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# BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1950

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year 1950 on the Public Health and Sanitary Administration for the Borough.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. H. H. WAYLEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

The Chequers, Devizes.

30th September, 1951.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	1391 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	7590
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	2688
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£51,502
Product of 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	£201 : 19 : 6

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### Live Births

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births	77	68	145
Legitimate	74	64	138
Illegitimate	3	4	7

#### Live Birth Rate

Borough	19.1
England and Wales	15.8

#### Still Births

Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

#### Death Rate

Crude Death Rate—Borough	12.9
Crude Death Rate—England and Wales	11.6

#### Deaths of Infants under One Year

All Infants	2	1	3
Legitimate Infants	2	1	3
Illegitimate Infants	—	—	—

#### Infantile Mortality Rate

Borough	20.7
England and Wales	29.8

### Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age

Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

### Maternal Mortality Rate

Borough ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	...	0.86

### CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	T.		M.	F.	T.
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	2	1	3	14. Pneumonia ...	1	1	2
2. Tuberculosis—Other Forms ...	—	—	—	15. Bronchitis ...	2	1	3
3. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2	—	2	16. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	2	—	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach ...	1	2	3	17. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	—	1
5. Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus ...	2	—	2	18. Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	2	—	2
6. Malignant Neoplasm of Breast ...	—	2	2	19. Congenital Malformations ...	2	—	2
7. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	6	5	11	20. Other Defined and Illdefined Diseases ...	4	5	9
8. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	4	8	12	21. Motor Accidents ...	—	—	—
9. Coronary Disease: Angina ...	10	4	14	22. All Other Accidents ...	—	1	1
10. Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	2	—	2	23. Suicide ...	1	—	1
11. Other Heart Diseases ...	4	10	14	24. Homicide and Operations of War ...	—	—	—
12. Other Circulatory Disease ...	2	5	7				
13. Influenza ...	—	2	2	Total for all Causes ...	50	47	97

Three deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, two from Acute Poliomyelitis and two from Pneumonia. Otherwise, none from notifiable infectious disease. Including the last figure, (Pneumonia) nine deaths were attributable to Respiratory Disease, a satisfactory figure.

Deaths from Malignant Disease (Groups 4—7 inclusive) total 18 (19%). Deaths from Cardiovascular Lesions (Groups 8—12 inclusive) total 49 (57%). The high percentage of deaths in these two groups (70%) is indicative of an ageing population and increasing longevity.

The absence of any maternal death is a satisfactory feature.

### GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

*Medical Officer of Health:* G. H. H. WAYLEN, M.B., D.P.H. (Cantab.).

*Sanitary Inspector:* Mr. K. WILDEY, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B., C.G.L.I. (San. Eng.), Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates for Meat and other Foods Inspection and Sanitary Science ~~via~~ as applied to Building and Public Works.

### Ambulance Services, Maternity and Child Welfare Services, Clinics—Orthopaedic, Psychiatric, etc.

All these services are under the control of the Wiltshire County Council and reported on by the Chief Medical Officer to that Body.

### Maternity Services

Domiciliary midwifery mainly conducted by the Maternity Department of the Wiltshire County Council. Institutional cases dealt with by hospitals in the county under the West Regional Hospital Board. In 1950 there was no such hospital within the Devizes area, i.e., Borough and Rural District. A portion of the old Isolation Hospital here was in course of being adapted to such purpose during the year and the work was completed by the year's end.

"Ivy House," a private nursing home accepting maternity cases on a payment basis, dealt with 128 cases during the year, mainly from the above area. There were 54 domiciliary and 105 institutional confinements from Devizes Borough, so nearly twice as many women had their babies in institutions as at home. Housing conditions as they are intensify this trend, but the cost to the community is by no means negligible.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

	1950
Scarlet Fever ... ..	61
Whooping Cough ... ..	32
Measles ... ..	3
Erysipelas ... ..	3
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ... ..	4
Non-paralytic ... ..	—

### Devizes and District Hospital

This is administered by the West Regional Hospital Board. To keep in line with my previous reports, and for the interest of your Council, I submit data as to its activities during 1950:—

	Year Ending 31/12/50
TOTAL BED COMPLEMENT ... ..	60
AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF OCCUPIED BEDS ... ..	42.21
RADIOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT	
No. of examinations : I.P. ... ..	331
No. of examinations : O.P. ... ..	2492
PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT	
No. of examinations ... ..	2035
PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT	
No. of patients treated : I.P. ... ..	404
No. of patients treated : O.P. ... ..	2002
No. of treatments given : I.P. ... ..	2556
No. of treatments given : O.P. ... ..	22214
NO. OF PATIENTS ADMITTED	
Male ... ..	541
Female ... ..	552
NO. OF OPERATIONS PERFORMED	
Major ... ..	469
Minor ... ..	685

A new Radiography Department in a separate building outside the main block was commenced during the year. When this is completed and in use, the only real need remaining unmet will be a new Out-Patient Department. The makeshift arrangements and limited space within the existing building for this work are quite inadequate for the numbers now attending, and the work this Department is called upon to do.

### Nursing

The above Hospital is still largely staffed with Orderlies and "Assistant Nurses," many doing part-time duty. The gap between the few fully-trained staff, and the only semi-trained, will not be filled in the future without an increased intake of Probationers prepared to undergo full training for State qualification.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

### Immunisation in relation to Child Population

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1950.

#### DEVIZES BOROUGH

Age at 31/12/50 i.e., Born in Year	...	Under 1 1950	1 1949	2 1948	3 1947	4 1946	5 to 9 1940-1944	10 to 14 1935-1939	Total under 15
Number Immunised		1	65	90	120	102	463	533	1374
Estimated mid-year population 1950		Children under five 661					Children 5 to 14 1110		1771

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

During the year under review, the quantities of water pumped were as follows :—

Shepherds Shore Waterworks	...	...	119,534,000 gallons
Bourton Waterworks	...	...	97,495,000 gallons

TOTAL ... 217,029,000 gallons

Water Supplied to Devizes	...	...	113,955,696 gallons
Water Supplied to Military Camps	...	...	63,700,000 gallons
Water Supplied to Rural Districts (including Roundway Hospital)	...	...	27,360,000 gallons

The monthly analysis of water from Town Mains after chlorination was satisfactory.

Rainfall on Catchment Area	...	...	35.93 inches
Capital Expenditure	...	...	£750

The No. 2 Borehole was put into use by the installation of a pump and connecting up by rising main to the reservoir. A 4" main was laid from the 8" main in London Road alongside the canal to Park Road to serve the Devizes and District Hospital, and continued by a 3" main to Gains Lane to serve St. James' Hospital.

Both these Institutions were suffering from inadequate supplies due to lowered pressure at peak periods. The area around Braeside (Bath Road area) also suffered at such times. Arrangements were arrived at with the Rural District Council and Roundway Hospital Management Committee to curtail their supplies in daytime.

One plain fact is that the main from Shepherds Shore installed over 70 years ago is now inadequate to fully meet present demands upon it.

### Drainage and Sewerage

No fresh work was completed or under construction at the end of 1950. A scheme for the extension of the Main Sewage Disposal Works is now under preparation and also for the reconstruction of the Main Outfall Sewer.

The analysis of effluent on the 24th March, 1950, continues to be below standard—Impurity Figure 20. (Should not be above 15).

## Housing in Devizes Borough

	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	Total
1. Houses completed ... ..	48 (Flats 40) (Houses 8)	8	56
2. Houses under construction but not completed ... ..	36	3	39
3. Houses authorised but not commenced ... ..	26	—	26

## Progress of Programmes by close of year

Programme for 1948 ... ..	32 houses practically completed	
Programme for 1949 ... ..	(i) 8 houses (Type E)	44% complete
	(ii) 14 houses (Type F)	85% complete
	(iii) 16 houses (Type F)	57% complete
	(Type F—two-bedroomed type houses)	
Programme for 1950 ... ..	(i) 6 shops with flats over	Not
	(ii) 20 houses (Types C & D)	commenced
Unfit Houses demolished during year ... ..	7	

The above table shows steady if slow progress, but the completion of over fifty houses during the year has in no way lessened the number of applicants for new dwellings, which remained at over 500 throughout the year, and was slightly increased at its close.

We are now building two-bedroomed houses to serve small families and old couples, but the net rent of 16/6d. compares unfavourably with the 15/- of an earlier post-war three-bedroomed type, and is practically double the rent of pre-war three-bedroomed houses, e.g., those in Roseland and Longcroft Avenues. Lower again are the fixed rents of old cottage properties in private ownership; 4/- to 6/- per week is a common enough figure.

Many of those most in need of decent living conditions simply cannot afford to pay £1 a week or more in rent and rates, and perforce remain, with their young, in cramped and obsolescent houses.

Failing a substantial drop in building costs in the near future, your Council, and indeed the Government of the day, will have to face up to this problem and consider possible aids to its solution.

Essential repair work has been carried out on about 80 dwellings as the result of tenant's complaints and informal action, but the upkeep of small old dwellings falls more and more behind. Rent restriction, and the ever-rising costs of repair work, do not encourage owners of such dwellings to keep them in good order. The result can only be a larger measure of slum clearance in the long run.

## Public Cleansing and Refuse Disposal

This is as satisfactory as the limited funds available for the purpose permit. The Refuse Tip at Nursteed was kept in better order, and in consequence, was appreciably less fly-ridden than in previous years. More frequent and thorough use of "tip spray" is proving effective. The covering of the tip with soil was still infrequent and inadequate.

## Swimming Pool

Number of Attendances ... ..	20,439
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The pool was not closed during the year, and kept in good order. A new chemical injection unit was installed during May, using a solution of sodium hypochlorite in order to provide adequate chlorination at peak periods of use.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### DEVIZES BOROUGH

(A) Notifications :	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
Age Group	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0—10	—	—	—	—	1	1
10—15	1	1	2	—	—	—
15—25	1	1	2	1	—	1
25—35	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	—	1	1	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	4	6	1	1	2

### DEVIZES BOROUGH

(B) Deaths :	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
Age Group	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0—10	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	1	1	2	—	—	—
45—65	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	1	3	—	—	—

## The Sanitary Inspector's Report

To—The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Devizes.

*Public Health Department,  
The Chequers, Devizes.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report of the work carried out in the Sanitary Inspector's Department of the Devizes Borough Council during the year 1950.

The particulars in the report are in conformity with the Ministry of Health Regulations and requirements.

There is no clerical assistance provided.

All complaints made to this department received prompt attention. Inspections were made of all food premises other than residential hotels.

### Housing

Apart from inspections of a few houses made for the Medical Officer of Health, it has not been possible to continue the housing survey commenced last year owing to meat inspection at the Central Wiltshire Bacon Factory and other duties more urgent.

Structural defects were remedied at 86 properties, mostly as a result of informal procedure, which included paving of yards and passages, roofs, eaves gutterings, fall pipe stacks, wallplaster, ceiling plaster, windows, doors, cooking-ranges, staircases, rising and penetrating dampness, floors, chimney stacks, waterclosets, waste pipes, choked and defective drains.

At the end of the year there were eleven recent and six old outstanding complaints.

Repairs have not always been abated immediately, due mostly to the shortage of labour and materials, especially timber. Several applications to the Timber Control Authority for a licence to obtain soft wood necessary for repairs to abate serious nuisances, and effect improvements to comply with the Food and Drugs Act, Shops Act and the Factories Act, were only meagrely met, and in some instances wholly refused, nearly always with an unhelpful suggestion that hard wood was available as an alternative, which did not exactly meet the needs, because hard wood is more costly to buy, difficult to work and unsuitable for outside use where exposed to inclement weather.

Legal action for repairs has been avoided, however, though many owners have protested against informal statutory requirements on account of the low rents and the high cost of work. Some rents are as low as five shillings per week (including rates) and, needless to say, much of this type of property is old, worn out and in such a state of disrepair which, in normal times, but for the acute housing shortage, would be scheduled for demolition under the Housing Acts. Consequently, in an endeavour to maintain houses wind and weather proof and in a fair state of repair, it has been necessary to temper commonsense with reasonableness and tact in order to get the defects remedied without the aid of statutory notices.

### **Re-housing Applications**

Complaints of unsatisfactory living conditions were received by the Health Department from fifteen families: eight cases were badly overcrowded; living conditions were unsuitable in five other instances; two cases were less severe, but were included for consideration with other similar applications made direct to the Housing Officer for more suitable accommodation when available. Eight of the fifteen families reported to the Housing Officer have been given better alternative living accommodation by the Borough Council. One family found improved accommodation themselves.

The Council have also re-housed two cases of notifiable Tuberculosis.

### **Eradication of Vermin and Pests**

D.D.T. treatment of three houses infested with bed bugs and one with fleas gave satisfactory results. Ant infestation at two houses received similar satisfactory treatment.

Three wasps' nests causing annoyance to tenants of houses in the vicinity were dealt with by gassing, and the removal of the nests afterwards.

### **Dirty Houses**

Of the 20 houses under supervision for "dirtiness," eleven were council houses. Eight of the houses were generally untidy, both inside and out, and the internal decorations very shabby. In most cases satisfactory improvements resulted through periodical visiting, and at other houses the improvements obtained could only be described as passably clean.

It is noteworthy that of these tenants there are two aged bachelors; four large families (including two with 9 and 11 children); a widow; husband in the Services; and in two other cases the husbands work much over-time, including week-ends.

One of the bachelor old-age pensioners, who was suffering from mal-nutrition, could not be persuaded to go into an institution until he became so weak that circumstances made it imperative for his removal to St. James' Hospital.

### **Drainage**

Nuisances caused by the choked condition of two watercourse-ditches, were cleansed out by farmers.

A petrol interceptor was fixed on a drain from a service garage to prevent oil and petrol gaining access to the borough sewer.

Thirteen smoke tests and 16 colour tests were applied to drains suspected of being in a defective condition. All were relaid with cement jointed stoneware drains, water tested and approved.

## **Disinfection**

Three houses were fumigated after removal to hospital of patients suffering from infectious diseases.

Bedding, which had been in contact with a deceased tuberculosis victim, received treatment in the steam disinfector at St. James' Hospital by arrangement with the Hospital Superintendent. The house was also disinfected.

## **Water Supply**

Water from a well supplying an isolated cottage and factory was submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, and was found to be grossly polluted with sewage organisms.

A piped supply from the borough water mains was extended to both properties at the owners' expense.

The well was subsequently closed.

## **Common Lodging House**

During a visit to the only common lodging house in the borough, it was necessary to draw the keeper's attention to the dirty condition of the linen on one of the inmate's beds.

## **Food and Drugs Act, 1938**

At a butcher's shop, the basement, used as a food preparing room, which was compulsorily closed at the latter part of last year, was re-opened after the completion of structural alterations: new concrete floor, walls tiled from floor to ceiling, ceiling under-drawn, sink with hot and cold water over, and supplementary artificial ventilation provided.

Three applications for permission to open a snack bar and two cafes were refused on account of the impossibility to make the premises conform to the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act.

Two traders were required to stop making "Lollies" in the living-room at the rear of the shop. In one case the kitchen was very untidy and not too clean.

A local baker was stopped from transporting un-wrapped bread on the un-covered dirty upholstery of the seating of his delivery van.

The discovery of a watercloset communicating directly with a food packing room and inadequate staff washing facilities was remedied at a grocer's store.

Two cafe proprietors were required to withdraw cracked drinking cups from service to the customers.

One dilapidated insanitary food store at the rear of a cafe was renovated and passed as fit for re-use. A defective and crumbling ceiling was renewed in the store at a grocer's shop and the ceiling repaired in the kitchen of a cafe.

Informal action effected the following works of repair and improvements:—the entire walls of a wet fish shop were tiled from floor to ceiling in preference to the repair of patches of defective wallplaster; a wash-hand basin was provided at a provision shop where loose ice-cream is sold; alternative improved kitchen accommodation was provided at one restaurant; seven bake-houses were lime-washed and a grocer's shop, kitchen and snack bar were cleansed and decorated.

## **Market**

Visits to the open and covered markets were not made as frequently as desired, due to attendance at the local Bacon Factory during part of the day when the market is held.

On the whole, traders have been attentive to rules of clean service. In only a few cases was it necessary to speak to the traders asking for some slight improvement, which were readily carried out.

The promised improved washing facilities in entirety is still awaited.

### Milk and Dairies Regulation, 1949

There are four dairies within the borough, which have been visited from time to time. Requests for lime-washing to be done at two dairies were complied with.

### Ice-Cream

The Borough Council approved of the premises of five traders being registered to sell ice-cream during the year.

There are now 38 dealers selling ice-cream in the borough, including five manufacturers; one by the "cold mix" method and four "heat treatment."

### Shops Act, 1934 and 1950

A staff dispute over long hours worked at a residential hotel, and non-observance of proper closing times by a local shop-keeper were settled amicably.

Insufficient sanitary accommodation at two shops were remedied, and a mess-room and washing facilities were provided at one of these shops.

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Three slaughtermen's licences were renewed.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION

The Central Wiltshire Bacon Co., Ltd., is the only slaughterhouse in operation in the borough.

Every animal slaughtered was inspected post-mortem according to the method recommended in the Ministry of Health Memo 62/Foods.

Several calls were received from butchers within the town, asking for meat to be examined which had recently been delivered showing signs of un-fitness.

### The following pig carcasses/organs or parts were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Total number inspected	...	...	...	...	...	9690
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

((This includes 405 pigs inspected by the Rural District Council Sanitary Inspector during the writer's annual leave.))

### All Diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	...	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	...	365
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	3.84%

### Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...	24
Parts or organs (including one or more parts from the same animal, see list below*)	...	...	...	...	...	373
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	3.16%
The total number of pigs affected with Tuberculosis was	...	...	...	...	...	307

### \*Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses	...	...	24	1 ton	17 cwt.	2 qrs.	3 lb.
Heads	...	...	199	1 ton	8 cwt.	3 qrs.	9 lb.
Mesenteric Fats	...	...	68				
Henges	...	...	69		3 cwt.		
Livers	...	...	6			1 qr.	2 lb.
Kidneys	...	...	4				
Spleens	...	...	3				

## Other Causes

Whole carcasses	...	...	7	9 cwt.	1 qr.	1 stone	7 lb.
Henges	...	...	28	2 cwt.			
Livers	...	...	158	5 cwt.	1 qr.	0 stone	2 lb.
Lungs	...	...	249	4 cwt.	1 qr.	0 stone	11 lb.
Kidneys	...	...	72				
Spleens	...	...	3				
Parts of carcase	...	...			2 qrs.	1 stone	12 lb.
Heads	...	...	1				21 lb.

## Unsound Foods condemned and surrendered

Bovine Liver	...	...	...	28 lb.			
Beef	...	...	...	4 cwt.	3 qrs.	1 stone	10½ lb.
Bullock's head	...	...	...	46 lb.			
Beef Sausage	...	...	...	7 "			
Fish	...	...	...	3 stone			
Butter	...	...	...	15 lb.			
Margarine	...	...	...	14 oz.			
Peanut Butter	...	...	...	12 "			
Cheese	...	...	...	8 lb.			
Bottled Concentrated Meat Juice	...	...	...	13 "			
Bottled Vinegar	...	...	...	4 pints			
Tomato Sauce	...	...	...	4 lb.	12 oz.		
Malted Milk	...	...	...	4 "			
Coffee	...	...	...	9½ "			
Coconut Cake Mixture	...	...	...	51 "			
Pastry Mixture Powder	...	...	...	3½ "			
Self Raising Flour	...	...	...	1 "			
Cereals	...	...	...	56 "			
Xmas Pudding	...	...	...	1 "			
Eggs	...	...	...	1,072			

### CANNED :—

Meat	...	...	...	1 cwt.	1 qr.	1 stone	10 lb.
Fish	...	...	...		1 qr.	1 stone	8 lb.
Vegetables	...	...	...	2 cwt.			
Meat and Vegetables	...	...	...		1 qr.	0 stone	4 lb. 2 oz.
Soups	...	...	...		3 qrs.	1 stone	5 lb. 8 oz.
Fruit and Jams	...	...	...	1 cwt.	2 qr.	0 stone	8 lb.
Milk	...	...	...	1 cwt.	0 qr.	1 stone	11 lb. 8 oz.
Milk	...	...	...	24 pints			

A considerable quantity of the above food was sorted out, and although unfit for human consumption, was salvaged and utilized for pig feeding whenever possible.

There has been no case of food poisoning notified to this Department during the year.

## Rodent Control

The services of the Rodent Operator are shared between the Borough of Devizes and the Rural District Council, under the direction of the Sanitary Inspector of each Council.

The accounts are dealt with by the Borough Treasurer, and the records are kept by the writer.

The Rodent Operator's services are made available upon application by the occupiers of infested premises. Private dwellings receive free treatment, and business premises are charged upon a cost basis laid down by the Council. The Ministry and the Council share an equal proportion of the net cost of the services.

The borough sewers received two treatments during the year: March and October.

There are 140 street manholes, all of which were examined and where possible or thought absolutely necessary, 101 manholes were baited. There were 50 pre-bait "takes" and 29 poison "takes" on both occasions. The lengths of sewer most seriously infested were: Station Road, Northgate Street, New Park Street (brewery to the wharf), Church Walk, Southend, Morris Lane, Long Street, the whole of The Brittox, Maryport Street, St. John's Street, Avon View and part of Estcourt Street.

108 search and surveys were carried out within the year.

The borough refuse tip received two treatments and rat infestation was kept down to a reasonable minimum.

The results were :—

				July	October
Pre-baits	...	...	...	100	140
Poison baits	...	...	...	100	120
Bait takes	...	...	...	100	130
Poison takes	...	...	...	70	70
Bodies collected	...	...	...	39	96
Estimated kill	...	...	...	200	500

#### TREATMENT OF SEWAGE WORKS

				Breachfield Works May, 1950	Main Works March, 1950
Baits	...	...	...	50	60
Poison baits	...	...	...	40	50
Bait takes	...	...	...	40	60
Poison takes	...	...	...	30	30
Bodies found	...	...	...	11	25
Estimated kill	...	...	...	50	100

### 1. Prevalence of Rats and Mice

Type of Property	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
	Number of properties in Local Authority's Area				Analysis of Column (iv)		
	Total	in which infestation was			Number infested by		
		Notified by Occupier	Otherwise discovered	Recorded Total of (ii) & (iii)	Rats		Mice only
					Major	Minor	
Local Authority's Property ...	580	24	9	22	12	10	Nil
Dwelling House ... ..	1553	49	14	63	12	44	7
Business Premises ... ..	311	32	Nil	32	2	27	4
Agricultural Property ...	25	5	15	20	5	15	Nil
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>2469</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>11</b>

## 2. Measures of Control by Local Authority

Type of Property	No. of properties inspected	No. of inspections made	Number of notices served under Section 4		Number of treatments carried out				Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6(1) or by informal arrangement		
					By arrangement with Occupier		Under Section 5(1)				
			Treatments	Works	Rats	Mice only	Rats	Mice only	Number of Blocks	Surface	Associated Sewers
									No. of separate occupancies	No. of manholes treated	
Local Authority's Property ...	22	132	Nil	Nil	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	19	23	151
Dwelling House ...	63	322	Nil	Nil	51	12	Nil	Nil	52	146	Nil
Business Premises ...	32	176	Nil	Nil	22	4	Nil	Nil	30	35	Nil
Agricultural Property ...	20	107	Nil	Nil	18	2	Nil	Nil	20	20	Nil
TOTAL ...	137	737	Nil	Nil	113	18	Nil	Nil	121	224	151

The total number of rat bodies found over the twelve months after poisoning was 524.  
The estimated kill 3,140.

### Petroleum Acts, etc.

One new electrically operated flame proof petrol pump was installed to replace a worn out old type pump at a Service Garage. A steel petrol tank was fixed underground, with hand operated pump.

### Number and nature of Inspections made during 1950

Number of complaints made to the Public Health Department	148
Dwelling houses affected by nuisances—(a) Houses	124
(b) Inspections	138
Number of premises where nuisances were abated	107
Number of smoke nuisance complaints	2
Number of smoke nuisances abated	2
Number of yards/passages paved	14
Number of smoke tests applied to drains	13
Number of water tests applied to drains	37
Number of colour tests applied to drains	16
Number of rejected leaking drains re-tested and passed	7
Number of additional waterclosets provided for dwellings	5
Number of drain inspection chambers constructed	10
Number of dilapidated waterclosets re-built	6
Number of visits to works in progress	227
Number of miscellaneous unspecified visits	275
Number of interviews with owners/agents/builders	157

Number of visits re infectious diseases	...	...	...	3
Number of houses disinfected after infectious diseases	...	...	...	4
Number of houses treated with D.D.T.	...	...	...	4
Number of houses in a dirty state under supervision	...	...	...	20
Number of visits re Rodent Control	...	...	...	47
Number of dwelling houses visited re living conditions	...	...	...	15
Number of visits to dairies	...	...	...	12
Number of offensive trades visited	...	...	...	1
Number of visits re fish and chip shops	...	...	...	5
Number of visits re bakehouses	...	...	...	22
Number of visits re cafes	...	...	...	13
Number of visits re food shops	...	...	...	20
Number of visits re butchers' shops	...	...	...	33
Number of visits re ice-cream premises	...	...	...	16
Number of visits re food preparing premises	...	...	...	18
Number of visits re Shops Act	...	...	...	7
Number of visits re Diseases of Animals Act	...	...	...	2
Number of food inspections	...	...	...	223
Number of notices served—(a) Statutory	...	...	...	5
(b) Informal	...	...	...	135
Number of miscellaneous letters sent	...	...	...	77
Number of Petroleum Licences issued	...	...	...	39
Number of Carbide Licences issued	...	...	...	2
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	...	...	...	5
Number of visits re Petroleum Acts, etc.	...	...	...	19

In conclusion, may I respectfully mention that a considerable amount of extra time outside normal official office hours has been put in in order to keep pace with complaints and general work which has had to run concurrent with meat inspection duties at the local bacon factory.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

KENNETH WILDEY,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948**

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	40	13	13	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	2	2	2	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	28	50	6	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..		70	65	19	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars  (1)	M/c line No.  (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
		Found  (3)	Remedied  (4)	Referred		
				To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	8	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	8	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) insufficient ... ..	9	2	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ... ..	10	3	3	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ... ..	11	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	12	4	4	—	—	—
 TOTAL ... ..	60	19	17	—	—	—



