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**Contributors**

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DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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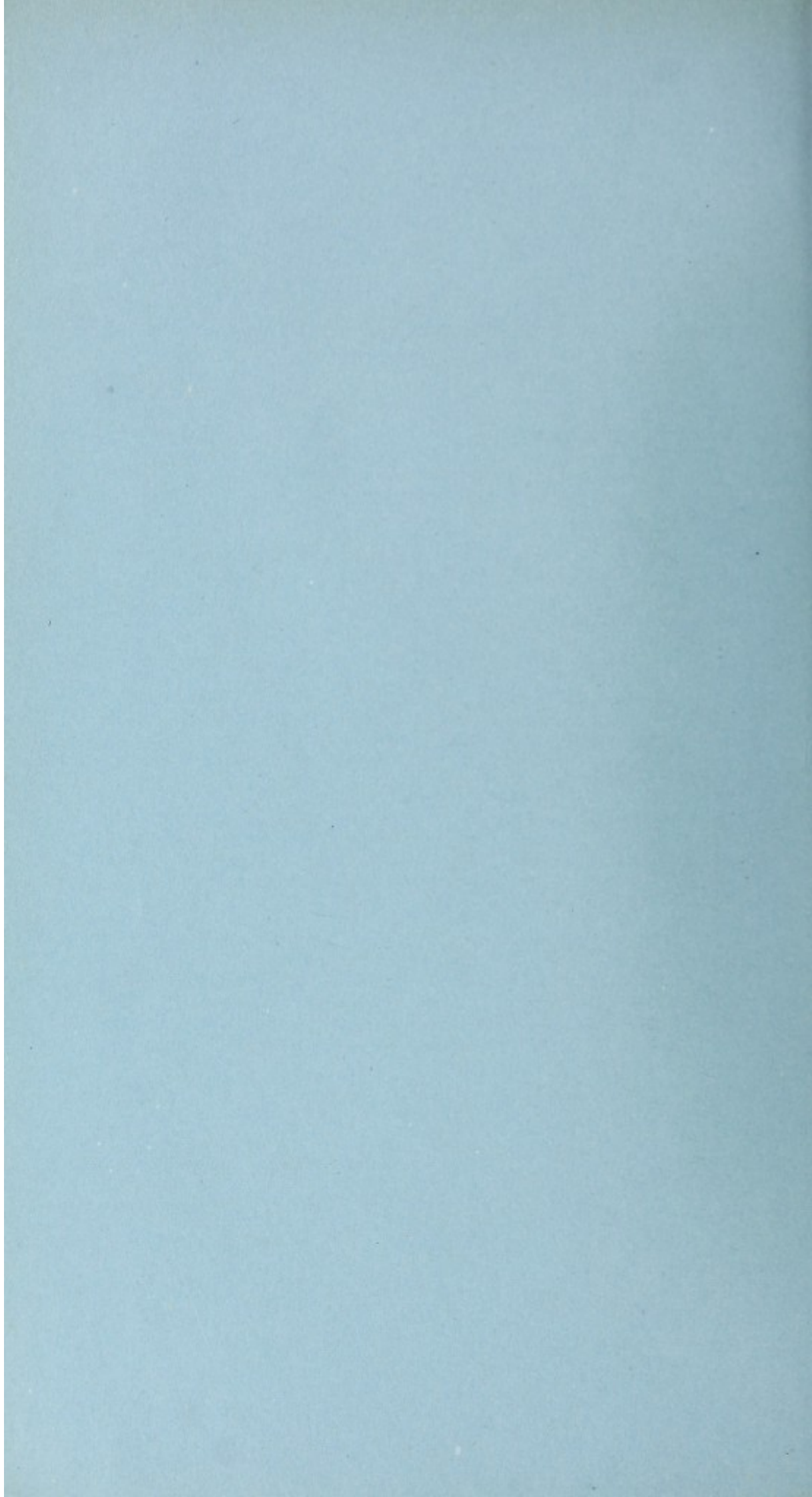
THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1952

—000—





Public Health Department,  
West Hill House,  
West Hill,  
Epsom.

July, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Annual Report for the year 1952, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2/53.

So far as figures are a guide in these matters, the vital statistics suggest that 1952 was a healthy year in this district. The death rate has remained at the same level as in the past two years; when standardised for comparative purposes, the rate is well below the figure for England and Wales. For the third year in succession the infant mortality rate was very low.

Infectious diseases gave little cause for anxiety.. For the fifth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified and there has been no death from the disease since 1939. The district escaped the outbreak of poliomyelitis which occurred in other parts of the country, including Surrey.

The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector is under this cover, and from it will be realised the scope of the duties carried out in his section of the public health department. The work of all members of the department, whether engaged on indoor or outdoor duties, has been noticeable for its keenness and helpfulness.

It is a pleasure to record once more the support which has been given by the Council to promote the improvement of the public health, and particularly the encouragement which has been forthcoming from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee. My thanks are also due to the Council's officers in other departments for the assistance and advice which they have willingly offered.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE

Medical Officer of Health



DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

Cyrus Ive, M.B.,B.S.(Lond.)M.R.C.S.(Eng.)L.R.C.P.(Lond.)D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

x D. Allan.                    M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

x C.F. Packham.                M.S.I.A.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Senior Clerk:                C.H. Argent.  
Shorthand/Typist:        Mrs. F.I. Holt.  
Telephonist:                Miss M.E. Hamper.

Senior Sanitary Inspector's Clerk


R.M. Jamieson                (to 6.12.52).  
Mrs. E. Bloxham              (from 8.12.52).

Rodent Operator

G. Anscomb.

(The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Assistants act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom & Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley).

x Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR  
THE YEAR 1952

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1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (Acres) ... ..	9,511
Population (Census 1931)..	15,204
Population (Census 1951)..	20,252
Population (estimated mid-year 1952)	20,050
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1952.	5,434
Rateable value at 31st December, 1952	£208,770
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£847

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>		
Total live births	283	143	140	} Birth rate per 1,000 population	
Legitimate	270	140	130		
Illegitimate	13	3	10		14.1
				Standardised Birth rate	14.1

<u>Still Births</u>					
Total still births	6	2	4	} Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	
Legitimate	6	2	4		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		20.8

<u>Deaths (net)</u>					
	248	118	130	} Crude death rate	12.4
					Standardised Death rate

<u>Deaths of infants under 1 year of age</u>				
Total infant deaths	6	5	1	
Legitimate	4	4	-	
Illegitimate	2	1	1	

<u>Deaths of infants under 1 month of age (Neonatal Deaths)</u>				
Total Neonatal deaths	3	3	-	
Legitimate	3	3	-	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	

Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	21.2
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.8
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	153.8

<u>Maternal Mortality</u>	<u>No. of deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live &amp; still) births</u>
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	1	3.46
Abortion	-	-
Other Maternal Causes	-	-





Deaths from:

		<u>Deaths</u>
Measles	(all ages)	-
Whooping Cough	(all ages)	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		-
Neoplasm (Cancer etc.)	(all ages)	44

Table 1 shows a comparison of the vital statistics of the year for the district with those of England and Wales.

Table II shows a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales during the same period.

#### BIRTHS

Live births numbered 283 of which 143 were males and 140 females, representing a birth-rate of 14.1 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the rate of 15.3 for England and Wales. A comparability factor (1.00) has been supplied by the Registrar General, allowing for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas for use when comparing the local rate with those of other districts.

Six still births were registered during the year giving a still birth rate of 0.30 compared with the rate of 0.35 per 1,000 population for England and Wales.

#### DEATHS

The deaths registered in the area after correction for inward and outward transfers numbered 248 representing a crude death rate of 12.4 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with the figure of 11.3 for England and Wales. The total included 118 males and 130 females.

A comparability factor (0.84) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate reduces it from 12.4 to 10.4.

Approximately 47% of deaths took place in hospitals. The causes of death are set out in Table III. It will be seen that heart disease, diseases of the circulatory system and cancer were again the most frequent causes of death in the older age groups.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of children under the age of one year numbered six, and the infant mortality rate was 21.2 per 1,000 live births. Comparable figures for 1951 were seven deaths and an infant mortality rate of 25.6.

Three of the deaths occurred within 28 days of birth. In two deaths the cause was attributed to prematurity, two to congenital malformations, one to asphyxiation caused by the inhalation of vomited food and one from pneumonia.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

One death was reported to have occurred in connection with pregnancy during the year.



## 2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are situated at the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, and St. John's Hospital, Redhill. Examinations of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council situated at West Hill House, Epsom.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service:-

The main ambulance station for the area is the Smallfields Section of the Redhill County Hospital (telephone Smallfield 271) with a sub-station at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in any sudden illness in the streets and public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone use the local Emergency Calling System). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request accompanied by a doctor's certificate should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Provided that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.

### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN ETC.- The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, ambulances and domestic help are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration has been delegated to the Southern Divisional Health Sub-Committee and its officers, with headquarters at Caberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill (Tel.No. Redhill 3206).

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox can be obtained from medical practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or on application at County Council Health Centres. Figures relating to the numbers treated will be found in Section 6 of this Report.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S CLINIC - A Branch of the Family Planning Association is active in the district. It provides a weekly clinic at the Redhill County Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of contraception to married persons, and also with the investigation of sub-fertility.

Enquiries concerning appointments should be made to Mrs. Ryan, Little Abbots, Betchworth (Tel. Dawes Green 234).



A time-table of clinics available is set out below:-

Ante-natal Clinic	Dorking County Hospital	Fridays 9.30.a.m.
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics	(1)S.C.C.Clinic,Dene St.Dorking. (2)Brockhan Homes, Brockhan. (Voluntary) (3)The Reading Room, Westcott. (4)The Brodie Hall, Box Hill. (5)Village Hall, Nth.Holmswood.	Mons.& Weds. 2 - 4 p.m. 1st & 3rd Fridays at 2.p.m. 2 & 4 Mondays 2.p.m. 2 & 4 Weds.at 2.p.m. 1 & 3 Thurs. 2.p.m.
General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinics	S.C.C.Clinic,Dene St.Dorking.	Tues. 9.30a.m.-12 noon.
Dental Clinic	"	By Appointment
Eye Clinic	"	By Appointment
Tuberculosis Dispensary	"	1 & 3 Fridays 10.a.m.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Redhill County Hospital.	Tuesdays 6-7.30.p.m.
Scabies Treatment Clinic	Dorking County Hospital. Out-patients Department.	By Appointment
Venereal Diseases Clinics	Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.  Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common.	<u>Males:</u> Tues.& Fri. 5 - 7p.m. <u>Females:</u> Mons. 2-7p.m. Thurs.9.30.-11.a.m. <u>Males:</u> Mons. 5-7.p.m. <u>Females:</u> Weds. 5-7.p.m.

(And at the Out-patient Departments of many London Hospitals)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of this Act gave power to local authorities to take steps to deal with persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity, who for one reason or another are not receiving proper care and attention, and who are unable to manage for themselves. As might be expected, the majority of these are old people, who, in addition to physical illness, have some loss of mental power sufficient to curtail their reasoning powers but not serious enough to require their admission to hospitals for mental illness. There is a tendency for some of these old people to cut themselves off from relatives and friends and to refuse all help, and the conditions in which they live may reach a deplorable state of neglect before it is realised by relatives or neighbours that the matter should be reported to the Medical Officer of Health or to the Welfare Officer. Removal to hospital or other institution may then be a matter of some urgency to safeguard the invalid's life and to permit the removal of filth and rubbish from the existing accommodation.

Under the 1948 Act, power was given to the local authority to apply to the Magistrates Court for an Order to obtain the compulsory removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of a person found in such conditions. As the result of experience, it was found that the time taken to comply with the legal requirements of the Act in obtaining an Order for compulsory removal was so long that the practical value of the powers given by the Act to local authorities was curtailed. An amending Act which came into force in 1951 enables authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

No action was taken under this section during the year.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWATER

There are two companies which undertake the supply of water to the district. Mickleham, Boxhill and Brockham are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company, and the remainder of the area by the Dorking Water Company.

The bulk of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company is obtained from borings into chalk at Purley, Kenley and Leatherhead. Before distribution it is softened by the addition of lime and dechlorinated after an adequate period of contact. The methods of purification in use are adequate to deal with any possible pollution which might occur.

The Dorking Water Company obtains its water from a series of fifteen wells situated a little to the south of the Pippbrook stream shortly before it reaches the western outskirts of Dorking. The boreholes extend to a depth of 130 feet into the Folkestone beds, from which the water is siphoned to a reservoir at the works. After chlorination it is pumped into covered service reservoirs.

The district is fortunate in the adequacy of its water supplies.

Reports on 19 samples of the Dorking Water Company's supply were received, all of which were satisfactory.

As the East Surrey Water Company supplies the areas of several local authorities, a system of sampling in rotation has been so arranged that a sample of the supply is taken at weekly intervals throughout the year.

As will be seen by the following figures, the great majority of houses are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally:-

Dwelling-houses supplied by wells	3
" " " " standpipes	21
" " " " piped main supply	5,436
" " " " piped private supply	3
" " " " other means	3

As reported previously, there are several camp sites in the district where, owing to the housing shortage, caravans and temporary structures are being permanently occupied. The water supply in all these cases is from the mains, delivered through standpipes situated at various distances from the dwellings.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse collection continued on a weekly basis in the town area, and fortnightly in the outlying villages. Towards the end of the year, an additional freighter was delivered. This, a large capacity vehicle of the Bedford "Compressmore" type, is intended for use in the villages when a weekly collection service is put into operation there. Until the end of 1952 it was used in place of one of the other vehicles which had to be withdrawn for an extensive overhaul.

Disposal throughout the year was by controlled tipping at the new site mentioned in my previous Report. The arrangements there appeared to be working satisfactorily. Neither the Senior Sanitary Inspector nor I received any complaints from houses in the vicinity. The Sanitary Inspectors made 16 inspections of the tip throughout the year, but observed no nuisances. In addition, the Rodent Operator visited at approximately weekly intervals. Only one very small infestation of rats was found and required treatment - in April. Flies and other insect life were reported as being negligible.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are two sewage disposal works within the area, situated at Pixham Lane and at Brockham. The Pixham Lane works deal with sewage from Dorking, Mickleham and Westcott, and consist of settling tanks, filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is disposed of on the lower slopes of Box Hill, to which it is forced by compressed air through pipes from the works.





## Drainage and Sewerage (contd)

The extensions referred to in last year's Report were completed early in the year.

The Brockham works deal with sewage from Brockham, North Holmwood, and adjacent points of the Dorking and Horley Rural District. They consist of detritus tanks, settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole.

During the year the Council's Engineer and Surveyor presented to the Public Health Committee two reports on the main drainage problems in the North Holmwood and Brockham areas, the first being an outline of the position, and the second giving details of suggested alternative schemes with comparative costs.

The proposals were considered in two stages - first, the complete scheme, and secondly the minimum immediate essentials of that scheme. As a result, the Council approved the submission of proposals to the Ministry, stressing the urgency for the granting of approval to those sections which formed the minimum immediate needs, requiring an estimated capital expenditure of £65,000.

The cesspool problem in the Box Hill area is untouched by the foregoing proposals, and remains to be dealt with by the cesspool emptying service. Fortunately, the difficulties in this area are recognised by the Planning Authority, and provide one of the reasons for the restriction of development there.

## CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Sites in respect of which licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising their use for moveable dwellings, numbered 14.

In addition, licences to erect or station and use a moveable dwelling were issued in respect of 6 such dwellings, situated on pieces of land other than licensed sites.

There is no progress to report regarding the large site which I have mentioned in the last two years' Reports. Some amended proposals were put forward by a Company which had acquired an interest in the site, but discussions between representatives of the Local Planning Authority and the Urban District Council are expected to take place before any decision is reached.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year, 92 inspections of shops were made. The conditions found and action taken are shown in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report, which also contains details of the record of all shops in the district.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Four privately owned open air swimming pools were open to the public during the summer months. The Sanitary Inspectors made 63 visits and took 54 samples of water for bacteriological examination.

Two of the pools are fitted with automatic chlorinating plants. In one case, of the 16 samples taken, 15 results were bacteriologically satisfactory, there being no coliform bacilli present per 100 ml.; the other, which showed 1 coliform bacillus (faecal type) per 100 ml., was reasonably satisfactory. The other pool of this type had 14 out of 16 results bacteriologically satisfactory, while 2, with counts of 7 and 5 coliform bacilli (non-faecal), indicated that the chlorine content was inadequate to maintain sterility of the water.

The third pool, a small one with a sand filter but without an automatic chlorinator - chloros being added direct to the water in the pool - was not open for as long a period as the two mentioned earlier, but 12 samples were taken, all results being bacteriologically satisfactory.



### Swimming Baths and Pools (contd)

The fourth pool, although constructed some years ago, was opened for the first time since before the war. It is filled from a private bore-hole 320' deep, and this supply was sampled and found to be satisfactory. There is neither filtration nor chlorination of the water, and weekly emptying and refilling is relied upon to achieve cleanliness. During its use in the 1952 season, the bath was open to the public for five days each week and the remaining days of the week were spent in completely emptying, cleaning and refilling. Hot water is pumped in to bring the pool to a suitable temperature, displacing an equivalent amount which passes over scum channels to the outlet which discharges to the River Mole. Of 10 samples taken, 4 were reported by the laboratory to be bacteriologically satisfactory, 5 reasonably satisfactory, and 1 unsatisfactory. Under these circumstances, the method of maintaining cleanliness must be regarded as adequate, though out of date by modern standards. No doubt there are people who would prefer to bathe in natural water rather than in the product of the continuous filtration and chlorination system. Regular bacteriological control will be continued.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was necessary during the year.

### RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The number of premises registered under the above Act is two, no fresh applications having been received during the year.

### SCHOOLS

No action was necessary during the year apart from measures of rodent destruction and fly and other insect pest prevention carried out, mainly in school canteens, in accordance with arrangements made between the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the Surrey County Council Education Office.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The Council's Rodent Operator also deals with bed-bugs and other insect pests, under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who gives full details of the year's work.

### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

(1) Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	14	9	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	38	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	-	-	-
TOTAL	108	47	-	-



Inspection of Factories (contd)

(2) Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	-	1	1	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	6	-	6	-

(3) The factories in the register are classified as follows:-

	Power	Non-Power
Aerated Water	1	-
Agricultural Engineers	1	-
Bacon Curing, Coffee Grinding, etc.	1	-
Bakehouses	9	1
Boot Repairs	6	1
Brickmaking	1	-
Builders, Engineering and Joinery	5	1
Cable Making	1	-
Cabinet Repairs	-	1
Cleaning and Pressing	3	1
Clothiers	3	3
Coach Building	2	-
Cooker and Motor Repairs	1	-
Cork Processing	1	-
Crumpets	1	-
Electricity Generating Station	1	-
Engineering (General)	7	-
Firewood Merchants	1	-
Fish Curing	-	1
Flour Mills	1	-
Flushing Appliances	1	-
Furriers	1	-
Gas Works	1	-
Hairdressing Requisites	1	-
Ice-cream and Confectionery	1	-
Lampshades, etc.	1	-
Laundries	2	-
Monumental Masons	-	1
Motor Vehicle Repair	13	1
Newspaper Fudging	1	-
Paper Baling	1	-
Plumbing	-	1
Printing	3	-
Provender Mills	2	-
Radio Engineers	3	1
Reinforced Concrete Products	1	-



(3) (contd).

	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Power</u>
Sausage Manufacture	4	-
Sheet Metal	1	-
Tent Making	1	-
Timber and Fencing	1	-
Toolmaking	1	-
Upholsterers, etc.	2	2
Watch Repairs	2	-
Wire Processing	1	-

The name and address of one out-worker in the wearing apparel trade was notified from another authority.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisance discovered and the action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, with the results obtained.

#### 4. HOUSING

The year's statistics in connection with housing are set out below.

There has been little change in the position so far as repairs are concerned, for although the control of work by licence has eased, cost is still the predominant factor.

The dwelling house stated below to be unfit for human habitation was a hut on one of the Box Hill sites. The owner-occupier undertook to demolish the hut when he and his wife had completed hospital treatment and had been re-housed by the Council.

#### I. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

1.(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	88
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	396
2.(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	4
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	24
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	1
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	63

#### II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	41
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Housing (contd)

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:			
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-		
	(a) by owners		2
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owner		Nil
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:			
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		13
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:		
	(a) by owners		26
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners		Nil
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:			
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders		Nil
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:			
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which the Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit		Nil

IV. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding

As in previous years the figures of new cases of overcrowding are obtained from the Sanitary Inspectors' visits to housing applicants. 305 of these visits were made during the course of the year.

Cases found during the last seven years may be summarised as follows:-

	Part houses, rooms etc.during		Whole houses during	
	<u>1946/51</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1946/51</u>	<u>1952</u>
Overcrowded by $\frac{1}{2}$ unit	284	22	44	4
" " 1 "	139	10	40	7
" " $1\frac{1}{2}$ units	63	9	10	1
" " 2 "	25	-	16	1
" " $2\frac{1}{2}$ "	7	-	10	-
" " 3 "	2	-	5	-
" " $3\frac{1}{2}$ "	2	-	1	2
" " 4 "	1	-	1	-
" " 5 "	-	-	1	-
" " 6 "	-	-	1	-
	<u>523</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>15</u>



#### IV. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding (contd)

The cases of overcrowding known to be abated - by re-housing of sub-tenants or by improved circumstances through their own efforts, are as follows:-

		Part houses, rooms etc, during		Whole houses during	
		1946/51	1952	1946/51	1952
Overcrowding abated					
by	$\frac{1}{2}$ unit	161	19	13	3
"	1 "	79	19	16	1
"	$1\frac{1}{2}$ units	41	7	4	-
"	2 "	17	1	5	2
"	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "	4	-	2	-
"	3 "	2	-	2	-
"	$3\frac{1}{2}$ "	4	-	-	1
"	6 "	-	-	1	-
		<u>308</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>7</u>

#### REHOUSING

During the year 78 new Council houses and flats were completed and occupied. This makes a total, to the end of 1952, of 335 houses and 4 shops built since the end of the war, and a grand total of 651 Council houses, 28 flats and 4 shops.

Twenty-one houses were built by private enterprise, and 9 other units were made available by the conversion of large empty houses.

At the end of the year 50 families were still housed in premises requisitioned and converted by the Council. Of the 12 ex-army huts formerly reported, 5 were still occupied, 5 having been demolished or removed after the rehousing of the occupants, while two have been retained for other purposes.

Until the new schemes at Goodwyns Farm and Longmeadow, Westcott are sufficiently advanced to produce a steady flow of new houses there will be a period of several months during which it will be impossible to rehouse even the most urgent cases except in existing houses vacated by their present tenants.

#### 5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

##### MILK

As stated last year, the Council's duties with regard to milk are now limited to the registration of distributors and dairies, with the enforcement of the relevant parts of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, the licensing of those who sell designated milk, either raw or heat treated, in the district, under the appropriate Special Designations Regulations, and the important function of sampling the various milk supplies, as a routine part of their work for the safeguarding of public health.

In regard to the pasteurising plant in the district, for which the licensing authority is the Surrey County Council, the Senior Sanitary Inspector continued to act as the agent of the County Medical Officer for the purpose of inspection, supervision, sampling and making recommendations as to licensing.

In addition, pasteurised milk is available from four sources outside the Urban District.



### MILK SAMPLES

During the year 177 samples of milk retailed in the Urban District were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the summary of results is given below:

#### 1. Undesignated Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Within Accredited Standard	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	%
3	3	-	3	100

#### 2. Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
135	132	3	135	-

#### 3. Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
27	26	1	27	-

The four unsatisfactory results on the Methylene Blue Reductase Test were accounted for by the fact that the weather on the days these samples were taken was very hot and thundery.

#### Biological Test for Tuberculosis

Twelve samples of raw undesignated milk were submitted for guinea-pig inoculation. The results in all cases were negative.

#### Bacteriological Examination of Milk Containers

As a check on the bottle washing plant at the pasteurising establishment in the district two batches, each of six bottles, were submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological examination.

The first batch had an average mean count of 95 on five of the bottles, this being well within the provisional classification of a count of not more than 600 being regarded as satisfactory. The sixth bottle in this batch had an unsatisfactory count of more than 4,000.

The average mean count on the six bottles in the second batch was 187 - satisfactory.

#### Milk sold under Special Designations

The following licences for the sale of undesignated milks, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year:-

##### (a) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk)Regulations, 1949

Dealer's licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	6
Supplementary licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	2

##### (b) Milk(Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Dealer's licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	5
Dealer's licence to sell "Sterilised" milk	7
Supplementary licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	2
Supplementary licence to sell "Sterilised" milk	1



## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The Senior Sanitary Inspector's report contains information regarding the inspection of animals after slaughter at a private slaughterhouse, and details of unsound food surrendered and destroyed.

## ICE-CREAM

The work done in the supervision of ice-cream is discussed in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report. The attention which has been given to this important article of food in the past few years has resulted in a general improvement in the methods used in its production, and consequently in the bacteriological findings on samples taken for examination.

## FOOD HYGIENE

The need for the hygienic handling of food continued to be stressed by the Sanitary Inspectors during their visits to food premises.

It is interesting to note that during the year a considerable number of conditions which required action under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were remedied.

I think it is also true to say that the majority of food premises in the district are now provided with the facilities necessary to ensure the clean handling of food and it is essential that managers and staff avail themselves of those facilities.

## ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continued to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 74 samples for analyses were taken in this district by his staff. These included 50 samples of milk, 6 of sausages, 2 each of ice-cream, molasses and malt extract. The remainder comprised 12 miscellaneous articles. Seven samples were found to be adulterated or irregular, including 3 of milk, and one each of malt extract, meringue powder, pilchards and sausages. No prosecutions were undertaken.

The information was also given that within that part of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs authority a total of 1,627 samples were taken for analyses, including 1,264 of milk. One hundred and forty-one samples were found to be adulterated or irregular, 100 of these being of milk. Prosecutions were undertaken in 9 cases and eight convictions were obtained, one case being dismissed.





6. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE  
NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1952, classified according to age and sex.

SMALLPOX - No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX - During the year notifications were received from general practitioners of 141 primary vaccinations and 66 revaccinations performed by them. Included in these are 109 vaccinations carried out on children before they had reached the age of one year, equivalent to approximately 38% of the number of births taking place during the year. The equivalent figure for England and Wales for mid-year 1949-50 was 23.8%.

SCARLET FEVER - Nine notifications of scarlet fever were received during the year, as against 2 in the previous year. Eight of the cases were admitted to hospital for treatment. The notification rate per 1,000 population was 0.45 compared with 1.53 for England and Wales.

With the change which has taken place in the severity of the course of this disease, and with the greatly improved methods of treatment by the use of the sulpha group of drugs and of antibiotics, the question is sometimes raised as to whether the time is not due for a modification in the procedure designed to deal with scarlet fever. This includes notification to the medical officer of health by the medical practitioner in attendance on the patient of the occurrence of the illness. Notification is followed by a visit of investigation by the sanitary inspector, with subsequent report to the medical officer of health. The latter requires the exclusion from school of children who have been in close contact, and possibly from work of some adults, for example teachers, children's nurses, and some food and milk handlers. Isolation of the patient is required, either at home or by admission to the hospital. Thus a considerable amount of time, money and labour is spent on what is now a minor illness in most cases.

On the other hand it is within recent memory that scarlet fever was frequently a severe illness, with a high mortality and with a series of complications capable of greatly reducing the expectation of life. It is suggested that the change in character of the disease and particularly the non-occurrence of renal complications may be due to the absence or inactivity of the specific strains of streptococcus associated with this severe type of scarlet fever. The conditions may be of a temporary character, and hence the need for caution in relaxing precautions.

DIPHTHERIA - For the fifth consecutive year no case of diphtheria was notified in the district. The notification rate for England and Wales was 0.01 per 1,000 population.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION - Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. For the treatment of school children in large groups, clinics have been held on school premises in conjunction with the education authority. The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment of two injections at about the age of nine months, with secondary treatment consisting of single injections at every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life to reinforce the original treatment. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.



### Diphtheria Immunisation (contd)

Notifications were received from various sources that 206 children received primary treatment and 292 received reinforcing doses. Possibly some children may have been treated privately or on other districts, about whom information has not been received. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Treatment</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	90	271
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>116</u>	<u>21</u>
	<u>206</u>	<u>292</u>

Of the total number of children receiving primary diphtheria immunisation treatment, 90 completed treatment before reaching the age of one year.

Of the estimated child population of the district it is known that 842 under the age of five years, and 2314 over five years but under fifteen years have received treatment.

Active immunisation against diphtheria has now been in operation in the district since 1935 and can claim a part in the reduction of the incidence and mortality rates which has occurred. The downward tendency of these rates can be seen by referring to Table V.

FOOD POISONING - No case of food poisoning was notified during the year. The incidence rate was 0.13 per 1,000 population for England and Wales.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis) - No case of poliomyelitis was notified during the year. The rate for England and Wales was 0.09 per 1,000 population.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA - Thirty-five notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received during the year, being from the maternity section of the Dorking County Hospital. The notification rate for puerperal pyrexia was 121.1 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 17.8 for England and Wales. A reason for the high local rate is the fact that the hospital admission area extends for a considerable distance outside the urban district, and that a proportion of the maternity patients are selected for admission because of abnormal conditions likely to cause difficult confinements with subsequent rise of temperature in the puerperium. Seventeen of the patients notified were normally resident outside the Dorking Urban District.

WHOOPIING COUGH - The number of notifications received was 19 compared with 71 in 1951. The case rate was 0.95 per 1,000 population against 2.61 for England and Wales. No death occurred from the disease.

The County Council has extended its scheme of immunisation against infectious diseases to include whooping cough, limiting the treatment to infants and toddlers.

MEASLES - Twelve notifications of measles were received during the year as against 402 in 1951, giving a case rate of 0.60 per 1,000 population compared with the rate of 8.86 for England and Wales. No death occurred from the disease.

TUBERCULOSIS - The names of 18 residents were added to the register, 14 suffering from disease of the lungs and 4 of other parts. There were also added the names of 15 persons who moved into this district during the year, having been notified previously elsewhere. Two persons died of the disease without having been notified during life.

During the year a review of all names on the register has been made. As a result 59 names were removed, which included 28 of persons no longer resident in the district, and 17 of persons considered to have recovered.



### Tuberculosis (contd)

At the end of the year 129 names remained on the tuberculosis register, this being 25 less than at the end of 1951. The entries consisted of 99 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (61 males and 38 females) and 30 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (13 males and 17 females).

Five deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis were registered, giving a death rate of 0.15. One death occurred from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, giving a death rate of 0.01 and a total tuberculosis death rate of 0.25 compared with 0.24 for England and Wales. Information of 2 of the 5 deaths which occurred during the year was obtained from the Registrar of Deaths, there having been no previous notification.

An analysis into the types of disease, sex and age groups of the new additions to the register and of those removed by reason of death is to be found in Table VI.

Considerable efforts have been made in the past 5 years to combat tuberculosis. There has been an increase in the number of hospital beds available for the treatment of the disease; a great advance in the efficacy of drugs used; concerted efforts to improve the environmental condition on patients; increased facilities in the use of radiography for the examination of suspected cases of infection, and of their contacts; and the use of B.C.G. inoculation, though this method of prevention, which is still considered to be in the experimental stage, is reserved for a limited number of subjects falling within special categories.

The mortality figures set out in Table VII suggest that these efforts may be having an effect on the course of the disease. Reference to Table VII also shows that the number of new cases notified each year has varied very little. It must be concluded that the risk of infection has not fallen to a marked degree, though the continued high incidence rate may be partly due to the increased use of radiography resulting in an accurate diagnosis in a larger proportion of cases. A considerable decline in the incidence of the disease cannot be expected until a method of increasing individual resistance, such as B.C.G. inoculation, is in general use, and the policy guiding the administration of B.C.G. is based on the need for controlled surveys of its effects on selected groups before its application to the general community.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY - In September of this year the South Western Metropolitan Regional Mass X-ray unit visited the district, this being its third visit in the past six years. A total of 1,855 persons were examined in 4 of whom active pulmonary tuberculosis was detected. This represents an incidence of 2.2 per 1,000 examined. The average figure in 1952 was 2.1 per 1,000 examined in the area visited by the Unit (Surrey, N.E. Hants., and N.Sussex).



TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1952

	ENGLAND AND WALES	DORKING URBAN DISTRICT
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births	15.3	14.1
Still Births	( 0.35 22.6 (a))	0.30 20.8 (a))
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All causes	11.3	12.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	-
Whooping Cough	0.00	-
Diphtheria	0.00	-
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.25
Influenza	0.04	0.10
Smallpox	0.00	-
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	-
Pneumonia	0.47	0.30
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	0.00	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	-
Meningococcal Infections	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	1.53	0.45
Whooping Cough	2.61	0.95
Diphtheria	0.01	-
Erysipelas	0.14	0.10
Smallpox	0.00	-
Measles	3.86	0.60
Pneumonia	0.72	0.05
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.06	-
Paralytic Non-Paralytic	0.03	-
Food Poisoning	0.13	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	17.87(a)	121.1 (a)
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
Deaths under 1 year of age	27.6	21.2
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</u>		
Maternal Mortality:	0.72	3.46
(Puerperal Sepsis)	0.09	-
(Toxaemia of Pregnancy)	0.23	3.46
(Abortion)	0.11	-
(Other Maternal Causes)	0.29	-

(a) Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births









TABLE III

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

	M	F	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	2	3
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	2	2
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	11	20
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	23	41
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	8	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	6	10
20. Other heart disease	23	17	40
21. Other circulatory disease	7	9	16
22. Influenza	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	4	2	6
24. Bronchitis	3	9	12
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	-	3
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	12	20
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	1	5	6
35. Suicide	1	3	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	118	130	248



TABLE IV

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 years and over		All ages		Total all ages both sexes		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Smallpox	1	1																				2	
Diphtheria																							
Scarlet Fever					1		2		1													3	6
Typhoid Fever																							
Paratyphoid Fever																							
Poliomyelitis																							
Paralytic (including Poliоencephalitis)																							
Non-Paralytic																							
Encephalitis																							
Pneumonia																							
Dysentery																							
Food Poisoning																							
Erysipelas																							
Meningococcal Infections																							
Puerperal Pyrexia																							
Ophthalmia Neonatorum																							
Malaria																							
Measles	1	1	3	3	2	3	5	5	2			1											12
Whooping Cough							4	4	2														19



TABLE V

## INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT 1934 - 1952

Year	No. of cases Notified	Incidence rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Mortality rate per 1,000 Population	Immunisation. No. of primary treatments in each year
1934	1	0.06	-	-	-
1935	4	0.24	1	0.06	116
1936	19	1.14	2	0.12	32
1937	4	0.24	-	-	124
1938	2	0.12	1	0.06	53
1939	4	0.22	2	0.11	238
1940	3	0.15	-	-	124
1941	3	0.14	-	-	700
1942	1	0.05	-	-	637
1943	1	0.05	-	-	690
1944	-	-	-	-	288
1945	1	0.05	-	-	344
1946	-	-	-	-	234
1947	1	0.05	-	-	267
1948	-	-	-	-	294
1949	-	-	-	-	233
1950	-	-	-	-	239
1951	-	-	-	-	208
1952	-	-	-	-	206





TABLE VI  
TUBERCULOSIS

	Primary notifications relating to persons resident in the Dorking Urban District.				Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other districts now resident in the Dorking Urban District				Deaths						
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	2	2	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	2	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	2	-	2	-	5	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 54	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
65 years & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	8	6	-	4	-	7	6	-	1	2	-	1	2	-	2



TABLE VII  
TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY

Year	Primary No.	Notifications Rate per 1,000 Population	Inward Transfers	Posthumous Notifications	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1934	9	0.56	3	2	5	0.31
1935	13	0.79	8	2	7	0.43
1936	11	0.66	3	4	9	0.54
1937	13	0.77	8	-	6	0.47
1938	15	0.83	7	2	5	0.29
1939	10	0.58	2	1	5	0.27
1940	19	0.92	8	-	8	0.39
1941	19	0.88	11	2	8	0.38
1942	15	0.78	7	-	8	0.40
1943	19	1.01	7	-	4	0.21
1944	20	1.08	8	4	7	0.38
1945	19	1.00	12	-	13	0.69
1946	11	0.55	11	2	6	0.30
1947	14	0.68	11	3	7	0.34
1948	18	0.92	13	1	9	0.46
1949	16	0.81	7	-	4	0.20
1950	10	0.51	12	3	10	0.51
1951	18	0.90	5	-	2	0.10
1952	13	0.90	15	2	5	0.25



URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1952

Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
Council Offices,  
Pippbrook,  
Dorking.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Annual Report on the work of your  
Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1952.

Much of the material has already been before the Public  
Health Committee in various forms at the meetings held during the  
period under review.

The total number of complaints was about a hundred less  
than in the previous year, and so far as houses were concerned it  
was necessary to serve fewer notices. Despite this, however,  
proportionately more notices were complied with, and this,  
combined with the completion of work carried over from 1951, gave  
the net result that fewer repairs were outstanding at the end of  
the year than has been the case for some time.

On the food inspection side, the reduction in the import  
of canned goods was reflected in a very considerable decrease in  
the number of tins of food found to be unfit for human  
consumption.

Routine work suffered to some extent by reason of the  
amount of time which I spent in dealing with camp sites and  
moveable dwellings - not only in visits and inspections, but also  
in preparation of reports, interviews with caravanners and would-be  
caravanners, meetings and telephone conversations with officers  
of the County Planning Department. No doubt this aspect of the  
work would seem less frustrating if one could hope for the  
realisation of the Council's aims at an early date.

Another feature which occupies much time, yet is really  
outside the generally recognised duties of a sanitary inspector  
although in this District we have come to accept it as part of our  
routine, is the inspection of the present accommodation occupied  
by housing applicants with a view to assessing their housing need.  
Each year the visits made in this connection number hundreds.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members  
of the Public Health Committee, Dr. Ive, and my colleagues for  
their help, co-operation and support.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. ALLAN.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



## INSPECTIONS AND REINSPECTIONS

The number of visits and inspections carried out during the year is summarised below:-

### General Sanitation -

Water Supply	6
Drainage	156
Stables and Piggeries	1
Fried Fish Shops	9
Hotels and Public Houses	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1009
Factories with mechanical power	38
Factories without mechanical power	9
Workplaces	2
Bakehouses	8
Dustbins	73
Refuse Accumulations	7
Rats and Mice (Visits by Rodent Operator)	8842
Pet Animals Act, 1951	47
Schools	2
Shops	92
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	592
Camp Sites	47
Wasps Nests	96
Fly Infestations	5
Swimming Pools	63
Unsuccessful Visits	210

### Housing -

<u>Under Public Health Acts:</u>	
No. of houses inspected	84
No. of re-inspections	288
<u>Under Housing Acts:</u>	
No. of houses inspected	4
No. of re-inspections	20
<u>Overcrowding:</u>	
No. of houses inspected	1
<u>Verminous Premises:</u>	
No. of houses inspected	2
No. of re-inspections	5
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	305

### Infectious Diseases -

Inquiries in cases of infectious diseases	12
Visits re disinfection	2
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	9

### Meat and Food Inspection -

<u>Inspection of Meat:</u>	
Visits to Slaughterhouses	29
Visits to Shops and Stalls	41
Visits to Other Premises	9
<u>Visits to:</u>	
Butchers	51
Fishmongers and Poulterers	22
Grocers	218
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	25
Dairies and Milkshops	100
Ice-cream premises	66
Food Preparing Premises	314
Market Stalls	37
Restaurants	45
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	59





Meat and Food Inspection - continued -

Visits in Connection with Sampling:

Milk - Bacteriological	159
Milk - Tubercle Bacilli	5
Ice-cream Server Rinse Water	12
Water - Bacteriological	59
Ice-cream - Bacteriological	25
Miscellaneous Food Visits	37
Food Poisoning Enquiries	2
	<hr/>
	13,368
	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTICES ISSUED AND ACTION TAKEN

The Notices served and the results of such action are given in their respective categories, but the total summary (excluding action taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938) is as follows:-

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1952	32
Issued during the year	87
Complied with during the year	66
Statutory Action necessary	29
Outstanding on 31st December, 1952	24

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1952	27
Issued during the year	33
Complied with during the year	43
Cancelled during the year	3
Action in default taken	1
Outstanding on 31st December, 1952	13

COMPLAINTS

Four hundred and sixty-three complaints were received from the public as follows:-

Dampness, defective roofs, etc.	37
Other defects - houses	43
Flooded cellars and basements	5
Drainage of houses	9
Drainage of other premises	4
Rats and Mice	171
Unsound Food	79
Defective Dustbins	25
Overflowing Cesspools	4
Defective Cesspools	1
Ants	3
Beetles	8
Bugs	3
Flies	5
Moths	2
Mosquitoes	2
Woodworm	10
Wasps Nests	31
Miscellaneous	21
	<hr/>
	463
	<hr/> <hr/>

DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED, NUISANCES ABATED ETC.

The inspection of dwelling houses, etc., and consequent action resulted in the following conditions being found and remedied.

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Rooms requiring decoration	1	1
Rooms requiring plastering	12	18



Defects found and remedied etc. - continued -

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Damp walls	19	22
Defective eavesgutters	10	16
Defective rainwater pipes	4	8
Defective roofs	23	30
Defective chimneystacks	11	17
Defective brickwork	4	5
Defective drains	14	10
Defective yard surfaces and passages	1	1
Flooded cellars	3	2
Houses with inadequate forces of water	1	-
Defective water supply pipes	2	-
Defective w.c. cisterns	2	2
Defective water closets	5	7
Defective w.c. seats	4	4
Defective fireplaces and hearths	5	10
Defective kitcheners and ovens	5	7
Defective washboilers	1	2
Defective floors	3	14
Defective window frames	12	20
Defective sashcords and fasteners	5	14
Defective sinks and wastepipes	3	6
Defective sink wastepipes	2	2
Defective doors	1	3
Defective stairtreads and risers	2	2
Defective dustbins	21	22
Overflowing cesspools	3	3
Houses in a filthy condition	1	1
Verminous houses	2	2
External wall boarding - defective	-	4

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH DURING THE YEAR  
AND NOTICES OUTSTANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952

(1) Housing Act, 1936 -

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1952	6
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1952	1
No. of Preliminary Notices served	2
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	7
No. of Statutory Notices served	1
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	2
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1952	-
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1952	-

Public Health Act, 1936 -

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Other Premises</u>	<u>Dustbins</u>
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1952	14	2	5
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1952	23	-	2
No. of Preliminary Notices served	57	-	22
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with Statutory Action necessary	40	1	11
No. of Statutory Notices served	13	-	14
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	18	-	14
No. of Statutory Notices cancelled	31	-	10
Action in default taken	2	-	-
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1952	-	-	1
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1952	18	1	2
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1952	8	-	5



INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(a) Meat inspected at time of slaughter -

The result of meat inspection at premises licensed as a slaughterhouse, but used only for dealing with self-suppliers' pigs and "casualty" animals, is set out below in the form required by the Minister.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned:

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	Nil	Nil	5	1	46
Number inspected	-	-	5	1	46
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	4.3
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	4.3

(b) Meat (inspected in shops) and Other Foods -

Examination revealed that the following foodstuffs were unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

	No.	Tins	Bottles and Jars	Weight				
				Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Beef: English	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	-
Beef: Imported	-	-	-	-	1	-	18	-
Pork	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	-
Offal	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	-
Fish	-	59	-	-	2	1	16	8
Fishcakes	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8
Bacon	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	4
Cheese	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	13
Tinned hams	-	-	-	-	9	2	7	-
Canned meat	-	-	-	-	8	1	12	13
Dried fruit	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-
Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Cake	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-
Sausages	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	-
Milk	-	242	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	-	482	-	-	-	-	-	-
Soup	-	150	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit	-	613	16	-	-	-	-	-
Preserves	-	25	16	-	-	-	-	-
Coffee	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit Puddings	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit Squash	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Savouries	-	10	5	-	-	-	-	-
Sauces	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Condiments	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eggs	575	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total:</u>	575	1595	50	1	16	1	5	14



(c) Ice-cream -

Twenty-four samples of ice-cream and three ice-lollies were submitted for bacteriological examination. All came from sources outside the district, and information on adverse laboratory reports was forwarded to the Public Health Departments of the local authorities in whose areas production took place.

<u>Manufacturer's No:</u>	<u>Samples taken:</u>	<u>Provisional Grades:</u>	<u>Coliform present in:</u>	<u>Faecal coli:</u>
1.	6	4 - Grade I 1 - Grade II 1 - Grade III	1 1 1	Absent " "
2.	4	1 - Grade I 2 - Grade III 1 - Grade IV	1 2 1	" " "
3.	5	4 - Grade I 1 - Grade III	- -	" "
4.	4	4 - Grade I	1	"
5.	2	1 - Grade I 1 - Grade II	- 1	" "
6.	3	3 - Grade I	-	"
7.	2	2 - Grade I	-	"
8.	1	Grade II	-	"

(d) Ice-cream Server Rinse Water -

Although the majority of the ice-cream trade in the district consists of the sale of tubs or wrapped blocks, some premises, mainly cafes, serve their ice-cream from bulk containers.

The utensils used for this purpose are usually kept standing in a jug or bowl of water until needed.

As part of the routine food hygiene investigations, samples of the water in such containers were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. Counts of tens of thousands and, in one case, over a million bacteria per ml. were reported. Coliform organisms, including in three instances faecal coli, were also found. The presentation of these results to proprietors and managers, with personal talks stressing the importance of clean and sterile utensils, had a speedy effect, and the use of sterilising agents in the server rinse waters became general.

The bacteriological reports on subsequent samples showed a marked improvement.

(e) Miscellaneous Samples -

A sample of chocolate mousse was reported as being sterile, and one of artificial cream showed a very scanty growth of non-faecal organisms.

(f) General Remarks -

There is no doubt that in most cases our work in food inspection is made much easier than it might be by the attitude of co-operation evinced by the trade. The majority of the 79 complaints about unsound food came from traders themselves on discovering unfit or suspect foods in their stock, and in the case of some of the larger firms there is an arrangement whereby we make a routine weekly call in order to examine tinned goods which have been set aside for decision.

Despite what I have said above, however, we do not neglect our duty of inspection, and from time to time have found instances of "blown" cans which might have been sold to customers owing to the inexperience of staff who have failed to realise the possible dangers of their ignorance.



The following table shows the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952. The data were obtained from the following sources: (1) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952; (2) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952; (3) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952.

Year	Number of Experiments	Number of Observations	Number of Results
1950	10	100	100
1951	10	100	100
1952	10	100	100

The results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952 are shown in the following table. The data were obtained from the following sources: (1) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952; (2) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952; (3) the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the experiments conducted during the period from 1950 to 1952.

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SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year 92 visits were made. The Register of Shops now totals 355 premises (including licensed premises) as set out below. Each of these is classified under the main heading of goods sold:

Antiques	5
Baby Wear	3
Bread and Cakes	8
Boots and Shoes	22
Butchers	15
Car Sales	2
Chemists	10
China and Glass	2
Corn and Seed	2
Decorator's Sundries	2
Drapers and Haberdashers	6
Dyers and Cleaners	8
Electrical and Radio	5
Fancy Goods	3
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	9
Florists	3
Furnishers	5
Furriers	1
General Stores	14
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	13
Grocers	37
Hairdressers	14
Ironmongers and Hardware	7
Jewellers	4
Leather Goods	1
Licensed Premises	46
Milk Shops	1
Model Engineering	1
Music Shops	2
Newsagents and Stationers	16
Opticians	4
Outfitters	20
Pet Food Shops	1
Pet Shops	1
Photographic	4
Restaurants, Cafes, and Snack Bars	36
Sewing Machines	1
Sports Goods, Toys, Cycles and Prams	6
Tents, etc.	1
Tobacco and Confectionery	13
Vegetarian Stores	1
	355
	355

Conditions referred to in last year's Report as requiring the service of notices were remedied.

At the end of the year the only notice outstanding was in respect of the redecoration of the sanitary accommodation of a shop.

The position regarding service of Notices is as follows:-

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding	
at 1st January, 1952	2
No. of Preliminary Notices served	1
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	2
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding	
at 31st December, 1952	1



## MILK AND DAIRIES

The entries on the register at the end of the year may be summarised as follows:-

Distributors with premises within the Urban District	10
Distributors whose premises are outside the District	3
Dairies	5

## CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

In addition to the routine visits to inspect camp sites and moveable dwellings, a survey of fifteen sites was carried out in the period July to September, mainly for the purpose of reporting to the Council's Town Planning and Building Plans Committee on the general position as compared with that of two or three years ago.

The fifteen sites contained approximately 600 caravans and huts, of which 145 were admitted to be occupied by families having no other homes. The latter figure would have been larger had not some site owners complied with the request made by the Council some two years ago - that whenever a family permanently occupying a caravan found accommodation elsewhere their place should be taken only by recreational caravanners. Unfortunately, the improvement which these cases would have brought about was offset by the fact that on one or two other sites the outgoing permanent residents were outnumbered by the incomers.

The net result of this is, of course, that the problem of the permanently occupied moveable dwellings is practically unchanged. More frequent visits and detailed investigation of individual cases might help to check permanent occupation before it became a fait accompli, but this would require an almost daily round of the Box Hill area - an impossible achievement for a staff of two inspectors with many other duties to perform in the remainder of the Urban District.

In general, it could be stated that the majority of the sites were neat and well-maintained, and that gradual improvements have taken place. This is most obvious in the number of modern, well-fitted trailer caravans which have replaced poor and unsightly vans.

On most of the sites these new caravans are the property of the recreational campers - those who arrive by car for week-ends and holidays, and who do not accumulate the miscellany of household articles which so frequently call attention to the permanent dweller either by their obvious display in the space beneath the van or by the presence of a small storage hut.

## PEST CONTROL

### 1. RATS AND MICE -

The return made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is given overleaf. It should be stated, however, that the figures, prepared in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, do not give a true indication of the work which was done, as they take into account only one complaint, one inspection, and one infestation per year, with its resultant treatment, in each property; whereas, in actual fact, many properties which were cleared of infestation in the earlier months, became re-infested some time later and were the subject of further complaint and treatment.



(b) Common and German Cockroaches:

Infestations dealt with during the year occurred in three private houses, two Council houses, one hotel, the Nursery School Canteen, and the Dorking General Hospital. The last-named premises, all parts of which are the subject of maintenance under an annual contract, were visited 28 times, during which the treatments and re-treatments of rooms - usually kitchens or rooms nearby - numbered 198.

(c) Churchyard Beetles:

Two flats, a total of five rooms, were found to be infested by large beetles which were ultimately identified under the above heading, and were effectively treated.

(d) Red Ants (Pharoah's Ant):

The wide-spread infestation at a private nursing home mentioned in my last Report required continued attention for some weeks before it was finally checked by the use of a liquid insecticide containing chlordane. For a period of over four months no sign of activity was found, but after this there was a recurrence on a much smaller scale. In all, however, 20 visits were made, and 197 room treatments were given.

There was a slight re-infestation in the office canteen which had been cleared in the previous year, but this was dealt with by one treatment.

(e) Garden Ants:

During the contract treatment at the Dorking General Hospital infestations were dealt with in seven rooms. In addition, one private house, the Nursery School Canteen and the British Restaurant also received treatment.

(f) Wasps:

Sixty wasps nests were dealt with during the year. As stated in last year's Report the practice is that in every case where it is at all possible to remove and destroy the nest after treatment this is done. Where removal is not possible revisits are made and re-treatments carried out until it is certain that the nests are inactive.

(g) Mosquitoes:

One pond and a large rainwater tank were sprayed with Larvicide to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

(h) Flies:

By agreement with the Education Authority four school canteens and the Central Kitchen, which prepares school meals for distribution to those schools which have no canteen kitchen of their own, were sprayed with insecticide as a measure of fly prevention.

Similar treatment was carried out at the British Restaurant kitchen for the same purpose.

(i) Moths:

Advice was given and a certain amount of treatment was carried out at two houses which had very heavy infestations.

Six hundred and fifty chairs at the Dorking Halls were sprayed with a suitable insecticide.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year twelve visits of enquiry were carried out in respect of cases of infectious diseases occurring in the District. In addition, nine visits were made to enquire into the circumstances of contacts of cases occurring elsewhere.



