# Contributors

Wrexham (Wales). Rural District Council.

# **Publication/Creation**

1941

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1941

T. P. EDWARDS, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Cantab).

D. THOMAS. C.R.S.I., C.M.I.

Edwin Jones & Son, Printers, 9, Argyle Street, Wrexham.



# STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

T. P. EDWARDS, M.D., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H. (CANTAB).

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR : D. THOMAS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., C.M.I.

SANITARY INSPECTORS : H. CECIL D. JONES, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. STANLEY DAVIES, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., C.M.I.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S CLERKS

(TEMPORARY) : MISS O. M. DAVIES. MISS E. EDWARDS.

# To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I present my Annual Report for the year 1941, which follows the lines of the previous year's report owing to the continuance of hostilities.

We have been asked not to make any mention of population figures but all that one needs say is that there is a definite increase in the population of approximately 2,500 persons.

Certain essential statistics which have been supplied to us from the County Health Office have unfortunately been delayed owing to causes over which we have had no control and it is for this reason that the completion of this report has been delayed.

During the year a certain number of Evacuees came into our area from the Mersey-side and it is satisfactory to note that there is no evidence of any increase of infectious diseases owing to these additions to our population.

There has been a rise in the birth rate and a very substantial diminution in the death rate which has fallen from 17.2 to 12.6, and the Infantile Mortality rate is also less than it was for 1940.

During the year we still had some cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, but there was evidence that the epidemic slowly though surely subsided and our successful treatment at the Fever Hospital has been continued with gratifying results in that the death rate from this dread disease is much lower than that for the whole country.

The arrangements for the immunising of children of preschool and school age by officials of the County Council has been continued, and it is satisfactory to note the large number of children who are taking advantage of this essential method of protection from a dangerous infectious disease.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen

Your obedient servant,

# T. P. EDWARDS,

Medical Officer of Health.

# STATISTICS.

Area (acres)		-	-	-	-	72,370
Births:	М.	F.	Total.			
Legitimate -	524	480	The second second second	Birth Ra	te 16.6	
Illegitimate -	14	28		(England		
incgrumate				14.2		ares
	538	508	1046		,	
and the second second						
	Μ.	F.	Total			
Births for In-						
fantile Rate -	550	523	1073			
Still Births -	25	19	44	Still Birt	h Rate	0.6
	<u> </u>			(England	l and V	Vales
For Infantile	4 . it .			0.5		
Mortality -	25	20	45			
Deaths -	408	394		Deaths F	Pate 12	6
Deaths	100	001		(England		
	200	1	122		.9)	raics
Matannal Mantality					.0)	
Maternal Mortality-					2.1	
Puerperal Seps		1000 -	-	-	- I	Vil
Other Puerpera	al Disea	ses -	-	1. 1 1. 1. 1		4
					1	
		Total	-	-	-	4
					5.1 2.1	-
Maternal Morta	lity Rat	e per 100	0 Live	Births 3	3.8	
		e per 100			3.7 (Eng	aland
		o per 100			d Wales	
Infantile Morta	litzz		1	M. F.	and the second second	1
Legitimate	*		- 4		10tai 82	
Illegitimate				1 $1$	2	
megrimat	-			<u> </u>		
	Total -		- 2	42 42	84	
	i otai -					
Infantile Morta	lity Rat	e per 100	00 Birt	hs, 78.3 (	Englan	d and
Wales		1			0	
			I	M F.	Total	
Deaths from Ma	lignant	Diseases	- 8	51 51	102	
	0		-			-
Deaths from Dia	arrhoea	under 2 y	ears of	age	- 3	
					-	
Rate per 1000	Live Di-	the 90	Englar	id and W	ales 5 1	1
Rate per 1000 .	Live Di	1115, 2.0	Englai	in and w	ales 0.1	1

# DEATHS.

During the year there were 802 deaths, of which 408 were males and 394 females. Four of the deaths occurred from Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 8 from Diphtheria, 27 from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 13 from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. There were 8 deaths from Influenza, no deaths from Measles but there were 2 deaths from Encephalitis. I have already mentioned that there were 102 Cancer deaths, 51 males, and 51 females. In reference to Intracranial vascular lesions there were 49 males and 58 females, making a total of 107.

From Heart Disease there were 169 deaths, 75 males and 94 females. With reference to respiratory deaths other than T.B. 51 were Bronchitis, of which 31 were males and 20 females, 57 Pneumonia, 28 males and 29 females, and there were 14 other deaths, of which 11 were males and 3 females. With reference to the other forms of deaths there were 30 from Nephritis, of which 14 were males and 16 females and there were Premature Births, 11 of them being females, and 26 deaths from congenital malformation, this number being equally distributed between the two sexes.

Lastly, from all other causes there were 73 deaths, 38 being males and 35 females. These are deaths that occurred from diseases other than the 35 various categories mentioned in the death returns supplied to us by the Registrar General.

# AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

It is hardly necessary to make any reference to arrangements for A.R.P. in our area seeing that there is very little, if any, alteration in the arrangements made. We have been lucky that we have not had any attack on our area during the year.

The question of equipment has been discussed in Committee and representations made to the Scheme-making Authority and the reply received was that we had had all that was officially sanctioned for our area for this purpose.

During the present emergency use has been made of a disused railway tunnel in Moss as an unofficial Air Raid Shelter, and owing to the conditions therein, steps were taken to terminate its use for this purpose. A petition was sent in by the persons using the tunnel, but following a visit of officials to see the conditions therein, the conclusion was reached that the tunnel was un-safe and in other ways undesirable for use as an Air Raid Shelter and that in the best interests of the public it should be closed. It may be of interest to note that the existence of this tunnel was known to many residents in the Mersey-side area who made nocturnal visits to this locality, especially when there were any signs of Air Raids in their area of residence.

A large number of Air Raid Shelters had been provided by the Council throughout the whole area and it is surprising how little the value of these amenities is appreciated. A large amount of damage has been done by persons and it has been very difficult to trace the persons responsible for damaging these properties.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

# Scarlet Fever.

During the year 62 cases were notified as compared with 127 in 1940 and 137 for 1939. There have been no deaths during the year.

Case rate per	1000 population	-	-	0.98
(England and	Wales	-	-	1.47)

# **DIPHTHERIA**.

142 cases were notified during the year as compared with 157 in 1940 and 124 in 1939. There were 8 deaths during the year.

Case rate per 1000 population	-		2.2
(England and Wales	-	-	1.25)
Deaths per 1000 population	-	-	0.13
(England and Wales	-	-	0.07)

# IMMUNISATION.

The following cases have been immunised during the year by me and by the County Health Officials on our behalf.

Completely immunised	Under 5, 802 ;	over 5, 1010
Incompletely immunised	Under 5, 200 ;	over 5, 1186

These figures indicate that there is still a large number of children who are not being immunised, but this is co-incident with a definite reduction in the cases of Diphtheria.

# ENTERIC FEVER.

3 cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year, one being Typhoid and 2 Para-Typhoid. There were no deaths.

Typhoid Case Rate per 1000 population - 0.01 (England and Wales 0.03) Para-Typhoid Case Rate per 1000 population - 0.03 (England and Wales 0.09)

# ERYSIPELAS.

16 cases were notified as compared with 20 in 1940 and 24 in 1939.

Case Rate per 1000 population, 0.2 (England and Wales 0.3)

# PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

The number of cases notified during the year was 2 against 4 in 1940 and 1939.

# PNEUMONIA.

81 cases were notified during the year as compared with 120 in 1940 and 76 in 1939. There were 57 deaths from Pneumonia, 28 being males and 29 females. During the year the question of notification of Pneumonia by Medical Practitioners was discussed in Committee. It was pointed out that in certain of the areas the number of deaths from Pneumonia far exceeded the number notified and in one area for 3 years there had been a number of deaths which equalled the number of notifications. It is quite obvious that there is definite room for improvement by Medical Practitioners in the notification of Pneumonia, seeing that in modern treatment by M and B 693 and similar drugs, not all cases of Pneumonia would be fatal.

It is common knowledge that the modern treatment has resulted in far fewer deaths than has been the case in the past, and when as stated above there was an equal number of deaths as notifications in one district it was quite obvious that not all cases of Pneumonia had been notified. Certain Medical Practitioners resent having their attention drawn to this lack of notification but they must remember that it is a statutory duty laid down by an Act of Parliament.

Case Rate per 1000 population, 6.6 (England and Wales 1.25)

# OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are notified to the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority namely, The County Council, who are instructed to send copies of any such notification to us. We received no notifications.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

249 cases were notified during the year as against 208 in 1940. There was one death.

Case Rate per 1000 population, 3.8 (England and Wales 4.39)

#### MEASLES.

406 cases of Measles were notified during the year as against 891 in 1940. It is satisfactory to note that there were no deaths from Measles during the year, and no doubt one is surprised at the fact that the number of cases of Measles notified is less than half the number for 1940.

#### SMALL POX.

No cases were notified.

# **VACCINATION FIGURES**, 1941.

Including the Borough of Wrexham but excluding the portion included in our area in 1935.

Total Births -	-		-11	-	1450.
Successfully Vaccinat	ed	-		-	312.
Insusceptible -	-	-	-	-	6.
No. had Smallpox	-	-	-	-	
Conscientious Objecto	ors	-	-	-	766.
Died Unvaccinated		-	-	-	78.
Postponed by medical	certific	cate	-	-	59.
Removed -	-	-		-	146.
Unaccounted for	-	-	-	- 1	. 133.
Percentage of Conscient	ntious (	Objecto	ors		52.8

# CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

An epidemic of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis which commenced in November, 1939, and which continued throughout 1940 remained with us throughout 1941, but with a diminished frequency of cases, whereas in 1940 92 cases were admitted from the Wrexham Rural District, 33 cases were admitted as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis in 1941, but of these 2 were found to only require observation and 7 others not meningococcal but were Pneumococcal and Tuberculous. Two of the Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis cases died and 5 others, 2 of Pneumococcal and 3 Tuberculous. There were 4 deaths during the year of which 3 were females.

Case Rate per 1000 population 0.52 (England and Wales 0.24).

# TUBERCULOSIS.

		NEW CA	SES.		DEATHS.								
			1	Von-			Ν	Ion-					
Pulmonary.		Pul	Pulmonary.		mary.	Pulmonary.							
	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.					
	42	37	10	10	21	17	5	_					

# **ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

On January 1st, 1941, there were 42 cases in Hospital which had been admitted in the previous year and of these 12 were Scarlet-Fever, 24 Diphtheria, 5 Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and one Erysipelas.

During the year 477 cases were admitted as compared with 672 in 1940, and 477 in 1939. Of these 98 were cases of Scarlet Fever and observation Scarlet Fever, and 288 were Diphtheria and observation Diphtheria cases. 3 were Para-Typhoid and there were 2 observation Typhoids, 10 were Erysipelas cases, 6 Puerperal Septicaemia and one case of Measles which had been admitted as Scarlet Fever. The remaining cases were sent in, with very few exceptions, as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, but the diagnosis of a substantial number of these cases had to be altered in view of the Clinical History and the Bacteriological Investigations while the case was in hospital. 52 cases were Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 6 were Pneumococcal Meningitis and 4 Tuberculous.

Of the total admissions 247 were from the Wrexham Rural District, thus slightly more than half the total number of admissions were Rural District cases and of these 147 or over 50% were cases of Diphtheria. 171 were admitted from the Borough of Wrexham and of these 110 were Diphtheria. 7 were admitted from Llangollen Urban, 14 from Overton Rural, 33 from Ruthin Rural, 3 from Hiraethog Rural, 1 from Edeyrnion Rural and one from Hawarden Rural District. There were no cases admitted from the Borough of Ruthin as they have terminated their agreement whereby they sent cases to our hospital.

During the year 471 cases were discharged and there were remaining in Hospital at the end of the year 28 patients, namely, 8 Scarlet Fever, 17 Diphtheria, 2 Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and one Erysipelas. There were 20 deaths during the year, 10 were from Diphtheria, 2 from Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 4 from Pneumococcal Meningitis, 2 from Tuberculous Meningitis and 2 other Cerebral Cases which had been admitted as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. Of the 20 cases 15 were admitted from the Rural District of Wrexham, 4 from the Borough of Wrexham and 1 from Llangollen Urban District.

I would once again like to pay a tribute to the excellent work done by the Matron, Assistant Matron, Sisters, and the other members of the Nurses Staff during the year. It is difficult in times such as these to have an adequate staff of nurses but up to the present we have been very fortunate in having a full staff of conscientious and efficient workers.

The Pathological work at the Hospital is carried out by myself, other than specimens of blood faeces and Cerebro-Spinal Fluid which are sent to Dr. Robinson of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory in Conway, and I would like to express my appreciation of the co-operation which we have received from him and his staff, especially in cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

One rather interesting feature is the frequency with which Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis cases are admitted during a week-end, thus there is some unavoidable delay in sending material to Conway, and in some way this material has proved worthless for investigation. On one occasion important Pathological material was 3 days in the post and one cannot emphasize the importance of having such important materials delivered at the earliest possible moment.

We have utilized the services of the Laboratory for cases of Diphtheria where the micro-organisms found are typed. This typing has necessitated a prolonged stay in Hospital of cases of Diphtheria, until they are found to be free from infection and as an indication of the value of this service one need only refer to the fact that it is very seldom that what are technically termed "return cases" of Diphtheria are admitted.

# SWABS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

This total refers only to swabs examined by myself in the Laboratory.

	Wrexham R.D.C.	Wreyham Borough	Overton	Fever Hospital	Total
Negative		204	59	857	1239
Positive	- 16	8	0	178	202
Total -	135	212	59	1035	1441
				1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	

# PUBLIC HEALTH.

In my report for 1940 reference was made to an outbreak of Gastro-enteritis in our area concerning the employees of an important industrial concern.' During the year no more cases were brought to our attention but the water supply was again examined during the year and small amounts of zinc were again found.

### WATER SUPPLIES.

10 samples of water were sent to the Conway Laboratory for Bacteriological examination. Complaints were made during the year of the unsatisfactory supply of water in a certain hamlet, namely, Penylan, and 5 samples were taken from this collection of houses which are served by many pumps tapping shallow well water and all these samples were unsatisfactory, though there was no evidence of recent faecal polution.

This hamlet had previously been in the area of supply of the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, but owing to its position it was quite impossible for this Company to supply water from their mains. It was consequently transferred to the Ruabon Water Company's area of supply, and an estimate was invited from the Water Company as to the cost of laying mains to this village but unfortunately the cost was absolutely prohibitive and would necessitate some 3 or 4 miles of water mains being laid at a period when such mains would be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain.

It is satisfactory, however, to note that we have had no cases of infectious diseases from this area.

5 other samples of water were taken from our area and all were found to be satisfactory with one exception. Most of these samples were obtained from various parts of an industrial concern. The remaining Water Companies are kept under observation and the only feature of interest is a complaint that we have received from a Parish Council as to a lack of pressure of water, whereby it was impossible to obtain water in the upstairs lavatories and bath rooms, but it had to be pointed out that such Companies only provide water under gravitation. The Parish Council concerned has made representations to the Ministry of Health and arrangements were made for the main in the Main Street to be opened. These mains were found to be in a very good condition and it was obvious that the lack of water was due to the service pipes laid to the various premises affected.

# RAINFALL.

I wish to thank the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company for providing the figures of rainfall in our area. From the reports submitted by them there were 31.33 ins. during the year, and there were 189 days with 0.01 ins. or more and 137 days in which there was 0.04 ins. or more of rainfall.

# **ISOLATION HOSPITAL, WREXHAM.**

# Report for the year ending December 31st, 1941.

Remaining in Hospital December 31st, 1940.	Wxm. Rur.		Llan. Urb.		Rtn. Rtn. Bor. Rur			Hwdn. Rur. Total
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Typhoid Fever Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis Erysipelas	4.		· 1 … · 0 …	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	···· 0 · ··· 0 ·		
Total	23 .	12	. 1	. 2	. 0 4	0 .	0	0 42
Admitted from January 1st to December 31st, 1941.								
Scarlet Fever Observation Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Observation Diphtheria Para-Typhoid Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis Observation C.S.M. Pneumococcal Meningitis Tubercular Meningitis Tubercular Meningitis (T.B.) Poliomyelitis Influenzal Pneumonia Cerebral-Pontine Haemorrhage Measles Erysipelas Erysipelas Erysipelas Scabies Observation Erysipelas Scabies Observation Typhoid	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 140 \\ 7 \\ 24 \\ 24 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ - \\ -$	$\begin{array}{c} & 28 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 1 & & 1 & \\ & & 15 & & 9 & \\ & & 2 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 1 & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & \\ \end{array}$		$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Total	247	171	. 7	. 14	. 0 33	3	1	1 477

#### Discharged from January 1st to December 31st, 1941.

.

Scarlet Fever Observation Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Observation Diphtheria		 0	3 0 2 0	0 11		0	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 18 \end{array}$			: 0		00	 1
Para-Typhoid Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2 25	 $\frac{1}{15}$	 0	0		0			0			0	 3 41
Observation C.S.M Pneumococcal Meningitis	2	 9	 0 0	1		0 0	0		0 0	. 0		Ő	 12
Tubercular Meningitis	1	 0	 0	0		0	0		0	. 0		0	 ĩ
Encephalo-Meningitis (T.B.) Poliomyelitis	0	 0	 0	0		0	3		0			0	 03
Influenzal Pneumonia Cerebral-Pontine Haemorrhage	00	 10	 0			0			0			00	 10
Measles Erysipelas	15	 0	 0			0			0	-		0	 1 9
Erysipelas and Burns Puerperal Septicaemia	1	 0	 0 0	0		0 0	0		0	. 0		0	 $\frac{1}{6}$
Scabies	20	 0	 0	0		0	0		0	. (		0	 222
							1			-		-	 
Total	243	 .07	 0	10		0	35		3			0	 471
Remaining in Hospital year ending December 31st, 1941.													
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria					····	0 0			0				8 17
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis Observation Erysipelas	1 0	 1	 0 0	0		0	0			. 0		0	21
Total	12	 12	 1	0		0	2		0	. 0		1	 28
Number of Deaths for year ending	626	1	Reit.		12	26. 24		14			12		

12

#### Number of Deaths for year ending December 31st, 1941.

Diphtheria	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Pneumococcal Meningitis									0	
Tubercular Meningitis									0	2
Cerebral Pontine Haemorrhage									0	1
Encephalo Meningitis (T.B.)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	15	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	20

# REPORT OF Mr. D. THOMAS, SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

# SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of Nuisances reported during the year	-	-	1579
Number of Intimatory Notices served -	-	-	1579
Number of Intimatory Notices complied with	-	-	$^{\cdot}$ 1505
Number of Statutory Notices served under	r I	Public	
Health Act, 1936	-	-	57
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	-	-	53
Action taken by Local Authority in default of or	vne	er -	-
Number of Visits and Inspections made -	-	-	13,484
Schools cleansed	-	-	-
Number of Houses Disinfected	-		92
Nuisance arising from keeping animals, abated	-		13

# HOUSE DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

The drainage of 406 houses was inspected and repairs carried out in 396 cases. In 10 houses the drains were found defective and these were subsequently relaid.

13 Cesspools were emptied and repaired.

7 Septic Tanks were constructed.

The Sanitary Conveniences were improved in 210 houses, and new water closets were erected for 57 houses.

# **REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.**

As in former years the Removal of House Refuse has been carried out by Direct Labour and Contracts. In the parishes where the work was done by direct labour the work proceeded normally, although many members of the staff left to take up other duties.

Much greater difficulty was experienced in those parishes where contractors undertake the work. In former years a large number of tenders were received, and there was a tendency to reduce the price to unreasonable levels. This year's contractors were reluctant to tender owing to other work on Government Contracts being available, with the result that in some cases, the tenders submitted showed a large increase on previous years. The Parish of Broughton may be cited : the tender in 1940 was at the rate of 6/1 per house, but the only tender received for 1941 was at the rate of 12/6 per house. The cost of the work represented a very large increase in the rate for special expenses levied in the Parish, and as a result a recommendation was submitted to the Health Committee asking the Council to make application for a priority certificate enabling them to purchase a Refuse Collector. A similar request was made by the combined parishes of Allington, Burton, Gresford and Holt. An application was submitted to the Ministry of Health but was not granted.

Since the outbreak of war it has been noticed that there is an appreciable increase in the quantity of refuse to be collected in the various districts. This, no doubt, is caused by the fact that members of the households are engaged on shift-work at Government Establishments and fires are kept in during the 24 hours, and the large number of houses accommodating lodgers, but there appears to be a need for appealing to householders to riddle all ashes before placing them in their bins, and this would affect a great economy in fuel and incidentally facilitate the work by saving the men double journeys to houses.

#### **REFUSE TIPS.**

The method of disposal of house refuse is by tipping in pit shafts and dumps. A marked improvement in the condition of the tips has resulted from the collection of Salvage and in no instance has the Department had to deal with a fire on an authorized tip.

Complaints were received of Rat Infestation of the Refuse Tip at Nant, Bersham, and baits were laid and the tip was cleared.

#### HOUSING ACT, 1936.

The activities of the Department in connection with the reconditioning of houses for the working classes have been confined to those cases where complaints have been received. The number of houses inspected was 447 and their conditions necessitated the service of notices upon the owners to carry out works of varying degree to render the houses fit for habitation. It was necessary to serve 39 Statutory Notices in respect of such houses, and in spite of the difficulties experienced in obtaining material and labour the notices were complied with without the Council having to carry out the work in default of the owners.

# OVERCROWDING.

While it is not possible, without making a complete survey, to give an exact figure showing the extent of overcrowding in the area at the present time, the position is bound to be more acute than when the "Report of the Overcrowding Survey" was presented.

A very large number of children who were recorded as being under 10 years of age are by now 10 years and over, and this has the effect of increasing the number of overcrowded houses. Further, a large number of girls, previously engaged as domestic servants, have returned home to work in Factories, and this has accentuated overcrowding in a large number of houses.

# PERSONS RENDERED HOMELESS BY ENEMY ACTION.

The action of the Government in suspending the operation of Section 53 of the Housing Act, 1936, has brought some measure of relief to families rendered homeless by enemy action.

The owners of 23 houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were operative applied for licences to relet the houses. Minor repairs to render the houses temporarily habitable were called for, and these were carried out by the owners.

All applications were granted and licences issued for a period of 6 months, and the rental was, in the majority of cases, that which was charged prior to the orders under the Housing Act being made.

# SUPERVISION AND INSPECTION OF FOOD.

#### Slaughter Houses.

Since the introduction of the Government Meat and Live Stock Scheme in 1940, all private slaughter houses, with the exception of one, have been closed. This has been used and occupied as a Regional Slaughtering Centre and provides for the population of part of the Rural Area.

# SECTION E-

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1941. Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding						Sheep	· · ·	ignal
Number killed (if known) Number inspected	742		266		570	s 	Lamos 17,360	 421	19,359
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole Carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was			2		2		29	 	34
condemned Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	27						903 5.37	2 .48	1,016
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was									
condemned Percentage of the number inspected affected	. 10		69		-		-	 22	101
with Tuberculosis	1.5		. 28.9	)	-		-	 5.24	

# UNSOUND FOOD.

The following table gives the quantity of meat and other Foods found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered.

Milk	-	-	-	-	89	Tins.	
Beef	-	-		-	266	lbs.	
Pork Sau	sage	-		-	6	lbs.	
Milk Pow	der	-	-	-	5	tons, §	) cwts.
Eggs	-	-	-	-	17	dozen.	
Offals	-	-	-	-	285	lbs.	
Bacon	-	- 74	-	-	10	lbs.	
Veal and	Ham	Roll	5	-	4	l lbs.	

# DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS.

There are 681 Registered Wholesale and Retail Milk producers in the area. Of these 22 were registered during the year.

Alterations to the premises have been carried out on 43 farms.

# WATER SUPPLY.

152 complaints were received regarding the inadequate water supply for domestic purposes. On inspection it was found that the service pipes in 28 cases were corroded and new pipes were laid to 28 houses. In 134 houses repairs were carried out.

# FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

238 premises including Bakehouses are registered under the Factory and Workshop Act. These have been inspected and 78 notices to cleanse the premises were served, and in each case the notice was complied with.

# OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 5 Offensive Trades carried on in the district and 53 inspections were made.

The Trades are:

Knackers Yards	-	-	-	2
Tripe Dresser	-		-	1
Marine Store Dea	alers	-	-	2

# RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

16 notifications of Infestation by Rats and Mice were received during the year. The infested premises were baited and advise given to the occupiers regarding the methods to be adopted to eradicate the pests.



