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Contributors

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AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

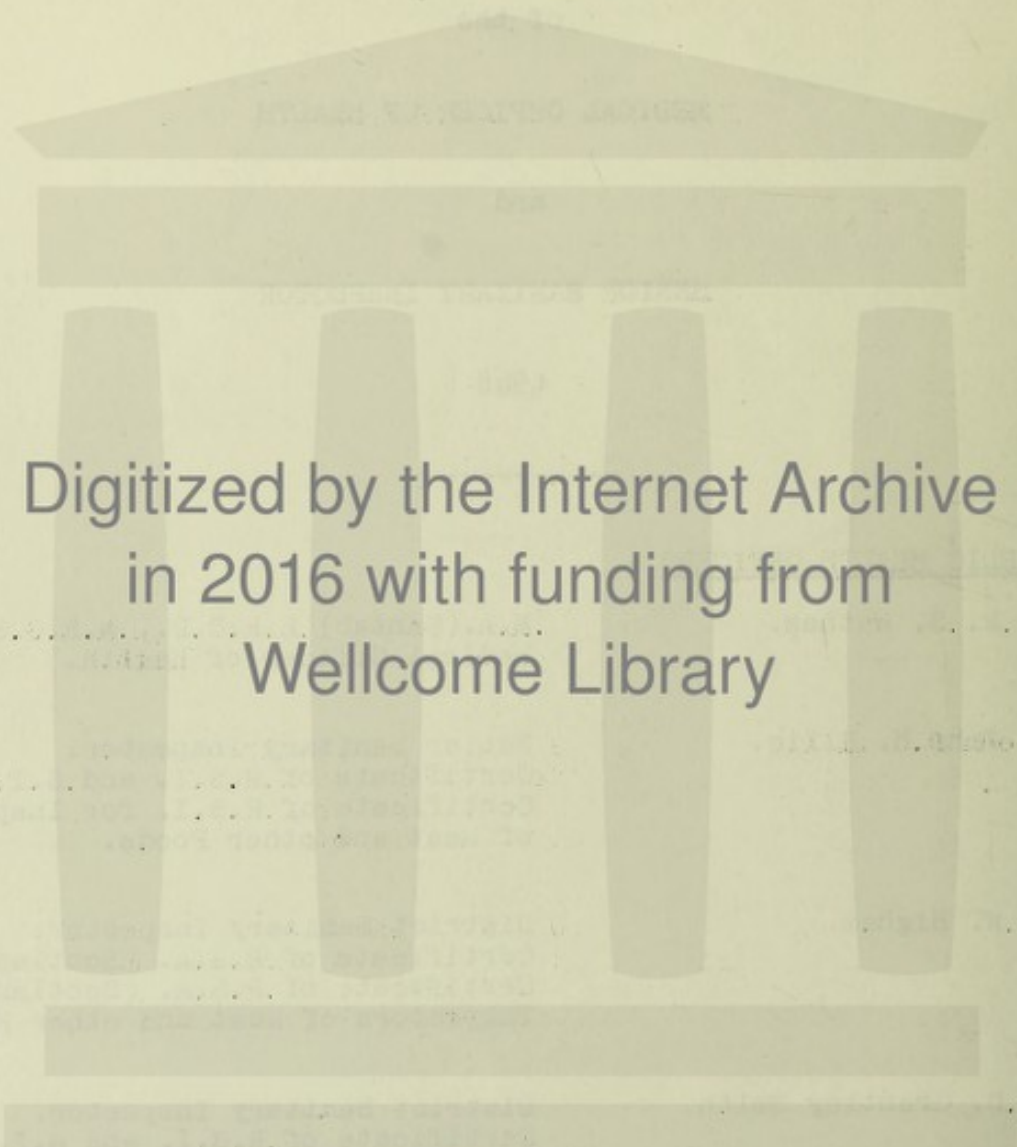
and

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1948

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:-

R. S. Wathes.	M.A.(Cantab) L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Medical Officer of Health.
John H. Ellis.	Senior Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. Certificate of R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.
W. Higham.	District Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland) Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland) for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.
D. Grantley Smith.	District Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
L. W. Martin.	Chief Clerk.



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AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1948.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration this my third Annual Report. It covers the work of your Public Health Department during the year ending 31st. December 1948.

I wish to offer my thanks to the Chairman and all Members of the Council for their help throughout the year, and to express my appreciation of their continued trust in my decisions and advice.

I must also record my thanks to the members of the Staff of my Department for their hard work throughout the year and for their loyalty to myself. I wish to add, however, that we do sadly need additional clerical help, and express the hope that this defect may soon be rectified.

I remain,
Your obedient Servant,

R. S. WATHES,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Court,
AXBRIDGE, Somt.

August 1949.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1948.

Area of District.	90,551 acres
Number of inhabited houses.	7,280
Rateable Value.	£ 185,948
Population: 1931 Census	22,076
Registrar-General's estimate for 1948.	25,400

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	208	215	423
Illegitimate	13	10	23
	<u>221</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>446</u>

BIRTH RATE: 17.5

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	6	5	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
			<u>11</u>

STILL BIRTH RATE: (per 1,000 total births) 24.6

DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	153	145	<u>298</u>

DEATH RATE: 11.7

VITAL STATISTICS.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar-General credited the District with 446 live births for 1948, 221 were males and 225 females. Of these 23 were illegitimate (13 males and 10 females). The registered number of still births was 11 (6 males and 5 females) all of which were legitimate.

The birth rate for 1948 was 17.5 for 1,000 of the population, which was slightly lower than for the country as a whole (17.9)

DEATHS.

298 deaths were registered to the District during the year. Of these 153 were males and 145 females. The death rate for 1948 was 11.7 per 1,000 of the population which was higher than for the country as a whole (10.8).

The following tables show the causes of death in the Axbridge Rural District, 1948:-

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
All causes ... Total 298	153	145
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
Cerebro spinal fever	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
Syphilitic diseases	1	-
Influenza	1	1
Measles	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-
Acute infantile encephalitis	-	1
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	3	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	7	4
Cancer of Breast	-	5
Cancer of all other sites	18	20
Diabetes	2	-
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	11	25
Heart disease	46	47
Other diseases of the circulatory system	7	5
Bronchitis	3	1
Pneumonia	4	2
Other respiratory diseases	4	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-
Appendicitis	3	-
Other digestive diseases	6	2
Nephritis	1	3
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	-
Premature births	2	-
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	3	5
Suicide	2	-
Road traffic accidents	3	-
Other violent causes	5	5
All other causes	14	13
Special causes (included in all other causes above) - Small-pox	-	-

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1948.

<u>Ages at Death in Years.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under 1	9	5	14
1 to 9	3	-	3
10 to 24	5	5	10
25 to 44	6	10	16
45 to 64	34	22	56
65 to 69	20	15	35
	— 77	— 57	— 134
70 to 74	20	14	34
75 to 79	24	28	52
80 to 84	17	22	39
85 to 89	12	11	23
90 to 94	3	7	10
95 to 99	-	5	5
100 to 104	-	1	1
	— 76	— 88	— 164
	153	145	298

The number of deaths in the four quarters of the year were:-

First quarter	78
Second quarter	75
Third quarter	65
Fourth quarter	80

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, registered during the year was 14 as follows:-

Under 1 week	9
1 - 4 weeks	-
1 - 6 months	5
6 - 12 months	-

These 14 deaths represent an infant mortality rate of 31.4 for all infants per 1,000 live births.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

All the health services have been maintained, with a few additions and alterations which are noted under the special headings.

WATER SUPPLY.

Every Parish in our District enjoys the benefits of a piped water supply. This supply is owned and maintained entirely by the District Council with the exception of that to Kewstoke, which is supplied from the Borough of Weston-s-Mare.

There are certain isolated or scattered dwellings which are dependent on private means of water supply, either wells or rainwater. The former are usually quite satisfactory. It is, of course, hoped to supply all dwellings in the Rural District from the public mains as soon as possible, and extensions of the mains have been carried out in some parishes. Greater details are available in the Surveyor's Report.

The Public Health Department collect samples of water from the mains at points throughout the District, and submit them monthly for examination at the Public Health Laboratory. The reports thereon have been satisfactory throughout the year, with very few exceptions. Tests for plumbo-solvency have all been negative.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Dwelling houses.</u>	<u>Dwelling-houses receiving a supply from Public Water Mains.</u>	<u>Population supplied from Public Water Mains.</u>	<u>Direct to house.</u>	<u>Standpipe.</u>
Axbridge	277	274	1,099	12	
Badgworth	109	107	384	3	
Banwell	574	534	1,767	-	
Berrow	113	109	330	-	
Blagdon	312	300	1,032	-	
Bleadon	206	178	527	-	
Brean	96	94	229	-	
Brent Knoll	243	228	751	-	
Burnham Without	92	91	264	-	
Burrington	139	100	337	-	
Butcombe	55	42	132	-	
Chapel Allerton	76	74	279	-	
Cheddar	803	782	2,684	7	
Churchill	359	291	696	-	
Compton Bishop	120	99	422	-	
Congresbury	381	300	1,156	-	
East Brent	213	213	772	7	
Hutton	174	143	449	-	
* Kewstoke	210	176	422	-	
Locking	84	66	149	-	
Loxton	50	40	143	-	
Lympsham	156	156	510	22	
Mark	244	243	915	16	
Puxton	45	42	186	-	
Shipham	188	174	513	-	
Weare	128	125	417	-	
Wedmore	694	591	2,262	22	
Wick-st-Lawrence	46	42	181	-	
Winscombe	644	627	2,274	-	
Wrington	449	363	1,408	-	

* Weston-s-Mare Borough Council Water Supply Area.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In a scattered rural area this matter is obviously a difficult problem. The Council maintains sewers which serve at least parts of the larger villages and hamlets, but many of these sewers are old and require renewal, and in some cases completely new schemes are required. In particular it must be mentioned that the disposal of sewage in many cases falls below modern standards.

Axbridge with Cross and Congresbury are outstanding examples of bad systems, with poor means of disposal, but other parishes must by no means be forgotten. It is hoped that some progress in these matters may be reported before long.

A very large proportion of the houses in the District depend upon private cesspools and other more primitive methods of disposal. For cesspools the Council maintains a tanker vehicle, and undertakes emptying and cleansing at a moderate charge.

HOUSING.

Re-housing of families living in overcrowded and insanitary conditions is in my opinion one of the biggest contributions that this Council can make towards improvement of the health of the local population. Unfortunately the housing problem does not end with this, for many families share houses, many young couples have no homes of their own, and many marriages are delayed because no houses are available.

During the year 138 new Council Houses were occupied. Selection of tenants is still chiefly made on recommendations from the Public Health Department, and rigid adherence to the Council's "Points Scheme" still seems to be the fairest method of allocation in all but a very few exceptional cases.

The housing need of new applicants for Council Houses and others in changed circumstances, is in the first place reported on by the District Sanitary Inspectors, and a visit is made by myself in company with the Housing Officer just prior to allocation. My constant endeavour is to be as fair as possible in my recommendation of tenants for new houses.

The Council has now a total of 837 Council Houses in occupation. There are also 58 houses held on requisition, and 65 hutments at present occupied. Most of these requisitioned houses and hutments are in a bad condition, and it is my hope that the Council will gradually be able to manage without them. At present, however, it has to be admitted that "anything is better than nothing".

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A wide spread measles epidemic marked the close of the year, some of the cases being quite severe with complications of broncho-pneumonia. The total number of cases notified in the District was $2\frac{1}{2}$ times that of the previous year. Whooping Cough cases also showed an increase, being more than twice as many as in previous years.

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during the year :-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Small-pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	25	14	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Measles	302	4	-
Whooping Cough	167	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	3	3	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Pneumonia	10	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	2	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
Erysipelas	5	-	-
Phemphigus Neonatorum	1	1	-
	517	25	-

52 rooms, school dormitory, and a hut were disinfected following cases on infectious disease, during the year.

Cases of personal infection are now very infrequent. Only 7 cases of scabies were notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	28	8
Non-Pulmonary	7	

Morbidity Rate for Tuberculosis.

Total cases notified - 35 Estimated Population 25,400

Rate = 1.3 Incidence per 1,000 per year.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of Cases on Register at 31st. December 1948.	34	34	9	11	43	45

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table shows the progress of immunisation against diphtheria:-

	<u>Immunisation completed during 1948.</u>	
	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 - 15 years.</u>
Number of children	387	17

A total of 3,260 children under the age of 15 years have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st. December 1948 against an estimated mid-year population 1948 of 5,534.

HOSPITALS, CLINICS ETC.

These services have continued without alteration, except that their control passed to the Minister of Health on 5th. July 1948. I wish to draw attention to the lack of maternity accommodation in our District. There is no Maternity Home within the Axbridge Rural District, and Homes in nearby Towns are always fully booked up, so that mothers are often obliged to be confined in their own or other peoples houses, frequently under conditions far from desirable. At the same time I draw attention to the fact that the Axbridge Isolation Hospital and Ilex Lodge Hospital have many vacant beds, and suggest that better use of at least part of the hospital accommodation could be made by providing additional maternity beds.

CONCLUSION.

Once again I venture to say that the health of our District has been good, and that the Public Health services have been efficiently maintained.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1948.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for
the year 1948.

HOUSING.

Particularly welcome during the year was the announcement of the new Housing Bill, which provides for grants to private owners for the improvement of houses. When the Act becomes law it is to be hoped that the Building Licensing Regulations will permit owners to take full advantage of its provisions. The experience of those owners who have attempted to improve sub-standard property has so far scarcely been encouraging. Experience has shown that the cost of reconditioning the average dwelling of Housing Survey Category 5 standard is likely to be well in excess of the maximum amount of £500 for which the District Council may issue a licence. These cases, therefore, are dealt with, from a licensing point of view, by the Ministry of Health. Unless licenses are forthcoming it means either that the reconditioning of these properties cannot proceed or that a lower standard of reconditioning must be accepted. This latter alternative is to be strongly deprecated. The District Council is rightly proud of the standard of accommodation provided by the new type Council House. When private owners are required to recondition insanitary property they should surely be encouraged, and given an opportunity, to provide housing facilities of a comparable standard.

It may be maintained that £800, which is an average figure for the type of reconditioning under consideration, is an excessive sum. This amount however is still considerably lower than the cost of providing a new house. No one will dispute the fact that in certain instances the fabric of a sub-standard is so defective or the siting is such that satisfactory reconditioning is impracticable.

The Public Health Committee, however, gives such careful consideration to each case, in consultation with the owner, that it need not be feared, on the one hand, that material and labour expended on old property will be wasted or, on the other, that demolition orders will be made without due regard to the necessity of saving every house that is worth saving.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The progress of the Rural Housing Survey is slow, as the time the existing staff can allot to survey work is limited in view of the necessity of keeping pace with matters or more immediate Public Health concern. During the year the Ministry of Health advised the District Council that additional assistance should not be engaged to expedite this work.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

Estimated number of dwelling-houses to be surveyed (i.e. all those of £16. rateable value and under excluding private dwelling-houses erected since 1930 and Council Houses)	4,055	
Number of properties surveyed (total to 31st. December 1948).	1,959	48.3%
Number of properties found to be satisfactory in all respects. ... (Category 1)	181	9.2.
Number of properties found to have minor defects (Category 2)	331	16.9.
Number of properties requiring repair or structural alteration. (Category 3)	1,258	64.2.
Number of properties suitable for reconditioning under the provisions of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts. ... (Category 4)	112	5.7%
Number of properties unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost. (Category 5)	189	9.7%

OVERCROWDING.

The total of 15 cases of overcrowding on the register on the 31st. December 1948 showed a substantial decrease compared with the 1947 figure of 47. This fall was due almost entirely to the re-housing in new Council Houses of families from overcrowded properties.

It should be appreciated that the statutory definition of "overcrowding" is based on a low standard which takes into account living room accommodation in arriving at the "permitted number" for a dwelling-house. There are still very many cases where, from any reasonable viewpoint, too many people are occupying a dwelling-house. A new statutory definition of overcrowding, based on a standard related to bedroom accommodation only, is required before a more realistic picture of the true housing need can be revealed by "overcrowding" statistics.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The coming into operation during the year of the new Town & Country Planning Act has placed a new aspect on the control of camping. For years the District Council has tried to cope with this problem furnished only with the inadequate powers contained in Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. In considering camping site licence applications, the District Council has been unable to take into consideration the question of the amenity of the area and has been unjustly criticised for an apparent neglect to take this factor into account.

One obvious possible result of the new planning powers is that the Planning Authority, at some future date, may seek to confine camping to a certain area or areas in a Parish. The question might then be raised as to whether or not the District Council desired to acquire the whole or part of the land in such camping zones for development as Council controlled sites. This is a matter to which the District Council might care to give some thought. It is sufficient to say that the demand for camping facilities in the coastal area increases year by year. There is a real need for a higher standard of accommodation in well laid out camping grounds providing adequate services and attendance. Existing licensed camping sites are usually filled with moveable dwellings which are stationed on the land all the year round, consequently the short-term campers are driven to find accommodation on unlicensed fields.

Landowners are disinclined to make adequate sanitary provision for this class of camping and the campers, generally speaking, are unwilling or unable to make adequate provision themselves. The period of 42 consecutive days that it is permissible to use land for camping in any twelve months without a licence from the Local Authority is too long. One hesitates to suggest further restrictions to prevent campers enjoying the full freedom of the countryside but if people will persist in crowding to certain areas and there bring about conditions which are detrimental to public health it must be expected that a tightening of control, in these areas at least, will be advocated.

The setting aside for camping of certain areas, properly provided with all facilities, in the Parishes where these unsatisfactory conditions prevail, would only be a solution to the problem if it were possible altogether to prohibit camping outside the camping zones in these Parishes.

Number of camping sites licensed during the year. 44

Total number of moveable dwellings permitted on these sites. ... 772

FOOD PREMISES.

Food premises have again claimed particular attention during the year. Whilst considerable improvements to premises are being obtained there is still ample scope for instruction in elementary hygiene amongst workers engaged in food handling. All too often, when asking for adequate facilities for hand-washing to be provided, one is met with a blank look or even open hostility and the query "Why?". Public opinion can do much to awaken the retrograde food worker to a sense of his or her responsibility to the general public.

A tightening of the law relating to food premises is needed. All food premises should be required to be registered with the Local Authority who should have the power, where necessary, to refuse or cancel a licence, as in the case of premises used for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, or the preparation of preserved meats etc.

ICE CREAM.

Tremendous strides have been made in the past few years in the conditions under which ice cream is manufactured, stored and sold. The manufacture of ice cream in a bucket in a back kitchen is a thing of the past. The regulations now ensure that ice cream is produced and sold under the most hygienic conditions. The one weak link in the chain is the itinerant vendor. Registration of such persons or their vehicles is not compulsory and although many of them have co-operated with the Department others are adept at taking evasive action. The Borough of Weston-s-Mare has such powers of registration in a private Act. Consequently the Axbridge Rural District is a happy hunting ground for those who feel they will not pass muster "over the border".

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream. 5
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream. 48

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Lack of staff has again prevented adequate attention being given to farm premises where milk is produced. However, this problem will soon be solved when the administration of this branch of the work is shortly taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It may seem fairer that the not inconsiderable burden of ensuring the purity of the milk supplies, the bulk of which is consumed in urban areas, should be lifted from the shoulders of Rural Authorities but it is to be regretted that still another function of Local Authorities passes from their control.

Of the 101 samples taken for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, 2 proved positive. As the result of investigations by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries' Officers, 1 cow giving infected milk was slaughtered. The source of infection in the one case which was undetermined at the end of 1947 was never traced. One case was undetermined at the end of 1948.

(a)	Total number of Registered Dairy Farms.	930
(b)	" " " Registered Retailers.	92
(c)	" " " Producer/Retailers ... (included in (b))	79
(d)	Number of Licenced Pasteurising Plants.	1
(e)	" " Tuberculin Tested Producers.	98
	" " Accredited Milk Producers.	90
	" " Tuberculin Tested Milk Retailers (Non-Producers) licenced.	10
	" " Accredited Milk Retailers (Non- Producers) licenced.	-
	" " Pasteurised Milk Retailers (Non- Producers) licenced.	6

DRAINAGE.

The District is extremely well provided with main water supplies and the consumption of water is on a scale commensurate with the services provided. It follows that the amount of waste water to be disposed of from the average household is considerable. The majority of premises are drained to cesspools. At their best, cesspools are a crude method of sewage disposal. In low-lying and congested areas they are a source of trouble and nuisance. There is no doubt that the provision of sewerage systems ranks high in the needs of the District and the sewerage of as much of the Area as is practicable should be the ultimate goal. It is realised that the District Council fully appreciates the need for these sewerage systems and it is to be hoped that National resources will permit a steady progress in this direction.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

Following the two reductions in charges for cleansing cesspools which have been made by the District Council in eighteen months has come a demand for a free service. With the present cesspool cleansing vehicle now fully engaged, difficulties would arise if charges were reduced further unless sufficient vehicles were provided to meet increased demands. Whilst there may be considerable moral justification for a "free" service no doubt the District Council would wish to give the matter very careful consideration in view of the financial implications involved.

Total number of cesspools and settlement
tanks cleansed during the year. ... 328

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Towards the end of the year plans were laid to provide a fortnightly refuse collection over the whole of the District as soon as the expected delivery of the new vehicle took place. Delivery was behind schedule and it was not possible to put the new scheme into operation at the commencement of 1949.

The amounts of all classes of salvage showed increases over the previous year's figures with the exception of bones and glass. The fall in the quantity of bones needs no explanation. The total collapse in the demand for salvaged bottles, jars etc., was unexpected. It is apparently now more economical to manufacture new glassware than to collect, sort, wash, sterilize and return to circulation the used article.

Towards the end of the year there were uneasy signs that all was not well with the waste paper market. There were rumours of congestion at mills and merchants' yards. It is hoped that the efforts which are being made by all concerned to raise the amount of paper salvaged, in accordance with the request of the Government and of the Trade, will not be frustrated by the inability of mill facilities to cope with the resultant increase.

Estimated total amount of Refuse
collected during the year. ... 3,490 Tons.

Total amount of salvage material
collected during the year :-

	T. Cwt. Qr.
(a) Paper	105. 1. 1.
(b) Cardboard	25. 16. 2.
(c) Rags	9. 0. 0.
(d) Bones	3. 5. 2.
(e) Bottles, Jars etc.	535 doz.

The sale of material salvaged realised £1,316. 3. 6d.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent destruction has now become a well established and valuable branch of the Public Health service. Systematic search of the District for infestation continues and the necessary treatments are carried out when infestation is discovered or reported.

The sewerage systems, sewage disposal works and the Council's refuse tip are regularly inspected and treated if necessary.

Total number of infestations discovered or reported.	320
Total number of premises treated.	...		290
" " " pre-baits laid.	...		6,655
" " " poison baits laid.	...		3,040
" " " complaints of re-infestation.			13

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out during the year:-

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of	
		Inspections.	Written notices.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	14	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	87	48	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	18	9	-
Total.	119	71	1

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-
Total	1	1

FOOD INSPECTION.

Particulars of foods condemned during the year are as follows:-

Bacon	8½ lbs.	Fish Paste	1 jar
Cheese	11¼ lbs.	Mince meat	14 oz.
Butter	2¼ lbs.	Pickles	5 jars

Canned Goods.

Condensed Milk	120 cans	Soups	9 cans
Fish	22 "	Vegetables	152 "
Meat, various	27 "	Fruit juice	7 "
Fruit	106 "	Pudding	1 "
Jams	21 "		

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of inspections (including re-inspections)	3,846
Total number of houses and premises inspected	3,015
Complaints investigated	184
Written notices and letters sent	1,265
Cowshed and Dairy inspections	530
Food Shops and Food Premises inspections	253
Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings inspections	324
Factory inspections	71
Shops Act inspections	87
Ice Cream premises inspections	232
Milk Samples taken	174
Ice Cream samples taken	208
Rooms, Classrooms etc., disinfected & disinfested	52
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated	4
Nuisances from accumulation of manure abated	5
Drainage tests of old drainage systems	31

It is a pleasure to record the happy spirit which animates the work of the Public Health Department. The Department works as a team and the results achieved would be impossible without the support and keenness of the two District Sanitary Inspectors backed by Mr Martin's work in the office. The office work is onerous because of the need for the additional assistance of a shorthand-typist.

I am also pleased to report on the good work done by the Council's employees engaged on refuse and salvage collection, cesspool cleansing and rodent control. Their diligence and interest has contributed in no small measure to the successful working of these services.

I respectfully thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support and assistance. I would like also to thank the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk, the Financial Officer and other Officers of the Council for their help and co-operation which is always so unstintingly given.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J. H. ELLIS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

