

Meat and Other Foods.

No. of Regional Slaughter Houses in Area	...	Nil.
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	...	Nil.
No. of Knackers Yards in Area	...	Nil.
No. of visits to Knackers Yards	...	Nil.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Number inspected	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Number condemned	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Meat Stalls. Nil.

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	24
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.

Number of Inspections...	...	...	...	40
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Action taken :—

The following is a list of food condemned and destroyed : —

Meat	...	...	...	...	78 lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	20 tins
Sausage	...	...	...	...	36 lbs.
Pies	...	...	...	...	28 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	28 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Fish	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	40 tins
Jam	...	...	...	...	20 jars
Soup	...	...	...	...	40 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	40 tins
Fruit	...	...	...	...	26 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	26 tins
Pickles	...	...	...	...	64 jars
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	29 cwts.
Milk	...	...	...	...	48 tins

SECTION E

Housing.

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)	150
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	188
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	0
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(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	34

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	29
--	--	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	0
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	0
4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding :		
(a) (1) Number of dwelling overcrowded at end of year	...	20
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	34
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	138
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	...	40
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	...	42
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	248
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	0

Post War Housing.

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year	...	255
--	-----	-----

Houses completed during the year.

By Local Authority	...	78
By Private Enterprise	...	5

Houses in course of erection at end of year.

By Local Authority (Permanent traditional type)	...	24
By Private Enterprise	...	2

Preparation of Housing Sites.

The preparation of a site for the erection of 40 houses at Blackfordby has been completed.

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1948.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Final numbers after correction.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	15	0	0
Measles ...	164	0	0
Pneumonia ...	11	0	3
Erysipelas ...	2	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	3	0
Diphtheria ...	1	1	0
Whooping Cough ...	6	0	0
Other Cases admitted to Hospital (diagnosis not confirmed) ...	0	1	0
	202	5	3

Analysis Under Age Groups according to Registrar Generals' Return 118d.

<i>Age Period.</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	<i>Whooping Cough.</i>	<i>Measles.</i>	<i>Diphtheria.</i>
0-1 ...	0	0	6	0
1-3 ...	1	3	41	0
3-5 ...	3	1	47	0
5-10 ...	7	2	66	0
10-15 ...	4	0	3	0
15-25 ...	0	0	1	0
25 and over ...	0	0	0	1
	15	6	164	1

<i>Age Period.</i>	<i>Pneumonia.</i>	<i>Erysipelas.</i>	<i>Puerperal Pyrexia.</i>
0-5 ...	2	0	0
5-15 ...	1	0	0
15-45 ...	5	0	3
45-65 ...	2	2	0
65 and over ...	1	0	0
	11	2	3

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.

Number Immunised from January 1st to July 4th, 1948 :—

Under 5 years of age	...	...	...	30	} 33
5-14 years of age	...	...	...	3	

Number who have received a reinforcing injection (Booster & dose) 5

After July 5th the County Council was responsible for Immunisation.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis Register for the year 1948.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
No. of cases on the Register at the commencement of year ...	4	2	6	5	2	7	13
No. of cases notified during the year ...	3	1	4	0	0	0	4
No. of cases restored to the Register ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of cases added other than by notification	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	1	1	2	0	1	1	3
No. of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	6	2	8	6	1	7	15.

Causes of Removal.

	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Left County ...	0	0	0	1
Died	1	1	0	0
	—	—	—	—
	1	1	0	1
	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Resume of Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1948, previously sent to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Headquarters, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

Part I. of the Act.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>M/c</i>	<i>Line No. on</i>	<i>Inspection. Written</i>	<i>Occupier</i>	
		<i>No Register,</i>	<i>tions. notices</i>	<i>prosecuted.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	46	23	5	Nil.
Total	...	46	23	5	Nil.

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more Cases).

		<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>			
				<i>Ref. to</i>	<i>Ref. from</i>
				<i>H.M.</i>	<i>H.M.</i>
<i>Particulars.</i>		<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>Inspectors.</i>
Want of Cleanliness	...	2	2	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	...	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	2	1	0	2
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	...	1	1	0	0
		5	4	0	2

Part VIII. of the Act.

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work.</i>	<i>No of Outworkers in August list. required by Sec. 110.</i>	<i>No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.</i>	<i>No. of pros. for failure to supply lists.</i>

Wearing apparel

Making, etc. ...	4	0	0
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<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.</i>	<i>Notices served.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
0	0	0



