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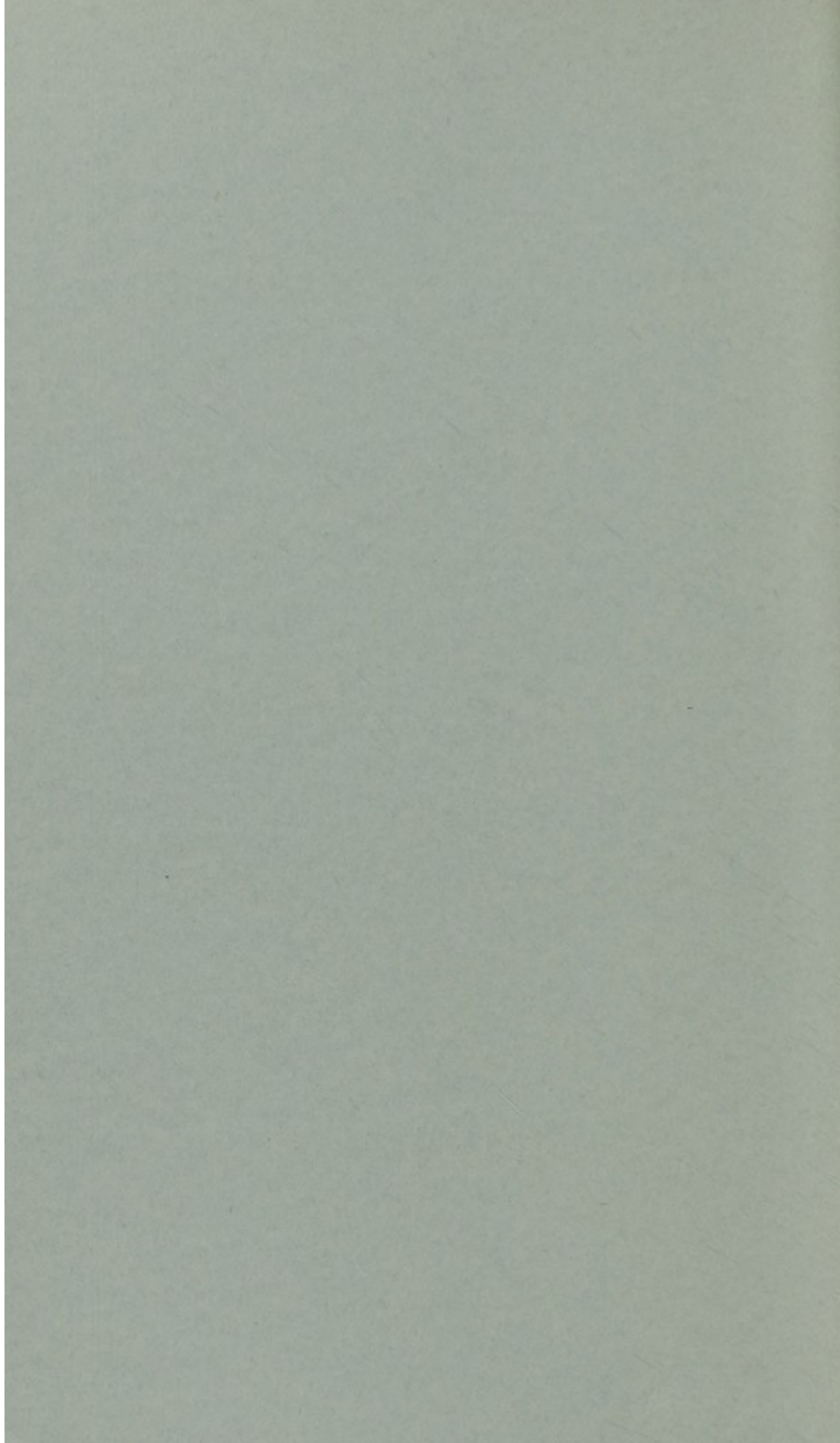
BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1954



BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

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BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE

HEALTH AND BATHS COMMITTEE, 1954

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. E. A. WESTON, O.B.E.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Miss N. K. LAWFORD

Members :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor C. PAICE, J.P.)

Alderman P. J. WIGGINS

Councillor L. J. STROUD

Councillor R. H. HOWARD, J.P.

Councillor G. V. ARNOLD

Councillor W. EVANS

The Health and Baths Committee is also a Committee, the members of which, plus the two County Councillors for the Borough (Councillor C. Paice—also a member of the Health and Baths Committee as such—and Mr. L. J. Smart) and the four additional members named below, constitute the District Health Sub-Committee of the County Council :

Miss S. KINGDON

Mrs. P. M. MILLER

Mrs. E. RICHARDSON

Mrs. A. M. WANT

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health - P. L. KARNEY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector
Petroleum and Shops
Acts Inspector } W. J. TILEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary
Inspector } R. H. CRAIG, M.S.I.A., M.R.SanI.,
M.R.I.P.H.H. (Resigned 14/11/54)
D. M. LING, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
(Appointed 28/12/54)

Clerks - - - P. E. K. HUNT
Miss E. J. FLEMING (Resigned
8/10/54)
Miss A. D. PALMER (Appointed
29/11/54)

Rodent Operative - - R. RUMBLE

Public Health Department,
Market Chambers,
Church Street,
Basingstoke.
July, 1955.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Basingstoke.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Health Report for the year ending December 31st, 1954.

The weather presented a very melancholy picture for the year. From May to November inclusive, rainfall was well above normal, and dull skies were predominant. Temperatures were about one or two degrees lower for the whole period. The weather appeared to reflect the state of health. Minor respiratory illnesses, i.e., colds, tracheitis and tonsillitis were more prevalent than usual throughout the year. These minor illnesses and a mild, but widespread, epidemic of Influenza towards the end of the year resulted in figures for new claims to sickness benefit being higher than average for most months. There was a moderate increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, and Whooping Cough continued to be notified in small numbers throughout the year. There was a lot of Chicken Pox in the summer. There was a small increase in the number of cases of Food Poisoning in one form or another during the year; most of the cases were confined to single persons or families. A Tuberculosis After-Care Committee for the Borough and Rural Districts was formed towards the end of the year. The Hampshire Council of Social Service started a Chiropody Clinic for old people.

Vital statistics show satisfactory figures, and the very low death rate is accounted for by the fact that deaths of residents at the Basing Road Hospital are not accorded to the Borough. Diphtheria Immunisation figures are again in excess of previous years. The County Council have now introduced a scheme for the use of the combined vaccine for Whooping Cough and Diphtheria, to start in 1955.

Following the passing of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954, and the ending of meat rationing, the Health and Baths Committee, after consultation with the butchers and neighbouring farmers, decided to arrange for slaughtering facilities to be available at a public slaughterhouse at the rear of No. 15, Wote Street, premises formerly leased by the Ministry of Food. The premises were adapted for the slaughtering of large and small animals. Present legislature and the meat marketing industry itself are still in a very hesitant stage. The policy of hygienic slaughtering and distribution is still to be grasped.

Housing made normal progress largely in the South Ham Estate area. Of particular interest was the erection of a block of 12 Single Persons' Dwellings on the South View Estate. During the year the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, was passed. The intention of the Act is to intensify the repair of houses neglected during the war years, and stimulate interest in bringing older houses up to modern standards. There has been a welcome increase in the number of cases taking improvement grants for improving the standard and increasing amenities in old property. These are, however, still largely owner-occupiers. Caravans continue to increase in number in the Borough. With the re-introduction of slum clearance schemes it is inevitable that caravans must also receive increasing scrutiny on standards of fitness for habitation.

The population of the town is growing rapidly. The increase in population from the 1951 census figure to the estimated mid-1954 figure is almost equivalent to the increase in the previous twenty years. Discussions are taking place as to the possible acceptance of further rapid growth to include a London overspill of about 10-15,000 over the next 10 years. These rapid increases will inevitably tax the sanitary circumstances of any area. Plans are included for reconstructions and improvements in the water, sewage and refuse undertakings in the event of rapid growth. The open-air swimming bath has had some improvements, and plans for a modern swimming bath must also receive consideration. It is, however, in the existing public conveniences and market arrangements that there is much to be done to give a lead to the local catering establishments and food manufacturing and sales shops for washing facilities and adaptation to hygienic clean food practices, and to enable the Public Health Department to intensify advice and propaganda.

My thanks are due to Mr. W. J. Tiley, Senior Sanitary Inspector, the staff of the Public Health Department, and other officers of the Borough Council for their help and co-operation.

P. L. KARNEY

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

As at 31st December, 1954

Area in Acres - - - - -	5,180
Population—Registrar General's estimate, mid-1954 - - - - -	19,320
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) - - - - -	5,712
	(As at 1/4/55)
Rateable Value (Estimated April, 1954) -	£160,843
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated 1954/1955)	£661

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The character of the district is chiefly industrial and residential. It is conveniently situated on various important lines of communication and in pleasant surroundings. The Town is the shopping and market centre for a large rural area, other towns being 16 to 18 miles distant. The chief industries in the Borough include several factories engaged in motor and agricultural engineering, aircraft instruments, textile trades, leather and chemical works. There are also vegetable and flower nurseries.

During the last few years there has been a fairly rapid increase in population which is largely immigrant.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	1953	1952
Live Births —Legitimate -	171	158	329	286	291
Illegitimate -	9	5	14	13	13
			Totals	343	299
			343	299	304

Birth rate per thousand total population (corrected) - - - - -	17.7	16.56	17.6
Average for England and Wales -	15.2	15.5	15.3

DEATHS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	1953	1952
From all causes - - - - -	81	64	145	155	175
Death rate per thousand total population (corrected) - - - - -	7.1	8.3	9.8		
Average for England and Wales -	11.3	11.4	11.3		

<i>Age Distribution</i>		<i>Main Causes of Death</i>
<i>Group</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Under 1 year	7	
1—19	3	
20—44	4	
45—64	32	} Malignant disease - - - 12 } Coronary thrombosis - - - 8 } Hypertension - - - 7
65—74	35	} Vascular lesions of nervous system - - - 25 } Malignant disease - - - 13 } Coronary thrombosis - - - 13 } Other heart disease - - - 19
75—89	52	
90	2	

Maternal Mortality

	1954	1953	1952
From Puerperal Sepsis - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil
From all other causes - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil

Infant Mortality

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	1953	1952
Legitimate - - -	4	2	6	8	3
Illegitimate - - -	1	-	1	-	-

Infantile Deaths classified according to age groups and causes

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1/4 weeks</i>	<i>4 weeks 3 months</i>	<i>3/6 months</i>	<i>6/12 months</i>	<i>Total</i>
Congenital malformations	4	-	-	-	-	4
Asphyxia and atelectasis	1*	-	-	-	-	1
Respiratory disease - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
Peritonitis - - -	-	1	-	-	-	1

* With associated Prematurity.

Still Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	1953	1952
Legitimate - - -	2	2	4	3	3
Illegitimate - - -	-	-	-	2	-
Totals			4	5	3

Analysis of Causes of Death :

No.	<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Tuberculosis—respiratory - - -	3	1	4
10	Malignant neoplasm—stomach - - -	3	2	5
11	" " lung, bronchus - - -	4	2	6
12	" " breast - - -	-	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	6	4	10
15	Leukaemia and aleukaemia - - -	1	-	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system - - -	11	14	25
18	Coronary disease angina - - -	12	9	21
19	Hypertension with heart disease - - -	4	4	8
20	Other heart disease - - -	12	7	19
21	Other circulatory disease - - -	-	4	4
23	Pneumonia - - - - -	1	-	1
24	Bronchitis - - - - -	3	2	5
25	Other diseases of respiratory system - - -	2	-	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum - - -	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea - - -	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis - - -	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate - - -	1	-	1
31	Congenital malformations - - -	3	1	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases - - -	12	7	19
All Causes - - -		81	64	145

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following is an analysis of cases of notifiable diseases which occurred during the year :—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Diphtheria - - - - -	-	-	-
Enteric Fever - - - - -	-	-	-
Paratyphoid - - - - -	3	1	-
Measles - - - - -	18	-	-
Whooping Cough - - - - -	83	1	-
Scarlet Fever - - - - -	32	1	-
Poliomyelitis - - - - -	1*	1	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia - - - - -	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia - - - - -	-	-	-
Erysipelas - - - - -	5	2	-
Food Poisoning - - - - -	5	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum - - - - -	1	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis - - - - -	8	-	4
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis - - - - -	3	-	-
Totals	160	6	4

* With Paralysis.

The following table indicates the incidence of certain notifiable diseases during the months of the year:—

	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Food Poisoning</i>
January -	-	19	2	-
February -	-	8	2	-
March -	-	-	3	-
April -	-	10	8	-
May -	-	12	8	2
June -	-	-	1	-
July -	1	-	-	-
August -	7	16	3	-
September -	9	15	1	3
October -	-	-	2	-
November -	1	3	1	-
December -	-	-	1	-
Totals	18	83	32	5

The incidence of infectious diseases was low for the year, but Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever, in common with respiratory illnesses, tended to persist throughout the year, no doubt largely due to the very wet weather. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever is the highest for the past 10 years. The irregular zoning of Schools, the attendance of children from a wide rural area and the delay in notifying cases, makes it difficult to take effective, preventative measures. The illness is now, however, usually very mild.

Tuberculosis

The following table indicates the incidence of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:—

<i>Age Period</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
35	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Totals	3	5	1	2	3	1	-	-
	8		3		4		-	
	11				4			

Pulmonary Cases on the Register

Year	Population	Cases on Register		New notifications in the district	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
1950	16,720	54	33	15	11
1951	16,978	53	43	9	11
1952	17,220	56	53	6	10
1953	18,170	72	56	16	6
1954	19,320	74	67	3	5

The gradually increasing number of female cases on the register is noted with regret. It is all the more important when it is noted that 75 per cent. of the female cases were between the ages of 18—35 when first notified.

Food Poisoning and other Intestinal Infections

1. Notifications—

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
-	2	3	-	5

2. Outbreaks due to identified agents - - Nil

3. Outbreaks due to undiscovered cause - Nil

4. Single Cases—

Agent Identified	Unknown Cause	Total
Salmonella typhi- murium - -	3	2*
		5

*Single Family Outbreak

In addition, three notified cases and one case diagnosed at the Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, of Paratyphoid occurred in two unconnected families. The organism was typed as 3a var.2, and was associated with other cases in the country. The suspected source was a consignment of frozen liquid egg used in cake-making.

In April and early May several cases of acute attacks of vomiting and resulting pale soft stools occurred in the South Ham, Worting and Kempshott areas. Most of the attacks started with children attending Schools, but spread through the family. The attacks of vomiting were sharp but of short duration; the pale stools lasted a few days; urine was generally clear. These were probably cases of winter vomiting sickness.

Cancer and other Malignant Diseases

The following is a list of cases in which malignant disease was the main or contributing cause of death :—

<i>Classification</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Age range at Death</i>
Lungs and Bronchus - - -	6	51—84
Breast - - - - -	3	60—90
Oesophagus - - - -	1	80
Stomach - - - - -	5	50—86
Colon and Caecum - - -	2	46—60
Abdominal ? - - - -	2	80—82
Rectum - - - - -	2	79—83
Pancreas - - - - -	1	58
Prostate - - - - -	1	63
Ovary - - - - -	1	74
Orbit - - - - -	1	68
Recticulo Sarcoma - - -	1	54
Lymphatic Leukaemia - -	1	67
Myeloid Leukaemia - - -	1	32
	28	

General Health

Record of new claims to sickness benefit received at Basingstoke National Insurance Office :—

	1954	1953	1952
January - - - - -	520	481	301*
February - - - - -	523	796	406
March - - - - -	495*	470*	487
April - - - - -	359	383	272*
May - - - - -	302	319	270
June - - - - -	406*	249	284
July - - - - -	194	231	193*
August - - - - -	290	249	213
September - - - - -	287	262*	252*
October - - - - -	364	347	302
November - - - - -	409*	377	328
December - - - - -	353	296*	318*

Figures are calculated in four week periods. Those marked with an asterisk are five week periods reduced to four for comparison.

As already stated in the introductory letter there was a slight increase in the number of minor illnesses, largely of the respiratory type, throughout the year. Towards the end of the year an epidemic of Influenza, probably of the "B" Virus, commenced and continued in the new year.

Immunisation

During the year 325 primary immunisations and 208 boosters or secondary courses were completed. Included among the primary immunisations are 222 who received the combined vaccine for Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

Number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date :—

<i>Age at 31/12/54</i>	<i>1 year</i>	<i>1/4 years</i>	<i>5/9 years</i>	<i>10/14 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
Completed within 1950/1954 -	18	868	1,017	254	2,157
Completed prior to 1950 - -	-	-	428	1,064	1,492

Vaccination

Percentage of children under one year successfully vaccinated during the year ended 31st December, 1954 :—

Basingstoke Borough - - 58 per cent.

Health Education

Poster boards with a regular change of Health Education posters and pamphlets have been placed at the Public Library, Health Centre at Bramblys Grange, and the Public Health Department. Copies of the Central Council for Health Education monthly magazine, *Better Health*, are regularly distributed. Talks are given by the staff at meetings of Women's Institutes, etc.

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Regional Hospital Board Services

Winchester Group Hospital Management Committee :

The Ministry gave approval to the merger of the two Hospitals at Hackwood Road and Basing Road, and the naming of the hospitals as the Basingstoke District Hospital. The ground floor wards at Basing Road have been reconstructed and re-equipped and are in use as accommodation for post-operative and medical cases. Work on the new Out-Patient Department at Hackwood Road also commenced.

Local Authority Services :

There are no changes in the details of clinics and other services provided as listed in the report for last year.

Chiropody Clinic for Old People

The Hampshire Council of Social Service has started a Chiropody Clinic for Old People. The Clinic is held once a month on the second Monday, from 2—4.30 p.m. About 12 cases are seen each time. The Clinic has proved extremely popular and worthwhile.

Home Help Service

Summary of cases assisted :—

Maternity -	-	-	-	7
General Sickness -	-	-	-	21
Post-Hospital -	-	-	-	5
Child Care -	-	-	-	—
Chronic Sickness -	-	-	-	3
Aged and Sick -	-	-	-	10
Aged and Infirm -	-	-	-	35
Tuberculosis -	-	-	-	6
				—
			Total -	87

The service has increased considerably during the year.

Child Welfare Clinics (Basingstoke)

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Clinics</i>	<i>Number first attended who were under 1 year at first attendance</i>	<i>Total Number attended</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>
1954	149	300	868	4,787
1953	152	283	777	2,851

The greatly increased use of the Child Welfare Clinic is encouraging and a tribute to Dr. H. M. Price-Hunt, Assistant County Medical Officer in charge of the Clinic.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The existing sources at West Ham and Cliddesden of public water supply have proved sufficient for the needs of the Borough during the year, the total volume supplied being 343,153,000 gallons for domestic and trade purposes, or an average volume of approximately 50.81 gallons per head per day. 232,000 gallons were supplied in bulk to the Mid-Wessex Water Company for that part of the Parish of Cliddesden within the area of supply of that Company and within the area of the Basingstoke Rural

District Council. Extensions of mains have been laid to serve the Council's Housing Estates together with six privately owned Housing Estates, the total length laid being some 650 yards. Some reduction in pressure in the Northern area of the Borough has been noticed, and schemes are being prepared to remedy this. An Order under Section 14 of the Water Act, 1945, was confirmed by the Minister permitting the sinking of a new borehole at one industrial premises.

The rainfall, month by month, for the year was as follows :—

January	-	-	1.45-ins.
February	-	-	3.04-ins.
March	-	-	2.44-ins.
April	-	-	.28-ins.
May	-	-	2.37-ins.
June	-	-	3.04-ins.
July	-	-	2.45-ins.
August	-	-	2.87-ins.
September	-	-	2.51-ins.
October	-	-	2.45-ins.
November	-	-	5.83-ins.
December	-	-	3.05-ins.
			31.78-ins.

Comparative figures for the four previous years are as follows :—

1953	-	-	22.68-ins.
1952	-	-	28.42-ins.
1951	-	-	41.37-ins.
1950	-	-	32.49-ins.

Systematic bacteriological examinations of raw water before chlorination have been made and 32 reports have been received during the year. No contamination of the supply has been suspected. A duplicate Wallace and Tiernan chlorinator is installed to ensure that standby chlorinating plant is always available. Chlorination is carried out by injection into the pump suctions.

A typical report by The Counties Public Health Laboratories of 66, Victoria Street, London, on a sample of raw water taken at the West Ham source on the 17th December, 1954, is as follows :—

Chemical Results in Parts per Million :—

Appearance—Bright with a very slight deposit of minute chalk particles.

Colour - - -	Nil	Turbidity - -	Less than 3
pH - - -	7.3	Odour - - -	Nil
Electric Conductivity	480	Free Carbon Dioxide	16
Chlorine present as Chloride - -	13	Total solids - -	320
Hardness : Total -	265	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate - -	220
Carbonate - -	220		
Non-carbonate -	45	Nitrite Nitrogen -	Absent
Nitrate Nitrogen -	6.0	Oxygen Absorbed -	0.10
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	Residual Chlorine -	-
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000		
Metals : N.B. Iron Less than - -	0.03		
Other metals - -	Absent		

Bacteriological Results :—

Number of Colonies developing on Agar - - - -	} 1 day at 37°C 2 days at 37°C 3 days at 20°C	0 per ml.
		0 per ml.
		0 per ml.

	<i>Present in</i>	<i>Absent from</i>	<i>Probable number</i>
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction - - - ml.	-	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I.) - - ml.	-	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction - - ml.	-	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are normal, very satisfactory and indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Drainage and Sewerage

(a) *Sewerage.*—No new sewers have been laid by the Council during the year, but an extension of sewers including a small pumping station has been constructed in connection with a housing estate on the Northern area of the Borough.

The existing sewers have proved sufficient for the areas of the Borough at present drained although some surcharge has occurred during the early months of the year.

(b) *Sewage Disposal*.—The whole of the sewage has been pumped and treated without nuisance by broad irrigation at the Corporation Farm.

The volume of sewage dealt with during the year has amounted to 235,632,000 gallons.

Public Cleansing

An additional S.D. Refuse Collecting Vehicle has been purchased during the year and a weekly collection of house and trade refuse has been carried out.

Salvage separation is urged upon the householders and accommodation is provided on the vehicles for salvageable materials. Sales of paper, tins and other salvaged materials have continued during the year.

Disposal of refuse has been by the existing destructor which also provides a portion of the steam necessary for sewage pumping.

The sweeping of public highways is carried out by a mechanical road sweeping vehicle. Tests are being carried out on the mechanical sweeping of footpaths.

Some nuisance from pigeons is experienced.

The Council have not adopted as a service the cleansing of cesspools but arranges for this work to be carried out at the cost of the occupier.

HOUSING

(a) New Houses

During the year 1954 the following new dwelling houses were completed :

Council Owned	}	Traditional Type Houses	62
		Traditional Type Flats -	11
		Aged Persons' Dwellings	
Privately Owned	}	(Bungalows) -	15
		- - -	57

At 31st December, 1954, the following dwellings were under construction :

Council Owned	-	-	-	-	71
Privately Owned	-	-	-	-	44

Since the War, to 31st December, 1954, 996 dwellings have been completed for the Council and 294 for Private Persons and Housing Associations.

A Site of 346 Houses built by the Ministry of Supply on the Oakridge Estate, for workers employed at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, was completed during the year.

During 1955 several new types of dwellings will be erected by the Borough Council. Of particular interest is a group of three-storey flats, 39 in all, which will complete the development of the area adjoining the shops in King's Road, South Ham. This scheme will provide, together with bungalows nearby, a mixed development consisting of one, two and three bedroom dwellings.

Also at South Ham will be new types of semi-detached houses, two and three bedroom terrace houses and two-storey flats.

On the South View Estate a further block of 12 Single Persons' three-storey flats will be completed.

(b) Unfit Houses

(i) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section XI., Housing Act, 1936	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
(ii) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section XI., Housing Act, 1936	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

(c) Houses Repaired

(i) Unfit or defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
(ii) Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices under the Public Health Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
(iii) Houses made fit after service of formal notices under Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16, Housing Act, 1936 :							
(a) By Owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

(d) Overcrowding

The number of overcrowded houses in the area is not definitely known, but as cases arise an inspection is carried out and a report submitted to either the Health and Baths Committee or the Housing Committee of the Council with a view to re-housing or other appropriate action.

(e) Improvement Grants

During the year Improvement Grants for a further 11 properties were approved by the Council.

(f) Certificates of Disrepair

The number of applications received under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, was two—one was granted and the other refused.

(g) Tents, Vans and Sheds

The number of caravans licensed during the year was 73, and in addition, 89 caravans are permitted on four sites in the Borough. This shows a steady increase since 1953.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR

(A) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk

Sixty-one Samples of Milk were taken during the year and the results of the analyses were as follows:—

(a) *Pasteurised* (50) :

Satisfactory	-	-	-	46
Unsatisfactory	-	-	-	1

Owing to weather conditions, three samples were found to be unfit for examination on arrival at the Laboratory.

(b) *Others* (11)

The following Samples were submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle bacilli and *Brucella abortus* :

1 Accredited	-	-	Unsatisfactory.
1 Ungraded Raw	-	-	Unsatisfactory.
1 Ungraded Raw	-	-	Satisfactory.
7 Tuberculin Tested	-	-	Satisfactory.
1 Tuberculin Tested	-	-	Test void—Guinea Pig died prematurely.

The sale of milk from the premises recording Positive Myco. tuberculosis was suspended and the milk diverted for Pasteurisation until the offending cow was removed from the herd and destroyed. Upon receipt of a clearance certificate from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, compulsory Pasteurisation was withdrawn.

2. Ice Cream

During the year thirty-two Samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis, with the following results

Grade 1	-	-	19
„ 2	-	-	5
„ 3	-	-	3
„ 4	-	-	5

The five samples falling into Grade 4 are considered most unsatisfactory, but it is pleasing to report that following contact with the Producers concerned, the Grade was eventually improved.

3. Meat and other Foods

1,899 visits have been made to the Slaughterhouse and other Food Premises during the year, and 11,725 carcasses have been inspected. In all, 5 tons 10 cwts. 3 qrs. 1½-lbs. of food have been condemned as unfit for human consumption. This weight does not include canned and packeted foods.

Periodical inspections of all food premises have been made and improvements effected are recorded in Table II. Although no special campaign for Clean Food was organised, advice given during routine inspections was received willingly and is evidenced by the increased standard of cleanliness in food shops generally.

The Ministry of Food continued to be in control of slaughtering at the requisitioned Slaughterhouse in Wote Street until 1st July, 1954, when slaughtering arrangements again became the responsibility of the local authority. The Health and Baths Committee of the Borough Council considered the question, and after hearing the views of interested bodies, decided to take over control of the Slaughterhouse when the lease was surrendered by the Ministry. Certain improvements were effected, a Contractor was appointed, and the tolls fixed for slaughtering are in keeping with those for neighbouring Abattoirs.

100 per cent. inspection of all animals was carried out and this entailed 626 visits, involving a good deal of evening work beyond normal working hours.

Condemned	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number Killed - -	437	28	776	7,347	3,137	11,725
Number Inspected -	437	28	776	7,347	3,137	11,725
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :						
Whole Carcasses condemned	4	2	-	4	13	23
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned - - -	45	19	4	571	190	829
Percentage diseased -	11.21	75.0	0.51	7.83	6.47	7.27
Tuberculosis :						
Whole Carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	1	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned - - -	36	1	-	-	9	46
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis - -	0.12	7.14	-	-	0.31	0.42

(B) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

4. Notices

234 Notices (Written and Verbal, and including five Statutory Notices) were served during the year.

5. Complaints

547 complaints have been received and dealt with.

6. Rodent Control

During the year 223 complaints were received and 2,654 visits made in connection with baiting and poisoning, etc., at Rat and Mouse infested premises; maintenance treatment of Sewers was also carried out with satisfactory results. In all, 3,929 poisoned baits were laid, with 187 complete takes and 1,986 partial takes; therefore it can be assumed that considerable numbers of rats and mice were destroyed.

The local authority continues to enter into Contracts with occupiers of Agricultural Properties, and the number of Contracts has now been increased to seven.

The local authority were members of the Hampshire No. 3 Workable Area Committee, but later transferred to No. 4, which is now known as the North Hants Rodent Control Committee. Quarterly Meetings have been held throughout the District, which have been attended by representatives of the Health and Baths Committee, also Officers of the Public Health Department, and much useful information has been gained.

7. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948 :

Part I.

(i) *Inspections, etc.*

Number on Register	-	176	(inc. Building Sites).
Inspections	-	50	
Notices	-	10	

(ii) *Defects Found :*

Want of Cleanliness	-	2	
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Sanitary Conveniences :

(a) Insufficient	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	8	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
Other defects	-	12	

Part VIII.

Outwork :

Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	-	-	-	31
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8. Drainage

Smoke tests applied	-	-	3
Water tests applied	-	-	1
Coloured water tests applied	-	-	4
Systems exposed	-	-	5

9. Infected Rooms and Articles

Rooms disinfected	-	-	29
Books disinfected	-	-	30
Bedding disinfected	-	-	22 lots
Bedding destroyed	-	-	1 lot

10. Infestation

(a) Rooms disinfested	-	-	36
Bedding, etc., disinfested	-	-	12 lots
Bedding destroyed	-	-	1 lot

(Also several bedsteads and miscellaneous articles of furniture, etc., were destroyed.)

In addition to the above, the following premises, etc., were treated for the reasons stated :

Earwigs	-	-	-	7
Ants	-	-	-	2
Flies	-	-	-	2
Vermin	-	-	-	1 Ambulance
Caterpillars	-	-	-	Lime Trees, May Street.

(b) During the year 41 complaints were received regarding wasp infestation ; appropriate action was taken where possible.

11. Table I.

Classified Statement of Premises Inspected

Inspections under the Housing and Public Health Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	743
Works in progress	-	-	-	-	-	-	87
Re-inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-	374
Visits to slaughterhouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	626
Food premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,251
Restaurants	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
In connection with infectious diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Public conveniences	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Shops Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Pet shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,654
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Water-courses	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Petroleum Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Factories Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Dairies and milkshops	-	-	-	-	-	-	78
Knackers yards	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Common lodging house	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Tents, vans and sheds	-	-	-	-	-	-	99
Ice cream premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Smoke observations	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Miscellaneous visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	376
Interviews	-	-	-	-	-	-	281
						Total	6,833

12. Table II.

Defective Conditions Recorded

Water Supply

Absence of, or insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	9
Defective fittings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	13

Water Closets

Defective buildings	-	-	-	-	-	10
Defective pans	-	-	-	-	-	11
Defective flush pipes	-	-	-	-	-	2
Defective flushing cisterns	-	-	-	-	-	23
Defective walls, floors, roofs, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	18
Unventilated	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dirty pan	-	-	-	-	-	1

Drains

Drainage systems needing reconstruction	-	-	-	-	-	6
Choked drains	-	-	-	-	-	33
Defective drains	-	-	-	-	-	4
Defective gullies	-	-	-	-	-	11
Not provided with means of access	-	-	-	-	-	4
Absence of cesspool	-	-	-	-	-	1
Defective interceptors	-	-	-	-	-	3

Manholes

Defective brickwork, frames and covers	-	-	-	-	-	2
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Soil Pipes and Ventilation Shafts

Defective ventilation shafts	-	-	-	-	-	2
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Sinks, Baths, etc., and Waste Pipes

Defective, insanitary, or absence of, sinks, baths and lavatory basins	-	-	-	-	-	10
Defective waste pipes	-	-	-	-	-	5
Untrapped waste pipes	-	-	-	-	-	2
Absence of, or defective, draining boards	-	-	-	-	-	2

Dustbins

Defective	-	-	-	-	-	70
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Yards

Absence of, or defective, paving	-	-	-	-	-	4
Absence of drainage	-	-	-	-	-	2
Requiring cleansing	-	-	-	-	-	2

Dampness

Defective roofs	-	-	-	-	-	29
Defective gutters and rain-water pipes	-	-	-	-	-	22

General

Defective, etc., walls and ceilings	-	-	-	49
Dirty rooms (walls and ceilings)	-	-	-	8
Verminous rooms	-	-	-	36
Insufficient ventilation to rooms	-	-	-	3
Defective windows and doors	-	-	-	35
Defective floors	-	-	-	16
Defective stoves and fireplaces	-	-	-	11
Defective and smoky chimneys	-	-	-	15
Absence of, or defective, food stores	-	-	-	2
Shop premises requiring cleansing	-	-	-	16
Insufficient urinal	-	-	-	1
Defective or insanitary urinals	-	-	-	4
Absence of hot water to food premises (water heaters, etc., provided)	-	-	-	6
Defective water heaters, etc.	-	-	-	2
Defective outbuildings	-	-	-	5
Accumulations	-	-	-	10
Animals improperly kept	-	-	-	4
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	13

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Senior Sanitary Inspector.