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BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1958

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, 1958

The Worshipful The Mayor - Councillor W. Evans, J.P.
Alderman J.G. Welling (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Springall (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman L.J. Stroud
Councillor R.H. Howard, J.P.
Councillor H. Jackson
Councillor Miss N.K. Lawford
Councillor J. Roberts

The Health and Baths Committee is also a Committee, the members of which, plus the two County Councillors for the Borough (Mr. C.H. Gibbons and Mr. L.J. Smart, J.P.) and the five additional members named below, constitute the District Health Sub-Committee of the County Council :

Miss S. Kingdon
Mrs. E. Richardson
Mrs. A.M. Want
Dr. H. Keith Williams, M.C., M.B., B.S.
Mrs. E. A. Lee

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	-	P.L. KARNEY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector, Petroleum and Shops Acts Inspector) -	C.H. DAVID, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	- - - -	T.J. TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.
Pupil Public Health Inspector	-	B.F. MERRICK
Senior Clerk	- - - -	P.E.K. HUNT
Clerk/Typist	- - - -	MRS. J.M. BROAD (Resigned 30.8.58) MISS M.N. HANKIN (Appointed 1.9.58)
Clerk/Typist (Part-time)	- -	MRS. M.A. PETTETT (Appointed 4.11.58)
Rodent Operative	- - -	R. RUMBLE

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

Tel: Basingstoke 600

June, 1959.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year
ending 31st December, 1958.

General Health

The general Health of the town remained satisfactory during the year. In the early months there was a rise of minor ailments as indicated by the Ministry of National Insurance sickness figures and attendance at school. The very cold weather with snowfalls to late April, no doubt played its part. For the remaining period the sickness rate was average. Notifications of infectious illness were below average. Mumps and chickenpox were fairly widespread and in the last quarter the biennial attack of measles started. Of some interest was an outbreak of vomiting with some diarrhoea of unknown cause, a similar attack preceded the Influenza epidemic of 1957. There were only two cases of Whooping Cough notified, the lowest ever. This has been the experience throughout the country, immunisation, no doubt playing its part. There were two cases of Poliomyelitis notified, and two cases of respiratory tuberculosis in children, traced by a contact follow up. Deaths due to tuberculosis continue to fall.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was stepped up during the year as vaccine was more readily available. By December about 80% of the children of the 0-15 age group were vaccinated. Towards the end of the year the scheme was extended to the 15-25 age group.

The present hospital accommodation for the town and district is presenting an urgent problem.

Vital Statistics

There has been a further estimated increase in population by about a thousand. Births were 427 compared with 400 last year and deaths 202 as against 174. Infant deaths and still births show a sharp rise, prematurity being the principal cause of infant deaths.

Social and Sanitary Circumstances

The continued steady increase in population presents problems in many directions - industrial expansion to meet employment requirements, increase in amenities social and religious, urgent problems to meet increased demands on water and sewage and refuse disposal. These are being steadily appreciated and the challenge met. A survey of all food shops and catering concerns has been completed and a close observation is being kept, a report is made in the Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.

New houses for sale are rapidly being built but demands for houses to rent are still heavy in spite of the increased number of houses built by the Council. Application under the Rent Act are comparatively few. Two houses were made fit under Section 24 of the Housing Act after the demolition order was made.

My thanks are due to the General Practitioners for their help and co-operation, to the many Officials who assisted during the year, and with this Report, and to the Public Health Staff for their support.

P. L. KARNEY

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,180
Population - Registrar General's Estimate, Mid-1958	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,810
Number of inhabited houses, etc. (According to Rate Books as at 1st April, 1959)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,163
Rateable Value (as at 1st April, 1959)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£366,836
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated 1959/60)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£1,520

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Live Births	427	400	336
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	19.58	19.20	16.8
Still Births	9	4	4
Still Birth rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births	20.6	9.9	11.6
Total Live & Still Births	436	404	340
Infant deaths	11	4	9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births			
Total	25.7	10.0	26.4
Legitimate	24.1	8.0	25.4
Illegitimate	76.9	38.4	58.8
Neo-natal (First 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	18.7	10.0	20.8
Illegitimate Live Births % of Total Live Births	3.0	6.5	5.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comparability factors			
Births	0.93	0.96	0.96
Deaths	1.14	1.09	1.09

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	217	197	414	374	319
Illegitimate	9	4	13	26	17
Birth rate per thousand total population - (corrected)			18.1	18.4	16.09
Average for England and Wales	-	-	16.4	16.1	15.7

DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
From all causes	105	97	202	174	173
Death rate per thousand population - (corrected)	-	-	10.23	9.1	9.46
Average for England and Wales -	-	-	11.7	11.5	11.7

Age Distribution			Main Causes of Death.		
Group	Total M. F.				
Under 1 year	7 5				
1-19	1 1				
20-44	1 2				
45-64	33 21		Malignancy		
			Vascular lesions of nervous system		
			Coronary thrombosis		
65-74	27 21		Coronary thrombosis		
75-90	34 38		Other Heart disease		
90+	2 9		Vascular lesions of nervous system		
			Malignancy		
			Pneumonia and Bronchitis		

<u>Maternal Mortality</u>						<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
From all causes	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil

<u>Infant Mortality</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-	6	4	10	3	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1

<u>Cause of Death</u>				<u>24 hrs</u>	<u>Within 1 week</u>	<u>1-4 weeks</u>	<u>1-3 months</u>	<u>3-6 months</u>
Congenital Malformation	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Prematurity	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Atelectasis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Inhalation of vomit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Prematurity remains the principal cause of infant death.

The pneumonias consisted of one due to Staphylococcus following Otitis Media, one to Broncho pneumonia in a hydrocephalic child and the third due to an overwhelming virus infection resulting in asphyxia.

Still Births

					<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-	-	3	4	7	4	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-

The number of Still Births are high this year and associated with the increase in Infant deaths especially those occurring in the first 24 hours is cause for concern. During the year the district midwives helped in the National Perinatal Survey which is an attempt to study the causes of these deaths. The report is eagerly awaited.

Analysis of Causes of Death

Code No.	Disease	Male	Female	Total	1957	1956
1.	Tuberculosis - respiratory -	1	-	1	2	2
9.	Other Infective & parasitic diseases	1	-	1	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm - stomach -	2	1	3	3	4
11.	" " lung, bronchus	7	-	7	6	6
12.	" " breast -	-	4	4	4	1
13.	" " uterus -	-	2	2	1	2
14.	" " others & lymphatic -	12	8	20	13	18
15.	Leukaemia - - - -	-	1	1	2	3
16.	Diabetes - - - -	-	-	-	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system -	7	17	24	30	18
18.	Coronary disease - Angina -	23	14	37	24	34
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	7	3	10	6	3
20.	Other heart diseases - -	12	16	28	23	26
21.	Other circulatory disease -	4	5	9	8	7
22.	Influenza - - - -	-	1	1	6	1
23.	Pneumonias - - - -	4	2	6	4	9
24.	Bronchitis - - - -	4	2	6	6	13
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	1	1	1	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis -	2	-	2	4	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate -	-	-	-	3	1
31.	Congenital malformation -	2	-	2	2	-
32.	Other defined & ill defined diseases-	10	13	23	12	20
33.	Motor vehicle accidents -	2	1	3	2	3
34.	All other accidents - -	2	2	4	4	-
35.	Suicide - - - -	1	-	1	3	1
36.	Homicide - - - -	-	1	1	-	-

EPIDEMIOLOGY

(1) General Health

- (a) Record of new claims to sickness benefit received at Basingstoke National Insurance Office :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
January	681	475*	548*
February	579	518	827
March	538	461	658
April	480*	371*	372
May	361	397	446*
June	398	372	369
July	364*	342	335
August	296	304	281
September	372*	429	357
October	459	1421*	442*
November	529	730	527
December	468*	582*	415

* Five-week periods reduced to four weeks for comparison

- (b) Attendance at Schools in the Borough expressed as percentages.

<u>Term</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Spring	89.6	91.8	88.2
Summer	93.1	90.5	91.3
Autumn	92.0	87.3	91.5

In the first quarter of the year there was an increase in minor ailments no doubt accentuated by the cold weather. During the remaining period of the year sickness claims were average. Notifications of infectious diseases were low. The only feature of note was an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting during the last quarter of the year. Stool reports from the laboratory proved negative to organisms. There was some pyrexia associated with many of the cases and it did not confine itself to any age group. A similar attack preceeded the influenza epidemic of 1957, and this one was followed by an influenza outbreak early in 1959. Mumps and chickenpox were widespread but the attacks mostly mild. The biennial attack of Measles started in December.

(c) Malignant Neoplasms - Deaths associated with :-

<u>Classification</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>Average Age at Death</u>	<u>Age range</u>
Lung and Bronchus -	6	60	49 - 73
Stomach - - -	5	73	54 - 83
Pharynx - - -	1		
Colon - - -	4	68	55 - 82
Rectum - - -	3	65	62 - 71
Uterus - - -	2		
Breast - - -	4	49	47 - 51
Ovary - - -	2		
Bladder - - -	1		
Prostate - - -	1		
Pancreas - - -	1		
Thyroid - - -	1		
Leukaemias - - -	1		
Lympho Sarcoma - -	1		

Cancer of Lungs and Bronchus accounts for 5 of the 9 deaths in the male and Cancer of the breast 4 of the 7 deaths in the females in the age group 45 - 64.

(2) Infectious Diseases

Notifications during the year :-

Measles - - - - -	27
Whooping Cough - - - -	4
Scarlet Fever - - - -	3
Puerperal Pyrexia - - -	1
Erysipelas - - - -	1
Poliomyelitis - - - -	2
Tuberculosis Respiratory - -	67
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory -	3

(a) Poliomyelitis

Early in the year two cases of Poliomyelitis both with paralysis were notified. The first was a young boy of 8 years of age with bulbar paralysis and the second case a young girl, also of 8 years of age, with paralysis of the arms.

(b) Tuberculosis

The following table indicates the incidence of new cases during the year :-

Age Period	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	1	-	-	1
5 - 14	1	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	1	-
25 - 44	-	-	1	-
45 - 64	4	-	-	-
65+	1	-	-	-

There was only one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

(c) Immunisation - Diphtheria and Whooping Cough :-

During the year 311 primary immunisations and 313 secondary courses were completed. 248 of the Primary courses completed were with the Triple Antigen. Immunisation was largely discontinued during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year following the advice from the Medical Research Council, this accounts for a lower figure from primary immunisation especially in the under 1 year group.

Number of children at 31st December, 1958, who had completed a course of immunisation in relation to the child population.

Date of Injection	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
Completed within 1954-8	82	1022	1247	205	2556
Completed prior to 1954	-	-	437	1592	2029
Approx. Child Population	416	1678	1784	1565	5243

(d) Vaccination - Poliomyelitis :-

During the year 3409 children completed two injections of Polio Vaccine. Towards the end of the year vaccination was extended to the 15 - 25 age group.

Age Group	Completed 2 doses 1956 - 1958	Age Group	Completed 2 doses 1956 - 1958
1943	138	1951	271
1944	153	1952	307
1945	182	1953	276
1946	240	1954	253
1947	331	1955	245
1948	276	1956	259
1949	305	1957	212
1950	291	1958	21

(o) Vaccination - Smallpox

Percentage of children under one year vaccinated during the year :-

		<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Basingstoke Borough -	-	78.7	69.5	60.4
Hampshire County -	-	69.8	70.3	61.6

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Population continues to expand at approx 1,000 per year. The incoming population is largely of the younger age groups. This continual influx of population with a relatively poor expansion of industry has produced some problems of employment. Local industry has so far largely succeeded in meeting demands for employment of men and the average un-employment is still considerably less than the national average. But it is significant that an increase of 15% of the men's side placed in employment was offset by an almost equivalent decline on the women's side. Local industry is unable to cater for all the wives coming into the area who wish to continue working. There is a continual dearth of factory vacancies and demands for clerical work have exceeded the supply of posts.

Housing demands have been served by a large number of private housing estates. It is even possible that private housing has encouraged immigration. The Council's housing lists, however, continue to remain large, in spite of an increased building programme.

The increasing population and numbers of houses has accelerated the Public Health problem of increased demand on water, sewage, and refuse, with the attendant problems of disposal of refuse and sewage.

There is a public demand, supported by the Council, for a new hospital.

General Health Services

The County Council are the Health Authority but they have set up a local District Health Sub Committee for advising and making recommendations to assist them. Interest in the difficult task of helping the problem families continues. Bad housing, poverty, marital discord, excessive child bearing, mental abnormality or sub-normality, are factors which are present, together with many others. Anyone who visits one of these families is struck by the extraordinary squalor in which they are prepared to live. These families are extremely difficult to rehabilitate, most need permanent assistance if the children are to grow up in a reasonable normal environment.

Maternity and Child Welfare - Health Visiting

Clinics are held on Tuesday and Friday each week at Bramblys Grange Health Centre.

Year	Number of Clinics	Number who were under 1 year at 1st attendance	Total Number attended
1958	153	372	1120
1957	153	373	1087
1956	153	290	827

In addition, there are four Health Visitors who are informed of all notifications of births. They visit the mother and child and offer help and advice. Owing to the demands of the Poliomyelitis scheme, however, visits during 1958 were extremely limited. During the months of March-May, 1958 a nation wide survey was carried out on the causes of Perinatal deaths. The report is eagerly awaited.

District Nursing

Annual Statistics of Nurses' Work, 1958.

<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Midwifery - - -	82	80	64
General Cases - - -	417	437	578
Tuberculosis - - -	4	5	7
Total Visits - - -	9678	9012	9000

There has been a slight increase in midwifery cases, and the percentage of visits per midwifery case has increased. The number of general cases has declined but the visits have increased, indicating a greater number of long term patients requiring general nursing care.

Home Help

Annual Statistics

(a) Number of Applications received :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Total - - -	115	107	116
Assisted - - -	84	83	91

(b) Summary of Cases assisted :-

Type of Case	1958	1957	1956
Maternity - - -	25	18	12
General Sickness - - -	22	38	37
Post Hospital - - -	11	6	8
Child Care - - -	1	-	5
Chronic Sickness - - -	12	9	11
Aged Sickness - - -	26	26	28
Aged and Infirm - - -	61	63	52
Tuberculosis - - -	3	2	2
Special - - -	2	-	-

There is no great change in the Home Help Service from the previous year except a gradually increasing demand from the maternity cases.

Day Nursery

Bolton Crescent Day Nursery was closed in February 1958. The Nursery, however, was reopened later in the year as a private Nursery and is being run on similar lines. The County Council have assisted Mrs. Lambden, the nurse responsible for reopening the Nursery, by naming her as a Child Minder under the Child Minders Scheme. This has helped in placing necessitous priority cases.

Welfare Foods

The Welfare foods - National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, and Cod Liver Oil - are largely distributed by the W.V.S. at their Centre, 46, Church Street and at the Bramblys Grange Welfare Centre.

Old People - Welfare

Once again I am grateful to the County Welfare Officer for the Annual Statistics in the Borough :-

(a) Visits, Applications and Admissions to Welfare (Part III) Accommodation

<u>No. of Visits</u>	<u>Applications</u>	<u>Admissions</u>
49 (43)	9 (14)	6 (4) and 6 short stay holiday admissions.

(b) Senile Aged Persons admitted to Mental Hospitals under Section 20, Lunacy Act, 1890.

8 (7)

(c) Visits to Aged Sick Persons and referred to Bed Service for Chronic Sick Bed.

6 (2)

Among the notable features in his report are the arrangements for admission to Welfare Homes for short stay periods to cover holidays for persons caring for the aged person and an increasing acceptance to go to the National Assistance board when the need is sympathetically explained. Nine people were referred to the National Assistance Board and were helped. The other services helping and advising the aged - the Darby and Joan Club of the W.V.S., and the Chiropody Clinic of the British Red Cross - continued their activities.

Chiropody - Old People

The Chiropody Clinic for the aged continues to be serving a most useful function. 16 sessions were held with an attendance of 167 during the year.

Family Planning Clinic

The above voluntary clinic has expanded its work by opening a third clinic every month at the Basingstoke Hospital. 209 New cases (with an attendance of 1324) were seen during the year. Like all similar clinics it has extended its aims to increase the help they give to all married people by giving advice in methods of scientific contraceptions and in cases of sub-fertility or sterility and by helping with difficulties connected with marriage relationships.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Weather

The early months were cold and there were snowfalls as late as April. From May to September it was mainly wet and cloudy and often rather cool. There was often fog in Autumn. December was mild. Rainfall over the whole year was above average.

Rainfall for the year was as follows :-

January	3.33"	July	1.82"
February	2.52"	August	3.19"
March	1.23"	September	4.16"
April	1.00"	October	2.26"
May	1.79"	November	2.01"
June	3.23"	December	2.88"

Total 29.42"

Comparative figures for previous years are :-

1957	26.08"
1956	24.33"
1955	24.43"
1954	31.78"

Water Supply

The public water sources at West Ham and Cliddesden were sufficient to meet the essential domestic and industrial requirements of the Borough and to provide the small bulk supply to the Mid-Wessex Water Company for part of the parish of Cliddesden except in the summer when it was necessary to place an embargo on the use of hose pipes for garden and car washing purposes. It was also necessary in the late summer to take a small bulk supply from the Mid-Wessex Water Company to supplement the water from sources within the Borough. During the year a trial borehole was sunk near the West Ham Waterworks, and it is hoped that Ministerial approval will be given to the permanent abstraction of a supply from the borehole which will provide sufficient water to enable essential requirements to be met from sources within the Borough for the next few years.

In the course of the year a total of 3,000 yards of new mains have been laid on private housing estates in the vicinity of the Basingstoke By-pass, Winchester Road, and Kingsclere Road and on the Council's housing estate at South Ham. New pumping plant was installed in the Cliddesden well.

During the year 392,199,000 gallons of water were supplied within the Borough, which is an average of approximately 51.6 gallons per head per day for all purposes. The foregoing total includes 2,589,000 gallons taken from the Mid-Wessex Water Company in the late summer. Over the year 716,000 gallons were supplied to the Mid-Wessex Water Company for the Cliddesden area.

Systematic Bacteriological examination of raw water before chlorination have been made. Some sampling of the treated water, as delivered to the dwelling houses, is also done.

The following table shows the results :-

<u>Place of Sampling</u>	<u>No. taken</u> (Samples less than a week apart are omitted)	<u>Coliform Bacilli,</u> <u>MacConkey 2 days, 37°C.</u> <u>No. of Samples showing</u> <u>probable Nos. present</u> <u>in 100 m.l.</u>			
		Nil	1-2	3-10	Over 10
West Ham Pumping Station	23	21	1	1	-
Cliddesden Pumping Station	17	16	1	-	-
Dwelling Houses	5	3	1	1	-

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the year the Council extended sewers in the South Ham, Hackwood Road, and Roman Road areas. In general the existing sewers have proved adequate for the areas served, but it was necessary to carry out a certain amount of dredging of the older sewers to restore their capacity.

The whole of the sewage entering the sewers amounted to 273,713,600 gallons and this was pumped to the Corporation Sewage Farm where it was treated by broad irrigation.

Public Cleansing

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse was maintained and saleable materials were salvaged as far as possible although there is little market for this material at the present time.

A large proportion of the refuse was burnt at the destructor works to raise steam for the sewage pumping station. The remainder of the refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at Eastrop Lane and latterly at a new site in the Kingsclere Road.

The cleansing of public highways and footpaths was carried out by hand sweeping and by means of mechanical sweepers.

The emptying of cesspools was continued as a rechargeable service and a flat rate which does not represent the full cost was introduced during the year.

Swimming Bath

Open air baths are maintained by the Corporation for public use during the summer months. The baths are filled weekly, daily dosing of the bath by hand is carried out. Samples of bath water are taken for bacteriological examination. With the varying number of bathers in an open air pool so dependant on the weather, it is a very difficult task to maintain adequate treatment as the pH. of the water is 7.3 - 7.4.

HOUSING

(a) New Houses

During the year 1958 the following new dwelling houses were completed :-

	Traditional Type Houses	88
Council Built -	Traditional Type Flats	54
	Traditional Type Bungalows	9
		<u>151</u>
Privately Built - - - - -		374
Housing Associations - - - - -		Nil

With the completion of 151 dwellings during the year the Council has built more houses of the traditional type than ever before. This was largely due to the Minister's removal of restrictions governing L.A. housing programmes. In this group of houses a varied programme of bungalows, two and three bedroomed houses and two and three storey flats and a new type of two bedroom and single bedroom flats were built. A group of five "Economy" houses each providing accommodation for five persons is now nearing completion.

At the 31st December, 1958, the following dwellings were under construction.:-

Borough Council	72
Private Enterprise	86
Housing Associations	Nil

The programme for 1959 will include a proportion for slum clearance. A feature of interest also is that single persons and one bedroomed dwellings will account for 42% of the total.

Since the war, to 31st December, 1958, 1,254 dwellings have been completed for the Council and 971 for private persons and Housing Associations.

Waiting list of applicants for Council houses :-

Family Unit	Total	In existing houses	In rooms
Single Persons - - -	102	40	56
2 Persons - - -	381	143	206
3 Persons - - -	246	107	103
4 Persons - - -	136	168	45
5 or more Persons -	125	82	14
Elderly Persons -	126	101	25
	<u>1116</u>	<u>541</u>	<u>449</u>

(b) Unfit Houses

(i) Slum Clearance

73 of the 262 dwellings included in the original Slum Clearance Survey have been satisfactorily dealt with. The Council have decided that 25 dwellings per annum be provided to re-house families displaced under the Scheme. Experience has shown that a number of the houses included in the Survey and being considered each year, are improved by the Owners to satisfy conditions of fitness.

(ii) (a) Houses Demolished - In Clearance Areas - - 3
Not in Clearance Areas - - 9

(b) Unfit Houses Closed - - - - - 9

(c) Unfit Houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied :-

(i) By informal action - - - - - 23

(ii) By formal Notice - - - - - 5

(iii) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 - - 2

(d) Unfit Houses in temporary use - - - - Nil

(e) Purchase of houses by agreement - - - Nil

In addition, the Council acquired 13 sub-standard dwellings by agreement.

(iii) Legal Proceedings

The Landlord of a dwelling-house was prosecuted for not complying with the requirements of Statutory Notices served under Sections 39, 45 and 93, Public Health Act, 1936, and was fined a total of £9 plus £3.3.0 costs.

(c) Improvement Grants

During the year Improvement Grants for a further 31 properties were approved by the Council. This compares with 35 in 1957 and 21 in 1956.

(d) Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	22
Number of decisions to issue Certificates	- - 24
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	- - - 16
Number of Certificates issued	- - - - 10
Number of applications by Landlords for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	- - - - 3
Number of Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	3

(e) Tents, Vans and Sheds

The number of caravans licensed during the year was 15, and in addition, 238 caravans are permitted on 7 sites in the Borough.

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Total caravans - -	253	255	234	184

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

(A) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Milk.

There are three pasteurising establishments in the Borough which are licensed and supervised on behalf of the County Council by this Authority. In addition, twelve retail distributors are registered by the Council in accordance with the Milk & Dairy Regulations 1949.

The following table shows the numbers, types and results of samples taken during the year:-

Types of Milks		Pasteurised	Pasteurised (T.T.)	T.T.	Total
Number of Samples -		34	6	10	50
Phosphatase Test	{ Satis -	33	6	-	39
	{ Unsatis -	-	-	-	-
Methylene Blue Test	{ Satis -	33	6	1	40
	{ Unsatis -	1	-	3	4
Test for Myco. T.B.	{ Satis -	-	-	8	8
	{ Unsatis -	-	-	-	-
Test for Brucella Abortus	{ Satis -	-	-	9	9
	{ Unsatis -	-	-	1	1

2. Ice Cream

During the year 17 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis, with the following results:-

Grade 1 - - -	6	Grade 2 - - -	9
Grade 3 - - -	2	Grade 4 - - -	Nil

In addition, 1 sample of Ice Lolly was submitted for analysis and reported as being Grade 1.

3. Meat and other Foods

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known) - -	595	56	379	1,087	2,370	-	4,487
Number inspected -	595	56	379	1,087	2,370	-	4,487
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned - -	4	-	1	1	3	-	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned -	92	13	2	4	57	-	168
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci - -	16.13	23.21	.79	.46	2.53	-	3.97
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned -	3	1	-	-	90	-	94
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis -	.5	1.79	-	-	3.80	-	2.09
<u>Cysticercosis</u>							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned -	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration -	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Generalised and totally condemned -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Meat.

400 visits were made to the Council Controlled Slaughterhouse during the year and 4,487 carcasses inspected, representing a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered.

From the figures in the table on carcasses and offal inspected, it will be seen that a percentage figure of 1.79% for cows and .5% for other cattle affected with Tuberculosis shows considerable reduction, no doubt as a result of the Tuberculosis Erradication Scheme administered by the Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in which the County of Hampshire is included. Reference to your Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1953 shows relative figures of over 12%. One can therefore look confidently to the not too distant future when bovine Tuberculosis and its accompanying hazards will no longer exist.

Summary.

Food Unfit for Human Consumption.

Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned - 2 Ton. 9 Cwt. 1 Qtr. 1 St. 2 lbs.

Weight of 'Other Foods' (including
canned and packeted foods) - - 1 Ton. 17 Cwt. 2 Qtr. 1 lb.

Legal Proceedings.

A market trader was fined £2 for selling tomatoes unfit for human consumption in contravention of Section 9 Food & Drugs Act 1955.

Food Sampling.

During the year a total of 219 food samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Winchester for bacteriological examination. These samples included parts of organs from freshly slaughtered animals, meat products on retail sale, cheese, cream, cakes, etc.

The laboratory reports showed that only eight samples were unsatisfactory. This method of sampling not only indicates to the Public Health Department the bacterial content of various foods, but also gives vital information to the laboratories in assessing national standards.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

During this year a detailed survey of all food premises in the Borough was carried out. These duties were carried out in the main by the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. T. J. Taylor, and it is appropriate therefore to record my thanks to him for the efficient manner in which he carried out this somewhat difficult task.

Generally, the Borough's food traders readily co-operated in remedying structural and equipment infringements. The main difficulties are encountered in educating staff to apply personal hygiene standards when handling food, and in particular 'open' prepared foods. It must be remembered that these Regulations are intended primarily to prevent infection of foodstuffs, and the fitting of chromium plated embellishments to shop fronts whilst attractive, is nevertheless of secondary importance in the fight against food borne infections.

Summary.

Total number of visits to food premises	-	-	-	-	648
Number of inspections made at food premises in connection with the Hygiene Regulations	-	-	-	-	170
Number of premises where infringements were found	-	-			99
Number of preliminary notices served for structural defects					70
Number of verbal notices	-	-	-	-	41
Number of defects and other infringements remedied	-	-			110

(B) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

4. Notices.

183 Notices (written and verbal, and including 12 Statutory Notices) were served during the year.

5. Complaints.

495 Complaints have been received and dealt with.

6. Rodent Control.

178 complaints were received during the year and in this connection 2,701 visits were made. This figure includes visits to dwelling-houses, refuse tip, slaughterhouse and sewage farm, schools, agricultural, industrial and business premises.

In accordance with the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, private dwellings were given free treatments for which a 50 per cent. grant is received from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. All treatments carried out at business premises are chargeable at full cost.

Sewer treatments were carried out with satisfactory results.

In all, a total of 2,852 poisoned baits were laid, with 145 complete takes and 1,092 partial takes; therefore it can be assumed that a considerable number of rats and mice were destroyed.

The Council are members of the North Hants Rodent Control Committee and send representatives of the Health and Baths Committee and Officers of the Public Health Department to the Quarterly Meetings.

7. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Part I

(i) Inspections, etc.

Number on Register	-	-	165	(inc. Building Sites)
Inspections	-	-	39	
Notices	-	-	3	

(ii) Defects Found:-

Want of Cleanliness	-	-	4
Overcrowding	-	-	1
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	1
Sanitary Conveniences:-			
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	11
Other defects	-	-	7

Part VIII

Outwork:-

Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	-	-	12
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8. Drainage.

Smoke tests	-	-	-	3
Coloured water tests	-	-	-	9
Systems exposed	-	-	-	3

9. Infected Rooms and Articles.

Rooms disinfected	-	-	-	20
Bedding disinfected	-	-	-	4 lots

10. Infestation.

Rooms disinfecting	-	-	-	20
Bedding disinfested	-	-	-	8 lots
Bedding destroyed	-	-	-	1 lot
Miscellaneous disinfections				1

The Department continues to provide assistance to persons troubled with various types of insect infestations (as distinct from vermin). In the case of serious infestations, specimens are submitted to the Department of Entomology, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Reading, for identification purposes and for advice on eradication methods. The public have been appreciative of the services rendered in this connection.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

The remaining provisions of this Act came into force this year and include Regulations governing the emissions of dark smoke for permitted periods.

Whilst the Borough is fortunate not to have a serious aerial pollution at the present time, the Council will, in my opinion have to consider this question of potential pollution in greater detail coupled with the towns future industrial development. With regard to domestic consumers, the problem is more complex, by reason of the present inadequate supplies in winter of suitable smokeless fuels. This position is further aggravated by the present-day building developer usually providing small capacity fuel bunkers instead of 'coal houses'.

11. Table I.

Classified Statement of Premises Inspected:-

Inspections under the Housing Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	267
Rent Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Works in progress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
Re-inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	343
Visits to slaughterhouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400
Food premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	581
In connection with Infectious Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Shop Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
Pet Animals Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190
Petroleum Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Factories Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Dairies and milk shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
Knackers yard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Schools (Private and Elementary)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Common lodging house	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Tents, vans and sheds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	126
Ice cream premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Watercourses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Smoke observations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Miscellaneous visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	683
Interviews	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	630

Total - 3,812

12. Table II.

Defective Conditions Recorded:-

Water Supply:-

Defective fittings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
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Water Closets:-

Defective buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Defective flushing cisterns	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Miscellaneous defects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

Drains :-

Drainage systems needing reconstruction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Choked drains	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Defective drains	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Cesspools cleansed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Sinks, Baths, etc. :-

Defective, insanitary, or absence of, sinks, baths and lavatory basins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
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Dustbins :-

Defective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
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Yards :-

Absence of, or defective, paving	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
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Dampness :-

Defective roofs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Defective gutters and rain-water pipes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5

Food Hygiene Regulations :-

Absence of hot water supply (water heaters, etc. provided)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Food rooms repaired and ventilated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Miscellaneous infringements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84

General :-

Defective, etc., walls and ceilings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Dirty rooms (walls and ceilings)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Verminous rooms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Defective doors	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Defective floors	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Defective stoves and fireplaces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Defective and smoky chimneys	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Insanitary urinals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Accumulations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Animals improperly kept	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18

C. H. DAVID,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

