

[Report 1938] / Medical Officer of Health, Dunstable Borough.

Contributors

Dunstable (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1938

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/vzt7xb3c>

License and attribution

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

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

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



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



Borough of Dunstable

Annual Report

ON THE

Health of Dunstable

FOR THE YEAR

1938

BY

H. A. A. PARGETER, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

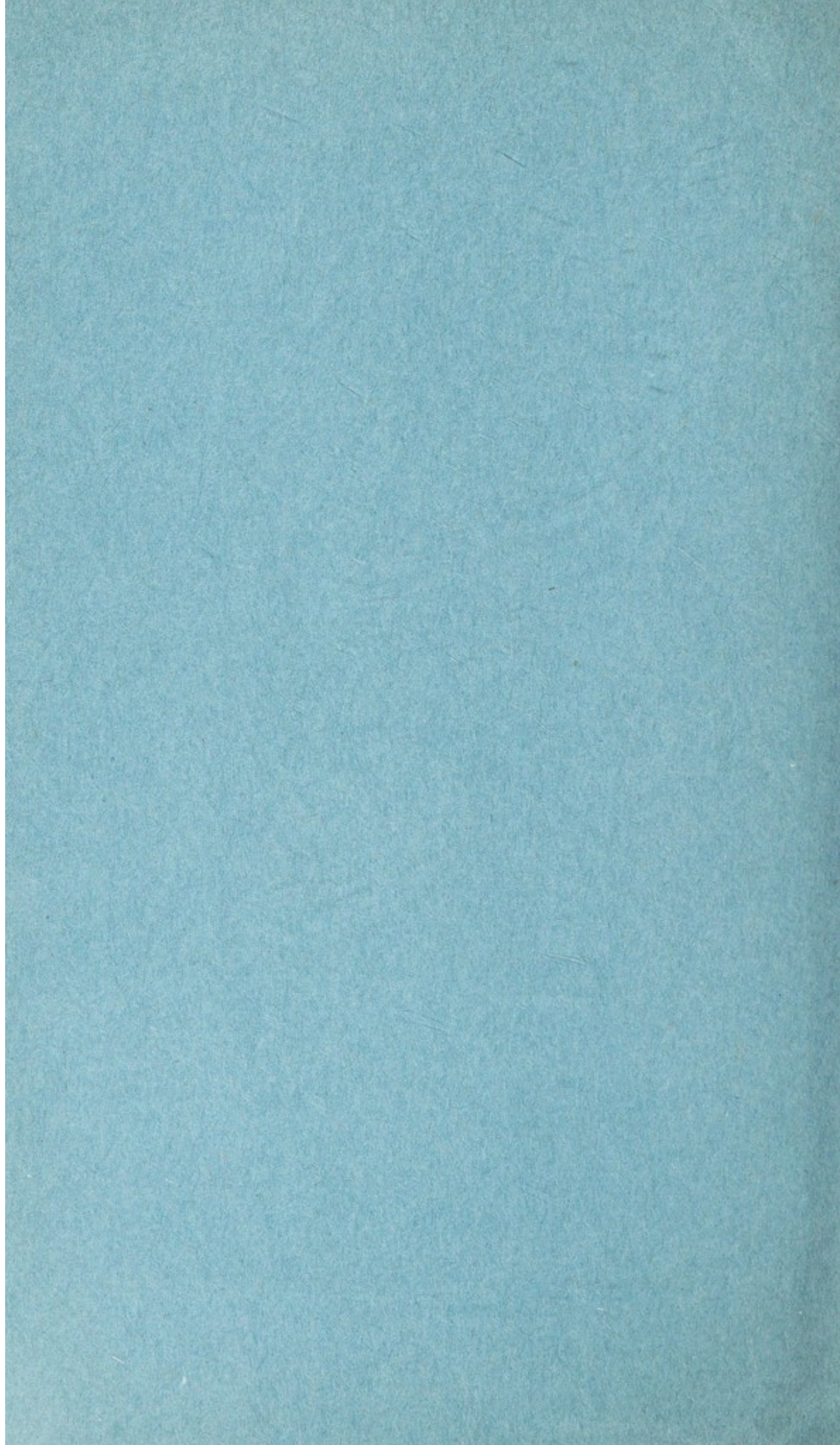
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of

A. BISHOP, Cert. R. San. I.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Waterlow & Sons Limited, London and Dunstable.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for 1938

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
DUNSTABLE.

27th November, 1939.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Dunstable.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health, Sanitary Conditions, etc., of the Borough of Dunstable.

The staff of the Public Health Department was increased during the year by the appointment of a Student Clerk.

1938 was a healthy year with a low incidence of infectious diseases, a low death rate and a higher birth rate.

I am pleased to express again my appreciation of the assistance and support always given me by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and other members of the staff of this Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. A. A. PARGETER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

(a) *Medical Officer of Health* (part-time).

H. A. A. Pargeter, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

(b) *Senior Sanitary Inspector.*

A. Bishop, M.S.I.A., Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

(c) *Additional Sanitary Inspector.*

D. W. Bottom, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

(d) *Student Clerk.*

David Laing.

SECTION A—

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

1. Vital Statistics and General Observations.

Area of Borough, 2,028 acres.

Population as estimated by Registrar-General mid-1938, 13,760.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the Rate Books, 4,120.

Rateable Value, £71,955.

Sum produced by a penny rate, taken at the 31st March, 1939, £272 5s. 0d.

Number of new houses erected during 1938, 167.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1938.

The following table gives extracts from the Vital Statistics of the year as furnished by the Registrar-General.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—				
Legitimate	232	115	117	{ Birth rate per 1,000 of population, 17·7.
Illegitimate	11	6	5	
Still Births ...	11	5	6	{ Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births, 43·3.
Deaths ...	126	55	71	{ Death Rate per 1,000 of population, 9·2.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—

From sepsis	...	...	...	...	0
From other causes	...	...	...	...	0

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Total	...	11	Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	45.5
Legitimate	11		Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births			47.4
Illegitimate	0		Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births			0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...		0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...		0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...		2
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...		14

2. Population.

The population as supplied by the Registrar-General for mid-1938 was 13,760.

Following are the Registrar-General's figures since the extension of the Borough :—

1933 (mid-year)	...	...	...	...	10,293
1934	„	...	...	...	10,520
1935	„	...	...	...	11,330
1936	„	...	...	...	12,800
1937	„	...	...	...	13,450
1938	„	...	...	...	13,760

The natural increase in the population or difference between the birth and death rate was 8.5.

3. Birth Rate.

The birth rate for the year was 17.7. The corresponding figures for the years 1936 and 1937 were 15.5 and 16.3. There were 243 live births in the Borough during the year compared with 219 in 1937.

4. Death Rate.

The death rate for the year was 9.2. This may be compared with the figure of 11.2 in 1937 and 11.0 in 1936. The corresponding figure for England and Wales was 11.6.

The crude death rate needs to be multiplied by the appropriate Comparability Factor as supplied by the Registrar-General. The death rate thus adjusted is 8.6. The adjusted death rate for 1937 was 10.5.

5. Causes of Death—Statistics.

The table immediately following, supplied by the Registrar-General, gives the causes of deaths of residents in the Borough during the year 1938, and the next table gives for comparison the birth rate, general death rate and the death rates for certain specified causes for the country as a whole, and for certain groups of the population.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
All Causes	...	...	...	...	55	71
1. Typhoid Fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Measles...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
6. Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	4	7
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1
11. Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, etc.	...	...	...	...	1	—
13. Cancer	...	...	...	...	6	8
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	2
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	4	8
16. Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	10	17
17. Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	1
19. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	3
20. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	2
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	2	—
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	2
24. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	1	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
28. Nephritis	...	...	...	...	1	2
29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—
30. Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31. Congenital causes, etc.	...	...	...	...	4	4
32. Senility	...	...	...	...	2	5
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	2
34. Other Violence	...	...	...	...	5	1
35. Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	3
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—						
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	{	Total	...	...	6	5
		Legitimate	...	...	6	5
		Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
Live Births	{	Total	...	...	121	122
		Legitimate	...	...	115	117
		Illegitimate	...	...	6	5
Stillbirths	{	Total	...	...	5	6
		Legitimate	...	...	5	6
		Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
Resident Population	...	...	...	...	13,760	

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.

(ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS.)

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
BIRTHS :—				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS :—				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid & Paratyphoid } fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths under 1 year of age...	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and } Enteritis under 2 years of } age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available		
Others	2.19			
Total	3.08			
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still).			
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available		
Others	2.11			
Total	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Puerperal fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53 15.46
Puerperal pyrexia				

6. Infant Mortality.

The following table shows Infantile Mortality from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

	<i>Weeks.</i>				<i>Total under one month.</i>	<i>Months.</i>				<i>Total under one year.</i>
	0-	1-	2-	3-		1-	3-	6-	9-	
Prematurity and debility from birth	2	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	5
Bronchitis, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Tubercular meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	2	2	1	11

Of this total, 6 were males and 5 females. The total number of deaths under one year corresponds to an infant mortality rate of 45·5. The rate for Dunstable in 1937 was 31·9, and in 1936 it was 55·3. The rate for the country as a whole was 53.

INFANT MORTALITY.

	<i>Total Live Births.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate—Dunstable</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate—England and Wales.</i>
1926 ...	132	38	70
1927 ...	93	32	69
1928 ...	127	39	65
1929 ...	100	90	74
1930 ...	126	40	60
1931 ...	123	33	66
1932 ...	133	60	65
1933 ...	119	59	64
1934 ...	168	66	59
1935 ...	173	46	57
1936 ...	199	55	59
1937 ...	219	32	58
1938 ...	243	46	53

7. Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in 1938.

SECTION B—

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

No change or developments. During the year 55 throat or nose swabbings were examined by the Clinical Research Association for the presence of diphtheria. Three of these were returned positive.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

No change.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

No change.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

No change.

(e) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary.

No change.

SECTION F—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1. Infectious Diseases, other than Tuberculosis.

(a) *General Statistics.*—The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together

with the number admitted to hospital, and the deaths from these diseases :—

DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths Registered.</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—
Diphtheria	8	8	—
Scarlet Fever	32	30	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever and other diseases of Parturition	1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	5
Pneumonia	5	—	—
Erysipelas	7	5	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases of which information was received otherwise than by notification.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Information received from Head Teachers.</i>	<i>Total deaths Registered.</i>
Measles	93	—
Mumps	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—
German Measles	18	—
Chicken Pox	8	—

Form E.—Thirty forms were received from the Head Teachers of the Local Elementary Schools.

The following table gives an analysis of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified, according to age :—

DISEASE.	Un- der 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Total
Diphtheria ...	—	—	2	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	8
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	3	4	8	13	—	2	1	—	—	—	32
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	2	—	7
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	5
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2

There also occurred 1 case each of Puerperal Fever and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

(b) *Smallpox*.—No cases of smallpox were notified during the year.

(c) *Scarlet Fever*.—The number of cases notified was 32. The case-rate per thousand was 2·3, as compared with the case-rate of 2·41 for England and Wales. The disease was of a mild type.

The following table shows the incidence for the last ten years.

1929	...	26	1934	...	19
1930	...	47	1935	...	24
1931	...	21	1936	...	7
1932	...	7	1937	...	10
1933	...	9	1938	...	32

The following table shows the incidence of Scarlet Fever in the different Wards of the Borough.

Month.	Wards.			Total Cases.
	North.	South.	Central.	
January ...	—	—	—	—
February ...	—	—	—	—
March ...	2	—	—	2
April ...	—	—	5	5
May ...	3	—	2	5
June ...	1	1	1	3
July ...	1	4	2	7
August ...	1	4	—	5
September ...	1	—	—	1
October ...	2	—	—	2
November ...	1	1	—	2
December ...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	12	10	10	32

The above table shows that the disease was distributed equally in each of the different Wards.

(d) *Diphtheria*.—The following table shows the number of cases of diphtheria which have occurred during the last ten years.

1929	...	17	1934	...	31
1930	...	43	1935	...	85
1931	...	18	1936	...	36
1932	...	2	1937	...	23
1933	...	3	1938	...	8

Of the 8 cases occurring in 1938, the prevalence in the different Wards of the Borough and in the different months of the year is shown in the table herewith appended.

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Wards.</i>			<i>Total Cases.</i>
	<i>North.</i>	<i>South.</i>	<i>Central.</i>	
January	—	—	—	—
February... ..	—	—	—	—
March	1	—	—	1
April	1	1	1	3
May	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	1	1
July	—	—	—	—
August	1	—	—	1
September	—	2	—	2
October	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	3	2	8

This table shows that the disease was distributed equally in the three Wards of the Borough.

During the year 3 carriers of the disease were discovered, and these were isolated until free from infection.

There were no deaths from the disease in 1938 compared with 2 deaths in the preceding year and 1 death in 1936.

The case rate for 1938 was 0.50 per thousand, which may be compared with 1.71 per 1,000 in 1937, and with the case rate of England and Wales of 1.58.

Artificial Immunization.—The Clinics for this purpose were maintained throughout the year. The following tables show the invitations made to the parents of children attending the various schools in the Borough, and the response to these invitations.

	<i>Schools.</i>				
	<i>Ashton</i>	<i>Chiltern Rd.</i>	<i>Burr St.</i>	<i>Evelyn Rd.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
March	—	34	44	—	78
May	21	—	29	69	119
July	12	—	15	8	35
September	33	—	16	26	75
Total	66	34	104	103	307

RESULTS.					Age Groups.	No.
Received treatment in 1938	...	...	...		1926	3
					1927	9
					1928	8
					1929	4
					1930	9
					1931	7
					1932	22
					1933	27
					1934	1
					1935	4
					1936	1
					1937	1
	Reported to have						96
(a) been already immunized	...	...	...	32		
(b) already had diphtheria	...	...	...	3		
				—	35	
Total number of children in the above invitations who have been immunized or have had the disease previously.						131

(e) *Enteric Fever*.—No cases of this disease were notified.

(f) *Pneumonia*.—Five cases of pneumonia were notified during 1938 as compared with three in 1937 and six in 1936. The number of deaths registered as due to pneumonia in all forms during 1938 were five.

(g) *Measles*.—This disease was epidemic in the first three months of the year.

(h) *Whooping Cough*.—An epidemic of this disease started in the latter months of the year.

(i) *Influenza*.—There were three deaths from this disease, compared with eleven in 1937.

(j) *Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia*.—One case was notified.

(k) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*.—One case was notified.

(l) *Other Infectious Diseases*.—There were no cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis notified, two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis and seven cases of Erysipelas were notified, of which five were removed to hospital.

(m) *Vaccinations*.—No vaccinations were carried out under the Public Health (Prevention of Smallpox) Regulations.

2. Cancer.

The following table shows the prevalence of Cancer deaths during the last 10 years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>England & Wales Rate per 1,000</i>
1929	13	13	26	2.94	1.50
1930	7	9	16	1.79	1.52
1931	5	8	13	1.45	1.55
1932	9	8	17	1.81	1.58
1933	10	11	21	2.09	1.59
1934	10	14	24	2.28	1.56
1935	12	7	19	1.68	1.59
1936	13	8	21	1.09	1.63
1937	9	16	25	1.89	1.63
1938	6	8	14	1.02	1.66

Fourteen deaths were certified in 1938 as due to Cancer, compared with 25 in the previous year.

<i>Sites of Disease.</i>	<i>Number of Patients.</i>				
Uterus	2
Rectum	3
Breast	1
Lung	3
Stomach	1
Pancreas	1
Intestines	1
Other organs	2
					<hr/> 14 <hr/>

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CANCER DEATHS.

<i>Age Periods.</i>	40-	50-	60-	70-80	<i>Totals.</i>
Males ...	1	2	2	1	6
Females ...	1	1	5	1	8

3. Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1938.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	3	—	1	1	1	1	1
25	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
35	2	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	8	12	2	3	4	7	2	1

The following statement shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary	47	39	86
Non-pulmonary ...	14	17	31
Totals	61	56	117

During the year the total number of deaths registered as due to Tuberculosis was 14, 11 of which were pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary. The corresponding figures for 1937 were 5 and 1.

The figures of 1938 correspond to a death rate of 0.79 per thousand for pulmonary and 0.21 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

No occasion arose for action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

BOROUGH OF DUNSTABLE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
DUNSTABLE.

16th August, 1939.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
BOROUGH OF DUNSTABLE.*

MR. MAYOR, MRS. COUNCILLOR BAGGALEY AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Report for the year 1938 as Senior Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Inspector under the Housing and Factories Acts.

The Report deals with the action taken in relation to the various duties carried out by my Department.

As the Council are aware, I have, for a long time, acted in the capacity of Co-ordinating Officer for Air Raid Precautions for the South Beds. Area, and as a result of the amount of work thrown upon the Department in connection with Civil Defence, especially towards the end of 1938, the amount of work shown in connection with Public Health matters is somewhat less than would normally have been the case. But an endeavour was made to carry out the more important services.

The matter has now been rectified by the appointment of an additional Inspector to assist in the work of the Department.

My thanks are due to the Public Health Committee and the Corporation for the ready consideration and support they have given ; to the Medical Officer of Health and the Town Clerk for their help and guidance, and to my Staff for the help and assistance readily given.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

A. BISHOP,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION C—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water Supply.

As mentioned in previous reports the Water Supply of the Borough is controlled and undertaken by the Dunstable Gas & Water Company, and is obtained from deep wells bored in the chalk within the Borough.

No shortage was experienced during 1938.

During the year careful inspection of the neighbourhood of the wells and the immediate gathering grounds, together with the Sanitary accommodation for persons employed in the undertaking and any other matters likely to lead to possible pollution of the water, has been carried out. The conditions prevailing were found to be satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Company for submitting to me the results of the examination of 14 separate samples of water which were taken for the purpose of chemical analysis.

The results are set out below, from which it will be seen that a good standard of purity has been maintained. Reference to the sample submitted on 28-2-38 reveals a high bacterial count ; but the reason for the high count is indicated and the Sample submitted on 14-3-38 shows that conditions had reverted to normal.

Report on Samples.

Date : 17-1-38.

Source : *Outside Tap, Gasworks, Dunstable.*

“ This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of bacterial purity, showing no evidence of pollution. From the bacteriological standpoint it is, therefore, pure and wholesome water suitable for the purposes of public supply.”

Date : 14-2-38.

Source : *Garage Tap, Isolation Hospital, London Road.*

“ This sample is clear and bright, and of a high degree of bacterial purity in which respect it is pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

Date : 28-2-38.

Source : *Fifth New House opp. Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.*

“ This sample has a high bacterial content capable of growth at 20° C., but in other respects is of a high degree of bacterial purity, and from a bacteriological standpoint is considered a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

The high bacterial count referred to may be explained by newly installed pipes and fittings.

The sample was clear and bright.

Date : 14-3-38.

Source : *Fifth House opp. Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.*

“ This sample is clear and bright and of a high standard of bacterial purity. It is pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

Date : 29-3-38.

Source : *19, Hadrian Avenue, Dunstable.*

“ This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of bacterial purity in which respect it is pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

Date : 29-3-38.

Source : *Tap on Pump Delivery. Top Works.*

“ This sample is clear and bright and of a very high degree of bacterial purity in which respect it is pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of public supply.”

Date : 26-4-38.

Source : *Kitchen Tap, Showrooms, High Street North, Dunstable.*

" This sample is clear and bright and of a normal colour.
" The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character, though
" not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of saline or
" mineral matter in solution, no metals, and is of a high
" degree of organic and bacterial purity. It is considered
" pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking
" and domestic purposes."

Date : 17-5-38.

Source : *Rising Main, No. 3 Well, Lower Waterworks.*

" This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of
" bacterial purity in which respect it is pure and wholesome
" water, suitable for the purposes of public supply."

Date : 28-6-38.

Source : *Boilerhouse Tap at Gasworks, Dunstable.*

" This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree
" of bacterial purity, in which respect the water is considered
" pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for the
" purposes of public supply."

Date : 23-8-38.

Source : *Garage Tap, Isolation Hospital, London Road.*

" This sample is of a high degree of bacterial purity in
" which respect the water is considered pure and wholesome
" in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
" The sample contained a few particles of mineral debris,
" such as Chalk and Iron Oxides, in suspension."

Date : 22-9-38.

Source : *60, Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.*

" This sample is reasonably clear and bright, containing
" only a few particles of mineral debris in suspension, and is
" of the highest standard of bacterial purity. The water is,
" therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character
" and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

Date : 5-10-38.

Source : *19, Hadrian Avenue, Dunstable.*

" This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree
" of bacterial purity in which respect it is considered pure
" and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic
" purposes."

Date : 18-10-38.

Source : *Kitchen Tap, Showrooms, High Street North, Dunstable.*

“ This sample is reasonably clear and bright and of a
“ normal colour, containing only a few particles of chalk
“ in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in
“ character although not to an excessive degree, contains no
“ excess of salinity, no metals, is of satisfactory organic
“ quality and of a high degree of bacterial purity. It is,
“ therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character
“ and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

Date : 16-11-38.

Source : *Cloakroom Tap, Evelyn Road School.*

“ This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of
“ bacterial purity in which respect it is considered pure and
“ wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic pur-
“ poses.”

(ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.**

Conditions as to the treatment of sewage at the Sewage Farm remain as stated in my last Report.

During the year the Corporation constructed a foul sewer from the Park Estate to the main trunk sewer near Poynters Road, enabling the two large cesspools which were receiving the sewage of approximately 100 houses on the Park Estate to be abolished and filled in, and thus abating a very serious nuisance. In addition to the scheme dealing with the Park Estate, a new foul sewer was constructed in Liscombe Road and 21 houses in this road, and 3 houses in the Luton Road area were drained to sewers and the cesspools abolished.

Premises not Connected to the Sewers.

There are still a small number of properties in the Borough which are drained to cesspools. At present the position with regard to 5 of these premises situated in West Street is becoming serious in that they fill up very quickly, requiring very frequent emptying.

The matter is, however, being considered by the Corporation with a view to the extension of the sewers to provide the necessary facilities to allow the cesspools to be abolished.

Sewers Generally.

During the year the new storm water sewers from Station Road to the Square and West Street were completed and new storm water sewers were laid in Liscombe Road.

(iii) Rivers and Streams.

There are no rivers or streams in the area.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

The number of houses in which there is closet accommodation without proper means of flushing and where more than one family use a common W.C. is gradually being reduced and only a small number remain.

There are no closets on the conservancy system.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

(a) *Refuse Collection and Disposal.*

There has been no change in the method of collection and disposal of house and trade refuse. The weekly collection has been maintained and the number of vehicles used remains as stated in the last Report.

Some difficulty was experienced on one occasion during the year, due to unauthorised persons gaining access to the refuse tip which was set on fire. This necessitated trenching in order to cut off and to isolate the outbreak. As mentioned in my previous Report the present tipping site is rapidly filling up and the Corporation are now considering the question of the selection of an alternative site or an alternative method of disposal.

The question of good facilities for tipping is somewhat difficult by reason of the fact that suitable sites are limited.

(b) *Cleansing of Cesspools.*

The amount of work required in this direction was very heavy during the early part of the year by reason of the difficulties experienced in connection with the Park Estate and the Liscombe Road cesspools. Since these properties were connected to the sewers the work has been considerably reduced.

During the year 128 houses, which were previously drained to cesspools, have been connected to the Corporation sewers and the cesspools abolished.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following schedule will show the number of Inspections and the number of Notices served together with the work carried out during the year.

To make it a complete summary of inspections, all other matters relating to this work have been added.

The figures shown are much less than would normally have been the case, due to the facts mentioned in the first page of the Report.

<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Inspections made.</i>	<i>Nuisances or Defects dealt with.</i>	<i>Informal Notices served.</i>	<i>Work done.</i>
(a) Structural defects ...	86	18	18	4 floors repaired. 9 plastering on walls repaired. 14 rooms papered or recoloured. 4 walls and ceilings rendered damp-proof. 1 new sink fixed. 1 stairway repaired. 2 stairways redecorated. 8 ceilings repaired. 6 ceilings redecorated. 5 window frames repaired. 2 fireplaces repaired. 1 sink and waste repaired. 2 walls repointed. 5 roofs overhauled. 3 rain water pipes repaired. 1 wash copper repaired. 2 new foodstores constructed. 1 house reconditioned.
(b) Foul conditions ...	41	37	36	33 blocked drains cleared. 239 cesspools emptied. 128 houses taken off cesspools. 3 houses disinfested.
(c) Drains, Yards, W.C.'s and Water Supplies.	60	12	12	6 drainage systems repaired. 4 W.C. flush tanks, etc., repaired. 4 W.C. structures repaired. 2 new W.C.'s provided.
(d) Stables, refuse and manure.	124	103	102	6 accumulations removed. 131 new dust bins provided.
(e) Other nuisances including Offensive Trades.	12	6	6	2 premises cleared of rats. 1 premises limewashed. 2 accumulations removed. 3 unclean conditions remedied. 4 offences "Toys for Rags" dealt with.
(f) Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	28	4	4	4 nuisances of "Unlicensed vans on unlicensed ground" abated.
(g) Schools ...	2	1	1	1 drainage system cleared.
(h) Infectious Diseases ...	62	—	—	9 rooms disinfested and 9 parcels of bedding disinfested.
(i) Factories, Workplaces, Bakeries, etc.	9	2	2	1 premises whitewashed. 1 nuisance from dampness abated.
(j) Cowsheds, Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	48	4	4	1 notice re delivery of milk. 1 floor cleansed, 3 premises cleansed. 1 unregistered dealer prohibited.
(k) Slaughterhouses ...	745	—	—	1 new mechanical instrument for slaughter provided. 1 offence from improper use of humane killer, failure to use humane killer, and slaughtering of a lamb without notice, dealt with.
(l) Meat and Food Inspections.	570	—	—	The following foodstuffs were condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption. <i>Bovine</i> : 18 heads and tongues, 8 livers, 6 mesenteries, 1 spleen, 1 heart, 3 forequarters and 5 whole carcasses complete with organs. <i>Calves</i> : 1 head, 1 pair lungs, 1 carcass and organs complete. <i>Sheep and Lambs</i> : 2 livers and 2 whole carcasses and organs complete.

<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Inspections made.</i>	<i>Nuisances or Defects dealt with.</i>	<i>Informal Notices served.</i>	<i>Work done.</i>
				<i>Pigs : 94 heads, 2 livers, 2 plucks, 23 pairs lungs, 18 mesenteries, 2 hearts, 1 hock, 1 shoulder, 1 whole carcase and organs complete, 2 forequarters and</i> 22 lbs. frozen beef. 25 lbs. frozen suet. 22 lbs. frozen sheep livers. 1 imported loin of lamb.
(m) HOUSING.				
Recorded Inspections	14	—	—	
Re-inspections ...	2	—	—	
Overcrowded dwellings				
number of visits ...	45	—	—	
Totals ...	1,848	187	185	

Offensive Trades.

The number of Offensive Trades registered within the Borough remains at the same figure of 9 as in my last Report.

On no occasion was it found necessary to take any action with respect to these premises during 1938.

Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses.

No notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year and only in two instances was it found necessary to take informal action in relation to matters connected with these premises. In one case the premises were cleansed and limewashed ; and in the other instance a defective drain causing dampness was repaired.

The following is an extract of the information relative to Factories and Workshops, etc., submitted to the Home Office on Form 572.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
FACTORIES—			
(i) With mechanical power ...	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Without mechanical power ...	8	Nil	Nil
OTHER PREMISES ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	11	Nil	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—
	1	1	—	—

(iv) **Shops and Offices.**

The provisions of the Shops Acts with regard to hours of employment, etc., are under the control of a separate Shops Inspector, and, therefore, do not come within the supervision of the Public Health Department.

In no case was it necessary to take action with regard to ventilation, temperature or sanitary accommodation in shops, offices, etc., during the past year.

(v) **Camping Sites.**

1. There are no sites in the Area which were used for camping during the year other than a site used by the Military Authorities.

2. There are no camping sites in the Borough licensed in accordance with the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

3. Apart from a few minor instances of camping by persons of the hawker and gipsy class and of temporary camping by showmen, etc., there does not appear to be any real demand or desire for camping sites in the Area.

No applications for licences have been made and no camps, apart from those mentioned, have been established.

In the case of those referred to, the persons concerned generally pull in on to the ground without the consent of the owner.

(vi) Smoke Abatement.

No case of nuisance from smoke, calling for attention, has arisen in the Borough during 1938.

As mentioned in previous Reports, the industries of Dunstable are such that the Town is comparatively free from any nuisance arising from this cause.

(vii) Swimming Pool and Baths.

There are two Swimming Pools within the Area.

- (a) The Dunstable Swimming Pool—privately owned and used by the Public.
- (b) The Dunstable Grammar School—used by the school only.

In each case the necessary plant is installed to provide for the satisfactory treatment of the bath water. In both cases the pools are used during the summer months only. One sample of water from the Dunstable Swimming Pool was submitted for analysis on 6/7/38. The report was as follows :—

“ The sample comes within the standard considered satisfactory for bathing purposes, and the water is suitable for a swimming bath.”

(viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. Only in two instances was it found necessary to deal with bug infestation during 1938, and in both cases the premises were privately owned.

2. In both of these cases the premises were disinfested by fumigation, the preparation used being “ Cescones.”

3. Premises occupied by prospective tenants for Corporation houses are usually visited by the Housing Estates Manager, and if he considers it necessary he is accompanied by the Sanitary Inspector, and a careful investigation is made to ascertain as far as possible that the furniture and effects are free from infestation before removal. If it is considered necessary, fumigation of the effects is carried out before removal takes place.

4. The work is carried out by the employees of the Corporation.

5. Instruction is given to the tenant as to the best practical measures to adopt to prevent reinfestation, particular emphasis being stressed upon the necessity for cleanliness.

4. Schools.

The condition of the Sanitary Arrangements and Water Supply at Schools within the Borough is satisfactory, and there has been no cause for complaint during the year ; neither was it found necessary to take any special steps with reference to Infectious Disease among the school children.

SECTION D—**HOUSING.****1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year.**

1.—(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...	109
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	179
2.—(a) Number of dwelling-houses, included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	8
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	8
3.—Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	Nil
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	108

2. Remedy of defects during the year without the service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	103
---	-----

3. Action during the year under Statutory Powers.

(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 ...	Nil
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice :—	
(a) By owners ...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(b) *Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ... | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice :— | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (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 | 8 |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 11 |

(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 Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or underground room having been rendered fit | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936. (Part iv) Overcrowding.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a)—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of year | 12 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... | 12 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... | 99 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 2 |
| (c)—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 9 |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... | 68 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | Nil |

Overcrowding.

Of the 12 cases of overcrowding existing at the end of 1938, 4 were in privately-owned premises, including 1 business premises, while 8 were owned by the Corporation.

The extent to which these houses were overcrowded was not, in most cases, serious ; as an indication of this, in 5 of the 12 cases the extent of the overcrowding did not exceed one person.

Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 to 1932.

During the year, the 11 houses situated at 1-8, Manchester Place, and 1, 2 and 3 Half Moon Lane Cottages, were closed and demolished as unfit for human habitation.

Eight houses situated at St. Mary's Street and Chapel Walk have been inspected and recorded under the above regulations, but I have deferred taking further action in these cases for the present, as with the coming into force of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, on October 1st, 1939, with its new provisions relating to Slaughterhouses, it may be more advantageous to deal with these properties in relation to the action that will be necessary to deal with the two unsatisfactory Registered Slaughterhouses which are in the immediate vicinity.

SECTION E—**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****1. Milk Supply.**

The state of the registers at the end of the year was as follows :—

Producer retailers with premises	...	...	5
Retailers with premises	...	...	15
Retailers with premises in adjoining areas	...	...	21

Sterilised Milk.

Wholesalers with premises outside the Borough	...	...	1
Retailers of milk in sealed containers (having no registered premises)	...	...	22

Graded Milk.

Supplementary Licences	3
------------------------	-----	-----	---

Cowsheds and Dairies.

The number of visits and inspections made in connection with cowsheds, dairies and milk supplies generally, was 48.

The premises were generally found to be maintained in a good and clean state. There are only 5 cowsheds within the Borough and from one of these cowsheds only a very small amount of milk is sold.

The action taken in relation to milk sampling is given elsewhere in this Report.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-38.

The following supplementary Licences were granted during 1938 :—

Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	1

In three cases the premises were outside the area of the Local Authority, while in the remaining case the milk was received from outside the area although the premises were within the Borough.

The necessary steps to ensure that the principal licence was in order were taken before the supplementary licences were issued.

Sampling of Milk.

During the year 26 samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these samples 23 were of ordinary milk and 3 of Pasteurised milks ; the results of the examination are set out in the table attached.

Nos. 2, 5, 6, 11 and 14 were taken from Producer-Retailers within the Borough.

Nos. 19, 20 and 21 were taken from a Retailer of Pasteurised milk with premises and plant outside the Borough, and the rest of the samples were taken from Retailers within the Borough whose milk supplies are derived from outside the Area.

Nos. 1, 7, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 18, 22 and 25 gave results which were considered to be unsatisfactory, and the necessary steps were taken to direct the attention of the retailer concerned to the result of the examination with a view to a better standard being attained. The samples which were unsatisfactory were, in every case, of milk produced outside the Borough.

It is gratifying to note that samples of milk taken from Producers within the Area were exceptionally good in each case.

No. OF SAMPLE	NUMBER OF BACTERIA PER				PRESENCE OF BACILLUS COLI			
	1 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.	1/10000 c.c.	After 48 hours per			
					1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.	1/10000 c.c.	After 3 days per 1/10000 c.c.
1	206,660	1,950	205	22	pos.	neg.	neg.	neg.
2	54,330	490	54	6	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
3	67,000	630	68	7	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
4	49,330	470	51	5	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
5	36,660	330	37	4	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
6	45,330	410	45	5	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
7	645,000	—	630	65	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
8	186,660	1,770	183	20	pos.	neg.	neg.	neg.
9	805,000	—	780	83	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
10	91,330	850	89	10	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
11	35,330	310	35	4	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
12	160,660	1,530	159	17	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
13	37,330	340	38	4	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
14	64,330	590	64	7	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
15	34,330	290	34	4	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
16	160,660	1,540	158	17	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
17	435,000	—	420	45	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
18	110,000	1,040	109	12	pos.	neg.	neg.	neg.
22	395,000	—	380	41	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
23	63,000	580	63	7	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
24	72,330	650	72	8	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.
25	198,000	1,890	195	21	pos.	pos.	pos.	pos.
26	36,330	320	37	4	pos.	neg.	neg.	neg.

Pasteurised Milk.

The results of the three samples taken showed that the required standard was maintained in each case, and the results are given in the attached table.

	<i>No. of Bacteria per 1 c.c.</i>	<i>Result of Examination.</i>
19	1,890	Satisfactory
20	4,630	Satisfactory
21	13,400	Satisfactory

2. Meat and Other Foods.*Slaughterhouses.*

The number of private slaughterhouses in the Borough remains at 8 as stated in my previous reports. Of these only one is licensed, the remaining 7 being registered. In 2 cases the premises have not been in use during 1938.

The general condition of the premises is as stated in my last report and altogether unsuitable for the work carried on in them or for the proper handling of food.

The provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, coming into force on October 1st, 1939, will, however, give the Corporation a much greater degree of power in dealing with these premises, and I anticipate that in most cases the standard required under the new Act will be such as to necessitate their being closed down altogether, a state of affairs long overdue.

During the year 745 visits were paid to the premises, and the following table will show the number of carcasses examined, an increase of 276 over the figures of the previous year.

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
January ...	35	8	51	291	55	440
February ...	18	8	60	248	68	402
March ...	21	4	33	191	42	291
April ...	22	6	28	188	50	294
May ...	24	5	37	187	50	303
June ...	14	8	59	87	115	283
July ...	24	3	132	101	144	404
August ...	21	4	60	96	180	361
September ...	20	5	51	122	135	333
October ...	16	3	48	177	164	408
November ...	29	3	40	137	112	321
December ...	21	4	38	140	56	259
Totals ...	265	61	637	1,965	1,171	4,099

Diseased and Unsound Meat in Slaughterhouses.

The following meat, etc., was condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption.

Bovines.

16 heads and tongues, 8 livers, 22 pairs of lungs, 6 mesenteries, 1 spleen, 1 heart, 3 forequarters and 5 whole carcasses and organs complete.

Calves.

1 head, 1 pair of lungs and 1 whole carcase and organs complete.

Sheep and Lambs.

2 livers and 2 whole carcasses and organs complete.

Pigs.

94 heads, 2 livers, 2 plucks, 23 pairs of lungs, 18 mesenteries, 2 hearts, 1 hock and 1 shoulder joint, 2 forequarters and 1 whole carcase and organs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

The following table shows the number of carcasses examined as against the number slaughtered, together with the number of carcasses found to be affected with tuberculosis and diseases other than tuberculosis, together with the percentage in each case.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows,</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
No. killed (if known) ...	265	61	648	1,661	1,965
No. inspected ...	265	61	637	1,171	1,965
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned ...	5	4	2	5	5
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	2	6.75	0.3	0.6	.26
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	1	1	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned ...	18	8	—	—	100
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	9	14.8	.16	—	5.2

Meat and Food other than in Slaughterhouses.

The undermentioned foodstuff was destroyed as being unfit for human consumption outside slaughterhouses.

22 lbs. frozen beef, 25 lbs. frozen suet, 22 lbs. chilled sheep livers, 1 loin of imported lamb.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

There is no Meat Marketing Scheme in operation in accordance with Part 3 of the above Regulations.

One offence was discovered during the year as a result of the failure of a person to give notice of intention to slaughter an animal, and this was dealt with by the giving of a warning.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Only one new licence to act as a slaughterman was issued during the year which brought the total number of licences in force up to 23. The whole of these licences expired on December 31, 1938, and were renewed upon application in 17 cases.

Two offences were dealt with during the year. In one instance the offence was due to the improper use of a mechanically operated instrument in stunning, and the other a mechanically operated instrument was not used.

Section 1 of the Act has been made applicable to sheep, lambs, etc.

(c) Adulteration of Food, etc.

The Food and Drugs Adulteration Acts are not administered by the Town Council.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

It was not found necessary to submit samples of food for bacteriological examination during 1938.

Rainfall.

The rainfall for the year was as follows :—

				<i>Inches</i>	<i>Days on which less than .01" fell.</i>
January	...	...	...	2.98	9
February	...	...	...	0.72	13
March	...	...	...	0.36	27
April	...	...	...	0.14	25
May	...	...	...	1.70	19
June	...	...	...	0.55	23
July	...	...	...	1.37	17
August	...	...	...	2.33	17
September	...	...	...	1.40	14
October	...	...	...	3.23	12
November	...	...	...	2.63	15
December	...	...	...	3.44	10
				<hr/> 20.85	<hr/> 201
				<hr/>	<hr/>

The rainfall for 1937 was 32.42 inches.

The wettest months during 1938 were December with 3.44 inches, and October with 3.23 inches.

The driest month was April when only .14 inch fell. In March there was .36 inch.

On no occasion during the year did the rainfall on any single day exceed an inch.

The heaviest fall took place on December 9th when .82 inch fell.

There were 7 days in the year when the rainfall exceeded half an inch.

