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BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1939

BY

T. LLOYD HUGHES, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

OF GRAY'S INN, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
PLYMYARD,
EASTHAM.

BELLEVILLE
SEMI-SORB

ANNUAL REPORT

1939

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Bebington for 1939.

This is the first Annual Report issued since the Borough appointed its own full time Medical Officer of Health and under normal circumstances would have contained a detailed survey of conditions affecting the health of the community. In view of the present circumstances, however, the Ministry of Health have indicated that interim reports only should be made for 1939.

My duties commenced at the end of September 1939 so that the majority of the Report covers a period when Dr. J. B. Yeoman was still Medical Officer of Health for the North West Cheshire Combined Public Health District, of which Bebington formed a part. Dr. Yeoman's services to this district require no eulogising on my part but it would be unfitting not to place on record and pay tribute to the sterling pioneer work done by him in relation to Hospital and Public Health work in the Wirral.

Following Dr. Yeoman's retirement, opportunity was taken to transfer the Health Department to more commodious premises at Plymyard, where the rapidly growing department could be housed as a complete unit. The Health Department in its new surroundings now forms a distinct entity and I trust will play an increasingly important part in the municipal life of the Borough.

The work of transferring and reorganising the department was carried out during a period when there were heavy duties entailed by calls of Civil Defence work. As in many other Public Health Departments throughout the country it was found during the last three months of the year that duties in connection with the Casualty Services and Air Raid Precautions occupied a large proportion of the time of the Department.

The vital statistics revealed in the Report show a rise in the estimated population which is in all probability less than the actual increase.

The Birth Rate is somewhat higher than for 1938 and considerably higher than for England and Wales as a whole.

The Death Rate is comparable with that of last year and it is satisfactory to note that it is considerably less than that for the whole of the country.

The Infant Mortality Rate although above that of last year is still well below that for the country generally.

Two outstanding items remain to be noted both in relation to Infectious Disease.

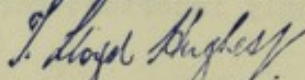
During August and September an outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever occurred in the Bromborough District resulting in 51 cases and 1 death. Details of the outbreak are given in the Report.

A scheme for the immunisation of school children against Diphtheria was formulated and although the actual inoculations did not commence until 1940 much of the preliminary work was done during the latter part of 1939.

I would like to express my grateful thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their interest and support in the work of the Department and to the heads of other Departments and my colleagues in this Department who have given me much loyal assistance and consideration.

I am Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)				12,244
Estimated Resident Population as at the middle of the Year for calculation of Birth Rate				41,950
Population Estimate for calculation of Death Rate, etc.				42,200
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1939)				12,569
Rateable Value				£341,377
Product of a penny rate				£1,325
Number of Live Births:-				
	Male	Female		Total
Legitimate	388	371		759
Illegitimate	14	8		22
Total	402	379		781
Number of Still Births:-				
Legitimate	10	16		26
Illegitimate	-	-		-
Total	10	16		26
Total No. of Births (Live and Still)	412	395		807
Deaths	209	187		396
Deaths from:-				
Puerperal Sepsis				0
Other Puerperal Causes				2
All Puerperal Causes				2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				1
Measles				0
Whooping Cough				0
Scarlet Fever				0
Diphtheria				5
Influenza				7
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)				3
Cancer				63
Deaths (under 1 year):-				
	Male	Female		Total
Legitimate	16	13		29
Illegitimate	5	0		5
Total	21	13		34

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Based on Registrar General's Short List of Causes of Death.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	0	1	1
2. Measles	0	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria	1	4	5
6. Influenza	3	4	7
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	2	2	4
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0	1
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	8	14
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	2
11. Syphilis	1	0	1
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, etc.	0	0	0
13. Cancer	29	34	63
14. Diabetes	2	3	5
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	14	18	32
16. Heart Disease	43	41	84
17. Aneurysm	0	1	1
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	13	10	23
19. Bronchitis	12	1	13
20. Pneumonia (All Forms)	11	8	19
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	4	1	5
22. Peptic Ulcer	4	0	4
23. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	2	3
24. Appendicitis	1	0	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1	2
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	0	2	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases	3	1	4
28. Acute & Chronic Nephritis	1	7	8
29. Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	0
30. Other Puerperal Causes	0	2	2
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth Malformation, etc.	17	8	25
32. Senility	3	4	7
33. Suicide	2	2	4
34. Other Violence	16	12	28
35. Other Defined Diseases	16	9	25
36. Cause ill defined & Unknown	1	0	1
Total	<u>209</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>396</u>

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

The following summary is based upon information and figures supplied by Miss A. Owen, Senior Health Visitor:-

(1) MATERNITY SERVICES. Consultant Obstetrician - Mr. M. Datnow

1.	Ante-Natal Clinic.	Total Sessions held.....	49
		No. of new cases examined.....	301
		Cases continuing from 1938.....	64
			—
		Total..	<u>365</u>

Average attendances per session 33

47% of total Births in the Borough attended the Ante-Natal Clinic.

2.	Post-Natal Clinic.	Total Sessions held.....	70
		Total attendances.....	103
		New cases.....	66

(2) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

There are no institutions provided by the Borough itself but by arrangement Mothers and sick babies receive treatment at the County General Hospital, Clatterbridge. Babies under 3 years are sent by arrangement to the Hoylake Babies' Hospital, and Toddlers from 3 to 5 years are sent to the West Kirby Convalescent Home.

(3) HEALTH VISITING.

There has been no change of Health Visitor this year and the same nurse has been on the same district the whole of the year.

Number of Visits paid.

To Expectant Mothers (first visits 220)	Total Visits	337
To Infants under 1 year (first visits 771)	" "	2933
To Children between 1 - 5 years	" "	5567
To Children under the Infant Life Protection Act	" "	22
To Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases or Discharging Eyes	" "	4
To Measles Cases (First Visits 41)	" "	55
To Whooping Cough Cases (First Visits 24)	" "	38
To Children following up Medical Defects	" "	610
All other Visits	" "	<u>2904</u>
	Total Visits	<u>12470</u>

4. INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

Number of children visited - 5

Total Visits - 22

Out of these 5 children under the care of the Council in 1939 one child remained only a very short time, and another reached the age of 9 years and ceased to be visited. A third was removed to the care of the grandmother, leaving two only to be visited for the most part of the year. All the children had very good homes and there were no serious illnesses or deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case only notified, born in Hospital and remaining for hospital treatment until recovery. The sight of the infant was undamaged, 4 visits were paid to the home afterwards and the child kept under supervision of the Centre.

5. CLINICS

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Conducted by Medical Officer of Health.

Total Number of Children attending Centres - 1,289

CLINIC	NEW FERRY	BROMBOROUGH	HR. BEBBINGTON	TOTAL
Sessions	103	51	48	202
Attendances of Children under 1 year	5350	2895	2984	11229
Attendances Children 1-5	3620	2544	1953	8117
Attendances Mothers	7436	4187	4297	15920

TODDLERS' CLINIC.

No. of Sessions 39
 Children examined 524
 Children referred to Hospital or Special Clinics 121

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

Surgeon - Mr. Philip Garson.

Total No. of Sessions.....13
Total Attendances.....150
No. of new cases treated.....76

EYE CLINIC.

Surgeon - Mr. Dunlop Hamilton.

Total No. of Sessions.....13
Total Attendances.....163
No. of new cases treated.....61

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

Surgeon - Mr. Hartley Martin.

Total No. of Sessions.....18
Total new cases seen.....133
Re-examinations.....362

Of the 308 cases on the Register during the year 6 were admitted to hospital for treatment. Massage treatment still continues in twice weekly sessions. 1,067 treatments have been given.

Returns are shown in the three following tables:-

1.

ANALYSIS OF CASES.

	UNDER SCHOOL AGE		OF SCHOOL AGE		OVER SCHOOL AGE	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
<u>NEW CASES</u>						
Non-Tuberculous	64	51	7	10	-	-
Tuberculous	-	-	1	-	-	-
<u>RE-EXAMINATIONS</u>						
Non-Tuberculous	106	95	83	71	-	-
Tuberculous	-	-	3	2	-	-

2.

DISEASE CATEGORIES	REMAINING 1938 (In Relation to School Age)			NEW CASES 1939			REMAINING 1939			DISCHARGED 1939						
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	CURED	RELIEVED	OVER AGE RELIEVED	LEFT DISTRICT	REFUSED TREATMENT	UNSUITABLE	DIED
INFANTILE PARALYSIS	1	5	3	1	-	-	1	3	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
SPASTIC PARALYSIS	2	9	-	3	2	-	4	7	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
RICKETS	1	3	-	7	-	-	6	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
TUBERCULOUS Osteitis & Arthritis	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NON-TUBERCULOUS Do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEFORMITIES- CONGENITAL	14	11	-	6	-	-	14	11	-	1	-	-	2	2	1	-
Do. ACQUIRED	78	36	-	58	11	-	80	36	-	41	-	1	5	20	-	-
DIAGNOSIS	6	1	-	40	4	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	45	-
TOTALS	102	70	3	115	18	-	109	63	6	46	-	4	9	24	47	-

3.

MESSAGE RETURN.

DISEASE CATEGORIES	ATTENDANCES									CASES		
	OF SCHOOL AGE						UNDER SCHOOL AGE		OVER SCHOOL AGE		No. of Cases	% of Total Cases
	BOYS			GIRLS			Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		
	Attending School	Not Attending School	Attending Special School	Attending School	Not Attending School	Attending Special School						
INFANTILE PARALYSIS	34	-	-	-	-	-	29	16	-	52	4	10.24%
SPASTIC PARALYSIS	-	-	-	102	-	-	23	6	-	-	6	15.36%
RICKETS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T.B. OSTEITIS & ARTHRITIS	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.56
NON-T.B. - Do -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONGENITAL DEFORMITIES	78	-	-	36	-	-	-	93	-	-	8	20.48
ACQUIRED DEFORMITIES	192	-	-	195	-	-	51	95	-	-	20	51.36
TOTALS	369	-	-	333	-	-	103	210	-	52	39	-
TOTALS (Percentages)	702 (65.8%)						313 (30.4%)		52 (4.8%)		-	-

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

Details of the number of cases of infectious disease notified and of the Ward distribution are given in separate tables.

There is a fall in the number of Diphtheria cases notified as compared with 1938. During 1938, 148 cases were notified and during 1939, 110. Otherwise the incidence of Infectious disease shows no marked change except in the case of the Enteric Group of Fevers. The increased cases shown were notified in connection with an outbreak of Paratyphoid B. and were derived mainly from the North and South Bromborough Wards.

The first case was notified on August 4th, and of the 56 cases notified 51 cases were confirmed by Widal tests, 21 of these being males and 30 females. 48 of these cases were treated at the Wirral Joint Isolation Hospital, 1 case treated in an Infectious Disease Hospital in an outside area and the remaining 3 cases treated in General Hospitals in the area, 1 of these latter cases was admitted as a case of appendicitis and was later diagnosed as Paratyphoid B.

Careful investigation as to the source of infection was carried out by the staff of this department. In the early days of the epidemic particular attention was paid to water and milk supplies but these were quickly excluded and exonerated from blame as the source of infection. It was found on careful sifting of the evidence that in a large number of cases confectionery consumed had been purchased from one shop in the district. At this shop "Case 29" was found, and it was ascertained that she had assisted from time to time in serving at the shop following her arrival into the district in mid-July. She had come from a nearby area where some weeks previously enquiries in connection with 4 cases of Paratyphoid Fever had been made at a bakehouse in which she had worked. On the 2nd September she was sent to hospital where she was found to be mildly pyrexial. The Paratyphoid B. bacillus was isolated from her urine and faeces and her Widal reaction returned Positive to a dilution of 1/250. She was apparently a mild ambulant case which had been progressing for some time and it is possible that she was infected in the outside area before moving into the district in mid-July.

By this time 29 proved cases had been notified. During the three weeks following the removal of "Case 29" to hospital 18 more primary cases occurred. 4 Further cases, presumably secondary, were afterwards notified, the last on October 31st. On enquiry, each of the 18 cases occurring during the three weeks following removal of the supposed carrier to hospital was found to have consumed confectionery purchased from this shop. Suitable measures on the shop premises were taken with regard to confectionery and food likely to be infected.

Following the abatement of the epidemic, it would seem that the assumption that the infection had been transmitted from "Case 29" through the agency of confectionery was correct. There was one death occurring in a woman of 70 who died from Toxaemic Myocarditis.

2 chronic carriers have resulted, 1 a female of 55 years of age, whose faeces and urine still contain the Paratyphoid B. bacillus and the other a male of 60 years of age, a faecal excretor only. Both these patients were discharged from hospital on the advice of the Ministry of Health and are kept under strict observations by this department, and adequate measures are taken to disinfect their excreta.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1939.

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	TOTAL CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	TOTAL DEATHS
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	142	119	-
Diphtheria	110	110	5
Enteric Fever	56	56	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	-
Pneumonia (Acute primary)	41	10 \emptyset	4
(Acute Influenzal)	2	1	1
Erysipelas	9	7	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	2	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Measles	20	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
	393	313	16

Measles and Whooping Cough did not become compulsorily notifiable infectious diseases until 23rd October, 1939. The totals given, therefore, only relate to the period between that date and the end of the year.

\emptyset 15 nursed at home under the Council's Domiciliary Nursing Scheme.

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1939.

DISEASE	Hr. Bebbington	Woodhey	Bebington	New Ferry	Park	Sunlight	N. Bromborough	S. Bromborough	Eastham	Poulton	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	7	16	12	16	6	9	26	26	11	11	142
Diphtheria	5	9	9	11	14	10	13	18	14	7	110
Pneumonia	6	9	3	6	2	4	3	6	-	8	43
Erysipelas	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	9
Enteric Fever	1	-	1	1	1	-	5	38	6	3	56
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	-	3	-	2	1	2	11	1	-	20
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	20	35	30	35	26	24	50	101	32	40	393

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1
15-	3	3	-	3	1	2	-	-
25-	2	7	-	2	1	2	-	-
35-	4	-	-	-	4	4	1	-
45-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
55-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	11	11	2	7	10	8	1	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Mr. E. V. Crapper, Chief Sanitary Inspector, is responsible for the following reports on the Sanitary Inspection of the area.

Number of and Nature of Inspections made	Total for 1939	No. of Notices Served		Result of Notices		Total for 1938	Total for 1937
		Inf.	Stat.	Complied With	Outstand- ing		
Dwellinghouses Inspected..	473	170	-	131	39	478	564
-do- reinspected..	756	49	43	36	13	1284	1743
Overcrowding.....	450	-	-	-	-	632	1370
Offices.....	7	2	-	2	-	-	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds.....	9	1	1	1	-	7	8
Courts, Passages, Yards...	141	8	4	6	2	131	281
House Drainage.....	1447	93	14	89	4	1779	2750
Privies, Middens, Dust Bins.	448	148	17	128	20	670	611
Cesspools, Septic Tanks, etc.	125	10	-	6	4	136	120
Ditches, Watercourses.....	79	5	-	4	1	39	46
Offensive Accumulations....	157	39	5	36	3	151	222
Keeping of Animals.....	44	8	-	7	1	57	38
Rat Infestations.....	139	2	1	2	-	177	179
Slaughterhouses.....	626	1	-	1	-	808	681
Butchers' Shops.....	119	6	-	5	1	94	167
Grocers.....	68	2	-	2	-	40	71
Ice Cream Premises.....	53	3	-	2	1	16	46
Other Food Premises.....	103	10	2	10	-	54	172
Offensive Trades.....	17	2	-	1	1	34	44
Piggeries.....	22	1	-	1	-	17	49
Dairies & Cowsheds.....	410	16	-	13	3	444	654
Factories.....	33	13	-	10	3	124	92
Bakehouses.....	84	14	-	14	-	75	65
Smoke Observations.....	29	1	-	1	-	27	39
Public Schools.....	23	3	1	1	2	41	28
Places of Entertainment....	6	2	-	1	1	35	12
Public Conveniences.....	38	1	-	1	-	71	43
Licensed Premises.....	15	4	1	2	2	41	47
Infectious Disease Enqs....	420	-	-	-	-	445	314
-do- -do- Revisits	245	-	-	-	-	196	47
Verminous Premises.....	195	1	-	1	-	187	165
Fouling of Footways.....	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous.....	200	1	1	1	-	246	173
Appointments outside Office	225	-	-	-	-	235	225
	7214	616	90	515	101	8771	11066

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

The following figures relate to work carried out during 1939.

88 applications have been received for "permitted numbers".

9 existing houses have been measured

296 newly erected houses have been measured.

169 visits have been paid to inspect rent books, to enquire into cases of overcrowding, etc.

2 "review" visits have been made.

18 offences were committed by the failure to insert in rent books the "permitted number", etc.

9 warning letters sent.

3 statements made.

37 offences were committed by the failure to insert in rent books the name and address of the M.O.H.

12 warning letters sent.

3 statements made.

1 offence was committed by the failure to insert in rent books information relating to persons responsible for keeping houses in a reasonable state of repair.

1 warning letter sent.

5 offences committed by landlords who have permitted houses or portions of houses let by them to become overcrowded.

36 cases of overcrowding abated.

8 new cases of overcrowding.

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

554 smoke tests were applied to drains.

482 of these were at new buildings.

72 of these were at existing buildings.

58 drains and rat-runs were smoked with waste and sulphur to remove or destroy rats.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are three licensed slaughter houses in the district and nine men are licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, to slaughter or stun animals. The inspection of slaughter houses, the supervision of slaughtering and the inspection of meat in the slaughter houses has necessitated one Inspector being on this duty every day and these duties have taken up 80% of this Inspector's time. Every effort is made to inspect all carcasses killed for human food but during the period when the staff was depleted it was found impossible on several occasions to do so and carcasses and offal concerned were sent into neighbouring districts without inspection. The sanitary inspectors of the districts receiving this meat were, however, notified so that they could examine the meat before it was exposed for sale. Those carcasses sent to shops in this area were seen in the shops before they were exposed for sale.

The following table indicates the work carried out relative to meat inspection in slaughterhouses:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	1895	-	82	8310	2531	12818
Ante-mortem inspection including supervision of humane slaughter	892	-	35	3068	1155	5150
Emergency notifications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-mortem inspection	1855	-	81	8031	2521	12488
Notice of Slaughter	1895	-	82	8310	2531	12818
<u>All Diseases Except T.B.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	8	5	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	797	-	-	230	208	1235
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	42.91%			2.96%	8.44%	9.9%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	43	43
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	233	-	-	-	502	735
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	12.56%				21.61%	6.22%
<u>Liver Fluke.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	848	-	-	110	1	959
Percentage of the number inspected affected with liver fluke	45.71%	-	-	1.36%	.04%	7.67%

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
<u>Septic Conditions.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	11	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with septic conditions	-	-	-	-	.47%	.09%

The undermentioned food found upon examination in shops to be unsound, unwholesome, diseased and unfit for human consumption, was seized and condemned:-

- 10 jars of loganberries - containing maggots.
(the shopkeeper who exposed these loganberries for sale was prosecuted but the case against him was dismissed)
- 1 lb. 6 ozs. of smoked haddock - containing maggots.
(no action was taken in this case as the fish were examined shortly after arrival at the shop and the shopkeeper had little opportunity of inspecting them himself and in addition, the fish had become infested during storage at the wholesalers' premises)
- 28 lbs. potatoes - decomposed.
(these were sold to a shopkeeper by a hawker and it was not possible to trace the hawker)

The undermentioned food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

- 56 pigs heads - decomposition
- 15 cwts potatoes - decomposition
- 68 1 lb. loaves of bread - contact with Paratyphoid case.
- 2 2 lb. loaves of bread - " " " "
- 4 chests mixed confectionery and bread " " " "
- 38 meat pies " " " "
- 30 trays mixed confectionery " " " "
- 12 5 lb. Slab cakes " " " "
- 2 doz. sandwich cakes $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each " " " "
- 4 trays sandwiches " " " "
- 12 lbs. puff pastry " " " "
- 10 lbs. beef " " " "
- 2 lbs. kidneys " " " "
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. emulsified Cream " " " "
- 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ pints milk " " " "
- 15 lbs. currants " " " "
- 5 lbs. sultanas " " " "
- 46 lbs. cooking fat " " " "
- 20 lbs. butter cream " " " "
- 28 lbs. dates " " " "
- 10 lbs. flour " " " "
- 1 doz. tins "Sailor Salmon" - decomposition
- 6 grapefruits " "
- 6 lbs. apples " "

Food Premises.

The Food & Drugs Act, 1938, requiring the registration of certain food premises has resulted in the following improvements:-

- 19 walls, ceilings, windows and doors repaired.
- 25 " " " " " " cleansed.
- 9 rooms more efficiently ventilated
- 6 instances where cleanliness of rooms, articles, apparatus and utensils improved.
- 5 instances where cleanliness of persons and their clothing have improved.
- 29 rooms provided with suitable washing basins, and a sufficient supply of soap, clean towels and clean water, both hot and cold.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1936.

89 premises were registered under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, at the end of the year.

- 14 in respect of cooked fish,
- 5 in respect of cooked meat,
- 33 in respect of meat shops and stores
- 25 in respect of Ice Cream shops and stores.
- 12 in respect of Ice Cream factories.

91 applications were received for registration.

2 applications were withdrawn in cases where the shopkeepers were unable to comply with the requirements of the Act.

- (a) one shopkeeper found it impracticable to provide a supply of hot water.
- (b) one shopkeeper through age, was unable to keep the premises, the utensils and himself in a clean condition.

2 applicants were interviewed by the Health & Lighting Committee in consequence of their failure to comply with the requirements of the Act.

- (a) a preserved food manufacturer was still unregistered at the end of the year.
- (b) an applicant to manufacture ice cream had not been registered at the end of the year.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 60 cowkeepers registered.

39 of these are wholesale producers,

20 of these are producer-retailers,

1 of these produces milk for his own business.

There are also 27 other dairymen registered for the sale of milk.

Sediment Tests.

Only 66 sediment tests were made during the year in comparison with the 160 for 1938 and the 254 for 1937.

The percentage of cleanliness is as follows:-

1937.....	60%
1938.....	61.2%
1939.....	61%

Sampling.

The following table relates to the presence of tubercle bacilli in samples examined:-

	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>No. positive</u>
Commercial milk	33	1
Accredited	89	7
Tuberculin tested	10	-
T.T.(certified)	7	-
Pasteurised	29	-
Sterilised	3	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	171	8

this equals a percentage of 4.6 as compared with 3.8% for 1938, 3.8% for 1937, 6.5% for 1936 and 6.8% for 1935.

The following figures show the number and result of examinations for T.B. during the last nine years.

	<u>No.</u>	<u>T.B.</u>	<u>% T.B.</u>
Commercial milk	858	46	5.3
Accredited "	635	59	9.2
T.T. "	43	-	-
T.T.(certified milk)	34	-	-
Pasteurised milk	112	-	-
Sterilised milk	15	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1697	105	6.1

Results of bacterial counts are as follows for 1939:-

	<u>No. examined</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>
Commercial milk	5	none
Accredited	0	0
Tuberculin Tested	3	2
T.T.Certified	7	3
Sterilised	3	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>

The efficiency of pasteurisation was checked and during the year the following results obtained:-

Out of 29 samples examined by the phosphates test:-

- 19 were found to have been efficiently pasteurised
- 10 were found to have been insufficiently heated or to have been mixed with raw milk.