[Report 1958] / Medical Officer of Health, Bridgwater Borough.

Contributors

Bridgwater (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1958

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/gvgf8xs7

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



dibrary

Borough of Bridgwater

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1958





BOROUGH OF BRIDGWATER

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1 9 5 8

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR W.J.B. STAPLE

Vice-Chairman:

ALDERMAN MRS. A.B. POTTERTON

ALDERMAN W.O. COATE COUNCILLOR C.W. MILNE

COUNCILLOR W. BAILEY COUNCILLOR P.W.H. MOATE

COUNCILLOR R. MAYER COUNCILLOR W.G. POSKITT

COUNCILLOR M.E. REES

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1 9 5 8

Medical Officer of Health:

R.H. WATSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R.K. LEAN, F.P.H.I.A., Inspector of Meat and Food

Additional Public Health Inspectors
C.W. RICHARDS, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
B.C. RBILLY, M.P.H.I.A.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1958

Health Department, Albert Street, BRIDGWATER.

Tel: Bridgwater 2689

July, 1959.

To:

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bridgwater.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough, and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1958. The report is set out in the manner of previous years, so that comparison with former reports can easily be made.

The total number of births was more or less the same as in the previous year, but as the population has increased the birth rate showed a further decline. The total number of deaths has also shown an increase with a corresponding rise in the death rate, but the increase was confined to people in the older age groups mainly over the age of 70 years. Deaths of middle aged persons actually showed a decrease.

Because of a particularly wet summer it was not necessary to curtail the mains water supply as in previous years. The provision of adequate water storage facilities becomes however a matter of increasing urgency and the Council proceeded as quickly as possible with their proposals for the construction of the new Hawkridge reservoir.

Probably the most important development in preventive medicine in the year under review has been the expansion of the scheme for immunisation against poliomyelitis. Limitation in the supply of vaccine necessitated the restriction of immunisation to those exposed to the greatest risk, and at first, apart from certain adults, immunisation was available only for children between the ages of six months and fifteen years. The upper age limit was later raised to include people up to the age of twenty five years, but as is now well known, the initial response from these people was most disappointing and it was not until the death of a well known footballer that the demands for immunisation became almost overwhelming.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my grateful appreciation to the Members of the Council for the help and consideration which I have received and for the friendly co-operation extended to me by my fellow officers.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R.H. WATSON.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2017 with funding from Wellcome Library

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (census 1951)	
	22,221
Population (Registrar General's estimate) 1958	24,890
No. of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1958	7,312
Rateable value on 31st December, 1958 £ 2	297,867
Sum represented by 1d rate on 31st December, 1958 £	1,197

Extracts from <u>VITAL STATISTICS</u> for the year 1958

Live Births.		(ho re) mist			
	Male	Female	T	otal	
Legitimate Illegitimate	211 7	169 7		380 14	
	218	176		394	
Live Birth Rate per	1,000 populati	on			15.83
Still-Births					9
Still-Birth Rate per	1,000 live an	d still-bir	ths		22.84
Total Live and Still	-Births				403
Infant Deaths (Dea	ths of infants	under one	year of	age)	
	Legitimat Illegitim				
Infant Mortality Rat	e per 1,000 li	ve births -	total		27.92
Infant Mortality Rat	e per 1,000 li	ve births -	legiti	mate	28.09
Infant Mortality Rat	e par 1,000 li	ve births -	illegi	timate	Nil
Neo Natal Mortality	Rate per 1,000	live birth	8		12.69
Illegitimate live bi	rths per cent	of total li	ve birt	hs	3.55
Maternal deaths (in	cluding abort	ion)			Nil
Metannel Montelity D		live and et	ill-bir	ths	Nil
Maternal Mortality R	ate per 1,000	TIVO dilu bo		0210	
Deaths.	ate per 1,000	IIVO and Bo		****	
		Tive and So		V.1.5	301

SPIRITALE IS MADED

SPLINISH AUTOM

155,155

155,155

155,155

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156,15

156

sections and not appropriate the year 1930

AND STEE SES OF STREET, SANDERS OF STREET, SANDERS

tions unterly fines per 1,000 requisition

THE STATE OF THE PART OF THE P

(use to door one index abstract to assume) where another

Party - segment our case of the second

THE STREET - SHEET WE DON'T THE SEAS WHICH AND ADDRESS.

The state of the property of t

III. advite-litte in .vif noogt one area vellednon recorded

.

Tonca mapper-of vertical

sold of the same o

Births.

After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Registrar General's figures show that there were 394 births (218 boys and 176 girls) in the Borough during 1958, being 1 birth more than in 1957. Of these births 14 were illegitimate. This is 3.5% of the total live births, as compared with 5.1% in 1957.

The Registrar General provides a comparability factor for the purpose of rendering the birth rate of the Borough comparable with that of a district the population of which is of standard age and sex distribution. Accordingly when the birth rate is multiplied by this factor, the product represents the birth rate for comparison with other districts. The birth rate for Bridgwater for 1958 adjusted in this manner is lowered from 15.83 to 15.03 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for England and vales was 16.4. Bridgwater, being a prosperous town with diversity of industry attracting labour, will obviously have a higher proportion of families of child bearing age and consequently more favourable crude vital statistics than a town with a large proportion of elderly retired people.

Birth rates for Bridgwater and for England and Wales for the past five years were as follows:-

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Crude Birth Rate	16.08	16.15	16.36	16.05	15.83
Corrected Birth Rate	15.60	15.67	15.79	15.25	15.03
England and Wales	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1	16.4

Still Births.

9 still births were registered during the year. All were legitimate. This number which gives a rate of 22.84 per 1,000 total births, or 0.36 per 1,000 of the population was lower than that for 1957 (0.57). The provisional National Rate for 1958 was 21.6 per 1,000 total births.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough during 1958 was 348. Of these 80 were deaths of non-residents and were transferred to the districts in which the persons ordinarily resided. There were, on the other hand, 33 deaths of Bridgwater residents registered outside the Borough. The total corrected number of deaths assigned to the Borough was 301 (156 males and 145 females). This was 23 nore than in the previous year, and gave a crude death rate of 12.09.

AND AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND THE PARTY A TOTAL BELL COURT OF THE PARTY OF .

This crude death rate cannot be used to compare the mortality with that of other districts, as the populations of all areas are not similarly constituted as regards age and sex distribution. The Registrar General supplies an "Area Comparability Factor" and the crude death rate multiplied by this figure can then be compared with the death rate of the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any other local area. The corrected death rate so obtained was 10.88 per 1,000 of the population and this compared with 11.7 for England and Vales.

Death rates for Bridgwater Borough and England and Wales for the past six years were as follows:-

(State	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Crude Death Rate	11.94	10.72	11.92	11.56	11.40	12.09
Corrected Death Rate	11.46	10.29	11.44	10.75	10.37	10.88
England and Wales	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7

More than the content of the content

bits binering that aggress restaughter for mores dress

QU.SE				
7.42		1.25		

	Cause of Death	М•	F.	Total
	All Causes	156	145	301
1	Tubercilosis of the respiratory system	1	2	3
	Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-
	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	1	1
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm of stomach	4	2	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus	12	1	13
12.	Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	4	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	4	14
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	2	3	5
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	21	27	48
18.	Coronary disease and angina	18	13	31
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	8	10
20.	Other heart disease	28	45	73
21.	Other circulatory disease	6	5	11
22.	Influenza	3	2	5
23.	Pneumonia	3	6	9
24.	Bronchitis	9	1	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3
26,	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	1	7
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	02 10	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	2	-	_
31.	Congenital malformations	-	1	1
	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	9	26
	Notor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
34.	All other accidents	-	3	3
	Suicide	2	1	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1

Estot	1 45		
	are.	965	ALL COMMENTS OF THE PARTY OF TH
			- course quesangues uns to usens schaus de
-			
			the General Special Control of the Special Control of
			necession
			mineloso and domests by quality
			Attended and replaced .60
			and of some last last last last last last last last
			No. Ballande and opposite on the last

As will be seen from the foregoing table, the principal causes of death were as follows:-

Heart disease	114
Vascular lesions of nervous system	48
Cancer	38
Pneumonia and bronchitis	19
Other diseases of circulatory system	11

Deaths. Age Groups 1958.

Age	Males	Females	fotal
Under 1 year 1 - 2 years	4	7	11
3 - 4 "	-	=	=
10 - 14 "	-		-
20 - 24 "	î	1	2
25 - 44 "	2	4 2	-
55 - 55 "	11	4	13 20 25
60 - 64 "	19 21	13	34
75 - 79 "	21 23	24	38 47
80 - 84 " 85 and over	24 13	36 27	60 40
	156	145	301

Cancer Mortality.

The number of deaths of Bridgwater residents from cancer was 38 (males 26, females 12), as compared with 57 in 1957. They constitute 12.6% of the total deaths during the year.

The following table shows the localisation of the disease in the 38 cases:-

Localisation	Number of deaths				
	Male	Pemale	Total	1957	
Stomach	4	2	6	8	
Lungs	12	1	13	11	
Breast	-	4	4	10	
Uterus	-	1	1	1	
Other and unspecified organs	10	4	14	27	
Total	26	12	38	57	

It will be noted that the lungs were again the principal site affected by cancer and that of the 15 deaths, 12 were males. The ages at which deaths from lung cancer occurred during the last three years is detailed in the following table:-

Year	Under 15	15/24	²⁵ / ₃₄	35/44	45/54	55/54	Over 55	Total
1956	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	5
1957	-	-	-	-	2	5	4	11
1958	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	13

Infantile Mortality.

Il infants under one year of age died during the year. This gave an infantile mortality rate of 27.92, while the corresponding rate for England and Fales was 22.5.

There were 5 deaths of infants during the first four weeks of life, as compared with 9 during the previous year.

The following table shows the causes of the infant deaths in detail:-

Cause of death			6 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	4			4
Bronchopneumonia	1	2		3
Asphyxia	1			1
Acute pleurisy		1		1
Acute generalised miliary tuberculosis			1	1
Acute meningococcal meningitis			1	1
Total	6	3	2	11

Deaths from Heart Disease.

Of the 301 deaths, heart disease caused roughly 1 in every 3 (males 48, females 66). It represented 37.9% of the total deaths from all causes and was equivalent to a death rate of 4.6 per 1,000 of the population.

Influenza and Pneumonia Mortality.

There were 14 deaths from these diseases, as against 13 in 1957. The mortality rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.56.

the same of the sa

Buicide.

There were three deaths from suicide, as compared with one in the previous year.

Inquests.

22 inquests were held by the Coroner in the Borough during the year. Of these 8 were upon residents of the town, and 14 on non-residents

The causes of death recorded at inquests upon residents of the Borough are set out as follows:-

Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Road accidents	2	-	2
Accidents in the home	-	1	1
Suicide	2	1	3
Misadventure	-	1	1
Homicide	1	-	1
Total	5	3	8

Population.

The estimated population of the Borough as at June 1958 was 24,890; which shows an increase of 410 over the previous year. The natural increase in the population, that is the excess of births over deaths, was 93, and therefore there was a net increase in population of 317 due to immigration.

In a town such as Bridgwater with its diversity of industry and opportunities for employment of varied nature, it is interesting to note population changes and the following table illustrates the trend during the past twelve years:-

Year	Population increase	Natural increase	Net increase due to immigration
1947	580	223	357
1948	1,375	176	1,199
1949	225	172	53
1950	270	119	151
1951	-450	112	- 562
1952	1,160	92	1,068
1953	200	148	52
1954	160	127	33
1955	200	101	99
1956	240	116	124
1957	340	115	225
1958	410	93	317

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological specimens are sent to the laboratory at Musgrove Park Hospital, which forms part of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Results of investigations are available with the minimum of delay and there is good liaison between the laboratory personnel and the field workers in the Public Health Department.

Examinations carried out during the year included: -

Wilk samples Water samples Water samples 34 Ice cream samples 83

Hospitals.

Hospitals in the area are administered by the South Western Regional Hospital Board, through the Bridgwater Area Management Committee.

The hospitals are:-

Bridgwater General Hospital 72 beds
Mary Stanley Nursing Home 31 beds
Northgate Lodge 60 beds Northgate Lodge

Cases of infectious diseases needing hospital treatment, or isolation, are admitted to Tammton Isolation Hospital.

The Council have continued to press for more adequate hospital accommodation in Bridg ater and it is anticipated that some improvement will follow on the acquisition by the Regional Hospital Board of the coal yard site on the North side of the existing buildings. Further extension of the hospital up to the Broadway relief road will, it is hoped, be undertaken in the not distant future.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Midwives ante-natal clinics which were held twice weekly at the Health Centre have been discontinued and are held at the Mary Stanley Nursing Home. In addition doctors' ante-natal clinics are held there on three sessions per week and are staffed by general practitioners from the town who are interested in maternity work. These clinics are of considerable benefit to patients, midwives and doctors.

The usual clinics held at the Health Centre on the first Monday and Wednesday of the month for taking blood samples from expectant mothers for determination of Rhesus Factor, blood grouping, etc., are continued as heretofore.

Infant Welfare Clini cs.

Infant Wellfare Clinics are held as follows:-

The Health Centre, Tuesday, 2.00 to 4.30 p.m. Mount Street. Friday, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Greenfields,

The Community Centre, 2nd and 4th Thursday in month, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

eenfields, 2nd and 4th Tuesday in month, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics.

The Health Centre, Mount Street.

Greenfields,

Friday, 11.00 a.m.

The Community Centre, 2nd and 4th Thursday in month, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

eenfields, 2nd and 4th Tuesday in month, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Nowadays most children who are immunised against diphtheria are at the same time protected against whooping cough by means of a combined vaccine. A report issued by the Medical Research Council, which was based on statistical evidence, showed that inoculation with combined prophylactics used against diphtheria or whooping cough involved some risk of provoking paralysis due to poliomyelitis, should the child subsequently come into contact with the polio virus. The risk varies according to the time of the year and the type of prophylactic used. used.

This report was considered and on the advice of the Ministry of Health the use of combined vaccined was discontinued. However, many parents were adamant in their demand for immunisation of their children against whooping cough, and it was felt that the frequent injections required for separate immunisation against whooping cough and diphtheria was undesirable for young children and might prejudice the most successful campaign against diphtheria. At the same time regard was had to the extensive programme of immunisation against poliomyelitis which was envisaged and a compromise was reached whereby combined vaccine against diphtheria and whooping cough was used during the period October to April inclusive, and for the remainder of the year, when the risk of contracting poliomyelitis was higher, separate vaccine was used. Now that a high proportion of young infants are in fact immunised against poliomyelitis, it may be unnecessary to restrict the use of combined vaccines, and a lead from the Ministry of Health is awaited.

School Clinic.

A school medical officer attends a school clinic each Monday morning from 10.00 a.m., at the Health Centre, Mount Street, and is available to advise parents on any health matters affecting their children. Many parents avail themselves of this opportunity to discuss their children's health with the school doctor, in addition to the interviews which are part of the routine school medical examination.

School nurses attend minor ailment clinics at the Health Centre, from 9.00 to 11.00 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Triday. Minor ailment clinics are also held at Hamp Junior School on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and Bath Road Junior School on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 a.m.. This arrangement of holding nurses' clinics in the more distant schools has much to commend it when adequate facilities are available.

ered was of Cont attach Other clinics held at the Health Centre, Mount Street include,

Chest Clinic

Orthopsedic Clinic Speech Therapy Clinic Child Guidance Clinic Breathing Exercises Clinic Artificial Sunlight Clinic Monday, Tuesday and Thursday a.m.
and Wednesday all day.
Monday all day.
Tuesday p.m. and Friday all day.
Tuesday a.m.
Wednesday p.m.
Tuesday p.m. and Saturday a.m.

Friam Street Day Nursery.

This nursery, administered by the County Council, is available for children aged 6 months to 5 years. A list of priorities has been drawn up by the Council and a local admission committee decides which children should be admitted. Admission is granted mainly on grounds of economic difficulty or unsatisfactory housing conditions. Accommodation is available for 25 children and the average daily attendance during 1958 was 22.

Ambulance Service.

An Ambulance and Hospital Car Service is provided by the County Council through the agency of Voluntary Organisations. The local headquarters is at 7 West Street, Bridgwater. Ambulances are controlled by radio communication from a central control at Taunton, and a satisfactory service is provided.

Home Help Service.

This service is provided by the County Council, with local administration by the Home Help Organiser, with an office at the Health Centre, Mount Street.

Once again the Home Helps have proved of very considerable value and much assistance was given to needy cases. During the year 197 cases received assistance.

These included the following types of case: -

Maternity	22
Old age and infirmity	112
Tuberculosis	4
Chronic sick	26
Post operation	6
Emergency illness	21
Other cases	6

In many cases assisted, the patient or other members of the family would have been unable to remain at home, were it not for the Home Help Service.

In addition to the normal service, arrangements have now been made for women to sit up with seriously ill cases where alternative arrangements cannot be made.

The number of Home Helps at 31.12.58 was as follows:-

Full time 19 Part time 29 TO MANUAL TRANSPORTED TO A STREET OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47.

A number of cases were assisted through informal action, but nevertheless in one case it was necessary for the Council to take statutory action to secure the admission of an old person to suitable accommodation.

Borough Mortuary.

30 post mortem examinations were carried out at the Borough mortuary during 1958. This compares with 19 in the previous year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Disposal of Refuse.

Refuse disposal is by Controlled Tipping and use is made of the many claypits surrounding the town, as tipping sites. By this means valuable land is reclaimed and brought back to useful purpose. However, as these pits accumulate water it is essential that adequate pumping be carried out, so that controlled tips may be properly maintained and tipping into water is avoided. Otherwise it is almost inevitable that public health nuisance will arise, particularly during the Summer months.

Disinfaction.

The disinfection centre is working satisfactorily and 35 disinfections were carried out during the year.

Water Sup lies.

Regular bacteriological examinations of existing supplies have been made of both the raw water and the water going into supply.

Results were as follows:-

Ashford Reservoir.

Untreated water. Six samples were examined, all of which showed evidence of contamination.

Water after treatment. Eleven samples were examined, all of which gave excellent results.

Durleigh Reservoir.

Untreated water. Six samples were examined, all of which showed evidence of contamination.

Water after treatment. Eleven samples were examined, all of which gave excellent results.

Swimming Baths.

Work commenced on the construction of the new baths and by the end of the year such satisfactory progress had been made that it was evident that they would be available for the greater part of the 1959 season. At the time of writing this report the baths are in fact open to the public and it is obvious that they fulfil a great need in the Borough. Satisfactory treatment plant has ensured a safe water for bathing and tests so far taken confirm that a standard of purity equal to that demanded in public domestic water supply can be obtained without raising the chloring content of the water to a level at which it becomes unduly irritant to the eyes and nose.

Sewage Disposal.

The Consulting Engineer's scheme for the complete renewal of the Eastover sewer has been accepted and it is anticipated that an early start will be made on this project.

Housing.

Number	of	permanent	dwellings	in Borough	7,421
Number	of	permanent	dwellings	owned by Local Authority	2,949
				ring the year	50

	Houses e		Houses in	
	For Slum Clear- ance	For other pur- poses	For Slum Clear- ance	For other pur- poses
Local Authority	-	139	-	97
Private Enterprise	-	102	-	43

In the period from 1st April 1945 to December 31st 1958, a total of 2,234 houses have been built. These were made up of 1,806 by the Local Authority and 428 by private enterprise.

In addition to action taken in respect of Slum Clearance, steps have also been taken to render fit houses which can be made fit at reasonable cost. This is a most important measure in maintaining a reasonable standard of housing and in delaying houses from getting into such a state that representation under Section 15 of the Housing Act, 1957 is necessary. 90 such houses were made fit during the year.

11.4

Advantage has also been taken of Improvement Grants made under the Housing Act, 1949 - 54, but it has been on a small scale. 25 applications in respect of 29 dwellings were received.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

The following particulars indicate the action taken under Part I of the Pactories Act, 1937.

	Premises	Number on Register		per of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	30	46	4-1	-
(ii)	Factories not included in (1) in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	108	172	3	-
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	8	20	-	
	Total	146	238	3	-

STAFF EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations carried out by the Department in connection with new appointments to the Council's staff, and in connection with the Superannuation Scheme and the Torkmen's Sickness Benefit Regulations, were as follows:-

Department	Male	Female	Total
Town Clerk	1	3	4
Borough Engineer	22	1	23
Borough Architect	12	-	12
Borough Treasurer	1	2	3
Housing	2	1	3
Health	-		-
	38	7	45

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS

AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the cases of notifiable diseases that occurred in the Borough during 1958. The table is drawn up after making the necessary corrections in diagnosis by either the practitioners or the Wedical Officers at the Isolation Hospitals.

Disease	Under 1 yr.	-	2	w	n	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	19-54 44-65	Age	Total	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet fever	1			10	7	10	77						1	22	4
Whooping cough	7	10	11	11	174	51	3				1			108	1
Poliomyelitis					Н									1	1
Messles	1	77		1	9		day						1	13	
Meningococcal	1													1	1
Pneumonia								100				2		2	
Brysipelas				-						1	7			2	
Puerperal pyrexis	- 10							1	2	2			1	80	
TOTAL	100	777	14 11	17	22	19	7	7	2	77	2	2	2	157	7

During the previous year 567 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified.

					SOUST SE-ST SPINI TOTAL MUNICIPAL NEWS
				1	n-or

Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).

Only one case was notified during the year.

2,482 people completed the primary immunisation of two injections, by the end of the year, and in addition a large number had received their first injection. For those who have completed the primary course a third injection is given after an interval of approximately seven months.

Measles.

Only 13 cases of measles were notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

22 cases were notified, of which 2 were admitted to hospital. Practically all the cases were mild and of short duration.

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1958 was 33 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory, as compared with 24 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory case in 1957.

	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
Number of cases in the Tuberculosis Register at 31.12.58	199	17
Number of new cases during the year	33	1
Number of deaths during the year	3	no Totale

The very low incidence of deaths due to tuberculosis was maintained and reflects the efficacy of modern treatment. The rise in notifications of new cases must serve as a reminder however that tuberculosis remains very much of a public health problem and that considerable effort is still required before it is overcome. All known cases are thoroughly investigated and all known close contacts are invited to attend the Chest Clinic for investigation. The following table shows the sex and age groups of cases notified during the year:-

Age:-	Under 5	5/14	15/24	25/44	45/64	65 & over	Age unknown	Total
Male	1	1	3	3	5	1	2	16
Female	2	-	10	2	2	1	1	18

State propose or the primary imministrate of the primary imministrate of the telephone in the state of the st Lorizon stantaness to come wei to todade off

B.C.G. Vaccination.

In order to raise the immunity to tuberculosis of school leavers, vaccination with B.C.G. vaccine was offered to all children between the ages of 13 and 14 years, attending school in the Mid-Somerset Divisional Area. 352 accepted the offer and received preliminary skin test, the "Heaf Test", to determine whether they had in fact already experienced some infection with tubercle bacillus. 286 of these gave a negative test and were vaccinated with the B.C.G. vaccine.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. The Public Health Inspectors continue to press for the full implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and on the whole the response from food handlers has been extremely good.

Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria were notified. During the year 280 children under the age of 5 years and 13 children between the ages of 5 - 15 years, were immunised against diphtheria, giving a total of 293.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

The number of primary vaccinations against smallpox has shown a slight rise as compared with the previous year. A high proportion of all vaccinations are carried out because of the requirements of other countries in respect of immigrants.

Persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in 1958.

Unde	r l	1		1000000			0 14	15 or	over	Tota	als
P	R	P	R		R			Р	R	Р	R
92	-	11	-	6	-	9	1	9	6	127	7

P = Primary vaccination R = Re-vaccination

AND TO CARRY OF THE PROPERTY O the state of the s

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH

INSPECTOR FOR 1958

To:-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bridgwater.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

Complaints

During the year 120 complaints were received and dealt with under the Public Health or housing Acts and in addition there were 243 complaints of rat or mouse infestation. Both figures are slightly higher than in 1957.

217 Preliminary Notices were served and 3 Statutory Notices. In no case was it necessary to take legal proceedings.

Housing

164 houses were inspected for the purpose of having defects remedied whilst 16 houses were systematically inspected under the Housing Regulations. Further properties in the West Street Redevelopment Area were purchased for the purpose of demolition.

During the year 60 houses were demolished as the result of formal or informal action.

The inspection of accommodation occupied by applicants on the Housing Waiting List still entails a considerable amount of work.

The schedule at the end of the report gives the amount of repair work carried out under notice to existing houses.

The number of houses found to be verminous was 7, an increase on the figure of 4 for 1956.

10 cases of overcrowding were abated during the year but no new cases were found on inspection. The number of cases known at the end of the year was 12. The majority of these cases are in non-parlour type Council houses whose permitted number is low and where the degree of overcrowding is very slight.

Rent Act, 1957

Tenants of controlled houses have made little use of the Rent Act during the year. Twenty applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received and ten Certificates issued. In the other cases Undertakings to carry out the repairs were given by the Owners.

AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE DEVICE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

The following table gives the amount of work carried out under the Act since it came into force.

No. of applications received	54
No. of houses inspected	54
Form J's sent to Owners	54
Form K's received from Owners	31
Repairs completed	33
Repairs in hand	6
Applications withdrawn -	
Tenants purchased house	2
Certificates of Disrepair issued	22
Certificates of Disrepair revoked	4

Infectious Diseases

Enquiries are made in cases of notifiable disease and disinfection is carried out free of cost. In other cases a charge is made. The disinfecting plant at Market Street is functioning satisfactorily.

Food

The inspection of food and the premises in which it is prepared for sale or sold is one of the most important duties of the Department. The coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations has increased this work and a great deal of time has been spent in inspecting premises, advising shopkeepers on improvements required, serving notices and supervising the alterations.

(i) The number of food premises in the Borough is 258, made up as follows:-

Grocers (including wholesalers)	79
Confectioners (Sweetmeats)	22
Bakers	12
Licensed Premises	65
Greengrocers (including wholesalers)	12
Fishmongers	4
Fried Fish Shops	7
Restaurants, Unlicensed Hotels, Canteens and Kiosks	15
Canteens	9
Cooked Meats etc.	5
Butchers	28

(ii) The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is 109

Ice-Cream Premises 78

Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Foods 31

The number of firms retailing milk in the Borough is 16.

All the milk sold in the Borough is either Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested. easter the act succes is come love felice.

The number of samples of graded milk examined during the year was 34 with the following results.

Grade	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total
Pasteurised	11		11
T.T. (Pasteurised	1) 17	constitute to	17
T.T.	4	-	14
Sterilised	2	-	2
	34	-	34
	-		-

- (iii) The number of inspections of registered food premises is given in the Summary at the end of the report.
- (iv) In connection with the visits to food premises the following foods were condemned.

Beef Bacon Wet Fish Canned Fish	1 cwt. 15 lbs. 5 cwt. 23½ lbs. 1 cwt. 31 lbs. 69 Tins
Canned Meat	472 Tins
Canned Fruit Canned Vegetables	907 Tins 538 Tins
Canned Soup	71 Tins
Canned Milk Jam	132 Tins 69 Tins and Jars
Pickles	31 Jars
Dried Fruits Fruit Pulp	30¼ lbs. 31 cwt.
Other Foods	3 cwt. 68 lbs.

The food condemned was disposed of at the Corporation Refuse Tip.

(v) No special examination of a stock or consignment of food has been necessary.

(vi) Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 1952

The number of premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream is as follows:-

Registered for manufacture and sale 0 Registered for sale 78

No ice-cream is now manufactured in the Borough and practically the whole of the ice-cream retailed is wrapped.

83 samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year and these were graded as follows:-

Grade 1 60 Grade 2 22 Grade 3 1 Grade 4 -

These results are very similar to those obtained last year.

(Bostemuraud) die 21 11 94

(vii) Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

A great deal more work has been carried out under the above Regulations and most premises now comply with the standard of hygiene prescribed. Attention was given to the smaller type of shop. The table in the Summary at the end of the report gives details of the work accomplished. No prosecutions were taken during the year.

Meat Inspection

During the year slaughtering was carried out at 6 private slaughterhouses. This necessitated 1,009 visits to maintain a 100% standard of inspection.

Carcases Inspected

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	593	14	30	2,175	732	-
Number Examined	593	14	30	2,175	732	-

SEEL ARREST ASSESSED (114)

to has all the Summary the tell more and has been corried out that the site of the section of th

DOLL PROPERTY OF

During the year elementaring was carried antest 5 private alarge terminate to materials a large element of inspection...

Company Incompany

Carcases Condemned

Table 1

Table 1									
	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses			
All diseases except Tuberculosis - Whole Carcases condemned	-	- 100	-	2	2	-			
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	37	12	-			
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.52	-	-	1.33	1.91	-			
Tuberculosis only - Whole Carcases condemned		-	-	-	-	-			
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	7	_			
% of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.34	-	-	-	0.96	-			
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	_	-	-			
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for (a) Tuberculosis (b) Cysticercosis (c) Other	25 77•5		-	225.0	59.5 154.5	= =			
Total (in 1bs.)	102.5	-	-	225.0	214.0				

Considered Bernary

						220
	1000					
+ 7		- 14				
						data to communication of the communication and the communication a
		1,35				
					77	
		-		-		
						stangentians of the stangent o
*						Delvisted as a process of the proces
-						
4.4	100	7.				
12	354.5	0,000	- 1			
				744 b		
4		Dates.				(contempe
area con	The second		-	The Property	****	

Carcases Condemned

Table 2

	Beef	Pork	Mutton	Veal
Whole Carcases	-	2	2	-
Fore or Hind Quarters	-	-	-	-
Heads	-	8	-	-
Other Joints	1	5	-	-
Internal Organs	10	11	37	-

Total weight of meat and offal condemned - 4 cwt. 931 lbs.

Swimming Baths

The large swimming bath was closed and demolished in connection with the construction of Broadway. The small swimming bath was converted into a model yacht pond.

Rats and Mice Destruction

Two fully trained Rodent Operators are employed to carry out the destruction of rats and mice. The sewers were treated half yearly and the refuse tip on 4 occasions. The following table sets out details of the work carried out during the year ending 31st March, 1959.

ALICENSE DE LA COMPANSIONE

 -	-		
		185	

will ded associate one came one or a control from

DEVELOPED STREET

Time of "webword to college the state of the college of the colleg

ADMINISTRAÇÃO DE SE ESTO DE SE

The designation of the state and makes the state of the s

		Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	Business and Industrial Premises	. Total
1.	Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1957- as a result of:- (a) Notification, (b) Survey or otherwis	8 (a) 14 (b) 20		1	58 329 L	244 1,932
2.	Total inspections carried out including re-inspection	63	5,184	23	546 6	,816
3.	Number of properties inspected (see Section 1) which were found to be infested with rats		- 139	7	3 21	8
4.	Number of properties inspected (see Section 1) which were found to be infested with mice		- 54	-	5 27	5 84
5.	Number of properties treated by Local Authority (see Sections 3 and 4)	20	201	1	63	285

Staff

There have been no changes in the Staff during the year. All the members of the Staff carried out their duties satisfactorily.

Summary

Inspections made during the year

General Sanitation

Water Supply	39
Drainage	204
Stable and Piggeries	4 3
Houses let in lodgings	244
Factories	63
Outworkers	
Rats and Mice	190
Shops	485
Caravan Sites	159
Swimming Baths	1
Public Conveniences	356
Atmospheric Pollution	15
Heating Appliances	4 3
Pet Shops	3
Miscellaneous	229

	- Lucityna forzas	Lessa lessassina	
400 - 60 400 - 60	< 5 PM		

20.02

The state of the s

NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.

The rate open spot second

The second secon

Housing

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts Visits paid to the above houses Houses inspected under the Housing Acts Visits paid to the above houses Houses inspected during Housing Survey Houses inspected in connection with overcrowding Visits paid to the above houses Verminous premises inspected Visits paid to the above premises Miscellaneous	164 647 16 60 958 2 39 16 55 606
ctious Diseases	
Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases Visits re disinfection Miscellaneous	16 8 -
and Food Inspections	
Visits to Shops and Stalls Visits to Butchers Visits to Confectioners Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers Visits to Grocers Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers Visits to Bakers and Confectioners Visits to Bakers and Milk Distributors Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors Visits to Ice-Cream Premises Visits for Ice-Cream Samples Visits to Restaurants and Catering Establishments Visits to Food Preparing Premises Visits to Licensed Premises Visits to Street Vendors Visits to Market Stalls Visits for Samples of Milk (Bacteriological) Miscellaneous	841 178 233 68 22 250 28 10 7 18 80 83 37 60 24 8 145 342
osives	
Visits in connection with explosives Visits in connection with Petroleum Spirit Work Done	87 66
c Health and Housing	
	120 243 21 4 20 9 34 1 32 25 17 25 7 1
	Visits paid to the above houses Ecuses inspected under the Housing Acts Visits paid to the above houses Houses inspected unring Housing Survey Houses inspected in connection with overcrowding Visits paid to the above houses Verminous premises inspected Visits paid to the above premises Niscellaneous **Cious Diseases** Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases Visits re disinfection Miscellaneous and Food Inspections Visits to Slaughterhouses Visits to Shops and Stells Visits to Sutchers Visits to Tries and Foulterers Visits to Groecere Visits to Groecere Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers Visits to Bakers and Confectioners Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors Visits to Ice-Cream Fremises Visits to Ice-Cream Samples Visits to Restaurants and Catering Establishments Visits to Fries Prepering Premises Visits to Street Vendors Visits to Street Vendors Visits to Street Vendors Visits to Samples of Milk (Bacteriological) Miscellaneous **Sives** Visits in connection with explosives Visits in connection with Petroleum Spirit **Work Done** 10. Health and Housing Complaints investigated Rat complaints investigated Rat complaints investigated Choked drains and sewers cleared Drains relaid Drains or sewers repaired Defective cellings repaired Defective cellings repaired Defective chambers provided or repaired Defective centrals repaired Defective incors repaired Defective headrails repaired or renewed Defective whall plastering repaired or renewed Defective weall plastering repaired Defective weall plastering repaired Defective weall plastering repaired Defective roofs repaired

managed and about to make at the fattern

Defective walls repaired	11
Defective washing coppers repaired	3 19
Defective water closets repaired or renewed	19
Defective windows repaired or renewed	55
Defective yard paving Dampness remedied	4
Scullery waste pipes provided	5
Scullery troughs provided	14
Food stores provided	
Additional ventilation provided	1 2
Water closets provided	2
Sashcords renewed	18
Overcrowding abated	10
Smoke nuisances abated	2
Verminous premises cleansed	7
Premises disinfested from rats or mice	284
Premises cleansed	2
Ceilings cleansed	2
Walls cleansed	2 5 5 5 5 2 4
Other nuisances abated Provision of artificial lighting	20
Water supply improved	J.
Accumulations removed	4
Urinals cleansed	ī
External painting renewed (Rent Act)	24
Property Francisco (1991)	
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	
Protection against contamination provided	29
Washing - Food and Equipment	
Sinks provided	10
Cold water supply provided	9
Hot water supply provided	18
Clean cloths provided	TO
Washing - Hands	
Washbasins provided	16
Cold water supply provided	14
Hot water supply provided	18
Towels provided	25
Nailbrushes provided	25
W.C. Compartments	
Artificial lighting provided	10
Ventilation provided	2
Notice to wash hands provided	18
Decorated	6
W.C. pans provided	ent 1
Provision of intervening ventilated space compartme	sue T
Food Rooms	
Walls repaired	9
Walls cleansed	22
Floors repaired	14
Floors cleansed	7
Ceilings repaired	17 20
Ceilings cleansed	20
Bowls provided in lieu of sinks for food and equipment	16
Tongs etc. provided	16
Use of Detergents commenced	12
First Aid Kit provided	
Name and Address displayed on stalls	3 15
Impervious surfaces provided Provision of protective clothing	1
A A MY ACTUAL DISCONDING TO A DIGITAL OF THE PARTY OF THE	-

	Removal of Accumulation from Food Room Refrigeration provided Refrigerator interior painted New food room provided Adequate ventilation provided Grease trap cleansed and covered	10 1 5 1 1 1
Shop	Acts	
	Seats provided for females Means of ventilation provided Adjustment of hours of Young Persons Enforcement of Assistants weekly half holiday W.C. compartments provided Washing facilities provided Forms provided	1 2 2 2 1 1 188
Fact	ories Acts	
	Artificial lighting provided to W.C.'s Sanitary conveniences cleansed Sanitary conveniences provided Sanitary conveniences repaired Intervening ventilated space provided	2 7 1 4 4
Heat	Appliances (Fireguards) Act	
	Unguarded fires removed from sale	1

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your Obedient Servant,

R.K. LEAN,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



