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BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer
of Health

AND OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1955





BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1955

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my duty to compile an Annual Report for the Year 1955. This has been done from the records available in the Department and with the help of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. K. Wildey.

After the unfortunate death in July of your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G. H. H. Waylen, it was decided that the appointment should be readvertised so that a single officer should hold the position of Medical Officer of Health for the two County Districts of Devizes, and also be employed part-time in County Council services. I have taken the opportunity to refer in the text of the Report to some of the duties such an officer would be called upon to discharge.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

KENNETH J. ADAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

(Appointed February, 1956.)

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

G. H. H. WAYLEN, M.B., D.P.H. (Cantab.). (Deceased July, 1955).

Sanitary Inspector:

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 as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Rodent Operator:

F. W. BARRETT (Part-time, being shared with Devizes Rural District Council).

Health Office Clerk:

Miss B. P. COX (Appointed April, 1955).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres—1,391.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate)—8,080.

Number of inhabited Houses—2,584.

Rateable Value—£100,555.

Product of 1d. Rate—£299 14s. 1d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and Infantile Deaths.

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Totals		
	Male	Fem.	Tot.	Male	Fem.	Tot.	Male	Fem.	Tot.
Live Births ..	66	56	122	4	5	9	70	61	131
Still Births ..	1	3	4	—	—	—	1	3	4
Deaths under 1 year	3	1	4	—	—	—	3	1	4
Deaths under 4 weeks	2	1	3	—	—	—	2	1	3

Birth and Death Rates Compared.

(Births and Deaths per 1,000 Population.)

				Birth Rate	Death Rate
England and Wales ..	..	..	..	15.0	11.7
Greater London ..	..	..	..	13.8	10.7
Wiltshire ..	..	..	..	17.13	10.24
Devizes Borough ..	..	..	..	16.85	17.66

Area comparability factors for the birth and death rates are issued by the Registrar General and when the local rates are multiplied by the factors they are "corrected" for irregularities of distribution of age and sex. The above local rates are thus corrected and so are a more accurate method of comparing the healthiness of one area with that of another.

There were four deaths in infants under one year of age to 131 live births in the area. This is too small a figure to work out an infantile mortality rate but it seems to correspond fairly well with the National rate of 24.9 deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births, and the Wiltshire rate of 18.41.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

				Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Cancer and other malignant neoplasms ..	..	..	..	14	7	21
Diabetes ..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Vascular disease of the nervous system ..	..	..	..	10	14	24
Coronary disease, Angina ..	..	..	..	28	14	42
Hypertension with heart disease ..	..	..	..	3	—	3
Other Heart Disease ..	..	..	..	6	11	17
Other Circulatory Disease ..	..	..	..	5	4	9
Influenza ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	7	9	16
Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory system ..	..	..	..	1	—	1

			Male.	Female.	Total.
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrohea	..	..	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	—	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	..	..	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	7	19	26
Motor Vehicle accidents	..	..	1	—	1
All other accidents	..	..	1	—	1
Suicide	..	..	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	89	83	172

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

There were no deaths from communicable diseases during the year except one death from Tuberculosis. Cases notified were as follows:—

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	137
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Poliomyelitis (Diagnosis not confirmed)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(Non-Pulmonary)	..	..	..	..	..	..	—

Diphtheria.

There was no case of this disease during the year. That such a state of affairs continues depends upon the state of immunity of the child population. The figures for England and Wales for last year were 169 notifications with 13 deaths.

The annual return of Diphtheria Immunisations in this area submitted by the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. C. D. L. Lycett, is as follows:—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Primary Immun. Completed dur. 1955			Total Immunised Child Population 31st December, 1955							Total under 15
Under 1	1—4 years	5—15 years	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	
57	52	11	17	89	107	83	107	154* 521†	230* 327†	1635

*Immunised before 1.1.51

†Immunised since 1.1.51

The Ministry of Health recommends that 75% of children should be immunised before their first birthday. In Devizes the number of children so protected is 45%. The national figure is approximately 30%.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

Annual Return for 1955.

	Under 1 year	1 year	2—4 years	5—14 years	15 or over
(a) Vaccinations ..	86	4	5	3	5
(b) Re-vaccinations ..	1	—	4	6	18

DEVIZES AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

Total Bed Complement	60
Average daily number of occupied beds	40
Total number of admissions	1,149
Physiotherapy Department.	
Out-patient Attendances	9,515
In-patient Attendances	925
Radiological Department.	
Out-patient Attendances	3,086
In-patient Attendances	524
Out-Patients Department.	
Number of new Out-patients	1,259
Number of Attendances	4,408
Pathological Department.	
Number of Visits (In-patients and Out-patients)	5,880
Number of Operations.	
Major	113
Intermediate	254
Minor	540
Casualty Department.	
New Out-patients	2,011
Number of Attendances	6,155

HOUSING.

Housing erected during 1955:—

By Local Authority —for letting	5
for sale	15
By Private Enterprise	23

Progress of Post War Schemes at 31st December, 1955:—

Houses completed and occupied	304	} 387 units
Bungalows completed and occupied	3	
Houses completed for sale	40	

Houses for sale under construction	..	..	10
Bungalows for sale under construction	..	..	3
Houses authorised but not commenced	..	..	28
Temporary Bungalows	..	..	20

The number of families rehoused during 1955 was 32.

Slum Clearance.

In his Annual Report for the year 1954 your late Medical Officer of Health wrote:—

“ Your authority has been required to resurvey your area and return an estimate of the number of unfit dwellings; also a five year plan for dealing with such numbers as may be practicable. You have approximately 500 such houses and few of them look capable of improvement ‘ with Grant aid.’

After a survey you considered it practicable to demolish 413 houses in a seven year period and the Sheep Street Redevelopment programme will include 106 of these. Owing to the density of the original housing in this area it will not be possible, even by building flats, to accommodate in the new dwellings all the families previously living on the site. There will be an overspill of approximately 32 families for whom new housing must be found. It is therefore vital that such slum clearance programmes should be integrated with the erection of new houses on fresh building land or on sites suitable for redevelopment where the density of present housing allows the erection of dwellings, without displacing of any of the present residents on the site.

Slum clearance is encouraged financially by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who at present give a grant of £22 1s. annually over a 60-year period per new house erected used to rehouse a family previously living in an unfit house. The Grant received per house built for general needs is £10 annually over a 60-year period, and this may be withdrawn shortly.

Slum clearance is also encouraged indirectly by the National Assistance Board who are willing to pay any reasonable rent, including rates or similar outgoings, for persons whose sole means are the ordinary scale allowance. Such financial help is of the greatest importance as many of the persons occupying unfit houses are old persons who have gravitated to such dwellings in the past because of the attraction of cheap rents.

THE JOINT APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR COUNTY DISTRICTS AND COUNTY COUNCIL.

Extract from Circular 27/51—Ministry of Health.

“ County Councils and County District Councils should have regard to the advantages which may be expected to flow from a plan, which besides providing for a single officer to hold the office of

Medical Officer of Health for two or more County districts, also provides for him to be employed part time in County Council services, and so help to administer the personal health services of the County Council in the area."

Such a Medical Officer of Health should be executive responsible for:—

(1) The Environmental Health Service (County District).

This will include the epidemiology and control of infectious disease, and the maintenance and improvement of the sanitary state of the area if necessary by using statutory powers conferred by the Public Health Act, 1936, the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Factories Act, 1937-1948 and the Housing Acts, 1936-1954.

(2) The Personal Health Services (County Council).

This will include:

The care of the school child.

The care of the deprived child.

The care of the mentally ill and mentally defective.

The care of the young child.

The care of the handicapped.

Occupational Health.

Health Education.

He should also be prepared to advise you on aspects of social medicine where responsibilities may fall short of his executive control (ranging from housing to refuse disposal). In short, it is his duty to consider all matters affecting the health of the area.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1955

Public Health Department,
The Chequers, Devizes.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1955.

The particulars in the Report are in conformity with Ministry of Health Regulations and Requirements.

183 complaints received by this Department were promptly dealt with: 63 were statutory nuisances and 33 were applications for better living accommodation.

Meat Inspection duties were suspended (except for emergency calls) during the survey of Sheep Street area and the preparation of evidence and report for the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Housing Inquiry.

HOUSING.

Sheep Street Redevelopment Scheme.

The Ministry of Health, Housing and Local Government declared Sheep Street as a suitable Redevelopment Area, thus the Devizes Borough Council's plan to provide modern dwellings in the Sheep Street Redevelopment Area went a stage further towards ultimate clearance of badly planned and obsolete houses.

The following data emerged from a detailed survey of all the properties within the area which may be useful information to those who are keenly interested in the living conditions of the people:—

There are 104 premises in the ownership of 10 parties. These consist of 27 blocks of property, including:—4 shop-dwellings; a small factory; a block of offices; a plot of vacant land and part of two private gardens belonging to houses outside the Redevelopment Area. 87 dwellings were unfit by defined Housing Act Standards.

Size of dwelling house area (including half width
of street)

.. .. .	3.3323	acres
Number of dwelling units in area	106	
Number of dwellings per acre	31.2	
Number of persons in area	277	
Number of persons per acre	83.1	
Number of habitable rooms	456	
Number of habitable rooms per acre	136.8	
Number of persons per house	2.66	
Character of Houses: Through Houses	72	
Back-to-Back Type	32	

The age of the properties: 50 to 200 years or more.

Total income from Rents (excluding factory, 4 flats, offices, empty houses and owner-occupied houses)—£34 6s. 5d. per week.

Minimum Rent (dwelling) 2/11d. per week (including rates).

Maximum Rent (dwelling) 15/3d. per week (including rates).

Average Rents (including 4 shops, but excluding flats, factory, Offices, unoccupied houses and owner/occupied dwellings) 7/3½d. per week.

In this area there were 235 adults, 42 children, 7 sub-tenants, 2 lodgers, 8 persons over 65 years of age living alone, and a total of 34 persons over 65 years of age in the area. (There are 11 persons between the age of 60 and 65 years).

Out of 106 units of accommodation, 100 were occupied:—

18 houses were each occupied by	1 person
29	2 persons
14	4
7	5
4	6
2	7
1	8

House Capacity—Habitable Rooms

No. of Rooms	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No. of Persons	Number of Houses						
1	2	2	9	4	2	—	—
2	1	1	17	5	3	1	—
3	—	3	15	4	2	1	2
4	—	1	10	1	—	—	1
5	—	—	1	2	3	—	1
6	—	1	—	—	3	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	3	8	52	16	14	2	6

Four houses were in a dilapidated and dangerous condition. Two houses had been eliminated from the area by demolition prior to the holding of the Inquiry on account of their dangerous condition.

General Description.

Some of the houses were cramped and badly arranged on site; most were sub-standard in many respects and had structural defects of varying degrees, many of a major character: *i.e.*, badly bulged

and cracked walls, sunken floors, ceilings and roofs and serious dampness. The pavings of most of the yards and courts were in a defective and uneven condition.

The total number of rooms in the area was 456, 32 of which had heights of less than 6ft. 6in., 155 less than 7ft., 156 less than 7ft. 6in. and 22 bedrooms with heights which varied from 1ft. to 7ft. 3in. (in the roof space). 262 rooms had windows with insufficient opening areas; the tops of windows in 95 rooms were below Building Bye Law requirements. 32 rooms were dark on account of the smallness of the windows.

Of the 106 dwelling units 92 were damp by one or more of the following causes:—

Absence of an efficient damp-proof course	83
Higher abutting ground	4
Porous or defective brickwork	61
Defective and leaking eaves gutters	8
Defective rainwater down spouts	6
Leaking roofs	34

Sanitary Accommodation.

There were 72 water closets (4 of which were internal) in the area. 39 houses had the sole use and 65 tenants were using shared water closets. The distance from the water closets to the houses varied from 3 to 30 yards.

Water Supply.

41 houses had no internal piped water supply, water had to be obtained from a standpipe in the yard or outside wash-houses. In some instances the standpipe was a good distance from the houses.

Sinks.

47 houses had no sinks.

Washing Accommodation.

32 houses had the use of an outside wash-house, most of which were in a dilapidated and unusable condition. Household washing had to be done in the only living room at 17 houses. 21 houses had no facilities for clothes washing.

Food Storage Accommodation.

97 houses had no proper food storage accommodation.

Baths.

Only 6 dwellings had a fixed bath.

I would like to record my appreciation and grateful thanks to the Borough Surveyor's staff for their invaluable assistance, without which it would have been absolutely impossible to compile within six weeks the detailed information required for the Ministry of Health Inquiry which was held on the 8th March, 1955.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

Under Part One of the above Act, the Minister required, by the 31st August, 1955, Local Authorities to submit the number of and their programme of action for dealing with unfit houses. Except for the recent house-to-house inspection of Sheep Street Redevelopment Area no reliable up to date housing records were available. However, an intimate knowledge of the majority of the properties in the Borough and a survey of the remainder revealed that there were approximately 413 dwellings either ripe for demolition or for action under section 11 of the principle Act. These figures are only provisional. It is possible that a few more sub-standard houses could be added to this list. It could also be reduced where owners are willing to take advantage of avoiding demolition under section 11 by carrying out repairs and modest improvements at an unreasonable expense, in relation to rent return, in the hope that there will be a revision in Rent Control in the near future.

Part 1. The Total Problem.

- | | | |
|------|---|-----|
| (i) | Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 | 413 |
| (ii) | Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) .. | 7 |

Part 2. Orders Already Made, etc.

- | | | |
|-------|---|-----|
| (iii) | Number of houses (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority .. | 96 |
| (iv) | Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative | Nil |

Part 3. Action in the First Five Years.

- | | | |
|------|---|-----|
| (v) | Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years | 6 |
| (vi) | Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance order or a compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister | 106 |

(vii)	Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation..	Nil
(viii)	Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years	120
(ix)	Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.. .. .	18

In addition to the above there are several houses which are reasonably sound structurally apart from minor disrepair in some cases, and although they do not easily lend themselves to complete modernisation under grant aid, nevertheless, they could be made fit for habitation and their life prolonged by the provision of certain essential modern amenities such as a sink, internal water supply, individual water closets and proper food storage accommodation (where lacking) to satisfy the needs and comforts of the cheap rent class of people who have no family.

Avon Terrace, The Nursery, Redevelopment Area.

A survey of this area was commenced on the instructions of the Housing Committee with a view to ascertaining if it was possible to declare it a Redevelopment Area under section 34. Owing to pressure of other work only a few of the houses were inspected.

Housing General.

Three unfit houses were demolished and three closed. 12 unfit houses became vacant. As these houses were beyond repair at a reasonable expense and the owners gave a verbal promise not to re-let, no action was taken.

Property repairs were carried out by 73 owners to remedy nuisances after informal action. Court proceedings were instituted against one owner for failure to comply with Statutory Notices and judgment with costs was given in favour of the Council and a Court Order made to abate nuisances within three months.

Improvement Grants.

Information concerning the activity of the Improvement Grant Scheme is as follows:—

Enquiries received	16
Formal applications received and approved	2
Proposals unacceptable	8
Enquiries not proceeded with	10
Proposals outstanding at the end of the year	6

Disrepair Certificates.

Only two disrepair certificates were applied for and issued.

The permitted Rent Repairs Increase did not prove to be a sufficient incentive to property owners to fully maintain in good repair their rented houses.

Cockroach Infestation.

Five premises were infested with Cockroaches: four were food premises. Treatments were carried out and after a succession of visits the pests were entirely eliminated in four cases and reduced to a reasonable minimum at a large public building.

Bed Bug Infestation.

Four houses in a terrace block were badly infested with bed bugs. Each house received two treatments before extermination of vermin was completed.

Dirty Houses.

Five dirty houses were dealt with during the course of the year, four of which were reported by the Health Visitor.

Fumigation of Houses.

One house was fumigated after a case of infectious disease.

Sewer Air Complaints.

Complaints were received concerning escape of sewer air at 6 separate properties. Investigations and tests were carried out in each case and the drains were found to be defective. Drains were renewed at 5 properties; one complaint is still outstanding.

Canal Pollution.

Investigations into complaints of nuisance arising from the pollution of the Canal are still proceeding and towards the end of the year organic drainage from parts of premises were discovered to be emptying into the Canal. The owners have been requested to divert all foul water drainage from the Canal to the borough sewer.

Food Premises.

The number of food premises in the Borough is 115.

Food premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act 1938 and the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, are:— 4 Fried Fish shops, 13 prepared meat premises, 4 dairies, 35 for sale of ice cream (2 manufacture and sell, 33 sell prepacked ice cream). 11 licenced premises do catering. Irregular visits were made from time to time at dairies, butchers' shops and cafes, but owing to pressure of other work some premises only received the odd visit.

Food Poisoning.

There were four outbreaks of food poisoning, involving 24 persons. Cooked meats were responsible for 17 cases during July/August.

13 cases were in Devizes and 11 outside the Borough where local products had been consumed. Causative organisms—*Staph aureus*.

The source of contamination was eventually traced by swabbing to one of the food handlers who felt extremely well in himself, but was harbouring a heavy nose infection, "commonly found in a much milder degree in most people".

Extra hand washing facilities, more convenient for regular use by the staff were provided forthwith in order to reduce to a minimum the risk of future outbreaks.

Cream buns were blamed for another case, although not definitely proved; *Salmonella typhi-murium* was diagnosed.

Five persons were involved in another two outbreaks all due to *Salmonella typhi-murium*. The sources of the troubles were not traced, but it was considered that sausage consumed outside the Borough was responsible for 4 cases. This was not definitely established because no remains were obtainable for analysis. The fifth case was extremely mild and of short duration and no cause found.

Milk Sampling.

As local authorities have no control over milk production at farms, the Borough Council agreed to implement the County Medical Officer of Health's recommendation for milk sampling to be undertaken at dairies and during transit. Since milk sampling was commenced in May, 136 milk specimens were submitted to the Pathological Department at Salisbury for testing. Almost one-third failed to pass the statutory test for cleanliness. Several were very bad, although it is gratifying to report that there was much improvement towards the end of the year.

The results are as follows:—

(2) Pasteurised Samples.

Biological	..	..	..	..	2 samples
			Results:		2 satisfactory
Phosphatase	..	..	..	..	8 samples
			Results:		8 satisfactory

(2) Raw Milk Samples.

Methylene Blue	..	..	..	..	91 samples
			Results:		64 satisfactory (70%)
					27 unsatisfactory (30%)
Biological	..	..	..	..	35 samples
			Results:		34 satisfactory
					1 unsatisfactory*

* The Pathologist reported that this sample of milk was grossly infected with "pus cells". (The guinea pig died three days after inoculation). The milk supply was stopped immediately until the source of infection was traced and removed. (Period of suspension, 3 days). Milk bulking stations refused to receive this milk for Pasteurisation. The farmer was advised to call in a veterinary officer who discovered and isolated two cows found to be suffering from acute mastitis. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are notified where results of the samples of milk fail to pass the Statutory Test.

The result and high proportion of inferior samples obtained does indicate that there is an important need for milk sampling to be undertaken regularly to ensure, as far as practicable, that clean and safe milk is supplied to the consumers.

Ice-Cream.

Three samples of ice-cream were submitted for analysis because of a complaint received about the "taste". All three samples were reported as satisfactory.

Meat Inspection.

The Central Wiltshire Bacon Co. Ltd. is the only slaughter-house in operation. Carcasses and organs, etc. were inspected in accordance with the methods recommended by the Ministry of Food—Memo 3/Foods.

The total number of pigs slaughtered	11,871
Number of pigs inspected	8,600
Number of pigs inspected by the Management ..	3,271

Pig carcasses/organs or parts condemned as unfit for human consumption were as follows:—

All Diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole Pigs	16
Organs or parts of Carcasses	283
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease..	3.29%

Tuberculosis

Whole Pigs	4
Organs or parts of Carcasses	154
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. ..	1.21%

Unsound Foods Condemned and Surrendered.

	lbs.	ozs.
Meat 24 cans	209	10
Milk (Evaporated) 1 can	1	
Vegetables 3 cans	3	8½
Fruit 63 cans	73	14
Cheese 1 box		
Cereals 57 pkts.	37	12
Currants	20	
Fish	99	
Butchers' Meat	311	

Surrendered condemned food is sterilized and used for pig feeding.

Rodent Control.

The Rodent Operator's services on alternate weeks between the Devizes Borough Council and Rural District Council continue to work satisfactorily.

Accounts are dealt with by the Borough Treasurer's Department.

The Borough sewers received two treatments, the main sewage works 3 treatments, Breachfield sewage works 2 treatments and the Borough refuse tip 2 treatments. The Rodent Operator carries out a continuous survey of the town properties in order to keep down Rodent infestations to a reasonable minimum. 177 infestations were discovered in addition to 30 complaints received by the Department.

Petroleum Acts, etc.

34 licences to store Petroleum were issued and 2 for the storage of Carbide. Two steel Petrol tanks were fixed underground in concrete chambers under supervision. The tanks were air pressure tested and licences issued.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948—PART 1 OF THE ACT.

Premises	No. on Register (3)	Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers (6)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	40	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	4	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' Premises)	29	—	—	—
Total	71	4	4	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which Pro-secutions were instituted
	Found	Rem- edied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or def.	1	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	1	1	—	—	—
Total ..	4	3	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF DUTIES.

Nuisance Complaints	63
Nuisances Abated	54
Smoke Nuisance Complaints	2
Interviews with Owners/Builders/Representatives	95
Miscellaneous Visits	344
Visits re. Works in Progress	217
Drains: Smoke Tests applied	17
Colour Tested	40
Water Tested	49
Housing Inspections	272
Visits re. Verminous Houses	14
Verminous Houses sprayed	5
Visits re. Dirty Houses	4
Visits re. Overcrowding	3
Visits re. Improvements Grants	19
Visits re. Dangerous Premises	2
Food Inspections	62
Visits re. Food Premises (Under Food and Drugs Act)	38
Ice Cream Premises	3
Ice Cream Sampling	3
Dairies	11
Farms	4
Water Sampling	4
Shops Act	4
Factories Act	3
Rodent Control	19
Petroleum Acts	23
Air Pressure Tests applied to Tanks	2
Visits re. Food Poisoning and Reports	31
Visits re. infectious disease	5
Houses fumigated after infectious disease	1

I would like to record my appreciation and grateful thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, The Town Clerk, Housing Officer and Borough Surveyor for the help and guidance they have so willingly given to me in the execution of my duties.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

KENNETH WILDEY,
Sanitary Inspector.



C.H. WOODWARD of *Devizes*