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BEDFORD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR  
AND SURVEYOR

FOR THE YEAR 1941.

# BEDFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of placing before you my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions prevailing in your district for the year 1941.

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular 1961, dated 16th February, 1940.

## SECTION A.

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112,590
Population—								
Census for 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,204
Estimated for mid-year of 1941				...	...	...	...	27,190
Number of inhabited houses for 1941				...	...	...	...	7,858
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£119,413
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£462

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are those of Agriculture and Market Gardening. A few leather dressing factories have been established for some years at Harrold and Odell.

Along the River Ouse there are some mills which are used for grinding corn and making flour.

At Wymington and Podington many of the inhabitants earn their living by working in the boot factories at Rushden.

The health of the District is good and there is no trade carried on which is prejudicial to public health.

At Stewartby, Marston, Ridgmont and at Kempston Hardwick, there are large brickmaking companies which absorb a good number of men from the southern portion of your district.

### UNEMPLOYMENT.

I have come across no instance where unemployment has had any adverse influence on the health or physique of the children or adults.



## CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	0	0
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	2	0
3 Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
5 Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	5	1
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1
8 Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	0	0
9 Influenza ... ..	1	7
10 Measles ... ..	0	0
11 Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis ... ..	0	0
12 Acute infective encephalitis ... ..	0	0
13 Cancer of buc.: cavity and œsophagus (M.) Uterus (F.) ... ..	4	3
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	9	5
15 Cancer of breast ... ..	0	3
16 Cancer of all other sites ... ..	12	13
17 Diabetes ... ..	1	1
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	13	22
19 Heart disease ... ..	33	43
20 Other diseases of circulatory system ... ..	7	11
21 Bronchitis ... ..	9	12
22 Pneumonia ... ..	5	7
23 Other respiratory diseases ... ..	1	1
24 Ulceration of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	2
25 Diarrhœa (under two years) ... ..	1	0
26 Appendicitis ... ..	3	0
27 Other digestive diseases ... ..	3	3
28 Nephritis ... ..	2	3
29 Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ... ..	0	1
30 Other maternal causes ... ..	0	0
31 Premature birth ... ..	1	0
32 Congenital malformations, Birth injuries and in- fantile diseases ... ..	5	5
33 Suicide ... ..	2	1
34 Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	5	1
35 Other violent causes ... ..	2	3
36 All other causes ... ..	19	15
ALL CAUSES ... ..	<u>148</u>	<u>164</u>

SECTION B.  
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA.

(i) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

- Dr. W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Ldn., D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb., Medical Officer of Health (part time to your Authority but whole time to the work of M.O.H.)
- Mr. F. Lindley, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (whole time). Cert. Meat Inspection.
- Mr. D. T. Matthews, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Building Surveyor (whole time).
- Mr. G. G. Carlton, General Assistant to Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

(ii) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) Examinations of pathological and bacteriological specimens have been made by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of 91 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

The following were the cases examined:—

For Diphtheria	... ..	34
For Typhoid	... ..	5

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(b) *For Infectious Diseases.* A motor Ambulance is kept at the Oakley Isolation Hospital.

*For Non-Infectious Diseases.* A Public Ambulance is kept at the Bedford Fire Station, and is available for your District. Telephone: 2222.

Judging from the experience of previous years, the present arrangement appears to be quite adequate for the needs of the district. In the event of an extra ambulance being required in an emergency, there is an understanding with the neighbouring authorities that their ambulances would be available.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(c) The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association supply 14 nurses to 36 villages in your district. These nurses attend to maternity cases principally, but also to minor medical and surgical ailments. They are not allowed to attend to any disease of an infectious nature.

The nurses are supervised by Local Associations.

The salaries for these nurses are raised by voluntary contributions, by small fees which are charged to non-members requiring their services and by a grant from the Bedford County Council.

The following are the villages supplied:—

Sharnbrook, Souldrop and Knotting ...	...	Nurse Lamb
Felmersham, Pavenham and Radwell ...	...	Nurse Bamford
Podington, Wymington and Hinwick ...	...	Nurse Goosey

Stevington and Bromham	...	...	...	Nurse Lockhart
Oakley and Clapham	...	...	...	Nurse Wilson
Milton Ernest, Bletsoe and Thurleigh	...	...	...	Nurse Maskey
Melchbourne, Yielden, Dean, Swineshead, Shelton and Riseley	...	...	...	Nurse Baines
Wootton	...	...	...	Nurse Dix
Kempston Rural	...	...	...	Nurse Minards
Stagsden	...	...	...	Nurse Prudden
Harrold, Carlton and Odell	...	...	...	Nurse H. Howells
Eaton Socon	...	...	...	Nurse Moore, S.R.N.
Keysoe, Bolnhurst, Little Staughton and Pertenhall	...	...	...	Nurse Longworth

*Infectious Diseases.* There is no provision made for the treatment of infectious diseases in the patient's own home. An Isolation Hospital for the treatment of these diseases is provided free of charge.

#### MIDWIVES.

The employment and registration of Midwives is undertaken by the County Council.

The number of Midwives practising in your area is 13, inclusive of 10 employed by the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association.

#### CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(d) These are provided by the County Council.

(e)

HOSPITALS.					
<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Purpose.</i>	<i>No. of Beds.</i>	<i>Management.</i>	
Oakley Isolation	... Clapham	... Infectious Diseases	... 64 ...	... Joint Hospital Board.	
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	Mogerhanger	Tuberculosis	... 84 ...	... C.C.	
St. Peter's	... Bedford	... General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children	... 104 ...	... C.C.	
Beds. County Hospital	Bedford	... General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children	... 105 ...	... Voluntary	
Children's Home	... Kempston	... Children	... 45 ...	... C.C.	

#### LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

##### ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section I.

##### BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

New Streets and Buildings.  
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, etc.  
Slaughter Houses.

## SECTION C.

## SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

## WATER.

Rainfall at Great Barford.

Altitude:—126 feet above sea level.

Latitude:—52° 9' N. Longitude:—0° 20' W.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of days with ·01 or more</i>
January ... ..	2.23	14
February ... ..	1.65	17
March ... ..	2.86	13
April ... ..	.96	9
May ... ..	1.57	13
June ... ..	1.03	5
July ... ..	2.77	16
August ... ..	3.92	26
September ... ..	.55	5
October ... ..	2.03	11
November ... ..	1.71	12
December ... ..	.83	7
Total ... ..	<u>22.11</u>	<u>148</u>

Rainfall at Wellingborough.

*At Bushfield Waterworks*

*Altitude 286 feet  
Gauge 8 in. diameter  
Height of gauge  
above ground 11 inches  
Latitude 52° 9' N.  
Longitude 0° 43' W.*

*At Swanspool Gardens*

*Altitude 168½ feet  
Diameter of gauge 5 inches  
Height of gauge  
above ground 12 inches  
Latitude 52° 17' 54" N.  
Longitude 0° 41' 23" W.*

<i>Month</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>No. of days with ·01 or more</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>No. of days with ·01 or more</i>
January ... ..	3.52	23	3.33	18
February ... ..	1.93	17	1.91	16
March ... ..	3.30	17	3.55	14
April ... ..	1.24	10	1.27	10
May ... ..	2.46	12	2.34	10
June ... ..	2.86	8	2.12	8
July ... ..	2.57	11	2.25	13
August ... ..	4.81	23	4.30	20
September ... ..	.49	5	.48	4
October ... ..	2.29	19	2.10	14
November ... ..	2.84	22	2.91	20
December ... ..	1.00	14	1.07	13
Total ... ..	<u>29.31</u>		<u>27.63</u>	



Rainfall for previous ten years:—

<i>Year</i>		<i>Great Barford</i>		<i>Wellingborough Swanspool Gardens</i>		<i>England and Wales</i>
1931	... ..	21.52	...	24.42	...	43.2
1932	... ..	22.92	...	25.12	...	36.2
1933	... ..	16.93	...	17.45	...	29.3
1934	... ..	18.57	...	18.44	...	33.69
1935	... ..	24.57	...	27.79	...	40.14
1936	... ..	27.08	...	30.68	...	38.5
1937	... ..	29.93	...	30.41	...	39.1
1938	... ..	19.70	...	23.60	...	35.6
1939	... ..	25.51	...	30.51	...	40.3
1940	... ..	21.35	...	24.32	...	35.6
1941	... ..	22.11	...	27.63	...	33.8

I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Arnold Whitchurch of Great Barford, and to Mr. R. Kilby of Wellingborough for supplying me with the information about the rainfalls of these districts.

The whole of the district is now supplied with good and wholesome water from public sources with the exception of some outlying farms.

I append the reports of the analysis of the three main supplies to your District, namely Bedford, Biggleswade and Birchmoor.

#### REPORTS:

**BEDFORD.**—During 1941 the analyses of the finally treated water which are carried out weekly, showed that in all cases the water was up to the highest drinking water standard.

**BIGGLESWADE.**—This is a first class sample, clear and bright in appearance and of a very satisfactory bacterial purity, indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character, although not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution.

(Signed) E. SUCKLING,

23.6.42.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories

**MARSTON** (Water from Birchmoor).—This sample is reasonably clear and bright, containing only a few particles of mineral debris in suspension and is of a high degree of bacterial purity.

These results are very satisfactory, consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING.

4.9.41.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.  
(Mr. F. Lindley.)

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER SUPPLY REPORT.

<i>PARISH</i>	<i>Population 1931 Census</i>	<i>Length of Miles</i>	<i>Mains Yards</i>	<i>Premises supplied</i>	<i>No. of Services</i>	<i>No. of Standposts</i>
Great Barford ... ..	775	2	939	72	62	23
Little Barford ... ..	75	1	549	4	4	2
Biddenham ... ..	454	1	1634	134	133	—
Bletsoe ... ..	219	4	462	8	9	7
Bolnhurst and Keysoe...	594	8	1364	56	55	39
Bromham ... ..	442	5	984	242	186	—
Cardington ... ..	328	1	1040	95	63	—
Carlton and Chellington	418	5	351	21	21	12
Clapham ... ..	840	3	174	483	224	14
Colmworth ... ..	265	2	1500	28	27	10
Cople ... ..	405	1	1577	90	66	9
Dean and Shelton ... ..	378	3	1432	22	21	16
Eastcotts ... ..	1660	3	174	27	21	11
Eaton Socon ... ..	2240	14	1462	274	191	52
Elstow ... ..	415	2	1573	126	73	—
Felmersham ... ..	381	2	1663	16	16	14
Harrold ... ..	924	1	904	52	49	21
Kempston Rural ... ..	694	11	323	197	162	21
Knotting and Souldrop..	275	4	40	23	19	9
Melchbourne and Yielden	310	5	676	17	17	12
Milton Ernest ... ..	340	4	1338	17	17	8
Oakley ... ..	508	4	1126	94	80	20
Odell ... ..	226	3	425	19	18	9
Pavenham ... ..	344	2	1114	35	35	11
Pertenhall ... ..	183	2	295	14	14	6
Podington ... ..	425	4	82	59	53	7
Ravensden ... ..	326	5	128	54	51	14
Renhold ... ..	444	9	58	228	215	1
Riseley ... ..	528	3	1003	40	34	17
Roxton ... ..	449	5	898	60	41	20
Sharnbrook ... ..	718	6	432	95	90	21
Stagsden ... ..	455	2	48	48	44	15
Staughton Little ... ..	244	3	129	20	20	12
Stevington ... ..	479	2	286	35	34	12
Stewartby ... ..	895	1	494	17	11	—
Swineshead ... ..	124	1	728	13	13	6
Thurleigh ... ..	479	9	1035	37	35	22
Turvey ... ..	863	2	1563	21	18	18
Wilden ... ..	344	6	1148	31	30	15
Willington ... ..	428	3	332	32	31	13
Wilshamstead ... ..	675	6	6	138	126	20
Wootton ... ..	692	5	1041	165	144	41
Wymington ... ..	518	1	592	88	45	4
(Sandy and Tempsford Biggleswade R.D.C.)	—	3	876	—	—	—
	22759	188	558	3347	2618	584

## 1. (ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE REPORT.

In the Rural District 4,378 yards of open sewers were to have been thoroughly cleansed and repaired in various Parishes, but owing to shortage of labour only 858 yards were done.

## CLAPHAM.

At the end of the year 366 properties had been connected to the sewer leaving eight still to be done.

## 2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action was found to be necessary.

## 3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A water carriage system is in operation in the Parishes of Clapham, Wymington and Stewartby, and in parts of the Parishes of Eaton Socon, Eastcotts and Sharnbrook. The rest of the district has Water Closets (to cesspools) and Earth Closets.

## 3. (ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year the following materials have been salvaged by your Contractors and by voluntary organisations.

	Contractors		Voluntary Organizations			Totals		
	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.	qrs.	tons	cwts.	qrs.
Paper ... ..	44	12	34	1	—	78	13	—
Black Scrap ... ..	3	9	—	9	—	3	18	—
Aluminium ... ..	—	2	—	—	$\frac{1}{4}$	—	2	$\frac{1}{4}$
Rags ... ..	1	4	—	8	—	1	12	—
Sacking ... ..	2	19	—	9	—	3	8	—
Bones ... ..	1	18	1	10	—	2	18	—
Brass ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bottles ... ..	118 doz.		62 doz.			180 doz.		
Jars ... ..	48 doz.		18 doz.			66 doz.		

## 3. (iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

## REPORT OF NUISANCES.

1. Defective and/or Blocked Drainage ... ..	15
2. Defective Sinks and Wastes ... ..	33
3. Defective Gullies and Surrounds ... ..	1
4. No provision for proper drainage ... ..	3
5. Cesspool Nuisances ... ..	6
6. Defective Pumps ... ..	1
7. Defective and Insanitary E.C.'s ... ..	86
8. Defective W.C.'s ... ..	4
9. Defective Wells ... ..	1
10. Lack of or Defective Refuse Accommodation ... ..	19
11. Offensive Accumulations ... ..	2
12. Insanitary Ditches ... ..	6
13. Defective Water Services ... ..	22
14. Houses to re-decorate ... ..	3
15. Blocked and/or Defective Sewers ... ..	4

16.	Houses not reasonably fit under Public Health and Housing Acts ... ..	445
	Defective Roofs ... ..	21
	Defective Floors (Boarded) ... ..	8
	Defective Floors (Brick) ... ..	2
	Damp and Defective Walls ... ..	4
	Defective Wall Plaster ... ..	11
	Defective Ceiling Plaster ... ..	18
	Defective Fences ... ..	2
	Defective Windows ... ..	40
	Defective Chimneys ... ..	10
	Defective Eaves Gutters ... ..	15
	Defective Paving Outside ... ..	2
	Defective Mantelpieces ... ..	1
	Defective Vent Pipes ... ..	1
	Defective Staircases ... ..	2
	Defective Grates ... ..	205
	Defective Outbuildings ... ..	2
	Defective Doors ... ..	31
	Defective Landings ... ..	1
	Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation ... ..	3
	Defective Coppers ... ..	64
	Defective Rainwater Pipes ... ..	4
	Defective Paths and Gates ... ..	10
	Defective Cellars ... ..	1
	Defective Rainwater Butts ... ..	39
17.	Houses unfit for Human Habitation ... ..	0
18.	Houses inspected and recorded ... ..	8
19.	Cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	71
20.	Rooms Disinfected ... ..	87
21.	Schools Disinfected ... ..	1
22.	Infested Houses ... ..	3
23.	Rooms Disinfested ... ..	9
24.	Cowshed Nuisances ... ..	—
25.	Bakehouse Nuisances ... ..	—
26.	Slaughterhouse Nuisances ... ..	—
27.	Rat Infested Premises ... ..	1

## SUMMARY OF MATTERS DEALT WITH.

	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Defects or Nuisances found</i>
Houses, Inspection of, Public Health and Housing Acts ... ..	476	497
Public Health Act Inspections ... ..	443	206
Factories, etc. ... ..	12	—
Cowsheds and Dairies ... ..	60	—
Slaughterhouses and Retail Shops ... ..	11	—
Houses, Inspection of, under Overcrowding Provisions ... ..	2	—
Inspections in connection with Water Scheme	447	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1451	725
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Number of Notices served, Preliminary	...	...	31
"    "    "    "    Statutory	...	...	6
Proceedings taken	...	...	0

#### DISINFECTION.

After all cases of notifiable infectious disease the rooms occupied by the patient are sealed off and disinfected with a dilute spray of formalin or by formaldehyde gas. 87 rooms were so treated in 1941. An inspection of the house and sanitary arrangements is made in each case and where necessary informal notices are served requiring any defects found to be remedied. One School has also been disinfected. The amount of bedding, clothing and other articles likely to retain infection, removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection, was:—

Counterpanes	...	6	Eiderdowns	...	48
Cushions	...	8	Pillows	...	41
Cushion Covers	...	4	Bolsters	...	6
Rugs	...	7	Blankets	...	107
Carpets	...	3	Pillow Cases	...	33
Dresses	...	5	Towels	...	24
Nightdresses	...	8	Other Articles	...	47
Dressing Gowns	...	3	Vests	...	4
Shirts	...	3	Socks	...	7
Mattresses	...	31	Coats	...	2
Sheets	...	44	Trousers	...	2
Beds	...	3	Pyjamas	...	3

#### PETROL AND CARBIDE LICENCES.

Number of Licences to store petrol and carbide granted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

#### 3. (iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

During the year three inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1934, and in every case the provisions of the Act were complied with. In this Rural District 95 per cent of the shops are small shops and houses combined and these are managed without any assistants. With regard to Circular 1600, dealing with offices, no action has been found to be necessary.

## 3. (v) CAMPING SITES.

1. Number of sites used for camping purposes ... ..	2
2. Number of sites licensed by Local Authority ... ..	2
3. Estimated maximum number of campers resident during the summer season ... ..	25

## 3. (vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was found necessary during the year.

## 3. (vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

(a) There are no public baths in the area.

(b) In Stewartby there is a privately owned swimming bath.

The River Ouse runs through the district and bathing takes place along the banks in many Parishes.

## 3. (viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. No. of Council Houses infested ... ..	0
No. of other houses infested ... ..	2
No. of houses disinfested ... ..	2

## 2. Methods employed:

Skirting, picture rails, etc., loosened and sprayed with Zaldecide, or rooms sealed and fumigated with Thermatox Fumigators. The above operations are repeated after several days.

3. Careful inspection of belongings of prospective tenants is made prior to occupation of new house.

4. Disinfestation carried out by Local Authority free.

5. Visits are made to ensure that the premises are being kept in a clean condition.

## SECTION D.—HOUSING.

## BUILDING AND PLANS REPORT.

Number of Plans approved during the year	...	...	...	43
Number of Dwellings	...	...	...	4
"    " Additions and Alterations	...	...	...	14
"    " Garages	...	...	...	9
"    " Offices and Outbuildings	...	...	...	2
"    " Re-drainage Schemes	...	...	...	5
"    " Conversions into Dwellings	...	...	...	4
"    " Industrial Premises	...	...	...	2
"    " Farm Buildings	...	...	...	1
"    " Stores and Sheds	...	...	...	2
Number of Houses erected by Private Enterprise during the year				2
Number of Inspections in connection with foundations			...	5
"    "    "    "    "    "    " D.P.C.'s			...	7
"    " Intermediate Inspections	...	...	...	42
"    " Inspections of drains and testing	...	...	...	37
"    " Final Inspections	...	...	...	7
"    " Samples taken	...	...	...	6

Under the various Housing Acts, 488 Houses have been erected by this Council and the late Eaton Socon Rural District Council.

## HOUSING CONDITIONS.

## 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	445
(b) Number of inspections for the purpose	...	476
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling Houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	8
(b) Number of inspections for the purpose	...	39
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	0
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	8

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

(1)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	4
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	4
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:	
(a)	By Owners ... ..	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts ... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	2
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...	Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1935—OVERCROWDING.

Owing to war conditions and to this being a Reception Area, temporary overcrowding exists in some houses.



## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## (a) MILK SUPPLY.

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>Producers &amp; Retailers</i>	<i>Producers</i>	<i>Retail Purveyors</i>	<i>Total</i>
Great Barford ...	4	2	1	7
Little Barford ...	1	0	0	1
Biddenham ...	0	3	1	4
Bletsoe ...	2	0	0	2
Bolnhurst and Keysoe ...	10	7	0	17
Bromham ...	2	2	2	6
Cardington ...	2	0	0	2
Carlton and Chellington..	7	3	0	10
Clapham ...	1	0	0	1
Colmworth ...	1	1	0	2
Cople ...	2	0	0	2
Dean and Shelton ...	6	0	0	6
Eastcotts ...	2	4	1	7
Eaton Socon ...	5	2	1	8
Elstow ...	2	5	0	7
Felmersham ...	7	2	0	9
Harrold ...	1	2	1	4
Kempston Rural ...	5	9	2	16
Knotting and Souldrop ..	3	3	0	6
Melchbourne and Yelden	3	2	0	5
Milton Ernest ...	1	2	2	5
Oakley ...	2	2	0	4
Odell ...	1	2	0	3
Pavenham ...	4	1	0	5
Pertenhall ...	6	1	0	7
Podington ...	6	3	0	9
Ravensden ...	4	4	0	8
Renhold ...	6	6	1	13
Riseley ...	6	1	0	7
Roxton ...	3	0	0	3
Sharnbrook ...	3	2	0	5
Stagsden ...	4	3	0	7
Little Staughton	3	3	0	6
Stevington ...	3	2	0	5
Stewartby ...	1	3	0	4
Swineshead ...	3	0	0	3
Thurleigh ...	5	4	0	9
Turvey ...	3	4	0	7
Wilden ...	3	2	1	6
Willington ...	0	0	1	1
Wilstead ...	6	10	2	18
Wootton ...	6	3	1	10
Wymington ...	2	3	0	5
	<u>147</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>272</u>

Number of Persons registered since 1900	...	...	...	666
"    "    "    now carrying on the trade	...	...	...	272
"    "    "    registered during the year	...	...	...	15
Licence to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	3
"    "    "    Accredited Milk	...	...	...	57
"    "    sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	3
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	...	...	...	60
Estimated number of Dairy Cows	...	...	...	2455

## (b) MEAT INSPECTION.

Conditions of Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	Good
Number of Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	18

Eighteen Slaughter-houses were licensed under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and of these, 16 have retail shops attached. There is also one separate retail shop in the Parish of Wilstead.

Since the 15th January, 1940, the slaughter of animals and distribution of meat has been under the direct control of the Ministry of Food. As a result, no regular slaughtering is done in the 18 Slaughter-houses within the District.

Inspection of all meat distributed in the District is carried out at the central Slaughter-houses in the Borough of Bedford.

The following foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human food:—

48 tins Milk.  
21 lbs. Cheese.  
90 lbs. Sausages.  
364 lbs. Meat.

The above were not destroyed but used for animal feeding stuffs.

## OTHER FOODS.

Number of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	24
Want of Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	—

## FACTORIES.

## 1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories with mechanical power	6	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	6	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers premises)	0	—	—
	<hr/> 12	<hr/> —	<hr/> —
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## 2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Defects found</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) insufficient	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	—	—	—
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

There is no outwork in unwholesome premises.

(Signed) F. LINDLEY,  
M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,  
*Sanitary Inspector,*  
*Bedford Rural District Council.*

## THE SANITATION AND WATER SUPPLY OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

School	Church of England or Council	Average Number of Pupils on Roll	Average Attendance	Type of Closet	Accommo- dation			Disposal Excreta	Water
					Boys	Girls	Infants		
Biddenham ..	C.E.	18	16	W.C.	1	2	1	Sewer	Main supply
Bletsoe ...	C.E.	41	37	Pail	1	1	2	Removed 5 times weekly	Main supply outside
Bolnhurst ...	C.	18	15	Pail	1	1	0	Drying Sheds once weekly	Main supply
Bromham ...	C.E.	109	103	Pail	2	2		Removed once weekly	Main at Schoolhouse
Cardington ..	C.	35	31	Pail	2	2	1	Drying Sheds once weekly	Main supply
Carlton ...	C.E.	36	34	Pail	2	2	0	Removed weekly	Well at Schoolhouse
Clapham ...	C.E.	206	176	W.C.	3	4	0	Sewer	Main supply
Colmworth ..	C.E.	44	35	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Cople ...	C.	48	46	Pail	2	1	1	Removed weekly	Main supply
Dean ...	C.	33	26	Pail	2	1	1	Twice weekly	Main supply
Eastcotts ...	C.	83	78	Pail	3	3		Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Eaton Socon.	C.	332	185	Pail	2	5	4	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Elstow ...	C.	156	137	W.C.	3	7	2	Sewer	Main supply
Felmersham .	C.	66	55	Pail	1	1	1	Drying Shed weekly	Main supply
Gt. Barford .	C.	120	104	Pail	2	3	1	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main supply
Harrold (Senior)	C.	47	47	W.C.	4	8	0	Sewer	Main supply
Harrold (Junior)	C.	112	106	W.C.	3	3	2	Sewer	Main supply
Kempston (Rural)	C.	92	84	Pail	2	3	0	Removed 5 times weekly	Taps from main
L. Staughton	C.	37	35	Pail	2	1	1	Removed weekly	Main supply
L. Barford ...	C.	30	28	Pail	1	2	0	Removed weekly	None on premises
Keysoe ...	C.	71	61	Pail	2	2	1	Twice weekly	Main supply
Melchbourne	C.	21	19	Pail	1	1	0	Twice weekly	Main supply
Milton Ernest	C.E.	42	39	Pail	2	3		Removed thrice weekly	Main supply
Oakley ...	C.	59	55	W.C.	1	1	1	Hand-flushed to cesspool	Main supply

The Sanitation and Water Supply of Elementary Schools—*continued.*

School	Church of England or Council	Average Number of Pupils on Roll	Average Attendance	Type of Closet	Accommo- dation			Disposal Excreta	Water
					Boys	Girls	Infants		
Odell ...	C.E.	17	13	Pail	2	1	1	Removed weekly	Nil
Pavenham ...	C.	36	34	Pail	1	1	1	Removed weekly	Main supply
Pertenhall ...	C.E.	17	15	Pail	2	1	1	Buried once a week	Pump
Podington ...	C.E.	66	55	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Ravensden ..	C.E.	42	40	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Renhold ...	C.E.	68	59	Pail	2	2	0	Removed 2-3 times weekly	Main supply
Riseley ...	C.E.	84	79	Pail	2	2	2	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Roxton ...	C.E.	83	67	Pail	1	1	1	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Sharnbrook ..	C.	120	115	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Swineshead ..	C.	14	13	Pail	1	3	0	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Souldrop ...	C.	42	40	Pail	2	2		Drying Shed Removed daily	Main supply
Stagsden ...	C.E.	115	101	Pail	4	4	0	Removed once weekly	Main supply
Stevington ...	C.	43	35	W.C.	2	3		Sewer	Main supply
Stewartby (Senior)	C.	42	37	W.C.	4	10	0	Sewer	Main supply
Stewartby (Junior)	C.	111	97	W.C.	3	6	2	Sewer	Main supply
Thurleigh ...	C.	56	46	Pail	3	3		Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Turvey ... (Junior)	C.E.	50	42	Pail	2	4	4	Removed weekly	Main supply
Wilden ...	C.E.	49	38	Pail	1	1	2	Removed thrice weekly	Main supply
Willington ...	C.	65	62	W.C.	1	1	2	Hand-flushed to cesspool	Main supply
Wilstead (Mixed)	C.E.	83	72	Pail	2	3	0	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Wilstead (Infants)	C.E.	35	31	Pail	0	0	3	Removed weekly	Nil
Wootton ... (Mixed)	C.	167	148	Pail	2	5	0	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main supply
Wootton (Infants)	C.	68	55	Pail	0	0	6	Drying Shed weekly	Main supply
Wymington	C.E.	95	78	W.C.	2	3	0	Sewer	Main supply
Yelden ...	C.	24	18	Pail	1	1	1	Once weekly	Pump



Deaths ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Patients in hospital on December 31st, 1941	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### SMALL POX.

I am glad to report that there have been no cases notified.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

Fifty cases have been notified; 49 have been removed to the Isolation Hospital. These cases were distributed among 26 parishes, the largest number that occurred in any one parish was eight; these resided in Willington. No deaths.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

Fourteen cases were notified; all removed to the Isolation Hospital. No deaths.

#### ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

During the year under review a large number of school children have been immunised against Diphtheria. I obtained the consents of the parents and I arranged for a doctor to attend at all the schools in the district. Out of the number of children on the roll, which is 3,833, I had completely immunised 2,742.

With regard to the children who are under school age, the County Medical Officer of Health has arranged to do the immunisation at the various Infant Welfare centres, he informs me that by the last day of the year under review 390 children have been completely immunised.

#### PNEUMONIA.

Thirty cases were notified from 13 parishes, 12 came from the parish of Cardington, the majority of these were members of the Royal Air Force.

Eleven deaths were registered.

#### ERYSIPELAS.

Seven cases notified: two of them were treated in hospital.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases reported.

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

One case notified.

This patient recovered.

## PARATYPHOID AND TYPHOID FEVER.

Five cases were notified.

Four were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Clapham, the fifth was treated at Bromham Colony. All recovered.

## CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Ten cases notified.

Four of these cases were removed to the Oakley Isolation Hospital and two of them died. The other six cases came from the Royal Air Force at Cardington and were treated in a Military Hospital.

## WHOOPIING COUGH.

One hundred and thirty-two cases have been reported; they have occurred in 23 parishes, 32 in one parish.

## MEASLES.

Three hundred and seventeen cases were notified from 28 parishes. The following parishes had severe epidemics, namely —

Eaton Socon	...	...	...	102 cases
Bromham	...	...	...	19 „
Renhold	...	...	...	19 „
Wilden	...	...	...	23 „
Kempston	...	...	...	13 „
Podington	...	...	...	41 „
Yelden	...	...	...	18 „

## NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was an outbreak of Mumps at the following schools, namely:— Biddenham, Stagsden, Willington, Colmworth, Milton Ernest and Bromham.

An epidemic of Chicken Pox occurred in the parishes of Cardington, Sharnbrook, Wilstead, Riseley, Biddenham, Woolton, Pavenham and Podington.



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

<i>Age period</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Typhoid</i>
Total cases notified ...	55	10	14	30	7	1	132	317	5
Cases admitted to Hospital ...	49	9	14	3	2	0	0	5	5
Total Deaths ...	—	2	—	12	—	1	—	—	—
Cases under 1 year ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 1-2 years...	—	—	—	1	—	—	10	14	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 2-3 years...	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	21	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 3-4 years...	3	—	—	—	—	—	19	39	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 4-5 years...	4	1	1	—	—	—	17	29	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 5-10 years	20	—	3	1	—	—	61	146	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 10-15 years	7	1	2	1	—	—	6	35	—
Deaths „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 15-20 years	6	2	3	1	1	—	2	9	2
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 20-35 years	9	6	4	12	1	1	3	12	2
Deaths „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cases from 35-45 years	4	—	1	3	—	—	1	2	1
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 45-65 years	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	2	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 65 and over	1	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths „ ...	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

<i>Villages</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Cerebro Spinal Meningitis</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Typhoid</i>
Oakley ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Clapham ... ..	4	1	—	—	1	—	5	8	—
Eaton Socon ... ..	1	—	1	3	1	1	9	102	—
Bromham ... ..	4	—	1	—	—	—	17	19	1
Willington ... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1
Cardington ... ..	6	6	—	12	1	—	—	4	—
Wymington ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	9	—
Wilstead ... ..	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	4	—
Thurleigh ... ..	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	5	—
Renhold ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	19	1
Gt. Barford ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	3	1
Felmersham ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	1
Harrold ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—
Bletsoe ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Sharnbrook ... ..	1	—	1	4	1	—	32	7	—
Biddenham ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—
Wilden ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	23	—
Eastcotts ... ..	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—
Odell ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Kempston ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	7	13	—
Stewartby ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pertenhall ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Souldrop ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Podington ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	41	—
Pavenham ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—
Yeldon ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
Cople ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Carlton ... ..	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton ... ..	1	—	—	1	2	—	6	2	—
Turvey ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Roxton ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Elstow ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
Stevington ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colmworth ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Bolnhurst ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Riseley ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dean ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Little Staughton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Milton Ernest ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Swineshead ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.  
New Cases and Mortality.

Villages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Eaton Socon ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Pertenhall ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Stagsden ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bolnhurst ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Little Staughton ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keysoe ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turvey ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bletsoe ...	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kempston Hardwick ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ravensden ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dean ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Wymington ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Souldrop ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Harrold ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Swineshead ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Sharnbrook ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Eastcotts ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bromham ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Biddenham ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

\* Renotification.

TUBERCULOSIS.  
New Cases and Mortality.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year to 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5 years to 10 years ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10 " 15 "	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 " 20 "	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 " 25 "	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 " 35 "	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35 " 45 "	*1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
45 " 55 "	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55 " 65 "	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Renotification.

## CANCER.

There have been 49 deaths out of 312 from all causes, of these 25 were males and 24 females.

The various systems affected and the ages of each sex at death are as follows:—

*Males.*

4	Cancer cases of œsophagus	... ..	ages 58, 61, 60, 54
9	„ „ „ Stomach and Duodenum		ages 67, 67, 57, 64, 64, 75, 53, 58, 60
12	„ „ „ other sites		ages 81, 67, 65, 49, 69, 61, 42, 63, 64, 73, 49, 73

*Females.*

3	Cancer cases of Uterus	... ..	ages 50, 67, 46
5	„ „ „ Stomach and Duodenum	... ..	ages 72, 66, 71, 85, 60
3	„ „ „ Breast	... ..	ages 69, 69, 76
13	„ „ „ other sites		ages 65, 49, 57, 88, 73, 83, 42, 65, 82, 51, 53, 64, 2

## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was necessary under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)

REGULATIONS 1925, AND SECTION 172 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

No necessity for any action under these regulations arose during the year under review.

## IN CONCLUSION.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking your Council for their consideration and support, also your clerk, Mr. Townsend, for his ready assistance and advice, and your Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. Lindley, for his valuable help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**W. K. PARBURY,**

M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.),  
D.P.H. (CAMB.), D.M.R.E. (CAMB.)

June, 1942.

