#### [Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Blandford Forum Borough.

#### **Contributors**

Blandford Forum (England). Borough Council.

#### **Publication/Creation**

1953

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## BOROUGH OF BLANDFORD FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1953

TOTAL AND STATE OF THE STATE OF

Public Health Department, Civic Centre, Wimborne.

TO: -

Her Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Blandford.

The Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough is submitted for your information and consideration. The Report is presented as follows:-

A. Vital Statistics.

B. General provisions of Health Services in the Area.

C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area: -

1. Water.

2. Sewerage.

3. Rodent Control.

D. Factories and Workshops.

E. Housing.

F. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

G. Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Much of the routine sanitary work of the Public Health Department has not been carried out, nor can be, until the department is adequately staffed.

I have much appreciated the help and co-operation given to me by my professional colleagues in practice in the Borough.

In conclusion, I wish to thank members of the Council and other Council officials who have extended to me courtesy and assistance.

J.B.M. Mayes.

JULY, 1954.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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#### 1953

### BOROUGH OF BLANDFORD

#### HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

Miss E.G. Castleman-Smith M.B.E., J.P.

ALDERMEN: -

D.S. Cuff.

W.J. Newman (retired 9.6.53)

COUNCILLORS: -

Mrs. E.M. Biddulph.

C.B. Faulkner (died January 1953)

D. Gent.

E.H. Jones.

A. Powis.

J. Trickett.

B.C. Hunt

C.M. Timbrell.

J.L. Carter.

T.W. Fowler.

G.R.J. Haskett.

R.J.W. King.

E.G. Riggs.

Miss A.A. Williams

F. Wyatt.

### CHARLES NO. HOUSE

### THE RESIDENCE AND

Man H.C. Contleten-Spith .... S. . J.V.

### -: 1120 box 0. 10

B.B. Curr.

W.J. Marchae (southed 9.5.5)

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B.O. Riches.

Mar S.A. Williams

#### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.B.M. Mayes, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

W.E. Ramm. M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A., R.P.

#### VETERINARY SURGEONS

Major F. Beckett, F.R.C.V.S., and his Staff (acting as Meat Inspectors)

## THE PARTY HELICAL CHARLES AND TO SELECT

MANUAL DESIGNATIONS

TOTAL PROPERTY DATE: MARKET TOTAL DITCH.

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## SECTION A GENERAL STATISTICS.

1.	Area of the Borough		253 acr	es.
2.	Population as estimated by Registrar Ge on June 30th, 1953		,657	
3.	Total number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1953	1	L <b>,</b> 447	
4.	Rateable value at 1st April, 1953	£2	7,739.	
5.	Sum represented by penny rate at 1st April, 1953		£104.10	
	SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.  for the year - 1953.			
TTU	E BIRTHS	Total.	Male.	Female
Tot	al registered	55 52	29 26	26 26
	egitimate	3	3	-
	al registered. (legitimate)	ī	- 0	ī
Tot	al registered	59	26	33
	ths of infants under one year of age:- al registered (legitimate)	3	-	3
Lin	COMPARATIVE STATISTICS re Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home	Blandf	ord Er	gland and Wales
pop	ulationth rate per 1,000 estimated home	15.039		15.5.
pop	pulation using comparability factor	15.49		
	th Rate per 1,000 estimated home	18.18		22.4
por	pulation	16.13.		11.4
pop	sulation using comparability factor th Rate of infants under one year of age	13.07		
	1,000 related live births	54.55		26.8

## CITATELLA CONTRA

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17,500,00	L. E apendarranks	2.0. Ropelarites corestalted by Regarded at June 30th; 2055
7-544.4		3.0 Total busies of infatelad hobes
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£.5		Total a film message on the land
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#### CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1953.

CAUSE	Male.	Female.	Total	
Malignant Neoplasm - stomach.  Malignant Neoplasm - lung.  Malignant Neoplasm. breast.  Other Malignant Neoplasms.  Vascular lesions of nervous system.  Coronary disease.  Other heart diseases.  Influenza.  Pneumonia.  Bronchitis.  Gastro enteritis.  Accidents - motor vehicle.  Other accidents.  Suicide.  All other deaths.	0 5 1 7 2 0 2 2 0	1 0 1 2 5 3 12 1 1 1 0 1 0 4	1 2 1 7 6 10 14 1 3 3 1 1 1	

#### COMPENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

The Birth Rate for 1953 has risen. 15.49 in 1953. 14.30 in 1952. 18.84 in 1951.

The number of deaths exceed the number of births by 4. The three infants who died under four weeks of age were all born prematurally. One Stillbirth has been recorded.

The crude Birth Rate was 15.04 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the Comparability Factor of 1.03 the standardised Birth Rate was 15.49.

The crude Death Rate was 16.13 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the Comparability Factor of 0.81, the standardised death rate was 13.07. This is higher than the Death Rate in England and Wales, 1952, and Blandford in 1952.

The Comparability Factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar-General. The purpose of this factor is to level out the differences in the age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts, and enable more accurate comparisons to be made of birth and death rates in other areas.

There were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, measles, scarlet fever, nor from poliomyelitis. There were no maternal deaths.

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#### SECTION B

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Public Health Laboratory service at Dorchester has continued to give the district generous service. The Laboratory undertakes the bacteriological examination of water, milk, ice cream and other foods. It also examines specimens for diagnosis in the case of infectious, or suspected infectious diseases.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service of the district is under the jurisdiction of the Dorset County Council, operating day and night from Castleman House. This service also covers the Rural District.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Dorset County Council provide an Antenatal Clinic and an Infant Welfare Centre once a fortnight. These are held in the Congregational Hall.

#### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The Domestic Help Service has continued in Blandford during 1953 under the jurisdiction of the Dorset County Council.

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#### SECTION C

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA - WATER.

The water is supplied by the Blandford Water Undertaking, owned by the Council. The two sources of water are at Black Lane and Blandford St. Mary. The former, a borehole together with a group of "shallow wells" and adits, and the latter a "shallow well" with an adit. The depth of the borehole is 100 feet. During the year both supplies were chlorinated, at Black Lane the chlorine was passed into a venturi throat in the rising main to the reservoir, the supply at Blandford St. Mary was chlorinated by a drip feed into the well.

The water supply was adequate throughout the year except in the early autumn, when consumers were asked to be especially careful with water. Very low levels were recorded in the shallow wells and the bore hole at Black Lane. The supply improved from October onwards.

It appears the quantity of water available may not be adequate for the Council's requirements and thus it is very necessary to improve the supply as soon as possible.

Pimperne water supply deteriorated in the late summer and autumn. A large leak in the distribution main was found and repaired with immediate improvement in the supply.

The results of the samples taken through the year were satisfactory. The need for constant and careful chlorination of both supplies is essential as both are potential sources of easy pollution.

The total amount of water pumped during the water abstraction year was 144,463,050 gallons. The water abstraction year is from November 1st 1952 to 31st October 1953.

Black Lane Pumping Station - 7 samples taken - all Class 1
Distribution Mains -18 samples taken - all Class 1

93 new premises were connected to the mains during the year.

191 houses are supplied with standpipes, the remainder have water inside the premises.

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One sample was taken for chemical analysis from each of the three sources of supply, the results were as follows: -

#### Blandford St. Mary's Pumping Station

October 16th, 1953.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above mentioned Sample with the following results (expressed as parts per million):-

Ammonia, free	0.048
Ammonia, albuminoid	0.142
Nitrates	Absent.
Nitrates, as Nitric Nitrogen	2.47
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins at 80 deg.F	0.190
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg.F	
Chlorine	24.0
as Sodium Chloride	38.65
Hardness, temporary22	20.0
Hardness, permanent	
Hardness, total28	
Total solids	30.0
pH value	7.2.

Metals: Iron, copper, lead and zinc absent.

Colour: Colourless and Clear.

Odour: None.

#### Remarks:

This is a very satisfactory water. It is hard in character and shows no sign of pollution. In my opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

3rd November, 1953. Arthur S. Carlos B. Sc(Lond) F.R.I.C Public Analyst.

#### Black Lane Pumping Station - Bore Hole.

October 16th, 1953.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above mentioned Sample with the following results (expressed as parts per million):-

Free ammonia 0	.024
Albuminoid ammonia 0	.096
	one
	.05
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins. at 80 deg.F. O	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F 0	
Chlorine	
Chlorine as Sodium Chloride 37	.9
Hardness, temporary217	.5
Hardness, permanent 50	
Hardness, total267	

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Total	solids											386.0
	Lue											7.2

Metals: Iron, Copper, lead and zinc absent.

Colour: Colourless and clear.

Odour: None

#### Remarks

This is a clear bright water, hard in character. The analysis shows no sign of pollution, and in my opinion the water is in excellent condition for drinking and domestic purposes.

3rd November, 1953.

Arthur S. Carlos B. Sc (Lond) F.R.I.C.

Public Analyst

#### Black Lane Waterworks - Shallow Wells.

October 16th, 1953.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above mentioned Sample with the following results (expressed as parts per million):-

Ammonia, free	0.008
Ammonia, albuminoid	0.072
Nitrates	Absent
Nitrates as Nitric Nitrogen	4.52.
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins. at 80 deg.F	.0.491
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F	.0.713
Chlorine	26.0
as Sodium Chloride	42.85
Hardness, temporary2	20.0
Hardness, permanent	35.0
Hardness, total2	
Total solids	30.0
pH value	7.2

Metals: Iron, copper, lead and zinc absent.

Colour: Colourless and Clear.

Odour: None

#### Remarks

This is a clear bright water, hard in character. The above analysis is very satisfactory and shows no sign of pollution. In my opinion the water is very suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

3rd November 1953.

Arthur S. Carlos B. Sc(Lond) F.R.I.C Public Analyst

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#### Swimming Baths.

The baths were opened from May 1st to September 10th. The Council has made some improvement in the condition of the baths, but the public is not adequately safeguarded, the conditions prevailing do not comply with the standards laid down in the Model Bye Laws drafted by the Ministry of Health.

24 samples of water were taken from the Swimming Baths for bacteriological examination. 18 were Class 1, 4 Class 2 and 2 Class 3. The chlorine content of the water in the bath reached a more satisfactory level than in 1952, but the baths were neither watertight nor equipped with a properly constructed filtration plant, and the "turnover period" was far too long.

#### SEWERAGE

The new nine inch surface water sewer laid down Shorts Lane and the Three Choughs Yard appears to have eliminated the surcharging of the West Street and East Street foul sewer by surface water, and there has been no complaint of flooding in West Street.

The sewage disposal works have been working as well as can be expected, but they are unable to work efficiently, large scale repairs being necessary.

In November, the Public Analyst reported that the effluent was unsatisfactory and failed to comply with the requirements of the Royal Commission on sewage disposal.

The suspended solids and dissolved oxygen absorbed in five days exceeded the recommended limit by 38.0 and 16.8 parts per million respectively.

#### Blandford Sewage Works - Outlet of Humus Tanks, 11.55 a.m. November 20th

I hereby certify that I have examined the above mentioned Sample with the following results (expressed as parts per million)

Ammonia Free	1.800
Ammonia Albuminoid	2.800
Nitrates	0.22
Nitrates and Nitrates as Nitric Nitrogen	16.46
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg.F	3.310
Chlorine	64.0
Suspended solids	68.0
Dissolved solids	300.0
Total solids	368.0
pH value	7.3

Incubator Closed Test:

26th November 1953. Arthur S. Carlos B. Sc(Lond)F.R.I.C.

The bases were opened from lay let to September 10th, The Dounds: his test open and the Dounds of the Do not entrait unique of party west trans the Swinning Sache for Designations of the return of the party responds a ware set of the company of the The year wine that separe to have alightered for the carehapeing of the flore the flore that separe to have alightered the carehapeing of the last separe by suffice and the carehapeing of the flore that separe by suffice and the carehapeing in Vest Street. to expected, but they are made to wark officiality, large made thought of the Control of Called to comply with the requirement of the Control of over the estang that and the total and the solution of the solution of the solution of the solutions and the solutions and the solutions are solutions. profession event and profession and the second (not the many educing all the congress of the control of the contr variation and the state of the Carde Control Control Control to Engen absorbed an I camp, before anotherion..... 7.544 Our sen absorbed to 5 mins, after 5 tays income them. 7.851

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#### RODENT CONTROL

#### PREVALENCE OF INFESTATION

Number of properties in the Local Authority's area in which infestation was discovered.

	Infested by Rats.	Serious infestation of Mice.	
Local Authority Properties.	3	Nil	
Dwelling houses.	8	7	
Business premises (Non Agricultural)	3	1	
Agricultural properties.	Nil	Nil	
MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY	No. of properti inspected.  As a result of notification	No. of properties treated by L.A.  Otherwise.	
Local Authority properties.	3	6 4	
Direlling houses.	18	357 23	
Business premises (Non Agricultural)	4	99 3	
Agricultural properties.	Nil	2 Nil	

#### DRY REFUSE.

The condition of the tip has improved. It is far tidier but is not satisfactory owing to lack of sufficient covering material and periodic fires

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# Summary of Sanitary Inspectors' record of number of visits or inspections.

Water undertaking. 303 Sowage works and sewers. 115 Cwimming bath. 62 Recreation ground and gardens. 54 Municipal buildings, Council yard, Mortuary and Market. 80 Refuse service - including tip. 22 Council houses, including requisitioned houses. 342 Infectious etc., diseases investigated and visits in connection therewith. 20 Highways. 156 Building Byelaws and Town and Country planning. 194 Food premises and food, including Ice Crean premises and dairies. 84 Fetroleum installations. 15 Fest control. 37 Public Health Acts. 181 Housing Acts. 181 Housing Acts. 187 Factories Acts 55 Shop Acts. 1 Public Sanitary conveniences. 14 Other visits not classified above. 104  The number of inspections made in connection with food premises, workshops, factories and dwelling houses have been far too few. This cennot be renedied while the Council employs one part time Sanitary Inspector and a part time clerical assistant.  Action taken under Acts of Parliament (a) Fublic Health Acts. 6 Number of informal notices served. 6 Number of Statutory notices served. 6 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 Number of informal notices served. 1 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 Number of informal notices served. 1 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 Number of informal notices served. 1 Number of Statutory notices served. 1 N		
workshops, factories and dwelling houses have been far too few. This cannot be remedied while the Council employs one part time Sanitary Inspector and a part time clerical assistant.  Action taken under Acts of Parliament (a) Public Health Acts.  Number of informal notices served	Sewage works and sewers.  Cwimming bath.  Recreation ground and gardens.  Municipal buildings, Council yard, Mortuary and Market.  Refuse service - including tip.  Council houses, including requisitioned houses.  Infectious etc., diseases investigated and visits in connection therewith.  Highways.  Building Byelaws and Town and Country planning.  Food premises and food, including Ice Cream premises and dairies.  Petroleum installations.  Pest control.  Public Health Acts.  Housing Acts.  Pet Animals Acts.  Factories Acts.  Shop Acts.  Public Sanitary conveniences.	524022 2064 453181514
Number of informal notices served. 38  Number of informal notices complied with. 27  Number of Statutory notices served. 6  Number of Statutory notices complied with. 5  (b) Factories Act and Regulations.  Number of informal notices served. 1  Number of informal notices complied with. nil  Number of Statutory notices served. 1  Number of Statutory notices served. 1  Number of informal notices complied with. 1  Number of informal notices complied with. 1  Number of informal notices complied with. 1	workshops, factories and dwelling houses have been far too few. This cannot be remedied while the Council employs one part time	ıs,
Number of informal notices complied with	Action taken under Acts of Parliament (a) Public Health Acts.	
PROBLED OF STRUCTURE HOLICER GREVED	Number of informal notices complied with	6

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### (d) Water Acts.

Number o	of	informal notices served	12
Number	of	informal notices complied with	10
		Statutory notices served	
Number	of	Statutory notices complied with	19

#### MORTUARY

The Damory Street Mortuary has been used on nine occasions during the year.

#### SLAUGHTER HOUSE.

The present buildings continued to be used throughout the year. The meat inspection has been carried out by a firm of Veterinary Surgeons acting as meat inspectors for the Council.

	Weight of meat condemned during the y	007 00 11	nfit fo	27		
	human consumption	year as	unfit f	or		72
	human consumption				940	
	Carcases Inspected and Condemned	Cattle	Goats	Calves	Sheep &	Pigs.
	Number killed	1547	-	256	2897	471
	Number inspected	1547	-	256	2897	471
	All diseases except T.B. whole carcases condemned	6	_	8	15	41
	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	<b>6</b> 06	_	3	716	203
	Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than		n and	is the ye		
	tuberculosis	39.5	% -	4.3%	25.23	83.35%
Non'	Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned	18	-	_	1	11
	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	<b>1</b> 86	-	- 1	_	6
	Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	13.1	.9% <b>-</b>	_	0,03%	3.6%

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## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Factories Act, 1937 - Part One of the Act.

	The number of Factories regis			
	PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
1.	Factories in which no mechanical power is used		Nil	Nil
2.	Factories in which mechanical power is used	. 34	5	1
3.	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	. 11	11	Nil
Numb	Particulars  Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective		Found and referred	to H.M.I.

### Outworkers

The number of outworkers employed in the district during the year was 43.

No infectious diseases occurred during the year in any of the premises where outworkers were employed.

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#### SECTION E

#### HOUSING

Owing to lack of staff, no routine inspection of houses has been possible.

#### COUNCIL HOUSES

Number of new council houses erected during the year	46
Number of new houses under construction but not completed	
by December 31st, 1953	32
Total number constructed before 19532	34

#### PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Number of private houses erected during the year ..... 8

#### SECTION F INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Ice Cream Premises

Wrapped ice cream and no other was sold from twelve premises.
Wrapped and loose ice cream was sold from five premises and there was one manufacturer of ice cream in the town.

Number of registered Ice Cream premises	18
Samples taken	42

Provisional Grade 1.... 23
Provisional Grade 2.... 9
Provisional Grade 3.... 3
Provisional Grade 4.... 7

### Provisional Grade.

## Time taken to reduce methylene blue

1	4½ hours or more	
2	$2\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 hours	

 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 hours

Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results of any one sample. Judgment should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1. 80 per cent into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

Due to inadequacy of staff, far too few samples were taken.

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#### VINDERICAL CO.

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#### COMMODIAL DESIGNATION

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#### FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

Food condemned during the year	
Tinned cherries - total weight.       30 lbs.         Tinned pineapple       16½lbs         Tinned milk.       (2 pint)       29         Tinned pears.       23 lbs         Tinned pineapple jam.       2 lbs         Tinned beans.       3 lbs         Tinned grapes.       2 lbs         Tinned prunes.       9 lbs         Tinned gooseberries.       1 lb         Tinned apricots.       3½lbs         Tinned carrots.       1 lb         Tinned blackberries.       3 lbs         Tinned kidney soup.       1 lb	Tinned peas - total weight. 38 lbs Tinned tomatoes. 14 lbs Tinned plums. 109 lbs Tinned grapefruit. 3 lbs Tinned strawberries. 6 lbs Tinned marmalade. 9½lbs Tinned meaches. 3 lbs Tinned sweet corn. 1 lb Tinned apples. 35 lbs Tinned apples. 2 lbs Tinned apricot jam. 2 lbs Tinned bilberries. 1½lbs Tinned steak pudding. 1 lb Packet suet. ½lb
Meat and Fish condemned during the year (in 1bs) Tinned boneless ham. 60 lbs Tinned minced beef loaf. 11½lbs Tinned ox tongue. 12 lbs Tinned pilchards. 17 lbs.	Tinned luncheon meat 46 lbs Tinned stewed steak 7 lbs Tinned salmon 4 lbs Tinned corned beef 24 lbs
Fresh beef	Fresh pork 21\frac{3}{4}1bs Fresh mutton 5\frac{1}{2}1bs 28 lbs
List of food premises.	
Hotels, Inns, Public Houses and Sweet shops	

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949

Number of	registere	d distribu	tors of	milk	in 1953	4
Number of	licences	issued for	the sa	le of	special	
designate	d milk in	1953				6

Greengrocers and fruit shops.....

Confectioners and bread shops.....

Bakeries.....

Ice Cream premises.....

6

3

18

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## FREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Whooping cough Measles	
Poliomyelitis (P)	1
(NP)	
Scarlet fever	4
Acute pneumonia  Dysentery	
Meningitis	1
Food poisoning	1
Paratyphoid B	2
Tuberculosis	1

#### TUBERCULOSIS

Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1953.

Pulmonary...... 9 male....... 9 female Non-pulmonary..... 5 female...... 5 female.

One new case of tuberculosis was notified during the year, two patients known to be suffering from tuberculosis came to reside in the area.

There has been one case of food poisoning during the year, the cause was unknown.

The two cases of paratyphoid occurred in one family, the source of infection was unknown, probably outside the area.

In January there occurred an outbreak of diarrhoea. 12 children attending the Infant School, and a certain number of home contacts developed the disease. In a few cases stools showed sonne bacilli. The source of the infection was not discovered, the majority of the children affected had not had school meals. The staff of the school were very helpful in tightening up school hygiene and the County Council replaced school apparatus where it was considered necessary

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		AGE INC	CIDENCE	OF INFEC	rious dis	EASES		
YEAR	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Polion	N.P.	Scarlet Fever	Acute Pneumonia.	Dymentery	
Under 1	2	2						
1 - 2	6	21			1		1	
3 - 4	3	35					5	
5 - 9	12	115	ij.	3	3	1	8	
) -14		8		2		1	2	
5 - 24		1				1		
and over		2	1	1		3	2	
YEAR	Meningiti	s Food Poison:		ratyphoid	В			
Inder 1	1							
2				1				
- 4		.,						
- 9				1				
-14								
-24								
and over		1						

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